

Greena Ecological Consultancy

**PRELIMINARY ECOLOGICAL
ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Lansdowne Monument

Cherhill

Calne

SN11 8XY

12th of December 2025

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Brief

An ecological assessment survey was requested to support a listed application for major repairs of the Grade II listed Lansdowne Monument owned and managed by National Trust.

This ecological survey and report are intended to ascertain sufficient information to evaluate the situation adequately in preparation of the above-mentioned works. The information gathered will be necessary to comply with European Regulations, which relate to planning regulations and with The Wildlife and Countryside Directives and Habitat Regulations.

Consultation with the Local Planning Authority, in this case Wiltshire Council, is required for the planning application.

Summary

- Greena Ecological Consultancy was instructed by the National Trust to perform a daytime field survey, desktop survey and following preliminary ecological appraisal report.
- The survey site is comprised of the existing monument. The monument is surrounded by species-rich calcareous grassland and in close proximity to which is part of Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest. To ensure no harm to existing grassland a Construction Environmental Management Plan is to be produced prior to work commencing and adhered to throughout repair works.
- The site was surveyed on the 8th of October 2025 by inspection only.
- During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 there were no evidence of bats in the monument. The due to the lack of roosting features in the monument the monument was deemed to provide low bat roost potential. The lower half of the monument could not be fully inspected, when access is available through rope access or scaffolding an ecologist is to inspect the lower half of the monument. Depending on the result of the survey the monument may be deemed to provide negligible bat roost potential.

The habitat on and surrounding the site was deemed to provide low potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the exposed location with no hedgerows or trees creating safe flight routes. Bats may still be present in the area and the site is subject to no artificial lighting.

- During the survey on the 8th of October 2025 no obvious bird nests were identified in existing monument and the monument was deemed as unlikely to support nesting birds.
- A walkover survey of the site and areas within 30m of the site was performed to identify any signs (sett, animal path, latrine, hair etc) of *badger (Meles meles)* presence. No setts or signs of *badger (Meles meles)* were identified.
- Other protected species included in the survey were plants species, invertebrates, reptile species and badgers. Calstone and Cherhill Downs SSSI is known to support a range of rare and very rare invertebrates. By following a CEMP produced to ensure minimal damage to existing grassland it is deemed to minimise affect on rare and very rare invertebrates that may be present or supported within the grassland.

As a precaution the site should be kept tidy throughout construction to ensure no animals take refuge in building material and equipment. Furthermore, any excavation deeper than 1m and any pipework with a diameter larger than 120mm should be covered overnight to ensure no animals fall in and get trapped.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Greena Ecological Consultancy was instructed by the National Trust to undertake a survey to support a planning application or repairs of the Grade II listed Lansdowne Monument. The affected site consists of existing monument and surrounding the monument is species rich, lowland calcareous grassland. The daytime survey was carried out on the 8th of October 2025.

Greena have carried out extensive fieldwork for bats in the area where at least 15 bat species have been recorded.

The extended surrounding off site habitat consists of Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest, consisting of species-rich lowland calcareous grassland. Extended areas grassland and areas of woodland offer suitable roosting, nesting, commuting and foraging opportunities for a range of animals including bats, birds, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, invertebrates and other biodiverse subgroups.

1.2 Legislation

1.2.1 National Planning Policy

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment:

- Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
 - Protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
 - Recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
 - Maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
 - Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures;
 - Preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
 - Remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.
- Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework; take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.
- Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty which

have the highest status of protection in relation to these issues. The conservation and enhancement of wildlife and cultural heritage are also important considerations in these areas and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads⁵⁹. The scale and extent of development within all these designated areas should be limited, while development within their setting should be sensitively located and designed to avoid or minimise adverse impacts on the designated areas.

- When considering applications for development within National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, permission should be refused for major development other than in exceptional circumstances, and where it can be demonstrated that the development is in the public interest. Consideration of such applications should include an assessment of:
 - The need for the development, including in terms of any national considerations, and the impact of permitting it, or refusing it, upon the local economy;
 - The cost of, and scope for, developing outside the designated area, or meeting the need for it in some other way; and
 - Any detrimental effect on the environment, the landscape and recreational opportunities, and the extent to which that could be moderated.
- Within areas defined as Heritage Coast, planning policies and decisions should be consistent with the special character of the area and the importance of its conservation. Major development within a Heritage Coast is unlikely to be appropriate unless it is compatible with its special character.

