



Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Atlantic House

Client: Thames Valley Police

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Data contained within this report is considered most relevant during the season in which it was collected. For medium or high impact schemes or for multi-plot or phased developments, surveys should not be more than two years old.

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1 Summary

Proposal outline	It is intended to apply for planning permission to allow the construction of an additional deck on an existing multi-story carpark.
Site description	The site comprises a two-deck carpark that provides facilities for Atlantic House office block. .
Surveys undertaken	A Preliminary Ecological Assessment including a Phase 1 habitat survey was undertaken 4 th September 2019.
Results and ecological constraint	The site is dominated by hardstanding with two small areas of amenity grassland and introduced shrub, on the flanks to the east and west. A row of trees to the north and a hedge to the south. The only ecological constraint identified is the potential for breeding birds to be present in the hedgerow and trees.
Recommendations	
Birds	To avoid committing an offence, necessary site clearance should be undertaken outside the breeding bird season (i.e. works should be conducted from the end of August to February inclusive).
Biodiversity enhancements	In line with NPPG recommendations for biodiversity enhancements are given at the end of the report.

2 Introduction

2.1 Background and development proposals

- 2.1.1 It is proposed to submit a planning application to allow the addition of another deck to the existing multi story carpark. It is intended to install a simple frame above the top deck which will support solar panels and under which any necessary lighting will be affixed instead of traditional lighting columns. The site is approximately 0.4ha in area.

2.2 Site information

- 2.2.1 The site lies off Imperial Way, Reading, RG2 0TD (SU71416954). A site plan is shown in Figure 1.
- 2.2.2 The site comprises an existing multi-storey carpark associated with Atlantic House a 38,577 sq. ft office building. Currently the carpark comprises two decks with the top being open to the air. A belt of Italian alder trees abuts the carpark forming the northern boundary beyond which are more office blocks. A mature hornbeam hedge abuts the southern edge of the deck, beyond which is another small area of carparking and hardstanding leading to Atlantic house. To the East and west are small areas of amenity grassland at ground level which provide a buffer between the carpark and the main road.
- 2.2.3 Atlantic house is set within the Worton Grange Industrial Estate on the outskirts of Reading close to J11 of the M4 motorway.

2.3 Purpose and scope

2.3.1 CA Ecology Ltd was contracted to conduct a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) within the application site boundary. The purpose of a PEA is to identify the habitats present and to assess the potential for the site to be used by species that receive legal protection (at a UK and/or European level) and by species that are otherwise notable, including Species of Principal Importance or those of Conservation Concern. A desk study is undertaken to search for relevant biological records and to enable the site to be viewed in a wider ecological context. The key aims and objectives of the survey are to:

- Establish baseline conditions and determine the importance of any ecological features present, as far as is possible;
- establish any requirements for more detailed or further surveys;
- identify key constraints to the project and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant impact on important ecological features;
- identify the mitigation and enhancement measures, as far as possible.

2.3.2 The report provides an evaluation of the ecological features present and an assessment of the significance of any records. Potential constraints to the proposed development are identified and, where possible, recommendations for mitigation are made.

3 Methodology

3.1 Desk study

- 3.1.1 A search of publicly available information that may be relevant to the site is made, including the Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) website which is reviewed for information on designated sites, along with protected habitats and records of past European Protected Species Licences (EPSL) within 2km radius of the site. The local action plan and any Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) are consulted for any species or habitats targeted for conservation effort in the area. In addition, Ordnance Survey maps and aerial imagery are used to identify water bodies on or within 500m of the site and review the amount of suitable habitat surrounding the site along with the degree of connectivity.
- 3.1.2 In this instance it was considered possible to carry out a robust PEA without obtaining data from the local records centre; this is because the project is considered a low impact or small-scale project within a small urban sites comprising mostly asphalt or compacted hardstanding.

3.2 Field survey

Habitats

- 3.2.1 In a Phase 1 habitat survey all areas within the application site boundary are investigated and the vegetation and habitat types are classified, recorded and mapped in accordance with the Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey. This allows a rapid visual assessment of the extent and distribution of different habitat types. All readily identified higher plant species from each habitat type are recorded, with an estimate of their cover and their relative abundance noted using the DAFOR scale (Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional and Rare).

