



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

SECTION 78 APPEAL

STATEMENT OF CASE

Appeal Reference: 6013838

LPA Reference: PL/2026/00630

Site Address: Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU

Appellant: Mr D Hillier

Development Description: Demolition of the existing porta cabin building and the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings, landscaping and associated works.

Procedure: Written Representations

Prepared by: David Cox Planning Officer

Date: 10 September 2026

CONTENTS

- 1. Introduction**
- 2. Site Description**
- 3. Planning History**
- 4. The Proposal**
- 5. Relevant Planning Policy and Guidance**
- 6. The Council's Case**
- 7. Comments on Appellants Statement of Case**
- 8. Planning Balance**
- 9. Summary and Conclusions**
- 10. Appendices**

1. Introduction

1.1 This Statement of Case is submitted on behalf of the Local Planning Authority in response to the appeal lodged by Mr D Hillier against the decision of the Council to refuse planning permission for the *Demolition of the existing porta cabin building and the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings, landscaping and associated works* at Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU.

1.2 The purpose of this statement is to set out the Council's case and explain the reasons why planning permission was refused. The decision was issued on 25 June 2026 following consideration of all relevant material planning matters. The refusal was based on the following reasons:

1. The proposed development, by virtue of its two storey design, height, scale, bulk and massing would result in a large, visually intrusive and incongruous form of development that fails to respect the prevailing character of the immediate locality, which is defined by modest, set-back and predominantly single-storey built form within this part of Bulford Road.

The proposal would appear overly prominent within the street scene, particularly due to the visibility of its substantial side gable elevations and would fail to integrate satisfactorily with its surroundings or contribute positively to local distinctiveness.

The development therefore fails to achieve a high standard of design and does not contribute positively to local character or create a strong sense of place, as it does not draw upon or complement the established context of the application site and its immediate surroundings; contrary to Core Policy 57 (criteria i, iii and ix) of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and paragraphs 131 and 135 (a, b and c) of the National Planning Policy Framework.

2. The proposed development, by virtue of its height, bulk, massing and proximity to the shared boundary, would introduce a dominant and overbearing built form when viewed from the front garden and principal outlook of No. 73 Bulford Road.

This would result in a harmful overbearing and unneighbourly impact on outlook and the amenity currently enjoyed by the occupiers of that property, materially diminishing the quality of their living environment.

The proposal is therefore contrary to Core Policy 57 (criterion vii) of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and paragraph 135 (f) of the National Planning Policy Framework.

- 1.3 This statement has been prepared in accordance with the Planning Inspectorate's Procedural Guide for Planning Appeals and complies with the requirements of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and associated regulations. It provides a clear and robust justification for the Council's position, referencing relevant planning policy, guidance, and material considerations.
- 1.4 Artificial intelligence (AI) tools have been used to assist in the drafting of this Statement of Case. Their use has been limited to editorial support and does not replace professional planning judgement. All assessments, conclusions and recommendations are those of the Case Officer, who has reviewed and verified the content and remains responsible for the document in its entirety.

2. Site Description

- 2.1 There have been no material changes to the site since the application was determined. Accordingly, the site description set out in the original Officer Report, already provided to the Planning Inspectorate, remains accurate and relevant for the purposes of this appeal.

3. Planning History

- 3.1 There have been no changes to the planning history of the site since the application was determined. Therefore, the summary contained within the original Officer Report, already provided to the Planning Inspectorate, remains accurate and relevant for the purposes of this appeal.

4. The Proposal

- 4.1 There have been no amendments to the proposed development since the application was determined. Accordingly, the description of the proposal set out in the original Officer Report, already provided to the Planning Inspectorate, remains accurate and relevant for the purposes of this appeal.

5. Relevant Planning Policy and Guidance

- 5.1 There have been no changes to the relevant national or local planning policies, nor to associated guidance, since the application was determined. All applicable policies and guidance are set out in the original Officer Report, which has already been provided to the Planning Inspectorate.

6. The Council's Case

- 6.1 The Council's case primarily relies upon the reasoning set out in the original Officer Report already provided to the Planning Inspectorate. However, additional commentary is provided below to clarify and reinforce points already made in that report. This does not introduce new reasons for refusal or expand the evidence base beyond the original decision.
- 6.2 The principal disagreement between the parties is not whether Bulford Road contains a variety of building forms, heights and architectural styles. The Council accepts that it does. Rather, the central issue is whether the appeal site should be assessed by reference to the character of Bulford Road as a whole, or by reference to the distinct and readily identifiable cluster of development within which the site sits. The Council considers that the former library, health centre, Nos. 69 and 73 Bulford Road and No. 71 collectively form a recognisable local townscape character defined by substantial setbacks, openness and low-profile built form. It is this immediate context, rather than the entirety of Bulford Road, that is most relevant to the assessment of the proposal's impact on character and appearance. Furthermore, the Council does not dispute that side gables are visible elsewhere along Bulford Road; however, those examples occur within materially different townscape contexts and their existence does not justify the introduction of a similarly prominent form of development on this site.
- 6.3 The Council would also like to address a typo on page 15 of the delegated report which reads *"Notably, this element would be positioned closer to the boundary than that approved under PL/2025/03532."* The word 'approved' should have read 'refused'.

