FPCR | environment & design






Habitat Monitoring and Management Plan (HMMP)

Client

Avant Homes, West Midlands

Project

Land West of Westfield Avenue,

Earl Shilton

Date

October 2026

CONTENTS

1.0 INTRODUCTION 2

2.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES 4

3.0 AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS 6

4.0 ECOLOGICAL TRENDS AND CONSTRAINTS 7

5.0 HABITAT CREATION, ENHANCEMENT AND MANAGEMENT 9

6.0 RISK AND REMEDIAL MEASURES 19

7.0 MONITORING STRATEGY 19

8.0 MONITORING REPORTS 22

9.0 LONG TERM MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE 23

TABLES

Table 1: Habitat Creation and Management – Risk Register and Remedial Measures

Table 2: Monitoring Report Schedule

Table 3: Long term Maintenance Schedule

FIGURES

Figure 1: Proposed Habitat Plan

Figure 2: Ecological Enhancement Plan

Rev	Issue Status	Prepared/Date	Approved/Date
-	Final	JB 24/09/26	BJC / 05.10.26

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This Habitat Monitoring and Management Plan (HMMP) has been prepared by FPCR Environment & Design Ltd (FPCR), on behalf of Avant Homes, West Midlands and provides habitat protection, creation and management approaches for the landscape proposals for land West of Westfield Avenue, Earl Shilton (OS grid reference SP 46004 97838) hereafter referred to as 'the Site'. This document should be read in conjunction with the Planning Layout Drawing (No. 3187-200).

1.2 The HMMP seeks to satisfy Condition 5 and 6 of the decision notice for the consented full planning application 24/01066/FUL granted by Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council on 25th November 2024.

Condition 5

No development shall commence until a 30-year Habitat Monitoring and Management Plan (HMMP), prepared in accordance with an approved Biodiversity Gain Plan, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The approved HMMP shall be strictly adhered to and implemented in full for its duration and shall contain the following:

a) Description and evaluation of the features to be managed;

b) Ecological trends and constraints on site that may influence management;

c) Aims, objectives and targets for management - links with local and national species and habitat action plans;

d) Description of the management operations necessary to achieving aims and objectives;

e) Preparation of a works schedule, including annual works schedule;

f) Details and a timetable of the monitoring needed to measure the effectiveness of management;

g) Details of the persons responsible for the implementation and monitoring;

h) mechanisms of adaptive management to account for necessary changes in work schedule to achieve the required targets; and

i) Details of methodology and frequency of monitoring reports to be submitted to the Local Planning Authority to assess biodiversity gain.

Reason: To enhance biodiversity in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Paragraph 13 of Schedule 7A to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Condition 6

No development above foundation level shall commence until full details of a scheme for the location of bat roosting and bird nesting features to be integrated into buildings and suitable hedgehog gaps in boundary features shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter and prior to the occupation of any dwelling hereby permitted features shall be installed on the site in accordance with the approved details. Photographs of the integrated bird and bat boxes and hedgehog gaps within the new dwellings should be provided in order to discharge this condition.

Reason: To conserve protected and Priority species and allow the LPA to discharge its duties under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and s40 of the NERC Act 2006 (as amended), and in accordance with Policy DM6 of the adopted Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD (2016).

Background

1.3 This Habitat Monitoring Management Plan (HMMP) has been prepared to cover all aspects of the project's delivery, including methodology for creating and enhancing proposed habitats and requirements for long-term management over 30 years.

1.4 The monitoring plan will detail the methodology for monitoring habitat establishment and ongoing conditions across the project site for 30 years. In addition, the monitoring methodology will seek to enable adaptive management to achieve the habitat target conditions as proposed.

Site Location and Context

1.5 The Site is Located West of Westfield Avenue, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire (Central Grid Ref: SP 46004 97838) Surrounding land-use is dominated by residential development bordered by hedgerows and scattered trees. The pre-development Site, approximately 0.58 ha in size, comprised of bare ground, with areas of poor semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal and scrub.

Proposed Development

1.6 The Site is being proposed for residential development entailing the erection of 18 dwellings, new vehicular and pedestrian access of Westfield Avenue, and associated green infrastructure.

Legislation and Policy

1.7 All relevant EU and UK nature conservation law will be adhered to in relation to the protection of ecological features and ecological enhancement. This includes the protection afforded to nesting birds under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), and with reference to the protection of great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*, and bats and bat roosts under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Regard has also been given to the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Local Nature Recovery Strategy, July 2025), and Habitats of Principle Importance (HPI) as listed within Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

2.0 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Land Ownership and Management

2.1 Environmental Trading Platforms Ltd are facilitating the sale of the site. Following the sale of the site and transfer of land ownership, the responsibility of the management set out in the HMMP will fall to the new landowner and/or appointed management company. Should changes in landowner occur within the life of the HMMP, this responsibility will fall to the future owner and/or appointed management company to ensure the long-term sustainability of the management plan.

Landscape Management

2.2 During the construction phase and for the first 12 months, the appointed contractor(s) will be responsible for the creation of the habitats, with landscaping for the development subsequently maintained by the landowner and/or appointed management company. Monitoring of the successful establishment will be the responsibility of the landowner/ appointed management company.

2.3 The responsibility for long-term management of the habitats covered within this HMMP will be passed to the and/or appointed management company.

2.4 Their contractor(s) will be suitably qualified and experienced, capable of delivering the management measures outlined in this report.

Monitoring and Review

2.5 Management of created habitats on-site will run for a period of 30 years following initial creation (year 1). The habitat creation will be monitored annually for the first five years to ensure effective establishment. Following this, towards the end of each five-year period the management will be reviewed and amended by the landowner or their appointed contractor(s) as necessary to provide a five-year rolling programme.

2.6 Throughout the period of the scheme, the achievement of management objectives through the application of detailed prescriptions should be viewed as a dynamic process, responding to the establishment and development of the habitats and species.

2.7 The progress of habitat creation will therefore be monitored, and management prescriptions reviewed and altered where necessary to ensure habitat targets are met. This HMMP should be informed by updated and detailed surveys of the habitats to refine the identified objectives, targets and prescriptions as necessary.

2.8 The condition assessments and associated monitoring reviews that have been prescribed should be undertaken by a suitably qualified and experienced ecologist.

2.9 The aims of future on-going management should continue to maintain the target habitats as set out within this HMMP.

Reporting

2.10 Appropriate reporting will be submitted to Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council throughout the life of the HMMP. This will include written notice to the council upon implementation of the HMMP, the completion of habitat creation works, and monitoring reports as specified within this HMMP.

