



Sir Audley Arms,
Chippenham

Protected Species Report & BNG Assessment
Report Reference KE25/011/01

27th January 2025

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Kingdom Ecology have carried out an Ecological Walkover Survey, Bat Assessment and Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment of the main pub building and adjacent land located at the Sir Audley Arms, Audley Rd, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN14 0DY (Grid Reference ST 91317 73437).

The assessment has been carried out to identify any ecological constraints which should be considered during proposed works to redevelop the site and to allow an assessment as to whether the development will deliver a biodiversity net gain.

Development proposals are to convert the main pub building to provide eight apartments.

Initial field surveys were undertaken on 28th August 2023 with a follow on bat emergence survey of an adjacent outbuilding completed on the 4th May 2024. Surveys were led by Richard Roe (BSc, MSc, MIEEM, CEnv). Richard has extensive experience of undertaking habitat and protected species surveys as a professional ecological consultant with over twenty years' experience. Richard is also a licensed bat worker (Level 4 Class License).

1.2 Purpose of Report

This report provides the findings of field surveys undertaken at the site. Surveys aimed to identify habitats and species which are either of importance in terms of their conservation value or are afforded statutory legal protection. The presence of such habitats or species would form a material consideration during the planning process and could pose a constraint to the redevelopment of the site.

Survey comprised of an initial ecological walkover survey of the site including a daytime assessment of the suitability of the buildings to support roosting bats.

Following a description of the survey findings and an evaluation of habitats at the site, the report goes on to make recommendations for further works, mitigation and ecological enhancement measures where relevant.

A Biodiversity Metric Assessment for the site pre- and post-development has also been carried out to determine the level of habitat compensation required to allow the development to achieve a biodiversity net gain.

1.3 Protected Species Legislation

1.3.1 Bats

All British bat species are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and through their inclusion in Schedule II of the Habitats Regulations 2010 which transpose Annex II of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (“EC Habitats Directive”) which defines European protected species of animals.

British bats species are afforded further protection by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000; and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Taken together, this legislation makes it an offence to:

- Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture bats.
- Deliberately disturb bats, whether at roost or not.
- Damage, destroy or obstruct access to bat roosts.
- Possess or transport bats, unless acquired legally.
- Sell, barter or exchange bats.

A bat roost is interpreted as “any structure or place, which any wild bat uses for shelter or protection.” (Bat Conservation Trust 2023¹). A bat roost is protected whether or not bats are present at the time.

All species of British bat are considered a European Protected Species (EPS). The Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations (2010) provide derogation against certain offences which could potentially affect an EPS through the EPS Licensing system.

1.3.2 Birds

All wild birds in England and Wales are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird, or take, damage or destroy the nest (whilst being built or in use) or its eggs.

¹ Bat Conservation Trust (2023) ‘Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines 4th Edition’

2 Field Survey Methods

2.1 Survey Aims and Objectives

The survey aim was to assess the site as to its ecological importance by assessing the value of habitats and their suitability to support any protected or notable species. The purpose of this was to highlight any ecological constraints associated with future development proposals.

Survey comprised of an ecological walkover survey and bat roost scoping assessment, this included an assessment of habitats at the site in terms of their suitability to support any protected species including bats and breeding birds.

Species that are considered unlikely to be significantly affected by the proposed development, even if known to be present in the general vicinity, were 'scoped out' of the assessment.

Survey also aimed to identify opportunities for ecological enhancement and to inform potential mitigation measures, if required, to ameliorate any negative impacts attributable to the proposed works.

2.2 Survey Methods

2.2.1 Ecological Walkover Survey

An initial Ecological Walkover of the site was undertaken on the 28th August 2023 with an update site visit completed on the 4th May 2024.

The aims of the walkover survey were to:

- identify areas or habitats that are of particular ecological interest for nature conservation and which require more detailed investigation;
- provide a broad botanical description of habitats present;
- provide additional information regarding incidental observations of protected species or non-native, invasive species;
- to assess the site as to its ecological importance by assessing the value of habitats and their suitability to support any protected or notable species (including badgers, bats and breeding birds).

The extent of the study site is shown on Figure 2. Typical habitats recorded at the site are also shown in photographs in the Appendix.

2.2.2 Daytime Bat Inspection

The buildings were assessed as to its suitability to support bats following standard methodologies prescribed in English Nature's *Bat Mitigation Guidelines* (Mitchell-Jones 2004)² and the Bat Conservation Trust's *Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines* 4th Edition (BCT 2023)³.