Protected and notable species

- 3.2.2 The site is further assessed for its potential to support protected and notable species including those that receive protection under the following:
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017
 - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the amendments of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000
 - Species on the list required by section 41 protected of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 (Section 41 SPI)
 - The Protection of Badgers Act 1992
 - Species listed on the local BAP

3.2.3 The assessment is based on the presence of suitable habitat and key habitat features and connectivity to suitable habitat in the surrounding area along with review of information provided by the desk study and consideration of the national distribution of the species. Field signs such as tracks, scat, paths and direct sightings are also recorded. However, no specific faunal surveys were undertaken. Table 1 sets out the species for which the site was assessed, along with the relevant guidelines.

Table 1: Protected and notable species assessment methodology

Species	Outline of methodology	Relevant guidelines
European Protected Species		
Bats	Assess the suitability of the habitat on site to support roosting bats and for commuting and foraging. Search the site for structures or trees that may have potential to support roosting bats.	Methodology in line with Bat Conservation Trust's Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines (Collins, 2016) and Natural England's Bat Mitigation Guidelines (Mitchell-Jones, 2004).
Great crested newts	Assess the suitability of the site to support great crested newts (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>) in their terrestrial phase. Conduct a Habitat Suitability Index assessment (HSI) on any water body within site. Review of Ordnance Survey maps and aerial imagery to identify water bodies on or within 500m of the site.	Based on guidance in Herpetofauna Workers Manual (Gent & Gibson, 2003) along with Great Crested Newt Conservation Handbook (Langton, Beckett, & Foster, 2001) Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the great crested newt. (Oldham, Keeble, Swan, & Jeffcote, 2000).
Dormice	Assess the suitability of habitat on site to support dormice (<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>).	Bright PW, Morris PA and Mitchell-Jones A (2006). Dormouse Conservation Handbook, 2nd edition. English Nature, Peterborough.
Otters	Assess the suitability of the habitat on site to support otters (<i>Lutra lutra</i>).	National Rivers Authority (1993). Otters and River Habitat Management. Conservation Technical Handbook Number 3. Chanin, P (2003) Ecology of the European Otter. English Nature, Peterborough.
Natterjack toads	Assess the suitability of the site to support Natterjack toads (<i>Epidalea calamita</i>) if distribution, and historical records suggest they may be present.	Beebee T and Denton J (1996). Natterjack Toad Conservation Handbook. English Nature, Peterborough.
Reptiles ¹	Assess the habitats on site for their suitability to support reptiles.	Herpetofauna Workers Manual (Gent & Gibson, 2003).

¹ N.B. not all reptiles are European Protected Species but common species are protected under UK law.

Species	Outline of methodology	Relevant guidelines
Protected plants	Search site for suitable conditions/habitat or physical presence if distribution, habitat assessments and historical records suggest protected plants may be present. These include: creeping marshwort, (<i>Apium repens</i>) early gentian, (<i>Gentianella anglica</i> ssp <i>Anglica</i>) fen orchid, (<i>Liparis loeselii</i>) floating water plantain, (<i>Luronium natans</i>) Killarney fern, (<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>) lady's slipper, (<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>) marsh saxifrage, (<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>) shore dock, (<i>Rumex rupestris</i>) and slender naiad (<i>Najas flexilis</i>).	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-plants-protection-surveys-and-licences .
Protected invertebrates	Search site for suitable conditions/habitat or physical presence if distribution, habitat assessments and historical records suggest protected invertebrates. These include: large blue butterflies, (<i>Maculinea arion</i>) Fisher's estuarine moths (<i>Gortyna borelii</i>) and little ramshorn whirlpool snails (<i>Anisus vorticulus</i>).	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/protected-invertebrates-protection-surveys-and-licences#how-invertebrates-are-protected .
Other protected species		
Badgers	Assess the suitability of the habitat on site to support badgers (<i>Meles meles</i>).	Following guidance and published criteria; Surveying Badgers (Harris, Cresswell , & Jefferies, 1989).
Water voles	Assess the suitability of the habitat on site to support water voles (<i>Arvicola amphibious</i>).	Strachan R and Moorhouse T (2006). Water Vole Conservation Handbook, 2nd Edition. Wildlife Conservation Research Unit (WildCRU), Oxford University. Dean M, Strachan R, Gow D, and Andrews R (2016) The Water Vole Mitigation Handbook, The Mammal Society, London.
Birds	Assess the suitability of the habitats on site to support nesting birds. Where habitat assessments and historical records suggest schedule 1 species may be present, assess the site and surrounding area for suitability for these species.	https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wild-birds-surveys-and-mitigation-for-development-projects .
White clawed crayfish	Assess the suitability of the site to support white clawed crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) if	Peay S (2003). Monitoring the White-clawed crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Conserving Natura 2000 Rivers