7. Comments on Appellants Statement of Case

- 7.1 Below is the Council's assessment of the Appellant's Statement of Case. Commentary is provided where necessary to address points of disagreement that go beyond what has already been set out in the original Officer Report already sent.
- 7.2 The appellant's case is founded upon the proposition that the site should be assessed as part of Bulford Road generally, whereas the Council's case is founded upon the proposition that the site forms part of a distinct cluster of development with its own recognisable character.
- 7.3 The Council does not dispute the appellant's assertion that Bulford Road contains a variety of building forms, architectural styles and ridge heights. Indeed, this was acknowledged within the Officer Report. The principal disagreement between the parties concerns the area against which the proposal should be assessed. The appellant contends that the character of the site should be derived from the wider extent of Bulford Road, whereas the Council considers that the site forms part of a clearly identifiable cluster of development possessing its own distinct character.
- 7.4 The appeal site occupies a position alongside the health centre and No. 73 Bulford Road, with No. 71 situated immediately to the rear. These buildings share common characteristics, namely substantial setbacks from the highway, modest scale, low-profile built form and a relatively open spatial arrangement. Collectively, along with No 69 to the south, these buildings create a recognisable local townscape context that differs from other sections of Bulford Road. The Council therefore considers it appropriate to assess the proposal against this immediate context, as this is the setting within which the development would be experienced.
- 7.5 The appellant repeatedly relies upon the presence of taller development elsewhere along Bulford Road. However, the existence of larger buildings elsewhere within the street does not automatically render a taller building acceptable on this site. The question before the Inspector is whether the proposal responds positively to its immediate surroundings. The Council's position remains that the proposed dwellings, by reason of their height, bulk, massing and resultant prominent side gables, would appear visually intrusive and incongruous when read against the established character of this particular part of Bulford Road.

- 7.6 The Council also notes the appellant's repeated description of the proposal as a "1.5-storey" form of development. Whilst the proposed first floor is partly contained within the roofspace, the proposal would nevertheless be perceived as a two-storey building within the street scene. The development incorporates first-floor accommodation across its full width, substantial side gable elevations approximately 8.1 metres in height, and a built form that would be read visually as two storeys when viewed from both Bulford Road and neighbouring properties. The Council therefore considers that the use of the term "1.5-storey" understates the scale and visual presence of the proposal and does not materially alter its assessment of the development's impact on character, appearance and residential amenity.
- 7.7 The Council acknowledges the appellant's reliance upon Appeal Decision *APP/Y3940/W/21/3280173* relating to 90 and 92 Bulford Road (which is approximately 40m away on the opposite side of the road and to the south east of the appeal site). However, the Council considers that limited weight should be attached to that decision due to the materially different characteristics of the appeal site and its surroundings. Whilst the Inspector noted the presence of a staggered building line and a varied roofscape, the approved development was situated within a more urban frontage where buildings are generally located much closer to the highway than those surrounding the current appeal site. The approved block was positioned approximately 5 metres from the pedestrian pavement and immediately adjoined the two-storey semi-detached pair at Nos. 86B and 88 Bulford Road. To the north, the neighbouring bungalow at No. 96 was separated from the approved development by both an access road serving rear development and the side driveway of No. 96, resulting in a separation distance of approximately 11 metres. In those circumstances, the Inspector was assessing a development located within a context already characterised by prominent two-storey built form and a relatively enclosed street frontage.
- 7.8 The present appeal site occupies a significantly different townscape context. The former library, health centre and Nos. 69 and 71 Bulford Road are all substantially set back from the highway, with No. 73 located in excess of 24 metres from the pavement and the appeal proposal itself situated approximately 17 metres behind the highway boundary. Together with the further bungalow of No. 69 to the south, these buildings create a distinctive cluster characterised by openness, generous setbacks and predominantly low-profile development. Unlike *APP/Y3940/W/21/3280173*, the Inspector is not being asked to consider a building integrated within an established

two-storey frontage close to the highway. Rather, the proposal would introduce substantial side gables, approximately 11.4 metres in length and 8.1 metres in height, into a localised context presently defined by modestly scaled and visually recessive development. The Council therefore considers that the circumstances of APP/Y3940/W/21/3280173 are not directly comparable and that the decision provides only limited assistance in determining the current appeal.

