



Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU

Whitebread Group PLC

Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	1	Amber Williams BSc (Hons) Msc Assistant Ecologist	09/05/2024
Reviewed	1.1	Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB, Senior Consultant	08/06/2024
Final	2	Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB, Senior Consultant	08/06/2024
Updated with new plans	3	Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB, Senior Consultant	06/08/2025

Arbtech Consultant's Contact Details:

Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB
Senior Consultant

<https://arbtech.co.uk>

Limitations and Copyright

Arbtech Consulting Limited has prepared this report for the sole use of the above-named client or their agents in accordance with our General Terms and Conditions, under which our services are performed. It is expressly stated that no other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report or any other services provided by us. This report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of Arbtech Consulting Limited. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report are based upon information provided by third parties. Information obtained from third parties has not been independently verified by Arbtech Consulting Limited.

© This report is the copyright of Arbtech Consulting Limited. Any unauthorised reproduction or usage by any person other than the addressee is strictly prohibited.

Industry Guidelines and Standards

This report has been written with due consideration to:

- British Standard 42020 (2013). Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development.
- British Standard 8683:2021 (2021). Process for Designing and Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2017). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. 2nd edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2017). Guidelines on Ecological Report Writing. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2018). Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine. Version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2020). Guidelines for Accessing, Using and Sharing Biodiversity Data in the UK. 2nd Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Construction Industry Research and Information Association & Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (2019). Biodiversity Net Gain – Good Practice Principles for Development.

Proportionality

The work involved in preparing and implementing all ecological surveys, impact assessments and measures for avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement should be proportionate to the predicted degree of risk to biodiversity and to the nature and scale of the proposed development. Consequently, the decision-maker should only request supporting information and conservation measures that are relevant, necessary and material to the application in question. Similarly, the decision-maker and their consultees should ensure that any comments and advice made over an application are also proportionate.

The desk studies and field surveys undertaken to provide a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) might in some cases be all that is necessary.

(BS 42020, 2013)

Executive Summary

Arbtech Consulting Limited was instructed by Whitebread Group PLC to undertake a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment at Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU (hereafter referred to as “the site”). The assessment was required to inform a planning application for the addition of a 3 storey extension onto the current 3 storey building, serving as a hotel (hereafter referred to as “the proposed development”).

The baseline habitat value of the site is 4.85 units, comprising other neutral grassland, urban trees, broadleaved woodland, introduced shrub, buildings and hard standing. The post development habitat value of the site is 5.43 units, comprising the retention of existing buildings and hard standing, as well as new buildings, the retention and enhancement of existing grassland and woodland, and retention of existing trees.

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 12.10% gain in habitat units.

The baseline hedgerow value of the site is 0.36 units, comprising native hedgerow with trees.

The post development habitat value of the site is 0.45 units, comprising the retention of existing native hedgerow with trees and newly planted ornamental hedgerows.

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 24.37% gain in hedgerow units.

Contents

1.0 Introduction and Context.....6

1.1 Background6

1.2 Site Location, Geology and Landscape Context.....6

1.3 BNG Informative6

2.0 Methodology.....8

2.1 Baseline Biodiversity Value8

2.2 Post Development Biodiversity Value.....8

2.3 Limitations9

3.0 Results10

3.1 Baseline Habitats10

3.2 Post Development Habitats.....13

3.3 Change in Biodiversity Value of the Site15

4.0 Recommendations to Deliver BNG16

4.1 Discussion.....16

5.0 Bibliography.....17

Appendix 1: Proposed Development Plan18

Appendix 2: Site Location Plan.....19

Appendix 3: Baseline Habitat Plan.....20

Appendix 4: Post Development Habitat Plan21

Appendix 5a: Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets – Baseline.....22

Hedgerow (individual).....22

One tree25

Woodland (individual).....27

Med/High Distinctiveness Grass (Individual).....30

1.0 Introduction and Context

1.1 Background

Arbtech Consulting Limited was instructed by Whitebread Group PLC to undertake a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment at Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU (hereafter referred to as “the site”). The assessment was required to inform a planning application for the addition of a 3 storey extension onto the current 3 storey building, serving as a hotel (hereafter referred to as “the proposed development”). A plan showing the proposed development is provided in Appendix 1.

This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- Metric Calculation - Premier Inn, Salisbury North, SP1 3GU - v1 - 07-05-24
- PEA report for Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU (Arbtech, 2024).

1.2 Site Location, Geology and Landscape Context

The site is located at National Grid Reference SU16083236 and has an area of approximately 1.83ha comprising comprises a premier inn hotel, an on-site pub, and its surrounding car parking area. This also includes a boundary of greenery around the site, comprising of trees, shrubs and hedgerows.