Species	Outline of methodology	Relevant guidelines
	distribution, habitat assessments and historical records suggest they may be present.	Monitoring Series No 1. English Nature, Peterborough.
Other species	Assess the suitability of the site for other protected or notable species including invertebrates, birds and mammals. Including Section 42 SPI vascular plants as listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended (WCA 1981) & plant species listed on the local BAP. Results are only listed in the results section where either there are records of a species from the desk study or potentially suitable habitat on site.	CIEEM Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEEM, 2013).
Invasive species	Check for the presence of invasive plant species as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA 1981.	CIEEM Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEEM, 2013).

Surveyor competence

- 3.2.4 The survey was undertaken by Claire Andrews BSc (Hons) MCIEEM. Claire has over 14 years' experience as a professional ecologist conducting ecological appraisals. Claire also holds bat and great crested newt licences and has substantial experience of undertaking scoping surveys for protected species.

4 Survey findings

4.1 Desk study

Statutory sites

4.1.1 Pearman's Copse Local Nature Reserve is on the edge of the 2km buffer of the site but is separated from the site entirely by a dense urban area.

4.1.2 Protected and notable species

4.1.3 Table 2 provides a summary of records of protected and notable species as provided by the desk study.

Table 2 Records of protected and notable species

Species	Records
European protected species	
Bats	There eight EPSI licence that have been granted for bats with 2km
Great crested newts	There is one EPSI licence granted for Great Crested Newts with 2km

4.2 Field survey: Habitats

4.2.1 The site was visited by Claire Andrews on 4th September 2019. All areas within the application site boundary were accessed from ground level. See Figure 2 for a habitat plan showing key ecological features and plan of the site.

4.2.2 The site comprises entirely anthropogenic habitats dominated by hardstanding with a belt of trees, a hedge and small areas of amenity grassland and introduced shrub planting. The following phase 1 habitat types are represented across the site:

- Scattered trees
- Amenity grassland
- Introduced shrub
- Hedgerow
- Bare ground

4.2.3 Each habitat parcel present is described below with key dominant or notable species listed. Nomenclature for plant species lists follows Stace (2010). Scientific names for plants are not provided in the Chapter text but are provided along with full species lists in [Appendix 1](#).

Target notes

4.2.4 Target notes provide supplementary information and are referred to in the habitat parcel in which they occur. Target notes are shown on Figure 2 as TN#. A full list of target notes along with list of any incidental species is given in [Appendix 2](#).

Scattered trees

4.2.5 There is a row of planted Italian alder (*Alnus cordata*) that abut the northern side of the carpark. The trees are of an even age and are mature or semi/mature. The ground below the trees is mulched. Shown as scattered trees on Figure 2.



Amenity grassland

- 4.2.6 Two small strips of closely mown amenity grassland shown as AM1 on Figure 2, forms a buffer between the edge of the carpark and the adjacent main road, perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*) and meadow grass (*Poa annua*) are dominant across the patch. Dominant and frequently occurring forbs include yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) plantain (*Plantago major*), and daisy (*Bellis perennis*).



Introduced shrub

- 4.2.7 Pockets of shrub planting exist at the edge of the car park and within the amenity grassland. Shown on Figure 2 as IS1. These are well maintained and consist mainly of woody species with perennials and are heavily mulched. Species present include: Skimmia, spotted laurel, Pyracantha, dogwood and willow.