2.11 Submission of the above items to the LPA will be the responsibility of the landowner or their approved contractor(s).

3.0 AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND TARGETS

3.1 The key management objective is to ensure the successful establishment of all landscape areas to create, establish, and maintain enhanced biodiversity opportunities onsite through active and considerate management approaches as specified within the biodiversity net gain report. This includes habitats that will be retained and enhanced through sympathetic management; and habitats that will be created and subsequently maintained for biodiversity objectives.

3.2 The prescriptions provided here will be altered if required in agreement with the Local Planning Authority (LPA). This document covers a period of 30 years, with the work programme to be fully reviewed at the end of the initial five-year period by those responsible for site management.

3.3 The habitats proposed within the Site contribute towards national biodiversity objectives through the creation, enhancement and long-term management of habitats recognised as important components of ecological networks. Species-rich grassland, native hedgerows, scattered trees and native planting provide resources for pollinators, birds and other wildlife while supporting habitat connectivity across the wider landscape. The management proposals align with the principles of the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and support habitats and species identified as being of principal importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. The proposals also contribute towards the objectives of Biodiversity Net Gain as required under the Environment Act 2021. At a local level, the management of species-rich grassland and native hedgerows contributes to biodiversity enhancement priorities for Leicestershire and supports the strengthening of local ecological networks through the protection, restoration and enhancement of semi-natural habitats. The long-term management of these habitats will help maintain ecological connectivity and increase habitat availability for pollinating insects, farmland birds and other native fauna within the local area.

4.0 ECOLOGICAL TRENDS AND CONSTRAINTS

Designated Sites

4.1 Consultation with the Leicestershire and Rutland Environmental Records Centre (LRERC) identified two Local Wildlife Sites of local conservation importance within 1km of the Site; Earl Shileon, Wentworth Avenue Oak and Thurlaston Brook Hedgerow. No sites were recorded within the Site boundary, with the nearest site (Thurlaston Brook Hedgerow) located 300m north of the Site boundary.

Habitats

4.2 The Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey was undertaken on the 22nd of September 2023 using the standard methodology (JNCC, 2010[1]), to identify specific habitats and features of ecological interest.

4.3 Habitats of greater value on Site include the mature and immature trees which should be retained within proposals where feasible. Mature trees provide continuity of habitat and can provide a habitat to a range wildlife. Any tree loss should be mitigated for by suitable replacement planting in a suitable location within the green infrastructure.

4.4 All retained trees will be protected by appropriate fencing based on their calculated Root Protection Areas (RPA) and protected from damage and disturbance during construction through the implementation of best practice standards and recommended guidance and as outlined in any Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) or similar for the lifetime of the construction phase.

4.5 The remaining habitats (poor semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal, dense scrub and bare ground) comprised species common and typical of those habitats and were of little intrinsic nature conservation value and are not considered to represent a constraint to development of the Site. It is not anticipated that the removal of these habitats would significantly impact local wildlife populations as these are of low ecological value and limited in extent.

Protected/Notable Species

Badger (confidential)

4.6 Habitats within the Site boundary provided suitable foraging and movement habitats for badger, which are known to be present in the wider area. During the Extended Phase 1 Survey, no setts or other evidence was recorded. The presence of this species does not currently pose a constraint to the proposals.

Bats

4.7 One tree (T3) with moderate potential for roosting bats was recorded in the Site. Current proposals indicate that the tree and its connectivity to the wider landscape will be retained, therefore no further works/mitigation is recommended. Should proposals change and the tree lost, the tree may require further assessment (aerial or nocturnal assessment) to ascertain the presence or otherwise of roosting bats to inform any mitigation necessary prior to its removal.

[1] Joint Nature Conservation Committee 2010 Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: a technique for environmental audit. JNCC, Peterborough.

4.8 There are no existing records of bats on-Site, but there are numerous records of bats within 1km of the Site boundary comprising common and widespread species such as common pipistrelle, pipistrelle species, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, serotine, brown long-eared and unidentified bat species.

4.9 The majority of on-site habitats (poor semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal and ephemeral/short perennial vegetation and bare ground) are of limited value to bats and their loss would not significantly affect any local populations.

Birds

4.10 The Site provides a range of habitats suitable for nesting and ground nesting birds, including mature and immature trees and areas of dense scrub. However, given the very limited extent of habitats that would be affected the proposals are unlikely to lead to any significant effect on any local breeding or wintering bird populations.

Great Crested Newts

4.11 No waterbodies were present within the Site boundary, although four were present in relatively close proximity to it. Consultation data included a number of records of GCN within the general area. This is supported by evidence collected by FPCR in support of a licence, in place since 2018, to allow the wider development to proceed (Licence ref: 2018-36734-EPS-MIT-1). This included the trapping and translocation of GCN from the wider site to a reserve area to the east. This area is currently fenced by exclusion fencing to prevent GCN access into the development site which remains under construction. This fencing will prevent GCN access into the current site for the foreseeable future.

Reptiles

4.12 No evidence or incidental sightings of reptiles were recorded during the survey. Consultation results returned records of grass snake within 1km of the Site boundary. The site is of limited extent with limited suitable habitat present. As a result, it is not considered likely to support or be of significant value for reptiles.

Other Species

4.13 Areas of dense scrub habitats provided suitable habitats for hedgehogs. Site enhancements and creation of new habitats in the wider site will ensure that a habitat mosaic suitable for hedgehogs around the boundaries is provided on completion of works.

5.0 HABITAT CREATION, ENHANCEMENT AND MANAGEMENT

5.1 Management principles are devised for the following landscape elements that are proposed or existing within the Site. The layout of the prosed habitat is illustrated in Figure 1.

1. Individual Trees (Existing/New)
2. Native Hedgerows with Trees (New)
3. Introduced Shrub Planting
4. Grassed Areas
5. Ecological Enhancement Features
6. General Management Requirements

5.2 The management approach for each component is defined below.

1. Individual Trees

Existing Trees

5.3 There are three large rural trees present onsite to be retained as part of the development proposals, concentrated around the Site boundary to the east and south. Management approaches for retained trees include:

- Any immediately necessary remedial work to any existing retained trees within the site should be undertaken. The Contractor should also review whether there are any specific requirements for management of existing trees on the site.
- Within publicly accessible areas, and especially within proximity of defined footpath routes and at the entrance to units, check trees annually and after major storms for necessary remedial works with works undertaken as advised by a suitably qualified Arboriculturist.
- All works will be undertaken according to best practice as set out in the relevant standards BS 5837 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations in order to satisfy a duty of care and BS 3998 Tree Work – Recommendations and using qualified tree surgeons/or arborists.
- All vegetation and, particularly, woody vegetation proposed for clearance should be removed outside of the main bird-breeding season (March - August inclusive) as all birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) whilst on the nest. Where this is not possible, vegetation should be checked for the presence of nesting birds by a suitably qualified Ecologist.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
Retained Existing Trees						
Inspect trees annually and after storms. Undertake any resultant scheduled tree works outside of the bird breeding season as appropriate. Retain or remove arisings as appropriate.	√	√	√	√	√	√

New Trees

5.4 Seven small native trees are to be incorporated into the proposals with a target condition of **moderate** in the Biodiversity Metric.