Survey, comprising of an inspection of the exterior of the buildings, was undertaken during daylight conditions using binoculars, aerial drone and a high-powered torch. The survey of the main pub building was undertaken during daylight hours on the 28th August 2023.

In addition to searching for evidence of an actual bat roost the survey also aimed to assess the suitability of the buildings to support bats and consequently the likelihood of a bat roost being present but with no obvious field signs.

Survey assessed each building's roost suitability by examining structural features and the surrounding habitat. Structural features that will influence the suitability of a building to support roosting bats include the presence of a roof void; access points into a building including gaps beneath barge boards, gaps under lead flashing, gaps within masonry, loose tiles etc, complexity of any roof void, daytime light levels in roof void etc.

Important habitat features surrounding the structures which could influence roost potential include: whether the structure is in a semi-rural or parkland location, proximity to a significant linear feature (e.g. watercourse, mature hedgerow, wooded lane) or an area of woodland etc.

Taking account of these architectural and habitat features, each building was assigned a level of roost suitability. This assessment considered roost suitability criteria as summarised in Table 1 below and taken from the Bat Conservation Trust's *Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines* 4th Edition (BCT 2023)⁴.

² Mitchell-Jones, A.J. 2004. *Bat Mitigation Guidelines*. English Nature, Peterborough.

³ Bat Conservation Trust (2023) 'Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines 4th Edition'

⁴ Bat Conservation Trust (2023) 'Bat Surveys: Good Practice Guidelines 4th Edition'

Table 1- Bat Roost Suitability Criteria

<i>Suitability</i>	<i>Description of Potential Roosting Habitats</i>
<i>None</i>	No habitat features on site likely to be used by any roosting bats at any time of the year (i.e., a complete absence of crevices/suitable shelter at all ground/underground levels.
<i>Negligible</i>	No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion. Structure has Negligible habitat features likely to be used by roosting bats.
<i>Low</i>	A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger number of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation). A tree of sufficient size and age to contain PRFs but with none seen from the ground of features seen with only very limited roosting potential.
<i>Moderate</i>	A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, condition and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status.
<i>High</i>	A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions and surrounding habitat.

3 Survey Results

3.1 Site Description and Habitats

The study area comprises of the Sir Audley Arms pub, located on Audley Road, Chippenham. The pub complex comprises of the main public house building, a large car park and area of rear courtyard/beer garden. The pub is currently closed.

The site is located within an urban setting to the west of Chippenham town centre. Surrounding habitats comprise predominantly of residential housing with small gardens. Areas of open green space within proximity to the site are relatively limited. However, the main railway line running into Chippenham town centre is located approximately 140 m to the south east of the pub. The railway line supports scattered patches of trees offering some suitable bat foraging habitats. Surrounding habitats are considered to be of low value for foraging bats.

Semi-natural habitats within the site itself are limited. The area of beer garden and car park comprises principally of an area sealed tarmac and the paved patio.

There is a single large, mature weeping willow tree located to the rear of the main public building (Target Note 6 on Figure 2). The tree is overgrown with ivy offering some low value potential bats roosting habitat behind ivy stems. The tree would be retained as part of development proposals. The tree is located within a raised planter, over an area of paved patio. With regards to the biodiversity net gain assessment, the tree was assessed as being 'very large', and considered to be in a 'moderate' condition. Relevant habitat condition sheets are provided in the Appendix.

The remainder of the beer garden comprises of paved patio with a small section of ornamental shrubbery. The shrubbery is approximately 20 m in length and 2 m in width and includes of cypress, laurel and Peiris. The beer garden patio has a thin layer of leaf litter from the tree above, which has developed patches of pioneer vegetation including dandelion, Canadian fleabane, herb Robert, pendulous sedge, sun spurge and nettle. There is a band of ruderal vegetation comprising of bramble with nettle, Canadian fleabane, herb Robert, and pendulous sedge, located along the eastern wall of the beer garden. With regards to the biodiversity net gain assessment, this habitat is classified as 'ruderal/ephemeral' in a 'moderate' condition. This habitat along with the area of paved beer garden would be converted to vegetated garden as part of the development proposals.