Species-poor hedgerow

- 4.2.8 Running along the southern boundary between carpark and the office building is a well-maintained hedge comprised entirely of hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*). The ground below is mulched.



Buildings

- 4.2.9 To the west side of the carpark is a brick-built service building.

Bare ground

- 4.2.10 The car parks shown as BG1 on Figure 2 is the dominant habitat.



4.3 Field survey: Protected and notable species

Bats

- 4.3.1 The trees to the north of the site could provide a limited amount of foraging habitat for bats. The remainder of the site would be less attractive to foraging bats.

Great crested newts

- 4.3.2 Great crested newts can be found across a range of habitat types where invertebrate prey are abundant such as grassland and woodland. In the spring they move to ponds and other water bodies to breed. There is no habitat on site suitable for this species.

Dormice

- 4.3.3 Key habitat for dormice includes deciduous woodland with a diverse understory that provides a continuum of arboreal food sources. Overgrown hedgerows, scrub and plantations are also often occupied where a suitable understory can be found. There is no habitat on site suitable for this species.

Otters and water voles

- 4.3.4 Water voles are usually found within 2m of the water's edge along densely vegetated banks of slow flowing rivers, ditches, streams and marshes. Steep loamy or sandy banks with tall vegetation and high foliage diversity are also important (Yalden, 2008). Otters live along rivers, streams and wetland habitats with secure breeding and resting sites (Yalden, 2008). There is no habitat on site suitable for this species.

Natterjack toads

- 4.3.5 In the UK the Natterjack toad is confined to coastal areas particularly sand dune systems, along with coastal grazing marshes and sandy heaths. There is no habitat on site suitable to support this species.

Reptiles

- 4.3.6 Reptiles tend to favour sunny, open, undisturbed sites including brownfield sites, allotments, embankments, south-facing banks, rough grassland and areas where there is a diverse structure. There is no habitat on site suitable for this species.

Plants

- 4.3.7 No protected plants were recorded on site.

Invertebrates

- 4.3.8 No protected invertebrates were recorded on site.

Badgers

- 4.3.9 Optimal habitat for badgers is a mixture of deciduous woodland and earthworm rich pasture. Setts can be located in a variety of situations including within scrub and hedgerows. There is no habitat on site suitable for this species.

Birds

- 4.3.10 The hedgerow and trees could provide some nesting habitat for birds. Given the habitats present, it is considered most likely to be used only by common and widespread species.

White-clawed crayfish

- 4.3.11 Crayfish are found in areas of hard, mineral rich calcareous waterbodies, including canals, streams, rivers, lakes, reservoirs and quarries. Crayfish are normally found in watercourses 0.75m – 1.25m deep in clean alkaline waters. There is no habitat on site suitable to support this species.

Other species

- 4.3.12 Consideration is given here to protected and notable species that are either listed of local interest or are recorded in the desk study. There is no habitat on site suitable to support these species.

Invasive species

- 4.3.13 No invasive species were recorded on site

Limitations

- 4.3.14 The survey was carried out at a suitable time as such there were no limitations on the survey.

5 Evaluation, potential impacts and recommendations

5.1 Statutory and non-statutory sites

- 5.1.1 Pearman's Copse Local Nature Reserve is 2km east of the site. However, there is no connectivity to the site which is separated by a dense urban area. Given the distance and the small scale of the proposals it is not expected that the proposed development would have any impact on this designated site.

5.2 Habitats

- 5.2.1 There are no significant habitats present on site.