Priority-listed deciduous woodland forms part of the site’s north and northeast boundary. This also stretches beyond the site boundary 100m to the southeast, and 170m north, covering a total area of 1.83ha. Floodplain grazing marsh is located as 70m northeast of the proposed development area of the site. Additional listed woodland is 132m southwest of the proposed development area. There is a chalk river that flows within 70m northwest of the site, the River Bourne.

A site location plan is provided in Appendix 2.

1.3 BNG Informative

BNG is a specific, measurable outcome of project activities that deliver demonstrable and quantifiable benefits to biodiversity compared to the baseline situation. In order to achieve BNG, a project must be able to demonstrate that it has followed all 10 of the Principles of Biodiversity Net Gain (as outlined in the *British Standard 8683:2021 Process for Designing and Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain*).

The legalised Environment Act (2021) requires developments in England to demonstrate a measurable net gain in biodiversity and sets a target of a minimum of 10% BNG for all developments. It also stipulates that a management plan with a minimum 30-year term, should be adopted to ensure biodiversity net gain can be delivered. The requirement for biodiversity net gain is enshrined within the Environment Act (2021) and the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2021).

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric is the widely accepted tool used to calculate BNG. It enables the calculation of habitat value pre- and post-development in order to determine the overall change in biodiversity value as a result of the proposed development. The Biodiversity Metric has separate BNG assessments for areas of habitat, hedgerows and watercourses.

The biodiversity value of a site should be maximised. However, it may not always be possible to achieve a 10% biodiversity net gain within a site and therefore the Statutory Biodiversity Metric can also account for offsite habitat creation, where land is available. Alternatively, developers can seek to provide an agreed financial contribution to an appropriate third party (such as the Local Authority, the UK Government or another landowner) to deliver the required biodiversity net gain elsewhere on their behalf.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Baseline Biodiversity Value

The baseline BNG Calculation was informed by Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) (Arbtech Consulting Ltd, 2024). A baseline habitat plan is provided in Appendix 3.

Habitat Classification

The PEA classified the habitats on site according to UK Habitat Classification User Manual 2.0 (UK Habitat Classification Working Group, 2023).

Habitat Area/Length

The area or length of each habitat was calculated using qGIS software. In calculating the area or length of each habitat, habitats which occur as two or more isolated parcels across the site were combined, where they were deemed to be of a similar composition and condition. Distinctions were made between habitats to be retained (i.e. left as found in baseline), enhanced (i.e. improved condition) or lost (i.e. destroyed by proposed development).

Areas of scattered trees were calculated using the Tree Helper tool within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. Class sizes for urban trees are set out in Table 8-1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023).

Habitat Condition

Habitat condition was assessed using the relevant condition assessment sheets found in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023).

Strategic Significance

Strategic significance was assigned for each habitat based upon a review of the following:

- Ecological value
- Function within the landscape
- Any site or habitat allocations under the Wiltshire Core Strategy (WCS), adopted in 2015.

2.2 Post Development Biodiversity Value

The post development BNG Calculation was informed by “Proposed Site Plan – Option 2” (Axiom Architects, 2024) which is included in Appendix 1. A post development habitat plan is provided in Appendix 4.

Habitat Classification

Proposed habitats were translated to their equivalents in the UK Habitat Classification using The UK Habitat Classification Habitat Definitions Version 2.0 (The UK Habitat Classification Working Group, May 2023) and the information provided within the WCS.

Habitat Area/Length

The area or length of each proposed habitat was calculated using qGIS software. In calculating the area or length of each habitat, habitats which occur as two or more isolated parcels across the site were combined, where they were deemed to be of similar composition and condition. Distinctions were made between habitats to be retained (i.e. left as found in baseline), enhanced (i.e. improved condition) or newly created.

Areas of scattered trees were calculated using the Tree Helper tool within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. Class sizes for urban trees are set out in Table 8-1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023).

Habitat Condition

Target habitat condition for each proposed habitat was determined assessed using the Temporal Multipliers Tool and the Enhancement Temporal Multipliers Tool included in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric spreadsheet as well as the relevant condition assessment sheets found in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023). This is based on the assumption that a 30-year management plan will be adopted for the site.

Strategic Significance

Strategic significance was assigned for each proposed habitat based upon a review of the following:

- Likely ecological value
- Function within the landscape
- Any site or habitat allocations under the WCS.

2.3 Limitations

There were no limitations associated with the PEA assessment.

3.0 Results

3.1 Baseline Habitats

Table 1 details the baseline habitats present within the site along with their area/length, condition and strategic significance. A full condition assessment for each habitat (where relevant) is provided in Appendix 5a.