Habitats and biodiversity:

- To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:
 - Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity⁶¹; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and
 - Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.
- When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:
 - If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused;
 - Development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
 - Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused,

- unless there are wholly exceptional reasons⁶³ and a suitable compensation strategy exists; and
 - Development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.
- The following should be given the same protection as habitats sites:
 - Potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation;
 - Listed or proposed Ramsar sites; and
 - Sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitats sites, potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.
- The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.

1.2.2 Bats

All UK bat species and their roosts are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) through inclusion in Schedule 5, under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, and under Schedule 2 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). The Regulations designate bats as European Protected Species (EPS).

Taken together, the Acts and Regulations protecting bats make it an offence to:

- Deliberately kill, injure, capture or take bats;
- Deliberately disturb bats. This particularly relates to disturbance that is likely to:
 - Impair their ability to survive, breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young;
 - Impair their ability to hibernate or (for migratory species) migrate; and/or
 - Affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.
- Damage or destroy bat roosts;
- Possess or transport a bat or part of a bat, unless acquired legally; and
- Sell, offer for sale or exchange bats or parts of bats.

A roost is any structure or place used for shelter or protection. Bats need to have access to a number of roosts because they use different roosts depending on season, breeding status and prevailing weather conditions. For this reason roosts are protected whether or not bats are present at the time.

As bats are designated EPS, development and building works that are likely to result in the disturbance of bats, damage to or destruction of their roosts, or require bats to be caught or translocated, usually require an EPS licence to be obtained from Natural England before any works begin. Obtaining a licence involves completing an Application Pack, including a Method Statement that details mitigation appropriate to maintaining the 'favourable conservation status' of the local bat population. Three conditions must be met before a licence can be granted:

- There is no satisfactory alternative;

- The development will not be detrimental to the maintenance of local bat populations at a 'favourable conservation status' in their natural range; and
- The development must be for 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest including those of a social or economic nature'.

An EPS licence is required for all development activities if there is a reasonable likelihood that an offence against Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) or Environmental Damage Regulation 2009 (as amended) will be committed.

The following offences could potentially be committed by carrying out the proposed development if any bat species are present during the conversion works:

- Capturing or killing – a wild animal of a European Protected Species (EPS) could be deliberately captured, injured or killed (Reg 41(1)(a));
- Disturbing EPS – a wild animal of an EPS could be deliberately disturbed including in particular a disturbance which is likely to impair its / their ability to survive or hibernate (Reg 41 (1)(b));
- Disturbing EPS whilst occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection – includes intentional and reckless disturbance (s9 (4)(b) WCA); and
- Damage of an EPS breeding site or resting place – (Reg 41 (1)(d)) – strict liability.

The above stated offences can be avoided where works are to take place when bats are not present and bat roost will be maintained unchanged. If roost is going to be available to bats at the time they usually occupy the structure, a continued ecological functionality of the site will be preserved. Suitable mitigation measures must be put in place prior, during and post works to ensure that continued ecological functionality will be maintained.

In case the above listed offences cannot be guaranteed to be avoided throughout the proposed development, an EPS licence to derogate must be sought.

The full EPS licence generally applies if the proposed development is to cause greater than low ecological impact. A simpler and faster way of carrying out development with low ecological impact had been implemented by Natural England under the Bat Mitigation Class Licence (BMCL). It involves BMCL Registered Consultants who can supervise the proposed low impact development under their personal class licence, the need for preparation and processing of an EPS licence is vastly reduced. The development is carried out under a site registration prepared for the works and under the supervision of the licensed ecologist. BMCL only covers low impact development affecting low numbers of "common" bats and providing the site in question does not serve as a maternity or hibernation roost.