5.3 Protected and notable species

- 5.3.1 The likelihood of the site supporting protected species is assessed based on the results from the field survey and desk study including details of national distribution and a consideration of the connectivity to suitable surrounding habitats. The probability of the proposed development having an adverse impact on the species, if present, is also considered. The relevant legislation is given for species known or likely to be present on site. The need for further survey and or mitigation is then assessed.
- 5.3.2 The survey identified that there were no habitats present on site suitable to support protected or notable species including bats, great crested newts, dormice, otters, water voles, reptiles, protected plants, terrestrial invertebrates, white clawed crayfish or badgers. As such, no further survey or mitigation is considered necessary for these species.
- 5.3.3 The trees to the north of the site and the hedgerow along the south could provide some limited opportunities to support foraging bats or nesting birds. It is understood that both these features will remain.
- 5.3.4 If tree or hedge removal is planned the possibility of nesting birds will need to be considered. The recognised nesting season falls between March and August inclusive. Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), all birds are protected from killing and injury and their nests and eggs are protected from damage or destruction while that nest is in use or being built.
- 5.3.5 To avoid committing an offence, necessary site clearance should be undertaken outside the breeding bird season (i.e. works should be conducted from the end of August to February inclusive).

5.4 Biodiversity gains

- 5.4.1 In line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and local planning policy (see [Appendix 3](#)), measures to protect and enhance along with providing net gains for biodiversity on site should be incorporated into any scheme. The recommendations are based on information in this report along with information from the desk study. Wherever relevant, enhancement suggestions are linked to goals and targets contained within local planning policy documents, including targets for the restoration of and re-creation of priority habitats and the recovery of priority species populations.
- 5.4.2 It is understood that it is intended to include a mesh cladding on the outside of the carpark. To improve the foraging opportunities for birds and bats on site measures to increase invertebrate diversity could be included. Alongside this nesting and roosting features could also be included so that bats and birds able to take advantage of increased foraging habitat also have nesting/roosting opportunities available.
- 5.4.3 To increase invertebrate diversity climbing plants can be planted at the base of the mesh cladding. On the shadier north side and the south side which will also be behind the hornbeam hedge few climbing plants will survive, the native plant ivy (*Hedera helix*) will however thrive in this location. Ivy is important for at least 50 native species, mature plants provide nectar, pollen and berries of which are an essential food source for insects and birds during autumn and winter when little else is about. The native honeysuckle (*Lonicera periclymenum*) which is also important for a number of invertebrate species would be suitable for these areas. Figure 3 shows opportunities for biodiversity enhancement.
- 5.4.4 Other climbers that could survive in this location in combination with native species listed above are listed on the RHS website: <https://www.rhs.org.uk/advice/profile?pid=467>. Careful selection of species from this list is required to maximise wildlife value. Non-native species do not support the range of species supported by native species but can contribute if they produce single blooms or edible berries.
- 5.4.5 Along the western and eastern aspects Ivy will also thrive as will honeysuckle, other species which could be added include the native traveller's joy (*Clematis vitalba*) and dog rose (*Rosa canina*) along with Firethorn which is a non-native species but provides dense habitat for nesting birds and a has an abundance of red berries.
- 5.4.6 Bat and bird boxes could be incorporated into the wall of the new carpark behind the mesh cladding woodcrete or woodstone boxes designed to be integrated into houses could be used here. Suitable models for bats include:
- 2FE Schwegler wall mounted bat shelter

- 1FR & 2FR Schwegler bat tube
- Beaumaris Woodstone Bat Box

5.4.7 Suitable boxes or birds include

- 3S Schwegler Starling nest box
- Boxes suitable for Blue tits, Great tit and House sparrows

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7 Appendix 1: Survey results

Extended Phase 1 habitat survey, plant species lists

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Amenity Grassland (AM): AM1

Common Name	Species Name	DAFOR
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	F
Perennial Ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	D
Autumn Hawkbit	<i>Leontodon Autumnalis</i>	O
Annual meadow grass	<i>Poa Annua</i>	D
Broadleaf plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>	F
Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	R
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	F

Introduced Shrub (IS): IS1

Common Name	Species Name	DAFOR
Skimmia	<i>Skimmia japonica</i>	A
Spotted Laurel	<i>Aucuba japonica</i>	A
Choisya	<i>Choisya ternata</i>	A
Pyracantha	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	A
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	R
Willow	<i>Salix alba</i>	R