There is a further narrow fringe of ruderal vegetation running around the perimeter of the site (Targets Note 8) which includes smooth sowthistle, dandelion, Canadian fleabane, nettle, field horsetail, and hedge bindweed. With regards to the biodiversity net gain assessment, this habitat is classified as 'ruderal/ephemeral' in a 'moderate' condition. Condition sheets provided in the Appendix.

The site layout and baseline habitats shown on Figure 1 in the Appendix. Photographs of the site are also provided in the Appendix.

3.2 Protected Species

3.2.1 Bats and Breeding Birds

The proposed development will require works to refurbish and convert the pub building to provide new apartments. The building was constructed in 1936.

The main pub building is a large brick-built structure arranged over two floors. The pub has been recently closed with windows and doors sealed within metal, anti-vandal panelling. The building has a series of gabled and hipped roofs along with sections of flat roof. The pitched roofs are clad tightly fitted ceramic tiles.

Externally, the building is largely in good condition with intact brickwork, well mortared ridge and hip tiles, and intact verge mortar. However, some potential bat roosting features were identified in association with the building's roof. These features included crevices running beneath the eaves, a large hole at the west facing gable plus gaps around fascia boarding (see Table 2 below).

Internally, the building has three, large, interlinked loft spaces. Loft space 1 is located at the northern end of the building and runs east to west. The loft space is Space is approximately 3.5 m in height and approximately 10 m in length.

There is an opening/owl hole at the west facing gable of the loft space. The opening is approximately 10 cm x 20 cm in size and has been partially blocked with rock wall. The opening offers potential access for bats and birds into the loft space.

Loft space 2 is linked to loft space 1. The loft space extends east to west and is approximately 1.7 m in height and approximately 10 m in length.

Loft space 3 is located immediately to the south of Loft space one and is also linked internally. The loft space is approximately 2.7m in height and approximately 12 m in length.

The three loft spaces are similar in structure. The internal face of the roof is lined with tightly fitted wooden boarding. Each loft space is insulated with rock wall. The ridge beam was observed to be cobwebbed with further light cobwebbing spanning across the internal loft void space.

No bat droppings or obvious potential bat roosting habitat was identified within the loft spaces.

Taking account of the building's urbanised setting and the limited suitable bat roosting features identified, the building was assessed as offering a '**low**' bat roosting potential. It was considered to be unlikely that the building would support any roosting bats.

Potential bat roosting features identified in association with the main pub building are target noted and numbered on Figure 1. Target note descriptions are provided in Table 2 below.

Table 2- Target Note Descriptions

Target Note	Description
1	Crevices located at the eaves between tops of the outer walls and the wooden boarding on the internal face of the roof.
2	Small area of lifting lead flashing located around chimney
3	Opening leading into loft space at West facing gable of building. The opening is approximately 10 cm x 20 cm in size and has been partially blocked with rock wall. The opening offers potential access for bats and birds into the loft space.
4	Crevices around projecting rafters at building's West face.
5	Area of lifting fascia boarding located to the rear of the pub building.

3.2.2 Breeding birds

The areas of ornamental shrubbery and the large mature weeping willow tree offer suitable nesting habitat for breeding birds. Furthermore, the main pub building interior is accessible to nesting birds via the large gap at the buildings west facing gable (Target Note 3).

3.2.3 Other Protected or Notable Species

It is considered unlikely that any other protected species would be present at the site.

4 Summary & Recommendations

4.1 Habitats

4.1.1 Summary

Kingdom Ecology have carried out a Protected Species Assessment of the Sir Audley Arms, Chippenham. The site comprises of the main pub building and a beer garden to the rear. Areas of vegetated habitat at the site are limited with the majority of the site comprising of hardstanding car park, yard and paved beer garden. Vegetation presents includes a large, mature weeping willow located to the rear pub; small patches of ornamental shrubbery and patches of ruderal vegetation at the fringes of the site.

Development proposals are to convert the main pub building to provide eight new apartment buildings. The apartment block will have a garden to the rear and the existing large weeping willow tree would be retained.

The landscaping proposals would include new hedging around the perimeter of the site and the planting of new native trees along the site's eastern boundary. Further recommendations to promote the biodiversity value of proposed landscaping is provided in section 4.3.

A biodiversity net gain assessment has been carried out considering the baseline habitats and habitat post-development. Section 4.4 of the report considers either adversity net gain. The biodiversity net gain assessment has included tree planting and hedgerow planting located around the gardens of the apartment block only.