Table 1: Baseline Biodiversity Value

Habitat	Area / Length	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Other native hedgerow- with trees	0.09km	There is a line of young ash trees within the hedgerow on the south and southwest boundary. Several of these trees show signs of ash dieback and are in poor condition. The understory hedge, kept to a height of 1.5m includes field maple, hornbeam holly, cherry laurel, hazel, honeysuckle box and hawthorn. The hedge is regularly managed to maintain a compact shape. The northern side of the hedge contains no ground flora, due to the car park, and the southern side has a regularly mown short sward grassland. This hedgerow is not connected to any other hedgerows to the north or south. This hedgerow measures about 90m long.	Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types Native Hedgerow with trees Score: Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy
Individual trees	0.1751ha (based on 43 x small trees)	There are scattered small trees around the site, these are young ash trees within the car park, situated within a mixture of native and non-native shrubs. There are signs of disease within several of these young ash trees.	Condition Sheet: INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type Individual trees – Urban trees Score: Moderate	Area/compensation not in local strategy
Other broadleaf woodland	0.6822ha	There is a band of woodland around the site's boundary- the majority of this woodland is just off-site. However small sections to the very south and in the northern corners are within the site's boundary. Along the eastern boundary the band of trees appears to be newly planted, due to the lack of semi-mature trees and the presence of old tree guards, which they have outgrown.	Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type Woodland and forest- Other woodland; broadleaved Score: Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy

		The eastern band of woodland is comprised of young hawthorns-(D), elder (F) field maple (O) hazel (F). There is a lack of established woodland understory flora, with common ivy being present but a lack of abundant flowering species. There is a small wire fence that cuts through within 1m of the woodland boundary, separating the site from the wider woodland landscape beyond. The northwestern corner has a larger collection of semi-mature trees which extend in a band north of the boundary 7ft fence- this includes hornbeam (O) field maple (O) poplar (O) honeysuckle box(F), silver birch (F), ash (F), hazel (O), black pine (R) cherry laurel (F) cherry (O) and privet (F). The understory includes a scattering of bramble and young cherry laurel. At the southern edge, several flowering herb species are present, such as herb Robert (A) field speedwell (O) white clover (F), red dead nettle (O), cleavers (O) nettles (F) However, the majority of this consist of bare ground and leaf litter.		
Other neutral grassland	0.1545ha	There are patches of grassland around the site- these areas are regularly mown to keep a tidy appearance and in no location was the sward height higher than 10cm. Regular mowing has caused some of the grassland to have bare ground patches and be dominated by pioneering herb species, and springy turf moss, instead of grasses. Grass species within these areas include perennial rye (O) annual meadow grass (F) cocks's foot (D) Yorkshire fog (D) and rough meadow grasses (D).	GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness) Score: Poor	Area/compensation not in local strategy.

		Herb species include- red dead nettle (F), common corn salad (O), fox and cubs (O), dandelion (D), field speedwell (F), common mouse-ear (O), common cranes bill (F), yarrow (O), bulbous buttercup (F), common daisy (D), ribwort plantain (O) and hawkweed (O).		
Flower beds- introduced shrubs	0.0497ha	There are several flower beds around the car park, (see Fig 8) which contain various non-native evergreen shrubs. Non-native invasive species were identified within these flower beds, such as Spanish bluebells, Virginia creeper and small-leaved cotoneaster.	NA	Area/compensation not in local strategy
Developed land, sealed surface	0.3063ha (buildings) 0.5829ha (hardstanding) 0.8892ha (total)	The majority of the site consists of a tarmac car park and concrete and tiled walkways. The area of proposed extensions on the northern building would be within the existing tarmac car-park areas. There are three buildings on the site consisting of 2 hotel buildings and a site pub.	NA	Area/compensation not in local strategy

3.2 Post Development Habitats

Table 2 details the post development habitats present within the site along with their area/length, condition and strategic significance. An assessment of the anticipated condition for each habitat (where relevant) is provided in Appendix 5b, which is based on the assumption that a 30 year management plan will be implemented for the site. The proposed development will result in the loss of introduced shrubs.