8 Appendix 2: Planning policy guidance

8.1 National planning policy

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- 8.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the supporting ODPM circular 06/2005 provides the basis for making planning decisions with respect to conserving and enhancing the natural environment. It specifically sets out how the planning system should minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains, including establishing coherent ecological networks. In addition to confirming that the presence of a protected species is a material consideration in the making of planning decisions, it sets out a list of principals, which local planning authorities should follow when determining planning applications. These include:
- ‘if significant harm resulting from a development cannot be avoided...adequately mitigated, or as a last resort compensated for, then planning permission should be refused.’
 - ‘...opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments should be encouraged.’
 - The circular goes on to make it clear that Circular 06/05: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact within the Planning System states it is essential that the presence or otherwise of protected species and the extent that they may be affected by the proposed development, is established before planning permission is granted.

8.2 Local planning policy

- 8.2.1 Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan adopted May 2016 sets out the planning policies which guide and control new development in the borough until 2029. Policy EM4 provides a focus on biodiversity stating that development proposals will only be permitted if significant harm to biodiversity can be avoided and that applications must include adequate and proportionate information to allow proper assessment of the implications for biodiversity. Proportionate measures to secure opportunities for biodiversity through Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (see below) and/or on-site provision.

- 8.2.2 Reading Borough Council Core Strategy adopted January 2008 (altered January 2015) sets out the planning policies which guide and control new development in the borough until 2023. Policy CS36 States that *“Development should retain, protect and incorporate features of biodiversity or geological interest (including protected species and their habitats) found within the application site into their schemes. On sites with recognised biodiversity or geological value, development will not be permitted where there would be a direct or indirect adverse impact on the site, unless it can be clearly demonstrated that: the need for development clearly outweighs the need to protect the value of the site; and appropriate compensation, impact minimisation, mitigation and compensation are provided”*

8.3 Biodiversity Action Plans and Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

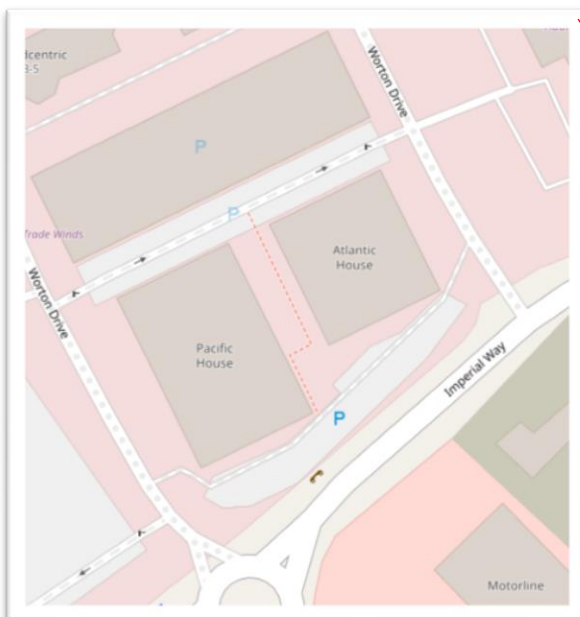
- 8.3.1 The United Kingdom Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) is a national strategy drawn up by UK Government to conserve threatened native species and habitats. The UK post-2010 Biodiversity Framework 2012 (Defra, 2012) means that the listing of species and habitats on the S41 list and its associated requirements under the NERC Act supersedes the UK BAP. However, the UK BAP action plans remain relevant to conservation aims and objectives. The UK BAP is supported by a series of Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) which translate the targets identified in the UK BAP into targets for species and habitats appropriate to the local area. Each LBAP identifies those habitats and species considered most important in that area, commonly an LBAP will identify a number of habitats and species for which “action plans” have been prepared. In the South East region, the Biodiversity Opportunity Areas will be the focus for delivery of UK BAP habitats targets.
- 8.3.2 In 2009 The South East Biodiversity Forum has identified Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs), which represent a targeted landscape-scale approach to conserving biodiversity and the basis for an ecological network. BOAs identify where the greatest opportunities for habitat creation and restoration lie, enabling the efficient focusing of resources to where they will have the greatest positive conservation impact.