5.5 Native trees planted may include:

- Field Maple *Acer campestre*
- Silver Birch *Betula pendula*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
- Crab Apple *Malus sylvestris*

5.6 Management prescriptions have been provided to support the achievement of the objectives set out through the habitat creation plan. Individual standard trees and standard tree group planting will be maintained as follows:

- Plant tree species around the site, favouring native species where feasible.
- Planted within areas of green infrastructure such that at least 20% of the ground beneath each tree is vegetated.
- Ensure early establishment through formative pruning (where required) and watering.
- Monthly visit from April to September, followed by twice in the dormant season.
- Water trees weekly in dry weather and when needed in other periods.
- Mulch during establishment and throughout first year to reduce water loss.
- Annual slow-release fertiliser (e.g. Osmocote) in April of each year (Y1, Y2 and Y3).
- Re-plant any failed species.
- Examine all tree stakes and ties, replace or adjust as appropriate. Once the tree has established well, remove all stakes, ties, spacers, tubes etc. and make good surfaces disturbed – filling any holes with suitable topsoil.
- Pruning of dead, diseased or damaged branches should be carried out as appropriate to promote healthy growth and natural shape, and to favour a single central leading shoot.
- Relaxed management removing only branches that pose a risk to site users such that trees retain more than 75% of the expected canopy size for the corresponding age.
- Arisings from tree works will, where practical, be used to create dead wood piles within or adjacent to hedgerows or chipped to provide mulch for use in amenity planting areas. Alternatively, they will be removed from site.

Description of Works	**Years Active**					
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6-30**
New Standard Tree Planting						
During establishment, ensure a 1m radius around each tree is kept weed and grass free. Inspect plant protection regularly and adjust or replace where damaged.	√	√	-	-	-	-
Basal area around trees within species rich grassland areas should be left unmown.	√	√	-	-	-	-
Replace dead or dying trees with like-for-like.	√	√	√	√	√	-

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
Remove tree protection once plants have established.	-	-	√	√	√	-
Water as required.	√	√	√	-	-	-
Inspect trees annually and after storms. Undertake any resultant scheduled tree works outside of bird breeding season as appropriate. Prune as required to achieve healthy growth and natural shape. Retain or remove arisings as appropriate.	√	√	√	√	√	√

2. Native Hedgerows with Trees

New

5.7 New native hedgerow with trees planting comprises a total of 0.12km along the eastern boundary of the Site. Hedgerows comprising native species are proposed to improve biodiversity connectivity and target **moderate** condition in the Biodiversity Metric.

5.8 Preference should be given within the planting scheme to the use of locally native woody species, with an emphasis on species bearing nectar, berries, fruit and nuts, as these enhance the foraging opportunities for local wild fauna including birds and invertebrates.

5.9 Suitable small tree species for inclusion in hedgerows include:

- Field maple *Acer campestre*
- Silver birch *Betula pendula*
- Wild cherry *Prunus avium*
- Bird cherry *P. padus*
- Crab apple *Malus sylvestris*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*

5.10 Other shrub species suitable for inclusion within the soft landscaping design around boundaries include:

- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*
- Dog-rose *Rosa canina*
- Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*
- Guelder-rose *Viburnum opulus*
- Wild privet *Ligustrum vulgare*

5.11 Planting within built areas may include semi-ornamental and ornamental specimens, with consideration given to those which provide value through their nectar and fruiting bodies.

5.12 Management approaches for native hedgerows with trees include:

- Plants to be in accordance with BS 3936 and handled in accordance with the NPS 'Handling & Establishment' guidelines and planted in accordance with BS 4428:1989.

- Hedge plants to be pit planted in double staggered rows 350mm apart at 450mm centres (or as scheduled) with the growing tip (top 100mm) of the hedge plant removed to encourage spreading growth.
- Bare root transplants to be root dipped with 'Broadleaf Root Dip' with 'Rootgrow' mycorrhizal fungi granules (RGPro as supplied by Empathy) and Sierrablen N Mag Pre-planter Fertiliser sprinkled evenly into prepared planting pit in accordance with manufacturers recommendations prior to planting.
- Plant a suitable array of native woody species to form a dense hedgerow.
- Trees planted as small or larger standards to differentiate them from whip hedgerow planting.
- Trees should be staked to provide support.
- Water plants well immediately after planting and prior to spreading of mulch.
- Planted areas to be covered with 75mm depth bark mulch and kept weed free.
- Where necessary, plants to be protected from rabbits with rabbit fence and / or individual rabbit mesh guards securely staked.

5.13 Management approaches for ornamental hedgerows include:

- Hedge plants to be 60-80cm in height with a minimum of three breaks, planted in double staggered rows 350mm apart at 450mm centres (or as scheduled).
- Water plants well immediately after planting and prior to spreading of mulch.
- Planted areas to be covered with 75mm depth bark mulch and kept weed free.
- Where necessary, plants to be protected from rabbits with rabbit fence and / or individual rabbit mesh guards securely stake.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
New Hedgerow Planting – Native Hedgerows						
Keep clear of litter and debris.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Replace any failed specimens for like-for-like the next planting season.	√	√	√	√	√	-
Herbicides such as 'Round-up' glyphosate Herbicide may be used, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions in compliance with the Pesticides Acts (1998).	√	-	-	-	-	-
Remove and dispose of tree protection once plants have established.	-	-	√	√	√	-
Keep a 1m buffer adjacent to native hedgerows as undisturbed. Thin less desirable vegetation such as brambles or nettles outside of this buffer.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Manage to maintain height at 1.5m and width of 1.5m, cutting one side of hedgerow per year.	-	√	√	√	√	√
Fertiliser use to be prohibited within hedgerows and in grasslands adjacent to hedgerows.	√	-	-	-	-	-

3. Introduced Shrub Planting

5.14 These areas will be managed primarily for their amenity/ornamental value.

5.15 Creation of small areas of introduced shrub will add to the structural diversity of the landscaping across the site and create foraging for insects. Good structural diversity within a site helps to increase overall biodiversity value by providing a wider range of niche habitats which can be exploited by a wide range of species.