1.2.3 Birds

In the UK, with the exception of 13 'pest species' of birds, which may be killed by authorised persons only, wild birds have general protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1984). It is an offence to: kill, injure or take a wild bird; take, damage or destroy nests (in use or being built); and take or destroy eggs. Under Schedule I of the Act, some species (including the barn owl *Tyto alba*) are protected by special penalties at all times.

Birds receive additional protection under the European Communities Council Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds. This directive relates to the conservation of all species of birds naturally occurring in the wild in European territory of the Member States, as well as their nests and habitats.

If any of the above resulted from a person being reckless, even if they had no intention of committing the offence, their action would still be considered an offence.

1.2.4 Badgers (*Meles meles*)

Badgers (Meles meles) are protected in Britain by the Protection of Badger Act 1992 as well as the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996. The purpose of the Badger Act is to protect the animals from deliberate cruelty and from the incidental effects of lawful activities which could cause harm.

Under this legislation it is an offence to:

- Wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so
- Interfere with a sett by damaging or destroying it
- Obstruct access to, or any entrance of a badger sett
- Disturb a badger when it is occupying a sett

If any of the above resulted from a person being reckless, even if they had no intention of committing the offence, their action would still be considered an offence.

The following activities will generally require a licence from Natural England:

- Works undertaken using heavy machinery (generally tracked vehicles) within 30m of an active sett entrance
- Using lighter machinery (generally wheeled vehicles), particularly for any digging operation within 20m of an active sett entrance
- Light work such as hand digging or scrub clearance within 10m.

No offence will be committed if no parts of the sett will be damaged during works and if badgers are not occupying the sett at the time of works.

2. Aims and Objectives

The aim of the survey and supporting desk study is to satisfy the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), identify ecological features within or near the site that could potentially pose a constraint to the proposed development and opportunities for incorporating biodiversity enhancements into the development proposals.

Wiltshire Council is the Local Planning Authority for the affected site. The local planning authority needs consultation prior to planning consent.

The following ecological features were relevant to the survey carried out by Greena Ecological Consultancy:

- Proximity of statutory and non-statutory designed wildlife sites;
- Proximity of Habitats and Species of Principal Importance, or local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats and networks of these habitats;
- Legally protected wildlife species; and
- All other species of wildlife potentially affected by the proposed development.

This report has been produced with reference to current guidelines for preliminary ecological appraisal (CIEEM, 2017).