9 Appendix 4: Figures

Figure 1 – Location map

Figure 2 – Phase 1 habitat survey map

NB figures attached separately



07933941470
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Client	TVP
Project	Atlantic House
Title	Location Plan
Date	October 2019
Scale	Schematic Only

Figure 1



Location Information

RG2 0TD
 SU 71460 69504

Map data available under
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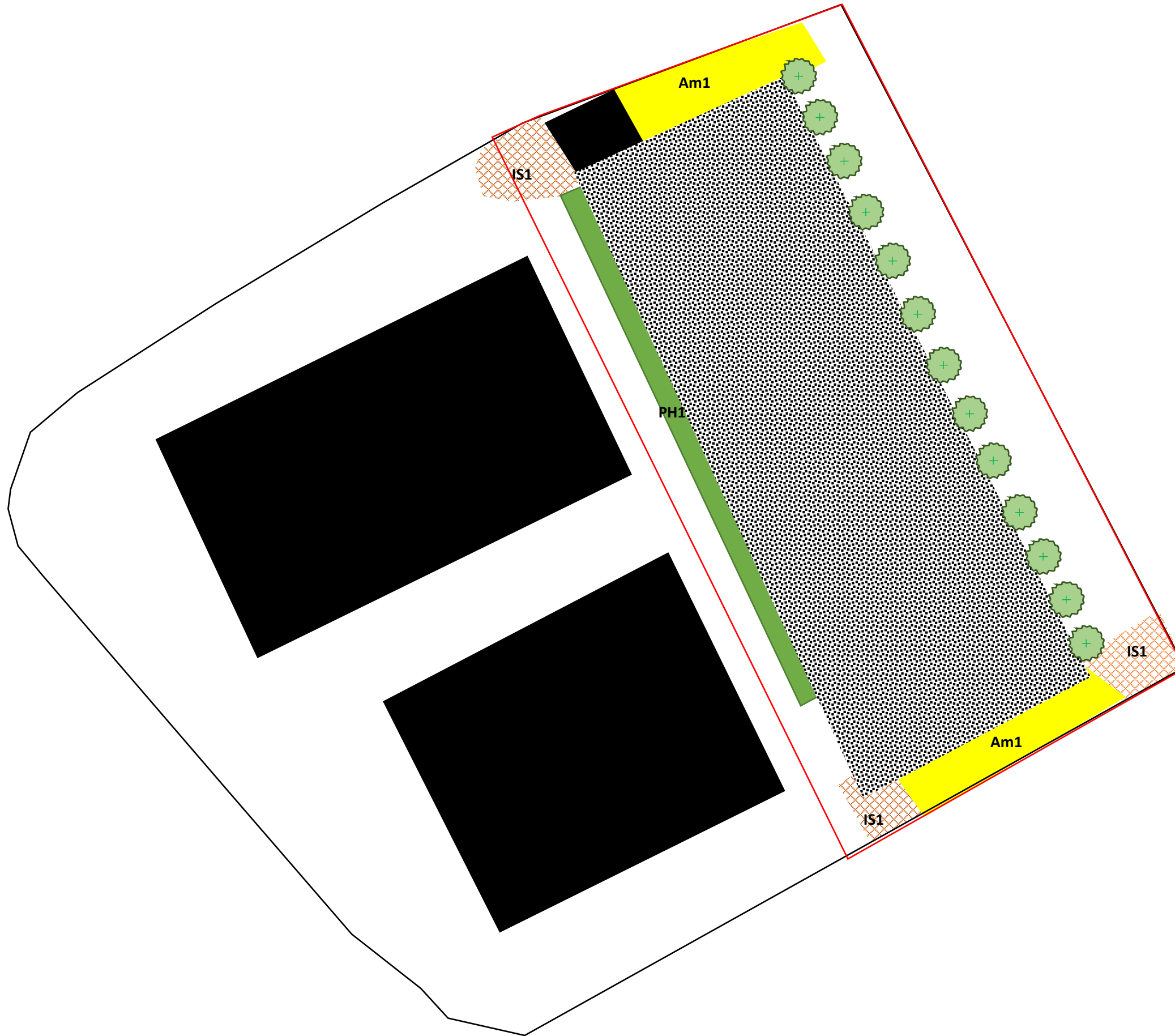
Client	TVP
Project	Atlantic House
Title	Phase 1 habitat Survey map
Date	October 2019
Scale	Schematic Only