5.16 Species composition of shrub planting comprises:

- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Blackthorn
- Dog-rose *Rosa canina*
- Honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum*
- Guelder-rose *Viburnum opulus*
- Wild privet *Ligustrum vulgare*

5.17 Management approaches include:

- Plant a mix of ornamental shrub species.
- Cut and clear any existing vegetation.
- Plant 60-90cm bare root whips.
- Protect with shrub guards.
- Suppress weeds with deep wood-chip mulch or a biodegradable mulch mat at 75mm.
- Monthly visit from April to September, followed by twice in the dormant season.
- Water shrubs weekly in dry weather and when needed in other periods.
- Plants that have become loosened to be set upright and re-firmed by treading.
- Regularly top mulch in planting areas, ensuring low branches are not smothered.
- Weed control must take place in Year 1, with chemical control.
- Plants to be protected from rabbits, with rabbit fence and / or individual mesh tree guards securely fixed to timber stake(s).
- Plants found to be dead or dying within the first five years post planting to be replaced on a like-for-like basis as soon as possible within the next available planting season.

Description of Works	**Years Active**					
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**	**6-30**
Introduced Shrub Planting						
Quarterly inspection of shrub with replacement of failed specimens the next planting season as required.	√	√	√	√	√	-
Weed control to prevent competition by weeds and grasses, inspect plant protection regularly and adjust or replace where damaged, and undertake formative pruning.	√	√	-	-	-	-
Scrub will be managed through coppicing with no more than 1/3rd of the overall resource cut each rotation.	-	-	√	√	√	√
Remove protection once plants have established.	-	-	√	√	√	-

4. Grassed Areas

5.18 Grassed areas are proposed across the perimeter of units around the Site. This includes wildflower meadow planting, where other neutral grassland is proposed along the southern and eastern boundary of the Site; and flowering lawn areas, which are well managed to create a neat, modified grassland across the Site.

Other Neutral Grassland

5.19 Areas of wildflower planting targets **moderate** condition other neutral grassland in the Biodiversity Metric, which are designed to provide an ecologically valuable grassland.

5.20 Management approaches for all wildflower meadow planting should target **moderate** condition in the Biodiversity Metric to create a species-rich, diverse sward where appropriate.

5.21 Use a native species-rich grassland mix, such as, Emorsgate Seeds Standard General-Purpose Meadow Mix (EM2) to achieve a diverse sward. This comprises:

Wildflowers – 15%		
Yarrow	*Achillea millefolium*	0.60%
Betony	*Betonica officinalis*	1.35%
Common Knapweed	*Centurea nigra*	2.10%
Wild Carrot	*Daucus carota*	0.75%
Hedge Bedstraw	*Galium album*	0.75
Meadow Crane's-bill	*Geranium pratense*	0.30%
Lady's Bedstraw	*Galium verum*	0.90%
Oxeye Daisy	*Leucanthemum vulgare*	1.35%
Black Medick	*Plantago lanceolata*	0.45%
Cowslip	*Primula veris*	0.75%
Selfheal	*Prunella vulgaris*	1.35%
Meadow Buttercup	*Ranunculus acris*	1.20%
Yellow Rattle	*Rhinanthus minor*	0.90%
Red Campion	*Silene dioica*	0.60%
Bladder Campion	*Silene vulgaris*	1.20%
Tufted Vetch	*Vicia cracca*	0.45%
Grasses – 85%		
Common Bent	*Agrostis capillaris*	8.50%
Crested Dogstail	*Cynosurus cristatus*	29.75%
Red Fescue	*Festuca rubra*	25.50%
Smaller Cat's-tail	*Phleum bertolonii*	4.25%
Smooth-stalked Meadow-grass	*Poa pratensis*	17.00%

5.22 Management approaches to target moderate condition other neutral grassland include:

- Control flush of annual weeds post sowing with arisings removed.

- Mow in mid-March/April and then again in September.
- Management will be reduced by staggering areas of cutting to target varied sward heights, with at least two cuts per year (in early spring and autumn) following establishment.
- Cutting should be undertaken on a rotational basis.
- No fertiliser or herbicide inputs
- Any failed areas to be seeded at the correct season.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
Wildflower planting						
Grass areas to be seeded in accordance with BS 4428:1989 during March, April or September.	√	-	-	-	-	-
Do not apply fertiliser. Weeds to be eradicated by herbicide or repeated cultivation prior to sowing.	√	√	-	-	-	-
Lightly rake areas after sowing and keep well-watered.	√	-	-	-	-	-
Areas to be kept free from unwanted plants and mown every 6 - 8 weeks during establishment year removing arisings.	√	-	-	-	-	-
In subsequent years, cut in early spring and autumn after setting seed (in accordance with manufacturers recommendations) removing arisings.	-	√	√	√	√	√
A minimum 1.5 metre close mown margin is to be maintained abutting buildings and hard surfacing (i.e road, car park and footpath edges).	√	√	√	√	√	√

Modified Grassland

5.23 Areas of modified grassland proposed with enhanced biodiversity value within the areas surrounding footpaths and entrances. Many rare and protected species benefit from grassland with a diverse array of forb species, and it has potential to support a range of wildlife including invertebrates, birds and mammals. The amenity grassland areas will be managed for its amenity value and are to be sown with a flowering lawn mix such as Emorsgate EL1 (or similar.).

5.24 Modified grassland is targeted **moderate** condition in the Biodiversity Metric.

5.25 Management approaches to target **moderate** condition modified grassland include:

- Control flush of annual weeds post sowing with arising removed.
- Mow every 7-10 days during the growing season throughout first year.
- Cut to a height of 50-60mm, removing cuttings if dense.
- Mow regularly but not too short (minimum height 50mm). Mowing should be relaxed from late June for 4-8 weeks, excluding mown pathways.
- No fertiliser or herbicide inputs.
- Regular management to prevent scrub/bracken encroachment
- Any failed areas to be seeded at the correct season.
- Monitor and manage species richness, this can be achieved by using an appropriate species mix, and a mowing regime which will aid in achieving 6-8 species per m^2. The grassland will be monitored and any areas struggling can be supplemented with further seed broadcast.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
Flowering Lawn						
During establishment mow regularly when the grass reaches 75mm height and cut to 50mm. Remove arisings from first mow only.	√	-	-	-	-	-
Cut once monthly (March-November) to 50mm, with first cut in Mid March. Distribute arisings evenly.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Relax mowing regime from late June for 8 weeks, after which cut back to 50mm.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Re-sow worn patches and treat weeds with a suitable approved herbicide.	√	√	-	-	-	-

5. Ecological Enhancement Features

5.26 As part of ecological enhancements to the Site, bat roost and bird nest boxes are proposed to be mounted across retained trees and units within the development as well as the implementation of hedgerow access routes, the indicative locations as shown on Figure 2. This has been informed by the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Local Nature Recovery Strategy to prioritise the appropriate target species.