4.2 Protected Species

4.2.1 Birds

The weeping willow and shrubbery located at the site could support nesting birds during the breeding bird season.

All wild birds in England and Wales are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird, or take, damage or destroy the nest (whilst being built or in use) or its eggs.

It is recommended that any works to demolish the outbuilding or to clear any significant vegetation avoid taking place during the breeding bird season (March-September inclusive).

Where this is not possible, a check for breeding birds should be carried out immediately prior to the start of works by an appropriately qualified ecologist.

If during works any nesting birds are found, works should immediately stop and further advice should be sought from an appropriately qualified ecologist.

4.3 Ecological Enhancements

It is recommended that opportunities to enhance the ecological value of the final development area are taken.

4.3.1 Bat and Bird Boxes

It is recommended that the overall site be enhanced for bats and breeding birds. This can be achieved through the installation of bat boxes and sparrow boxes to the exterior of the converted building.

4.3.2 Plants for Pollinators and Birds

The development proposals should also aim to maximise the biodiversity of landscaping proposals at the site. Five new trees are proposed as part of the development within the rear garden of the apartment building.

It is recommended that new planting includes species which can provide nectar sources for insects and berries/fruits for invertebrates and birds.

The following small/medium sized tree species are recommended as they offer suitable foraging opportunities to various native wildlife (including birds and invertebrates): rowan, wild cherry, crab apple, silver birch, holly, and willow.

New areas of hedgerow are also proposed around the site perimeter. It is recommended that the hedgerow comprises of fruit-bearing, native species. Suitable species would include holly, hazel, and hawthorn.

4.4 Biodiversity Net Gain

4.4.1 Proposals and Biodiversity Recommendations Overview

The proposed development works are shown on Figure 2. Development proposals are to convert the main pub building to provide a new block of eight apartments. The apartments will have gardens to the rear and the existing weeping willow tree would be retained.

The proposed works will result in the loss of small areas of ornamental shrubbery and ruderal habitat around the perimeters of the site.

The development will include the planting of 5 x new, native trees as well as new areas of hedgerow and vegetated garden. It is envisaged that the new trees will achieve a 'moderate' target condition.

The trees will be located within the shared gardens of the apartments and so will be managed and maintained by the apartment management company.

4.4.2 Biodiversity Metric Calculation Results

The relative biodiversity units at the site before and after the completion of development proposals, have been calculated following methodologies and using tools provided within DEFRA's Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculator (DEFRA July 2024).

Summary tables of the calculations are provided in the Appendix. The full Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool Spreadsheet for the site has also been submitted to the Council.

New habitats present post development will comprise of areas of developed land and vegetated garden, with 5 x individual trees and 140m of ornamental hedgerow to be provided within the gardens of the proposed apartment block.

The baseline biodiversity units (i.e. the site's pre-development condition) has been calculated at 0.33 Habitat Units and zero Hedgerow Units.

The on-site biodiversity units after the completion of development has been calculated at 0.46 habitat units and 0.10 Hedgerow Units.

The development will therefore result in a net gain of 0.14 habitat units representing a net percentage biodiversity gain of 41.96% in habitat units.

Therefore, the development will meet the required statutory 10% biodiversity gain net.

In addition, other biodiversity features have been recommended and which are not accounted for within the metric calculation. These measures include the installation of bat and bird boxes within the proposed converted building.

5 Appendix

Biodiversity Net Gain Matrix Summary Table

On-site baseline	Habitat units	0.33	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.46	
	Hedgerow units	0.10	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
On-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.14	41.96%
	Hedgerow units	0.10	N/A
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%
Zero baseline units - % cannot be calculated			
Off-site baseline	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Off-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Off-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.00	0.00%
	Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%
Combined net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.14	
	Hedgerow units	0.10	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Spatial risk multiplier (SRM) deductions	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
FINAL RESULTS			
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.14	
	Hedgerow units	0.10	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	41.96%	
	Hedgerow units	N/A	
	Watercourse units	0.00%	
0 baseline units - % cannot be calculated			
Trading rules satisfied?	Yes ✓		

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1- North and west face of pub