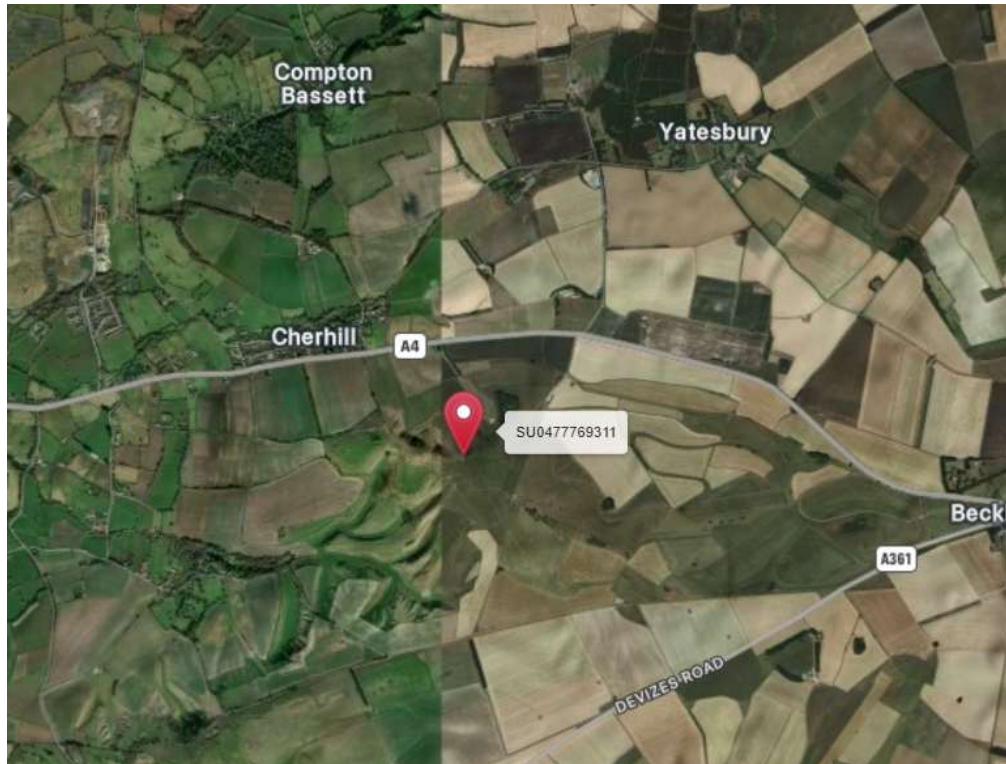
3. Site description

3.1 Surrounding Area

The site is located south of Cherhill and east of Chippenham at OS grid reference SU0477769311, see Figure 1.

Surrounding habitat mainly consist of priority lowland calcareous grassland and Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest, see **6.1 Designated sites** for more details. The site has grassland surrounding the existing monument at all elevations.

Figure 1: Site Location



3.2 Description of the site

The affected site consist of the existing Lansdowne Monument made by stone. The monument is located on a chalk hill surrounded by species-rich calcareous grassland. Proposed work include major repair works to carry out pointing and replacement of quoin stones. Base plinth require extensive pointing and some flag stones resetting. Internally the monument has a base with 3 concentric square ring tunnels. The tunnels have a hollow core in the centre, small 'window' holes linking between the tunnels, core and exterior via removed flag. The species-rich calcareous grassland surrounding the monument is affected by potential vehicle access.

Figure 3. Site location



4. Methods

Surveyor Geoff Billington MCIEEM, Greena Ecological Consultancy, holder of Natural England class 3 & 4 bat survey licences, undertook a daytime inspection of the site on 8th of October 2025.

Searches were made for the following:

- Past records in this actual site;
- Nearest designated site and habitats; and
- Nearest licences for protected species that has been issued.

No overall desktop search has been carried out for bat records because 15 bat species have already been recorded by Greena and others in the local area including the more common four annex II species, so this assemblage are taken to be the species occurring in the area.

Instruments at hand if needed throughout the field survey were a high-end torch (Glarylight – GL-P70-DK-A), ladder, binoculars and suitable field guides.

4.1 Habitats

A walkover assessment of the site was conducted to assess habitats.

4.2 Bats

The monument on the site was surveyed using the following methodology:

- a) Signs of residency by bat species. This consisted of a slow methodical search for roosting bats and their signs. Droppings can be used to identify species and scratch marks and staining at roosts and exit holes shows the presence of bats. Similarly, the presence of spider webs at a potential roost entry can often indicate an absence of bats; and
- b) An assessment of the potential of a building to provide a roost either in the summer (maternity) or winter (hibernation).

In accordance with Collins (2023) the habitats on-site were assessed for suitability, including roosting, foraging and commuting for bats. Links to known roosts and areas designated to bats were also assessed.

4.3 Birds

The monument on site was inspected during the day time visit on the 8th of October 2025 for bird species, and to locate signs of use such as nests and/or droppings. Habitats were assessed for suitability to support nesting birds.

4.4 Other Protected Species

The site was inspected and assessed for the signs of presence and potential for other European and UK protected species on the 8th of October 2025.

Visual inspection was utilised as a method of search for other protected species.

5. Report Limitations

An ecological survey is limited by factors that affect the presence of plants and animal, this includes time of the year, migration and behaviour. Furthermore, species and features can be missed during the inspection due to the human factor and even though the ecological survey present species present on site, this is not a definite list of all species on-site and evidential

absence of other species is not be taken as conclusive proof that the species is not present or will be present on the affected site.

The result of the desk- and field surveys are deemed to provide significant proof of habitats and species affected by proposed plans. Over time habitats and species supported within habitats can change through natural processes and human interference. Therefore, is this report valid for two years, in line with current guidelines, and thereafter the site will need re-surveying and the report updated accordingly to new findings.