Bat Boxes

5.27 Bat boxes offer roost locations for bat species including common species and targeted priority species such as Barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus* and Leisler's *Nyctalus leisleri*. Therefore, the following bat boxes or similar approved are recommended:

- 1FD Schwegler Bat Box
- Integrated Eco Cavity Bat BoxKent Box
- Beaumaris Bat Box

5.28 Bat boxes will be installed at heights between 3-5m and on the south, southeast and southwest aspects to optimise the internal conditions. The ultimate siting of these boxes should be determined by a suitably experienced ecologist.

5.29 Following installation, the bat boxes are maintenance free and should not be disturbed. A single non-invasive visual inspection of the boxes should be completed every year in autumn or winter to check for damage. Lost or damaged boxes should be replaced as necessary. Any work required to the bat boxes will be carried out by a licenced bat worker.

5.30 Boxes should be monitored for use in years 2, 5 and 10 by a suitably licenced ecologist.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
Bat Boxes						
A single non-invasive visual inspection of the boxes should be completed every year in autumn or winter to check for damage. Lost or damaged boxes should be replaced as necessary. Any work required to the bat boxes will be carried out by a licenced bat worker.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Monitor for use in years 2, 5 and 10 by a suitably licenced ecologist	-	√	-	-	√	√

Bird Boxes

5.31 Bird boxes offer nesting opportunities for targeted species such as Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, and Swift *Apus apus*. The following bird boxes or similar approved are recommended:

- Swift bricks
- Schwegler 3S Starling Nest Box

5.32 Following installation, bird boxes are low maintenance, with management limited to clearing out old nests and debris during winter months. A single non-invasive visual inspection of the boxes should be completed every year in spring prior to the arrival of migrating species to check for damage. Lots or damaged boxes should be replaced as necessary.

5.33 Boxes should be monitored for use in years 2, 5 and 10 by a suitably experienced ecologist.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
Bird Boxes						
A single non-invasive visual inspection of the boxes should be completed every year in spring to check for damage. Lost or damaged boxes should be replaced as necessary.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Boxes should be cleared of old nest detritus or debris in winter.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Monitor for use in years 2, 5 and 10	-	√	-	-	√	√

Hedgehog Access Routes

5.34 Create access across the Site for free movement of hedgehogs.

5.35 Fencing can cause access issues for hedgehogs which can will be compensated by creating an access route within the fence line.

5.36 Can Will be achieved by:

- Leaving or cutting gaps within the fencing separating houses (13cm x13cm).
- Ensuring routes do not begin or end on a road.
- Installing 'Hedgehog Highway' Signs/Fence plates can be installed over gaps to encourage access holes to be left open.

5.37 No maintenance required. In year 1 ensure that gaps are left and signs installed, creating a viable route for hedgehogs.

6. General Management Requirements

5.38 Maintenance to be undertaken to ensure footpaths remain clean, tidy and safe.

5.39 Litter picks and general litter clearance should be carried out on all landscape areas monthly. This should include existing hedge/tree groups and new planting areas. Litter picks should be undertaken at every visit to the Site for maintenance operations. The overall objective is to ensure all landscape areas are free from litter and fly tipping.

5.40 Habitats will be monitored every other year for the first five years, with monitoring decreased thereafter as appropriate. Management prescriptions will be amended as necessary to ensure the landscaping and associated habitats establish and maintain their quality over time and retain and expand the presence of fauna using these habitats.

Description of Works	Years Active					
	1	2	3	4	5	6-30
General Management						
Undertake regular checks, maintenance and repairs as necessary to ensure footpaths remain tidy and safe for use.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Litter pick at every visit.	√	√	√	√	√	√
Monitor landscaping and habitats every other year for first five years and use results to inform future management for coming years. Reduce detailed monitoring to appropriate frequency thereafter.	-	√	-	√	-	√

6.0 RISK AND REMEDIAL MEASURES

6.1 *Table 1* provides details of site-wide risks associated with creating and managing proposed habitat types. Remedial measures to ensure delivery of the management plan objectives are also provided.

Table 1. Habitat Creation and Management – Risk Register and Remedial Measures

Habitat Type	Risk Factor	Trigger for Action	Remedial Measure
Other neutral grassland & Modified Grassland	Failed areas of seeding	Greater than 10% bare ground during years 2-5	Apply additional seed in areas of failed establishment. Appropriate seed mix to be used for the compartment where reseeding is required
	Scrub or bracken encroachment	Scrub and or bracken cover greater than 5% or 20% respectively	Initiate programme of scrub and/or bracken removal as required. This can either be through mechanical removal or spot spraying with herbicide
	Establishment of non-native invasive species	Monitoring identifies the presence of any invasive non-native species within the vegetation	Initiate a programme of eradication of invasive non-native species. Specialist advice should be sought to ensure the appropriate eradication measures for the species identified
Introduced shrub	Failed areas of vegetation	Vegetation mortality across significant areas	Replacement planting where necessary
	Establishment of non-native invasive species	Monitoring identifies the presence of any invasive non-native species within the vegetation	Initiate a programme of eradication of invasive non-native species. Specialist advice should be sought to ensure the appropriate eradication measures for the species identified
Urban trees	Failed specimens	Failed specimens observed during the 30-year period	Replacement planting with like for like species of failed specimens
Hedgerows	Establishment of non-native invasive species	Monitoring identifies the presence of any invasive non-native species	Initiate a programme of eradication of invasive non-native species. Specialist advice should be sought to ensure the appropriate eradication measures for the species identified

7.0 MONITORING STRATEGY

7.1 The Site will be monitored at varying degrees from establishment and through its long-term management. Monitoring and subsequent reporting will be undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist. Initially, during the establishment period the Site will be monitored in years 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5. The year 1 review will confirm the initial creation works have been completed as prescribed, with the years 2 to 5 monitoring periods assessing how the establishment of the proposed habitat creation is progressing. The key observations during this period will be to

determine whether habitats are successfully establishing and improving and whether replacement planting or reseeding may be required.