Photograph 2- South face of pub



Photograph 3- West face of pub and overview of site



Photograph 4- View of roof of pub



Photograph 5- View of crevice at eaves



Photograph 6- View of loft space looking towards crevice at Target Note 3



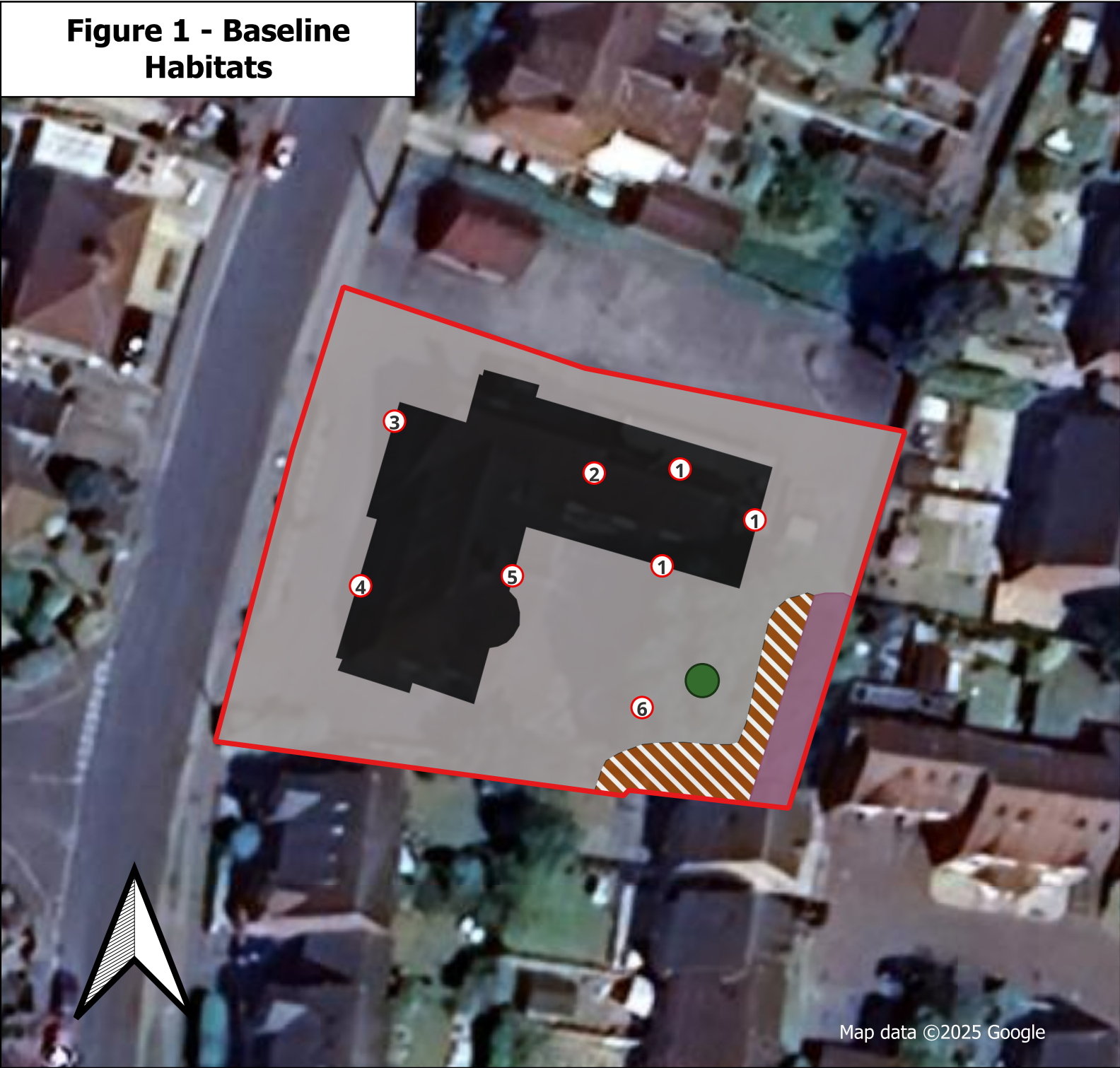
Photograph 7- Weeping willow in rear of pub



Photograph 8- Ruderal habitat at southeast corner of site



Figure 1 - Baseline Habitats



KEY

- Target Note
- Large Tree
- Red Line
- Developed/Sealed Surface
- Buildings
- Ephemeral/Ruderal Vegetation
- Introduced Shrubbery