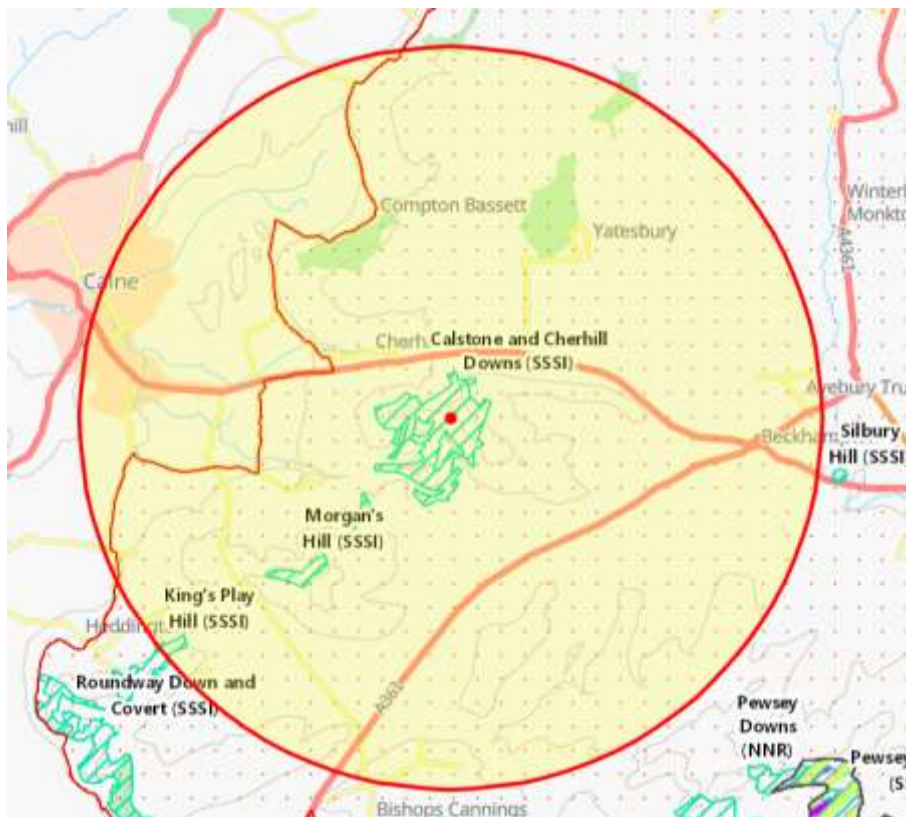
6. Results

Greena Ecological Consultancy conducted a daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025, prior and following the field survey a desktop study was performed and completed.

6.1 Designated sites

There are multiple nationally designated sites within 5km of the site, presented in figure 3. Affected site lies within North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) and Calstone and Cherhill Downs Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is directly adjacent to affected site. Calstone and Cherhill Downs is an extensive area of herb-rich chalk grassland of exceptional botanical quality. The flora supports a diverse population of invertebrates including a range of butterfly species and a nationally rare cricket. The site comprises one of the best remaining examples in North Wiltshire of unimproved downland, a habitat which has been largely lost due to either neglect or the use of intensive agricultural methods.