7.2 To note, that not all the below monitoring 'factors' are relevant to determine if the proposed habitat conditions have been achieved however they will provide a wider picture of the status of each to feed into the monitoring results.

Other Neutral Grassland

7.3 During the establishment phase of other neutral grassland (Years 1-5), monitoring will focus on determining the DAFOR abundances of plants present throughout the sward and whether a sufficient number of species within the seed mix used has established. It will also be important to monitor the percentage coverage of palatable grasses.

7.4 During years 6-30, grasslands will be monitored by reviewing the following factors:

- Species diversity per m^2
- Percentage cover of bare ground
- Percentage cover of scrub/bracken
- Percentage cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition
- Presence of non-native invasive species
- DAFOR Abundances of wildflowers, sedges and rushes
- Sward height diversity Level of poaching or trampling damage

Modified Grassland

7.5 During the establishment phase of modified grassland areas (Year 1), monitoring will focus on the establishment and ground cover of the sward.

7.6 During years 2-30, amenity grass areas will be monitored by reviewing the following factors:

- Extent of physical damage
- Percentage cover of scrub/bracken
- Percentage cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition
- Presence of non-native invasive species

7.7 Monitoring will be undertaken between May and August during Years 1 – 5 and then at 5-year intervals, beginning at year 10 until at least year 30.

New Urban Trees

7.8 Monitoring to be undertaken on newly planted small trees.

7.9 During years 1-5 of the management plan period, individual trees will be monitored for their health. The abundance of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and the presence of non-native invasive species will also be reviewed.

7.10 Throughout the remainder of management period, individual trees will be monitored for:

- Trees achieving maturity

- Any vandalism or adverse impacts from human activity
- Pruning activities
- Presence of vegetation under the tree canopy area

7.11 Monitoring will be undertaken between May and August during Years 1 – 5 and then at 5-year intervals, beginning at year 10 until at least year 30.

New Native Hedgerow

7.12 During years 1-5 of the management plan period, individual specimen hedgerow plants will be monitored for their health. The abundance of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and the presence of non-native invasive species will also be reviewed.

7.13 Throughout the remainder of management period, the hedgerow will be monitored for:

- Height and Width
- Any gaps present
- Percentage cover of ground disturbance
- Percentage cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition
- Presence of non-native invasive species

7.14 Monitoring will be undertaken between May and August during Years 1 – 5 and then at 5-year intervals, beginning at year 10 until at least year 30.

8.0 MONITORING REPORTS

8.1 The landowner will be responsible for issuing a written notice to the LPA upon the implementation of the HMMP. Upon completion of habitat creation works in year 1, the landowner or their appointed contractor(s) will issue a report to the LPA evidencing the completed habitat works, following a monitoring inspection by a suitably experienced ecologist.

8.2 Monitoring reports will be submitted for a review to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council following each monitoring visit by a suitably experienced ecologist or as otherwise agreed, as outlined above (i.e. years 1 – 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30). The organisation responsible for submitting the monitoring reports is to be confirmed; however, this will be the responsibility of the landowner or their appointed contractor(s).

8.3 Where objectives are not being adequately met, action will be undertaken to assess and appropriately amend management prescriptions, with any refinements incorporated into the updated management plan and annual work programme.

8.4 This HMMP and work programme will be fully reviewed on a ten-year rolling basis, with the work programme reviewed at the end of the initial ten-year period by the ecologist in consultation with those involved in site management. The detailed management prescriptions set out in the management plan will be altered if required following monitoring and in agreement with the landscape contractor, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, and any other stakeholders.

8.5 Monitoring reports will be submitted to the LPA no later than the end of December of each year the monitoring has been conducted, presenting an overview of the progress on site. Table 2 below summarises the monitoring report schedule.

Table 2: Monitoring Report Schedule

Project Year	**Month report to be submitted** by	**Month management plan to be reviewed**	**Comments**
Y1	December	September-November	Report on results of initial habitat creation and enhancement measures.
Y2 - 4	December	September-November	Report on results of habitat creation and enhancement and identify any remedial measures.
Y5	December	September-November	Review of success of habitat creation and enhancement. Depending on progress of habitats – review management techniques and the need for any amendments to the HMP or remedial measures.
Y6-Y30	December	September-November	TBC