Table 2: Post Development Biodiversity Value

Habitat	Area / Length	Description	Target Condition	Strategic Significance
Other native hedgerow- with trees	0.09km	Retained.	Anticipated to maintain the habitat condition of poor . Assessed using the "HEDGEROW Habitat Types Native Hedgerow with trees" condition sheet.	
Non-native hedgerow	0.0909km	Newly planted ornamental hedgerows	Habitat condition pre-determined as "Poor" as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance. Area/compensation not in local strategy.
Individual trees	0.1751ha (based on 43 x small trees)	All existing trees on site retained.	Anticipated to maintain the habitat condition of moderate . Assessed using the "INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type Individual trees – Urban trees" condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance. Area/compensation not in local strategy.
Other broadleaf woodland	0.5461ha (retained) 0.1361ha (enhanced)	All existing woodland to be retained, with a small area to be enhanced in condition through native shrub understory planting	Anticipated to maintain the habitat condition of poor. Assessed using the "WOODLAND Habitat Type Woodland and forest- Other woodland; broadleaved" condition sheet. Score: Poor	Low Strategic Significance. Area/compensation not in local strategy.

Other neutral grassland	0.109ha (retained) 0.0455ha (enhanced)	All existing areas of grassland retained.	Anticipated to maintain GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness) Score: Poor	Low Strategic Significance. Area/compensation not in local strategy.
Flower beds- introduced shrubs	0.0475ha	Some existing habitat to be retained with some sections lost due to the development of an extension to the buildings and associated hard standing.	Habitat condition pre-determined as “NA” as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance. Area/compensation not in local strategy.
Developed land, sealed surface	0.3063ha (retained buildings) 0.025ha (new building) 0.5601ha (retained hardstanding) 0.8914ha (total)	Retained and newly developed.	Habitat condition pre-determined as “NA” as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance. Area/compensation not in local strategy.

3.3 Change in Biodiversity Value of the Site

Full details are provided in the Defra Biodiversity Metric 4.0. The headline results are presented in Appendix 6.

Areas of Habitat

The baseline habitat value of the site is 4.85 units, comprising other neutral grassland, urban trees, broadleaved woodland, introduced shrub, buildings and hard standing.

The post development habitat value of the site is 5.43 units, comprising the retention of existing buildings and hard standing, as well as new buildings, the retention and enhancement of existing grassland and woodland, and retention of existing trees.

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 12.10% gain in habitat units.

Hedgerows

The baseline hedgerow value of the site is 0.36 units, comprising native hedgerow with trees.

The post development habitat value of the site is 0.45 units, comprising the retention of existing native hedgerow with trees and newly planted ornamental hedgerows.

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 24.37% gain in hedgerow units.

4.0 Recommendations to Deliver BNG

4.1 Discussion

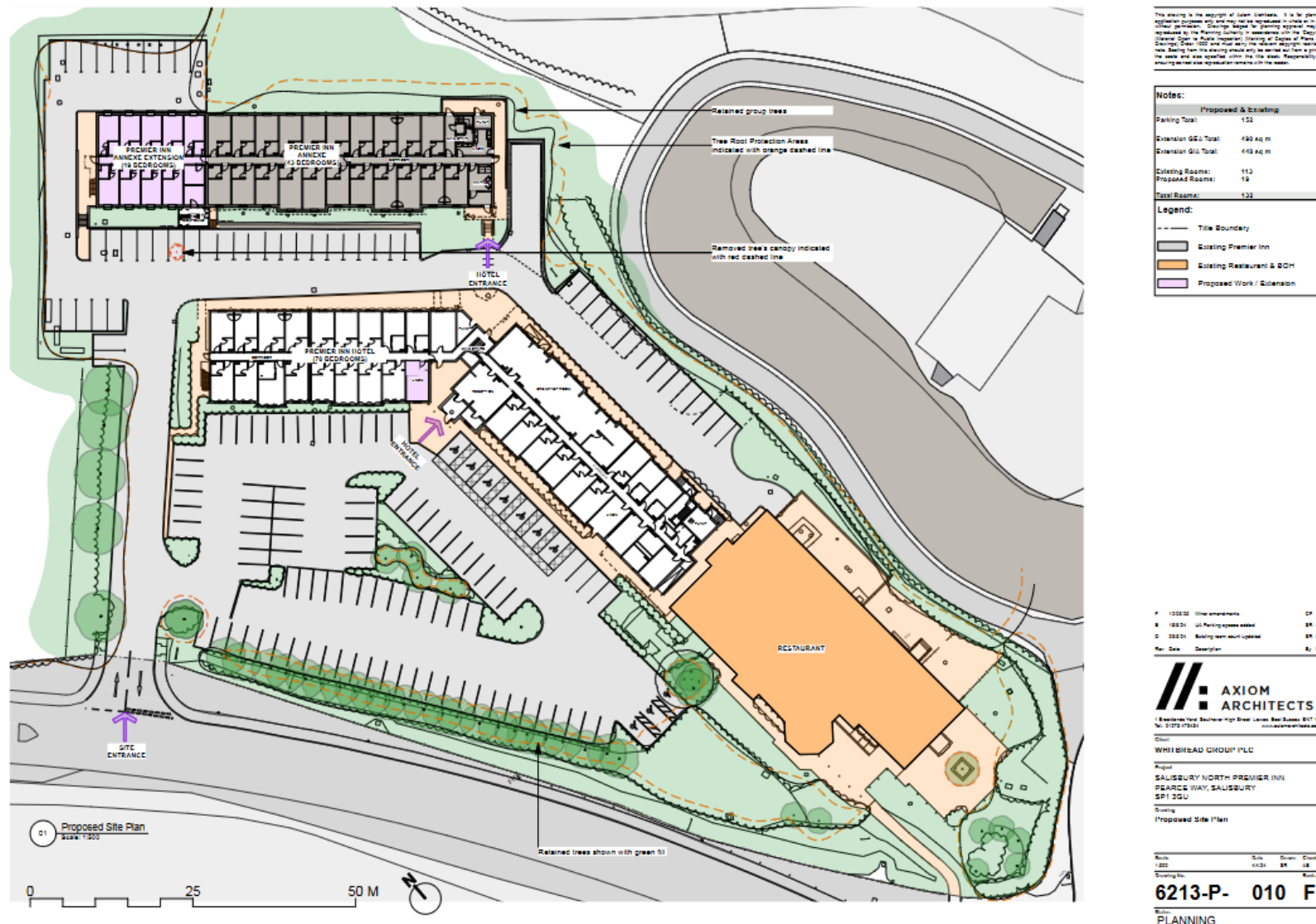
The current proposed plan results in a 12.10% net gain in habitat units and 24.37% net gain in hedgerow units. This is more than the 10% target of biodiversity net gain.