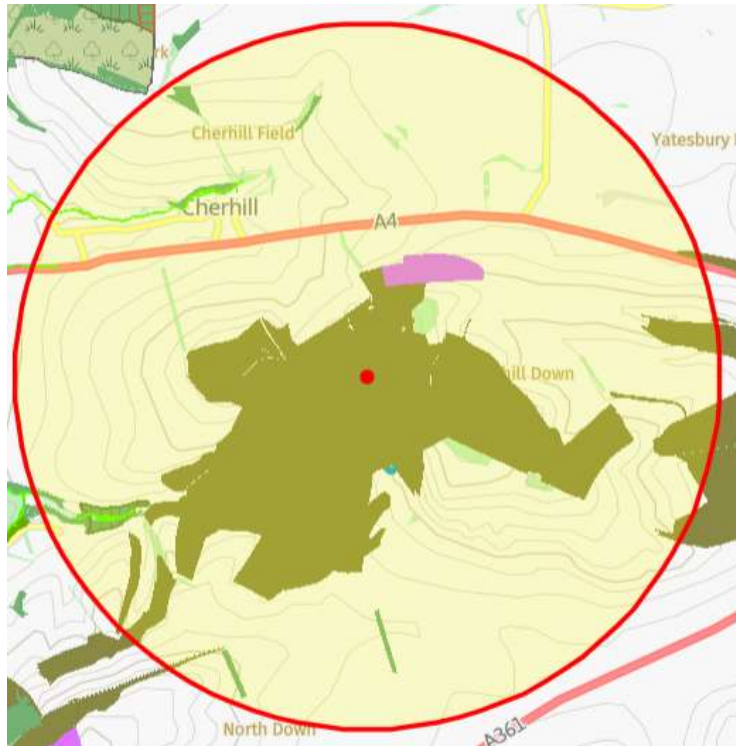
Figure 3: Designated sites



6.2 Habitats

There are multiple areas of priority habitats within 2km of the site. These are presented in figure 4. The site lies within priority habitat lowland calcareous grassland. Priority habitat located further from the affected site include deciduous woodland, wood-pasture & parkland ancient & semi-natural woodland, chalk rivers, good quality semi-improved grassland and a priority pond.

Figure 4: Priority habitat



During the field survey performed on the 8th of October 2025 existing monument and surrounding grassland was inspected. The monument is located on a chalk hill surrounded by species-rich calcareous grassland. Proposed work includes major repair works to carry out pointing and replacement of quoin stones. Base plinth requires extensive pointing and some flag stones resetting. Internally the monument has a base with 3 concentric square ring tunnels. The tunnels have a hollow core in the centre, small 'window' holes linking between the tunnels, core and exterior via removed flag.

Photographs 1-7: External monument





Photographs 8-10: Internal monument



Photograph 11: Species-rich calcareous grassland



6.3 Bats

The results of desk top study for bats are based on local information obtained by Greena Ecological Consultancy and others between 1999 & 2022 of 15 bat species, see table 1.

Table 1: Bat species recorded in the local area

Bat species recorded in the area	Rhinolophus hipposideros (Lesser horseshoe Bat)
	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum (Greater horseshoe Bat)
	Plecotus auritus (Brown long-eared Bat)
	Plecotus austriacus (Grey long-eared Bat)
	Pipistrellus pipistrellus (Common pipistrelle Bat)
	Pipistrellus pygmaeus (Soprano pipistrelle Bat)
	Pipistrellus nathusii (Nathusius pipistrelle Bat)
	Myotis daubentonii (Daubenton's Bat)
	Myotis bechsteinii (Bechstein's Bat)
	Myotis mystacinus (Whiskered Bat)
	Myotis brandtii (Brandt's Bat)
	Myotis nattererii (Natterer's Bat)
	Eptesicus serotinus (Serotine Bat)
	Barbastella barbastellus (Barbastelle Bat)
	Nyctalus noctule (Noctule Bat)

There were no European Protected Species (EPS) for bat mitigation licence located within 2km radius of the site according to Magic Maps.

During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 no obvious signs (droppings, urine stain etc) were identified within affected monument. No signs of bats were identified when inspecting the tunnels/core and as there were no light getting into the core there is no bat access into it higher up. Furthermore, there is no access into the plinth. The plinth was

inspected with no suitable exterior crevices for bats or birds, it is however possible that there are odd exterior holes higher up above the base.

The lower half of the monument could not be inspected, when access is available through rope access or scaffolding an ecologist is to inspect the lower half of the monument.

The habitat on and surrounding the site was deemed to provide low potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the exposed location with no hedgerows or trees creating safe flight routes. Bats may still be present in the area and the site is subject to no artificial lighting.

6.4 Birds

Affected site lies within a Countryside Stewardship (CS) area for *corn bunting* (*Emberiza calandra*) and *lapwing* (*Vanellus vanellus*). The site also lies within areas for *grey partridge* (*perdix perdix*), *tree sparrow* (*Passer montanus*) and *yellow wagtail* (*Motacilla flava*).