9.0 LONG TERM MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE

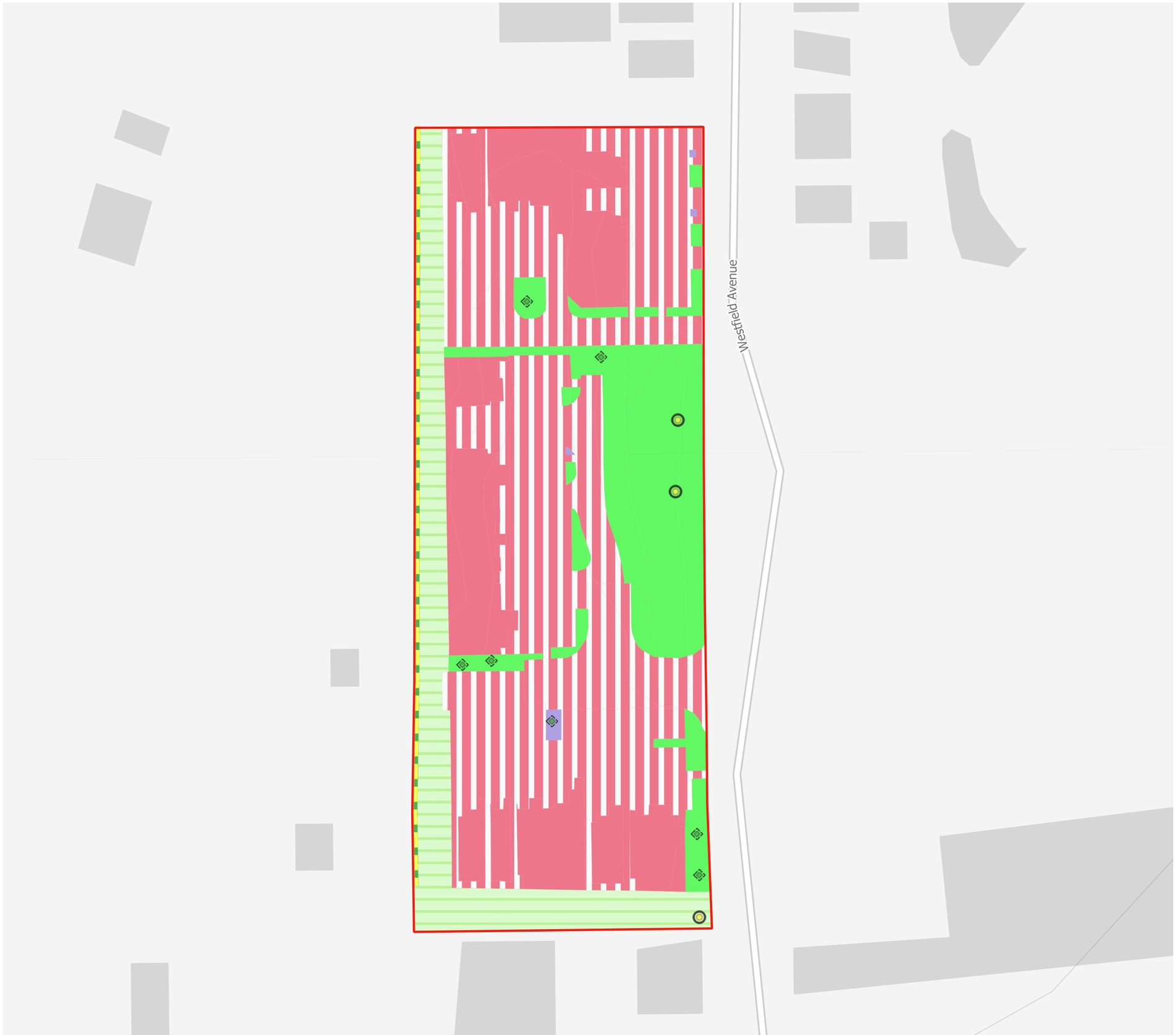
Table 3: Long term maintenance schedule

FEATURE	MONITORING	YR 1	YR 3	YR 5	YR 10	YR 15	YR 20	YR 30	INDICATOR THAT TARGET CONDITION HAS BEEN ACHIEVED
Trees (retained)	• Has protective fencing been used? • Is area free of litter & non-native plants? • Have trees been checked for safety (e.g. following major storm events)?	√ √ √	√ √	√ √	√ √	√ √	√ √	√ √	• Trees are healthy. • No litter or non-native plants.
Individual Trees (new)	• Have proposed new trees of native species been planted? • Have guards and tree stakes been used as appropriate? • Have plants been replaced if less than 75% establishment of original planting?	√ √	 √	 √					• Native species are dominant (>70%). • Trees are healthy and with little or no evidence of vandalism or other damage. • Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present or developing, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark. • More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.
Native Species Hedgerows (new)	• Have new native hedgerows been planted with the recommended native species mix? • Have guards been used as appropriate? • Have plants been replaced if less than 75% establishment of original planting? • Has rotational trimming taken place?	√ √	 √ √ √	 √ √	 √	 √	 √	 √	• Hedgerow contains only native woody species. • No damaged, dead or dying specimens and no/few gaps in hedgerows or at hedge bases. • No litter or non-native plants. • Native hedgerows have an 'A shape' profile (after year 4) and have reached an average height and width of 1.5m+ along length. • Diverse age-range of specimens developing. • >1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation adjacent. • Lack of invasive non-native plant species and pernicious or invasive weeds.

FEATURE	MONITORING	YR 1	YR 3	YR 5	YR 10	YR 15	YR 20	YR 30	INDICATOR THAT TARGET CONDITION HAS BEEN ACHIEVED
Introduced Native Shrub Planting	• Have shrubs of native species been planted? • Any failed specimens replaced? • Have guards been used as appropriate? • Has coppicing with no more than 1/3 of the overall resource cut been undertaken?	√ √	 √ √ √	 √ √	 √	 √	 √	 √	• Introduced scrub contains only native species. • No failed specimens. • Formative pruning has taken place with coppicing limited to less then 1/3 of overall resource. • Scrub has not been outcompeted by grasses. Weeds and non-native species absent.
Other Neutral Grassland	• Has the recommended seed mix been sown? • Has the first-year management been implemented? • Has long term management been implemented? • Are the planted areas free of scrub, litter and non-native species?	√ √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	• Grassland supports a diverse, herb-rich mix of wildflowers and grasses. • Absence of non-native species. • Characteristic indicator species present. • Established wildflower meadow • A variation of wildflowers indicative of neutral grasslands or wildflowers visible at 80:20 ratio with grass • Sward height is varied
Modified Grassland	• Has the recommended seed mix been sown? • Have areas of grassland been sown? • Has long-term management been implemented? • Are the planted areas free of scrub, litter and non-native species?	√ √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	 √ √	• Absence of non-native species. • Characteristic indicator species present. • Sward height is varied
Bat & bird boxes	• Have bat and bird boxes been installed? • Do these remain present and in good condition?	√	 √	 √	 √	 √	 √	 √	• Boxes present and accessible to target fauna.
Hedgehog Access Routes	• Have gaps been left or created between garden fences? • Have 'hedgehog highway' signs been installed?	√ √							• Gaps left and signs installed, creating a viable route for hedgehogs
Monitoring	• Has habitat inspection taken place? (biennially in years 1, 3 and 5, then once every five years thereafter)	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	• Brief inspection report produced. These are to be made available to the LPA for their records.
Review of Management Plan	• Has Management Plan been reviewed at end of 5th Year and thereafter at 5-yearly intervals?			√	√	√	√	√	• Next 5-year Management Plan has been produced. This is to be agreed by the LPA.

This drawing is the property of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd and is issued on the condition it is not reproduced, retained or disclosed to any unauthorised person, either wholly or in part without written consent of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd

Ordnance Survey material - Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence Number: 100019980 (Centremapslive.com)