A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Management Plan must be produced for the site. This should include recommendations for the implementation, management and monitoring of the site for at least 30 years.

5.0 Bibliography

- Arbtech Consultanting Ltd. (2024). Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Roost Assessment: Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, earce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU.
- British Standard 8683:2021 (2021). Process for Designing and Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain.
- CIEEM-CIRIA-IEMA (2019) Biodiversity Net Gain – Good Practice Principles for Development.
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2010). Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey a technique for environmental audit. http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/PDF/pub10_handbookforphase1habitatsurvey.pdf
- Natural England (2023). Statutory Biodiversity Metric (JP039).
- Natural England (2023). The Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (JP03).
- UK Habitat Classification Working Group (2023). UK Habitat Classification – Habitat Definitions V2.0.
- Wiltshire Local Development Framework. (2012). *Wiltshire Core Strategy adopted 2015*. <https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/372/Wiltshire-Core-Strategy-adopted-2015/pdf/Wcs.pdf?m=1574343137353>

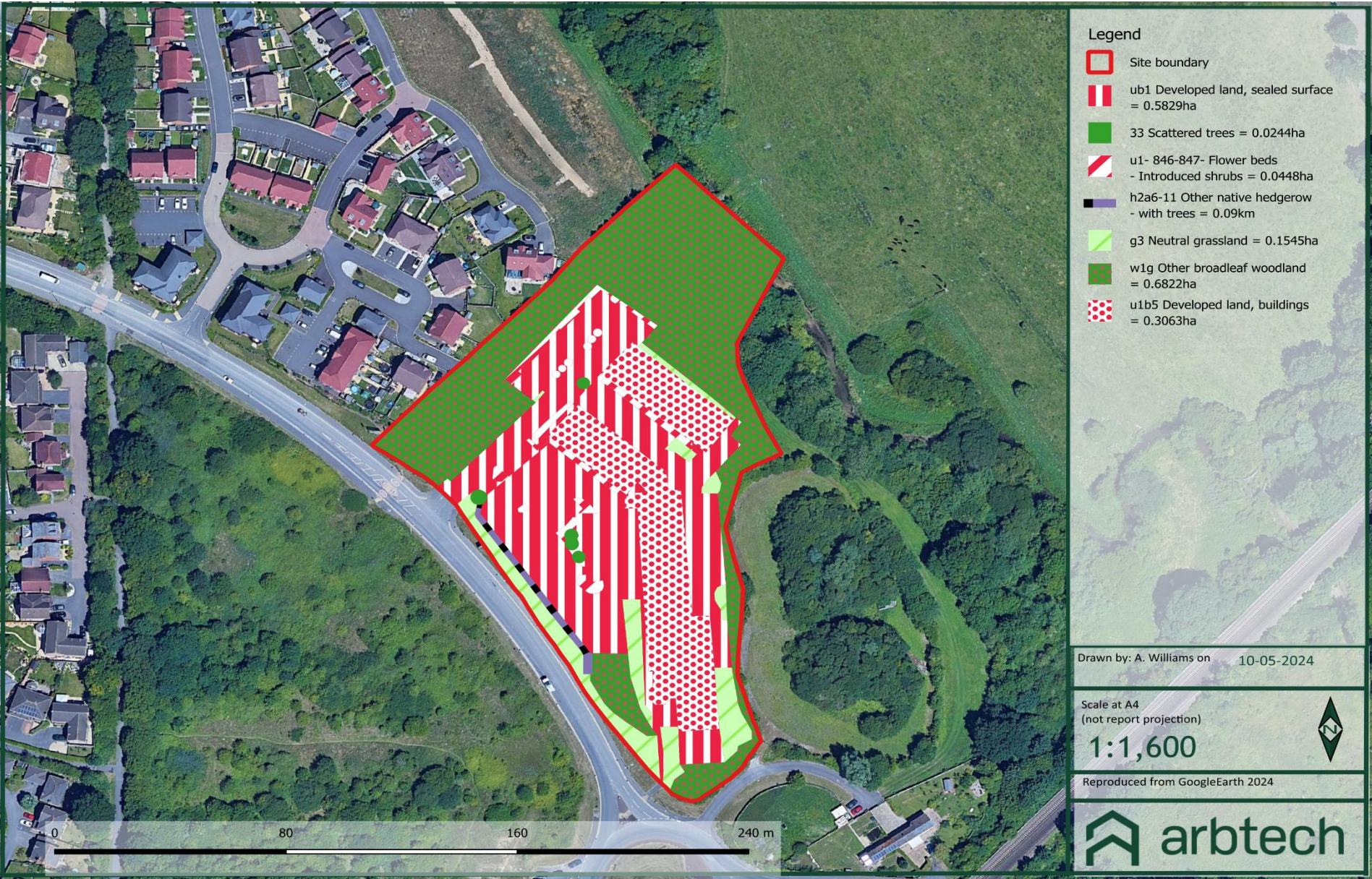
Appendix 1: Proposed Development Plan



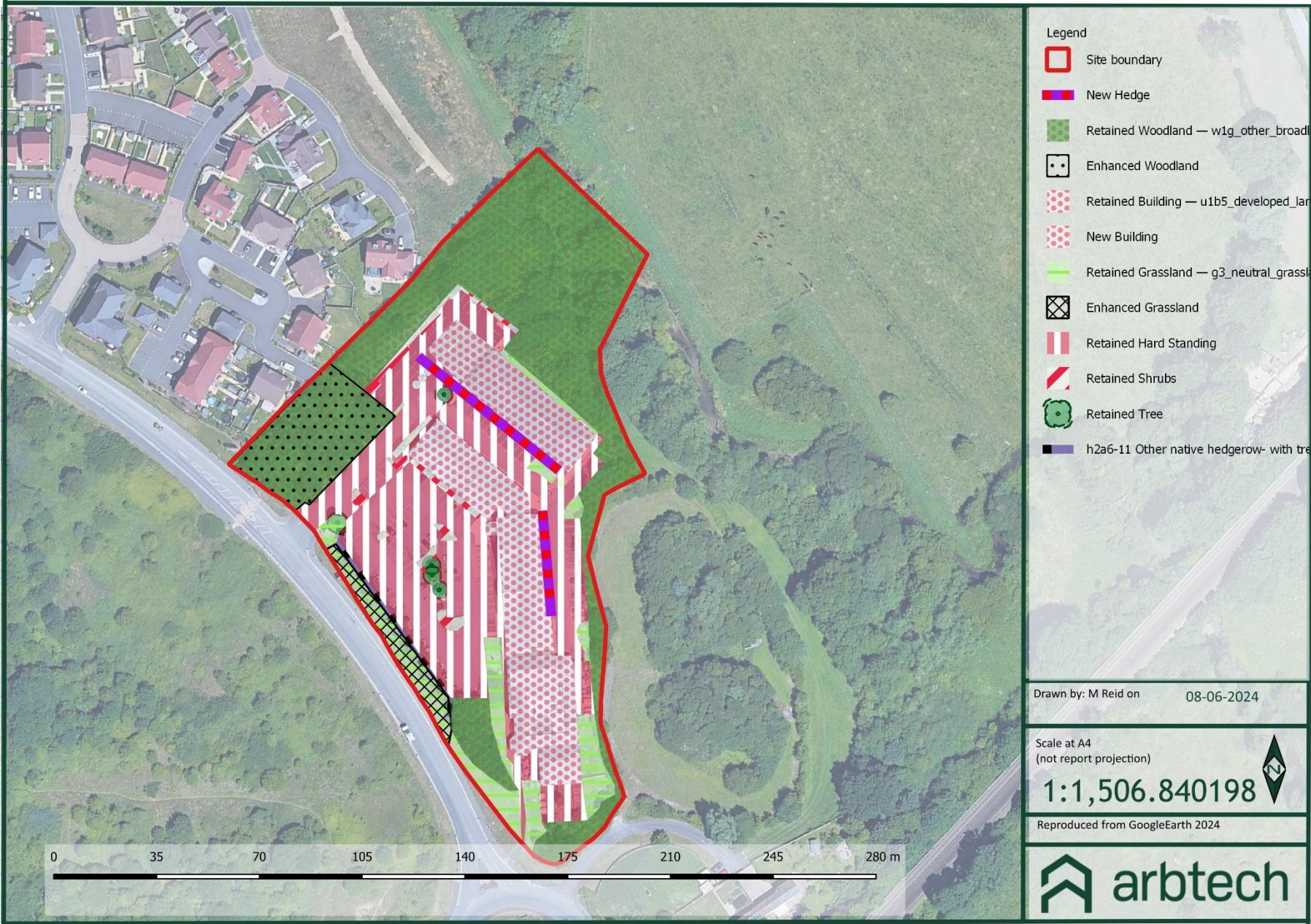
Appendix 2: Site Location Plan



Appendix 3: Baseline Habitat Plan



Appendix 4: Post Development Habitat Plan



Appendix 5a: Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets – Baseline

Hedgerow (individual)

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types					
Habitat Type					
Native hedgerow with trees					
Habitat Description					