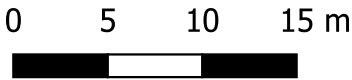
0 5 10 15 m

Figure 2 - Proposed Habitats



KEY

-  Red Line Boundary
-  Vegetated Garden
-  Developed/Sealed Surface
-  Buildings
-  Non-native and Ornamental Hedgerow
-  Retained Tree
-  Small Proposed Tree



Condition Sheet: URBAN Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs Urban - Allotments Urban - Biodiverse green roof Urban - Bioswale Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards Urban - Facade-bound green wall Urban - Ground based green wall Urban - Intensive green roof Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land Urban - Rain garden Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS) Urban - Vacant or derelict land Urban - Bare ground			
Habitat Description			
Fringe of bramble with dandelion, Canadian fleabane, herb Robert, pendulous sedge, sun spurge and nettle			
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for green roofs and UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) for other habitats:			UKHab – UK Habitat Classification
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Audley Arms	Survey date and Surveyor name	04-May-24
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Core Criteria - must be assessed for all urban habitat types :			
A	Vegetation structure is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and breed. A single structural habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habitat area.	y	
B	The habitat parcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering species providing nectar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.	n	
C	Invasive non-native plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ¹) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional judgement) ² cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area ³ . Note - to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than <5% cover).	y	
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land only:			
D	The parcel shows spatial variation and forms a mosaic of bare substrate PLUS: - At least four early successional communities (a) to (i); Communities: (a) annuals; (b) mosses/liverworts; (c) lichens; (d) ruderals; (e) inundation species; (f) open grassland; (g) flower-rich grassland; (h) heathland, (i) pools.		
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for Bioswale and SuDS habitat types only:			
E1	Plant species are mostly native. If non-native species are present, they should not be detrimental to the habitat or native wildlife ⁴ .		
E2	The vegetation is comprised of plant species suited to wetland or riparian situations.		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Intensive green roofs only:			

F	The roof has a minimum of 50% native and non-native wildflowers. 70% of the roof area is soil and vegetation (including water features).		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Biodiverse green roofs only:			
G	The roof has a varied depth of 80 – 150 mm; at least 50% is at 150 mm and is planted and seeded with wildflowers and sedums or is pre-prepared with sedums and wildflowers. Note – to achieve Good condition some additional habitat, such as sand piles, stones, logs etc. are present.		
Essential criteria relevant for habitat type achieved (Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 3 core criteria only (all listed urban habitats except Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, Bioswale, SuDS and Green roofs):			
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.		Good (3)	
• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria; OR • Passes 3 of 3 core criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.		Moderate (2)	X
• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.		Poor (1)	
Results for Green roofs and Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land (requiring assessment of 4 criteria only - core criteria plus additional criterion specified for habitat type):			
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes additional criterion relevant to specific habitat type (D, F or G).		Good (3)	
• Passes 2 or 3 of 4 criteria; OR • Passes 4 of 4 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.		Moderate (2)	
• Passes 0 or 1 of 4 criteria.		Poor (1)	
Results for Bioswale or SuDS (requiring assessment of 5 criteria - core criteria plus additional criteria specified for habitat type):			
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes all additional criteria relevant to specific habitat type (Group E)		Good (3)	
• Passes 3 or 4 of 5 criteria; OR • Passes 5 of 5 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.		Moderate (2)	
• Passes 2 or fewer of 5 criteria.		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			

Condition Sheet: INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Individual trees – Urban trees Individual trees – Rural trees Complete a condition sheet for each tree or block of trees.			
Please see separate Line of trees condition sheet for a line of Rural trees.			
Habitat Description			
Very Large, Mature weeping willow, over area of paved pation in beer garden. Tree is overgrown with ivy.			
Individual trees (description applied to the urban or rural environment): Young trees over 7.5 cm in diameter at breast height whose canopies are not touching.			
Urban Perimeter / Linear Blocks and Groups (description applied to the urban environment only): Groups or stands of trees (size requirement as defined above) within and around the perimeter of urban land. This includes those along urban streets, highways, railways and canals, and also former field boundary trees incorporated into developments. Canopies must overlap continuously. Groups of urban trees that don't match the descriptions for woodland may be assessed within this category.			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Sir Audley Arms	Survey date and Surveyor name	4 May 2024 Richard Roe
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).	n	
B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).	y	
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature) ¹ .	y	
D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.	y	
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	y	
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.	n	
Number of criteria passed		4	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√	
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	X	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Note that 'Fairly Good and Fairly Poor' condition categories are not available for this broad habitat type.			
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score ²			