N

0 10 20 m

Red Line Boundary

Red Line Boundary

Habitats Proposed

Developed land; sealed surface

Introduced shrub

Modified grassland

Other neutral grassland

Vegetated garden

Individual trees Proposed

Proposed Small Urban Tree

Retained Large Rural Tree

Hedgerow Proposed

Proposed Native hedgerow with trees

date
07/04/26

drwn/chkd
SCR / SFW

client
Avant Homes West Midlands

project
Land West of Westfield Avenue, Earl Shilton

title
PROPOSED HABITATS PLAN

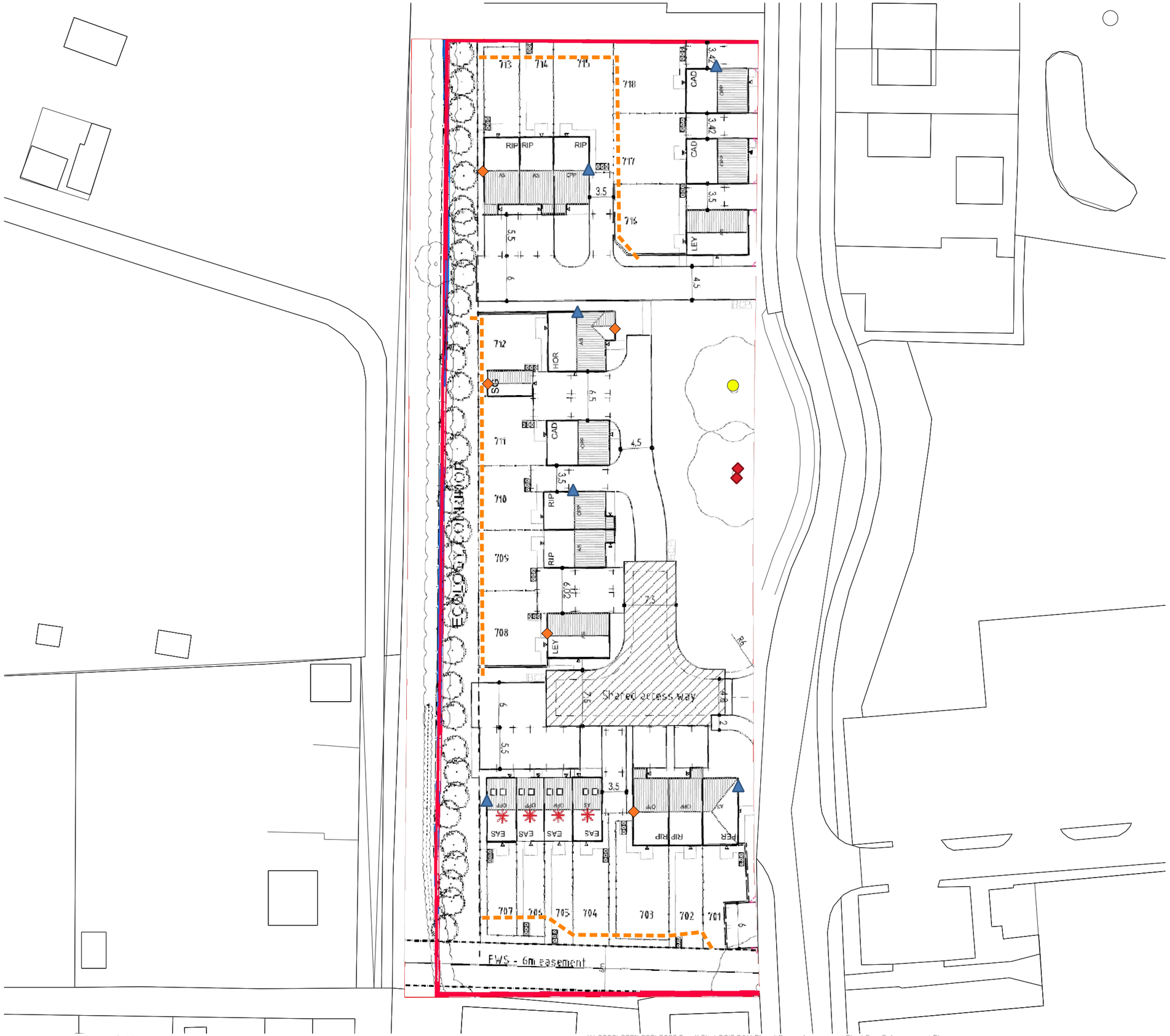
scale
1:600 @ A3

number
FIGURE 1

rev
-

FPCR | environment & design

K:\8200\8271\ECO\2023 Small Site\QGIS 2.14\Plans\8271 - Statutory Metric - Jan25\Net Gain Habitat Mapping.qgs
t: 01509 672772 e: mail@fpcr.co.uk w: www.fpcr.co.uk



N

0 10 20 m

Site Boundary

Swift Bricks in clusters of 3 (Wildcare product code: IBSTOCK SWIFT ECO HABITAT or similar). These should be built into the fabric of the new dwellings under the eaves away from windows at a height of 4m+. The locations shown are indicative and should be situated at north, east, or west-facing aspects with clear flight lines. Swift bricks are used by a range of species and are considered to be "universal" bird dwelling features.

Tree Mounted Bird Boxes (Schwegler 3S Starling Nest Box or similar) positioned with clear flight paths. Should be at least 3m from the ground and located in open positions where flights lines to the entrance of the box are not congested by vegetation.

Tree Mounted Bat Boxes (a cluster of 3 boxes including a 1FD Schwegler Bat Box, a Kent box and a Beaumaris Bat Box or similar) are proposed for the large retained trees within the Site. Should be at least 3m from the ground and located in open positions where flights lines to the entrance of the box are not congested by vegetation.

Hedgehog Routes to be intergrated into all garden fence walls to maintain connectivity, measuring 130mm in width and height.
Holes have attached sign labelling as 'Hedgehog Highway'.

Integrated Bat Boxes (Integrated Eco Cavity Bat Box or similar) should be placed at a height no less than 3m from ground level with unobstructed access and should be facing south, southeast or southwest.

N.B INDICATIVE LOCATIONS

date: 14/04/26

drwn/chkd: SCR / SFW

client: **Avant Homes**

project: **Land West of Westfield Avenue, Earl Shilton**

title: **ECO ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

scale: 1:825 @ A3

number: **FIGURE 2**

rev: -

FPCR | environment & design

This drawing is the property of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd and is issued on the condition it is not reproduced, retained or disclosed to any unauthorised person, either wholly or in part without written consent of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd
Ordnance Survey material - Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Licence Number: 100019980 (Centremapslive.com)

K:\8200\8271\ECO\2023 Small Site\QGIS 2.14\Plans\Eco-enhancement Plan\Eco-Enhancement Plan.qgz

t: 01509 672772 e: mail@fpcr.co.uk w: www.fpcr.co.uk

FPCR Environment and Design Ltd
Registered Office: Lockington Hall, Lockington, Derby DE74 2RH
Company No. 07128076. [T] 01509 672772 [E] mail@fpcr.co.uk [W] www.fpcr.co.uk

This report is the property of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd and is issued on the condition it is not reproduced, retained or disclosed to any unauthorised person, either wholly or in part without the written consent of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd. Ordnance Survey material is used with permission of The Controller of HMSO, Crown copyright 100019980.