Figure 2

N ↑

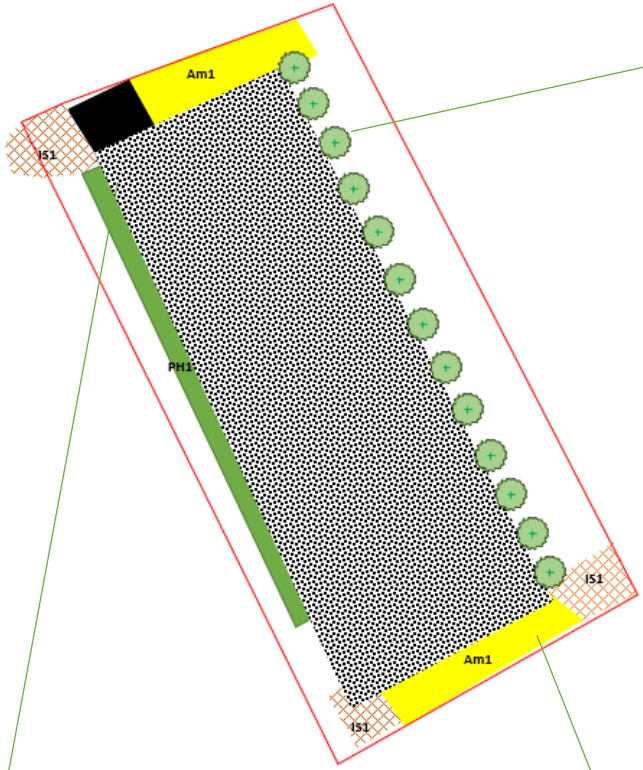
Key

- Amenity Grassland
- Introduced shrub
- Species poor hedge
- Bare ground
- Scattered trees
- Planning application boundary
- Building





Dog Rose (*Rosa cana*) is a hardy species that will do well in full sun. 215 species of insect feed on roses 44 of these are exclusive, climbing roses form a thick impenetrable refuge for birds



Bird boxes could be attached to trees in this area. The boxes should be from a selection of boxes with 32mm entrance holes, 26mm entrance holes and open fronted boxes. Boxes should be hung at around 1.5m from the ground and angles out of the prevailing wind. Woodcrete boxes such as those from Schwegler have a long lifespan and need little maintenance.



Boxes with 25mm holes attract smaller species like blue tits.

Honeysuckle – (*Lonicera periclymenum*) A hardy species for part or full sun. Provides flowers and berries which attract bees, birds and butterflies along with 19 other species of insect.



A selection of native and beneficial climbing plants could be planted at the base of the mesh and allowed to climb up. This not only would provide habitat and food for invertebrates and in turn other species but also has the benefits of reducing the ambient temperature, providing cleaner air and a better more productive work environment. A selection of suitable species is shown on the left. More details are provided in the report.



Ivy (*Hedera helix*) A very hardy plant that can tolerate full or partial shade. Ivy is important for at least 50 native species, mature plants provide nectar, pollen and berries of which are an essential food source for insects and birds during autumn and winter when little else is about



Boxes with 28mm holes attract smaller species like great tits.

Bat and bird boxes could be fixed to the wall behind the mesh cladding



Bird box with 32mm holes designed for sparrows

Bat boxes – including at least two different designs provides a range of conditions. Studies have shown that where more bat boxes are provided there is a greater chance of occupation and that at least 8 boxes should be installed to provide the best return.

Firethorn (*Pyracantha sp.*) A slow growing wall shrub which although not native produces a profusion of berries in the autumn which are popular with birds.



Client	TVP
Project	Atlantic House
Title	Ecological Constraints and Opportunities Plan
Date	October 2019
Scale	Schematic Only

Figure 3



Read more at
<https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/advice/gardening-for-wildlife/plants-for-wildlife/climbing-plants-and-wall-shrubs/best-climbing-plants/#3HKI9crj28m8vluC.99>