There is a line of young ash trees within the hedgerow on the south and southwest boundary. Several of these trees show signs of ash dieback and are in poor condition. The understory hedge, kept to a height of 1.5m includes field maple, hornbeam holly, cherry laurel, hazel, honeysuckle box and hawthorn. The hedge is regularly managed to maintain a compact shape. The northern side of the hedge contains no ground flora, due to the car park, and the southern side has a regularly mown short sward grassland. This hedgerow is not connected to any other hedgerows to the north or south. This hedgerow measures about 90m long.					
On-site or off-site, site name and location	On site Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU		Survey date and Surveyor name	16 TH April 2024 Annabel Sharpe	
Limitations (if applicable)	NA		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		
Grid reference	sU16083236		Habitat parcel reference		
Condition Assessment Details					
Hedgerow favourable condition attributes					
Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D and E)	Criteria - the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition'		Criteria description	Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types					
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees. Newly laid or coppiced hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).	No	

			A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m height).		
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	The average width of woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees. Outgrowths (such as blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> suckers) are only included in the width estimate when they are >0.5 m in height. Laid, coppiced, cut and newly planted hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).	No	
B1.	Gap - hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	This is the vertical 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth. Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the Hedgerow Survey Handbook).	Yes	Hedgerow contains no ground flora.
B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m	This is the horizontal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow. Gaps are complete breaks in the woody canopy (no matter how small). Access points and gates contribute to the overall 'gappiness' but are not subject to the >5 m criterion (as this is the typical size of a gate).	Yes	Hedgerow has compact shape due to regular maintenance.
C1.	Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow. Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow. This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached ground etc. can limit available habitat niches.	No	No ground flora on northern side and regularly mown short sward grassland on southern side.
C2.	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	The indicator species used are nettles <i>Urtica</i> spp., cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i> and docks <i>Rumex</i> spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.	No	No presence of such species.
D1.	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website ⁴ , as well as the BSBI website ⁵ where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora' ⁶ contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website ⁷ .	Yes	Presence of cherry laurel does not equate >90%.

D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes. This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (for example, excessive hedgerow cutting).	Yes	
-----	----------------	--	---	-----	--

Additional group - applicable to hedgerows with trees only

E1.	Tree class	There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient [®]), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 – 50m of hedgerow.	This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.	No	
E2.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.	No	Trees within hedgerow show signs of ash dieback and are in poor condition.

The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 – 3, which is used within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The scores for each are set out in the tables below.