During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 no signs of birds were identified on site. The monument provides negligible potential for nesting birds, the grassland surrounding the monument was deemed as less suitable for ground nesting birds. However, if work takes place during the nesting bird season (March- August) caution is to be taken to ensure no nesting birds are harmed.

6.5 Other protected species

There are no EPS mitigation licences for any other protected species within 2km radius according to Magic Maps. Calstone and Cherhill Downs SSSI complex combustion of flora species has made it a site of multiple rare invertebrates. The site has 25 resident breeding butterfly species with several being relatively uncommon nationally, such as the *small blue* (*Cupido minimus*), *chalkhill blue* (*Lysandra coridon*), *Duke of Burgundy* (*Hamearis Lucina*) and *marsh fritillary* (*Eurodryas Aurinia*). Other invertebrates recorded on site is the very rare and vulnerable *wart-biter bush cricket* (*Decticus verrucivorus*), the particular species is only known from a few other localities in Britain and found in the longer vegetation, the *heath snail* (*Helicella itala*), a local and declining species characteristic of calcareous grassland, and the uncommon *plant bug* (*Sehirus dubius*).

A walkover was performed to identify potential *badger* (*Meles meles*) setts on the affected site and within 30m of the affected site. No *badger* (*Meles meles*) setts or animal paths were identified. In the outer tunnel ring a large amount of cave spiders *Meta menardi* were identified, the species is not protected and does occur widely across Europe but is however sparsely distributed in UK.

7. Conclusions & Mitigation

7.1 Designated sites & Habitats

The proposed plans include vehicle access over priority habitat and SSSI grassland. The grassland is of high importance, species-rich known to support a range of rare and uncommon invertebrates. To ensure minimal harm to the grassland occurs during proposed repair works of the monument a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is to be in place prior to work commencing. Proposed work is to take place outside of the winter months where the ground is wet and more damage of the grassland will occur. The CEMP is to include details of potential ground mats being used to minimise damage. If a CEMP is produced and followed prior to work commencing proposed plans are deemed to not affect designated sites or priority habitats.

7.2 Bats

During the daytime survey on the 8th of October 2025 no obvious signs of bats were identified within the monument. Due to the lack of roosting features in the monument the monument was deemed to provide low bat roost potential. The lower half of the monument could not be fully inspected, when access is available through rope access or scaffolding an ecologist is to inspect the lower half of the monument. Depending on the result of the survey the monument may be deemed to provide negligible bat roost potential.

The habitat on and surrounding the site was deemed to provide low potential for foraging and commuting bats due to the exposed location with no hedgerows or trees creating safe flight routes. Bats may still be present in the area and the site is subject to no artificial lighting.

7.3 Birds

During the daytime survey 8th of October 2025 no signs of birds were identified and the monument deemed to provide very low potential for nesting birds. The grassland surrounding the monument was deemed as less suitable for ground nesting birds. However, if work takes place during the nesting bird season (March- August) caution is to be taken to ensure no nesting birds are harmed. If nesting birds are identified prior to demolition the nests are to be left until fledged.

Nesting birds are protected under Wildlife and Countryside Act (1984) and have additional protection under the European Communities Council Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds legislation, birds habitat are however not protected unless under designated protected sites.

7.4 Other protected species

The site had no evidence (sett, animal paths, hair, latrine etc) of other protected species during the survey on the 8th of October 2025. Animals identified to potentially be affected by proposed plans are invertebrates supported within Calstone and Cherhill Downs SSSI. Invertebrates supported by plants growing in calcareous grassland could be affected if grassland surrounding the monument is permanently damaged by vehicle traffic. The CEMP will ensure minimal damage to the grassland will minimise risk of invertebrates and habitats supporting invertebrates being harmed.

Throughout construction a precautionary approach is to be applied, this includes keeping the site tidy with any material stacked on pallets to avoid creating refugia which could be used by protected species. Any excavation deeper than 1m and any pipework with a diameter larger than 120mm should be covered overnight to ensure no animals fall in and get trapped. Furthermore, any animals found should be allowed to disperse naturally.

9. References

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