Condition categories for hedgerows without trees

Category	Category Requirements	Metric Score
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 4 failures in total; AND <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 4 attributes; OR <u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1

Score achieved:

Condition categories for hedgerows with trees

Category	Category Requirements	Metric score
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 5 failures in total; AND <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR <u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group	1

	(for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).		
Score achieved:		Poor	

One tree

Condition Sheet: INDIVIDUAL TREES Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Individual trees – Urban trees			
Habitat Description			
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	On site Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU	Survey date and Surveyor name	16 TH April 2024 Annabel Sharpe
Limitations (if applicable)	NA	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference	sU16083236	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).	Yes	
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).	Yes	

C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature) ¹ .	No	
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.	Yes	
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	No	
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.	No	
Number of criteria passed		3	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)	Yes	
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			

Woodland (individual)

Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type						
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types						
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved						
Habitat Description						
On-site or off-site, site name and location		On site Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU	Survey date and Surveyor name	16 TH April 2024 Annabel Sharpe		
Limitations (if applicable)		NA	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference		sU16083236	Habitat parcel reference			
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
A	Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes ¹ present.	Two age-classes ¹ present.	One age-class ¹ present.	2	Young hawthorns, elder, field maple and hazel. Semi mature hornbeam, field maple, poplar, honeysuckle box, silverbirch, ash, hazel, black pine, cherry laurel and privet.
B	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland ² .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in less than 40% of whole woodland ² .	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland ² .	3	
C	Invasive plant species	No invasive species ³ present in woodland.	Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> or cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> not present, and other invasive species ³ <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species ³ ≥10% cover.	2	Low numbers of cherry laurel.

D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species ⁴ found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species ⁴ found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species ⁴ across woodland parcel.	3	
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native ⁵ .	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native ⁵ .	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native ⁵ .	3	
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space ⁶ . Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted ⁷ .	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space ⁶ .	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space ⁶ . But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category ⁷ .	2	
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland ⁸ ; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland ⁸ .	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland ⁸ .	1	
H	Tree health	Tree mortality 10% or less, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback ⁹ .	11% to 25% tree mortality and or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present ⁹ .	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present ⁹ .	3	
I	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community ¹⁰ at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community ¹⁰ at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community ¹⁰ at ground layer present.	1	
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots, or a complex woodland ¹¹ .	Two storeys across all survey plots ¹¹ .	One or less storey across all survey plots ¹¹ .	1	
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees ¹² per hectare.	One veteran tree ¹² per hectare.	No veteran trees ¹² present in woodland.	1	
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities ¹³ .	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities ¹³ .	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing and fallen deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities ¹³ .	1	
M	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident ¹⁴ .	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area, and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground ¹⁴ .	1 hectare or more of nutrient enrichment, and or 20% or more of woodland area has damaged ground ¹⁴ .	2	
Total Score (out of a possible 39)					25	
Condition Assessment Result				Condition Assessment Score		Result Achieved

Total score >32 (33 to 39)	Good (3)	Poor
Total score 26 to 32	Moderate (2)	
Total score <26 (13 to 25)	Poor (1)	

Med/High Distinctiveness Grass (Individual)

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness)																	
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types																	
Grassland - Other neutral grassland																	
Habitat Description																	
There are patches of grassland around the site- these areas are regularly mown to keep a tidy appearance and in no location was the sward height higher than 10cm. Regular mowing has caused some of the grassland to have bare ground patches and be dominated by pioneering herb species, and springy turf moss, instead of grasses. Grass species within these areas include perennial rye (O) annual meadow grass (F) cocks's foot (D) Yorkshire fog (D) and rough meadow grasses (D). Herb species include- red dead nettle (F), common corn salad (O), fox and cubs (O), dandelion (D), field speedwell (F), common mouse-ear (O), common cranes bill (F), yarrow (O), bulbous buttercup (F), common daisy (D), ribwort plantain (O) and hawkweed (O).																	
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification - - - - -																	
On-site or off-site, site name and location	On site Premier Inn, Salisbury North Bishopsdown, Pearce Way, Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP1 3GU							Survey date and Surveyor name	16 TH April 2024 Annabel Sharpe								
								Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)									
Limitations (if applicable)	NA							Habitat parcel reference									
Condition Assessment Criteria								Grid reference									
								S	U	1	6	0	8	3	2	3	6
								Criterion passed (Yes or No)					Notes (such as justification)				
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high proportion of characteristic indicator species present relevant to the specific habitat type (and relative to Footnote 3 suboptimal species which may be listed in the UKHab description). ¹							Yes									

	Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.		
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.	No	Regularly mown.
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens ² .	No	Regular mowing has caused areas of bare ground.
D	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) is less than 5%.	Yes	No bracken or scrub present
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition ³ and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.	No	Regular mowing has damaged patches resulting in bare ground which has become populated by pioneering herb species.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types			
F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m ² present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 3 and 5 cannot contribute towards this count).		

	Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.	No	
Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)		Yes	
Number of criteria passed		2	
Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√	
Acid grassland types (Result out of 5 criteria)			
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)			
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.	Good (3)		
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.	Poor (1)	Yes	