- 7.9 Accordingly, the Council considers that Appeal Decision APP/Y3940/W/21/3280173 attracted materially different site circumstances and should be afforded only limited weight in determining the present appeal.
- 7.10 The Council has not ignored the wider character of Bulford Road and accepts that the street contains a variety of building forms, including two-storey development. However, planning judgments on character and appearance are not based solely on the existence of larger buildings elsewhere within a street. Greater weight must be afforded to the immediate context within which a proposal would be experienced. In this case, the Council considers that the proposed dwellings would fail to respond appropriately to the distinctive character of the local cluster comprising the former library, health centre and neighbouring dwellings.
- 7.11 The Council notes that a substantial proportion of the appellant's amenity assessment focuses upon the absence of overlooking, loss of sunlight and loss of privacy. However, these matters do not form the basis of the Council's reason for refusal. The Council accepts that the revised scheme has addressed the previous overlooking concerns and does not contend that the proposal would result in unacceptable losses of daylight or sunlight. The issue in dispute is whether the scale, height and proximity of the proposed building would create an overbearing and oppressive relationship with No. 73.
- 7.12 The appellant repeatedly refers to the planning principle that there is no right to retain an uninterrupted view. The Council does not disagree. However, the Council's concern is not based upon the loss of a view but that the introduction of this substantial built form would fundamentally alter the currently open relationship experienced from the principal private amenity area adjoining the shared boundary. The proposal would introduce a substantial built form, comprising an approximately 11.4 metre long and 8.1 metre high side gable, immediately adjacent to an actively used area of private residential amenity space associated with No. 73 (where there is currently no such

visual obstruction). The Council's position is that this relationship would create an unacceptably overbearing and oppressive presence when experienced from that property.

7.13 The Council also disagrees with the appellant's suggestion that limited weight should be afforded to the impact upon the front garden because it fronts a public road. The relevant planning consideration is not whether the amenity space lies to the front or rear of the dwelling, but whether it functions as a genuinely used private amenity area. The Officer Report records that the occupier actively uses the front garden for recreation and food cultivation and that it forms an established component of the property's residential amenity. The Council therefore considers that the amenity value of this space is a material consideration irrespective of its location within the curtilage. Furthermore, the Council does not accept the appellant's implication that the front garden is experienced as a predominantly public space. During the site visit, the Case Officer was able to observe the manner in which the garden functions in practice. Whilst the garden adjoins the public highway, the combination of its depth, setback from the road and boundary treatment affords a degree of privacy materially greater than would normally be associated with a typical roadside front garden. This was evident from observations made during the site visit, including an interaction between the occupier of No. 73 and a person waiting at the nearby bus stop, where conversation only became possible once the occupier had walked towards the end of the garden closest to the highway. Whilst this observation is not determinative in itself, it reinforces the Council's view that the garden functions as a private amenity space rather than an extension of the public realm and should be afforded appropriate weight when assessing the effects of the proposal on residential amenity.

7.14 The Council accepts that the proposal would not entirely enclose No. 73 and that outlook would remain available in other directions. However, this does not negate the identified harm. The assessment of overbearing impact is concerned with the presence, scale and proximity of the proposed built form and the extent to which it creates a harmful sense of enclosure. In the Council's view, the proposed side gable would represent an abrupt and dominant built feature within an area that presently benefits from a substantially more open relationship. The proposal would therefore result in an unneighbourly and overbearing impact upon the occupiers of No. 73. The Council's concern is not the loss of a particular view but the introduction of a substantial two-storey built form in a location currently experienced as open and presently devoid

of neighbouring two-storey development. The proposal is therefore contrary to Core Policy 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

- 7.15 For these reasons, the Council remains of the view that the appellant has not demonstrated that the proposal would preserve the character of the immediate locality or avoid harmful impacts upon the living conditions of the occupiers of No. 73. The Council therefore maintains that the proposal remains contrary to Core Policy 57 and the reasons for refusal remain justified.

8. Planning Balance

- 8.1 The Council primarily relies on the planning balance assessment set out in the original Officer Report.
- 8.2 The Council has reviewed the Appellant's Statement of Case and continues to rely upon the planning balance set out within the Officer Report. The Council accepts that the proposal would contribute towards housing delivery at a time when the Council cannot demonstrate a five-year housing land supply and that these benefits attract significant weight. However, for the reasons set out in Sections 6 and 7 of this Statement, the Council remains of the view that the identified harms to the character and appearance of the area and the living conditions of the occupiers of No. 73 are genuine and substantial planning harms. The Council therefore maintains its position that these adverse impacts significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of the proposal when assessed against the policies of the NPPF taken as a whole.

9. Summary and Conclusions

- 9.1 The Council relies on the summary and conclusion set out in the original Officer Report, which has already been provided to the Planning Inspectorate. No additional points are raised, and the Officer Report represents the Council's full position for the purposes of this appeal.

10. Appendices

Appendix 1: Suggested planning conditions

Appendix 2: Wiltshire Council Appropriate Assessment, Natural England Appropriate Assessment and Agent agreement to post BNG

APPENDIX 1

SUGGESTED PLANNING CONDITIONS

Without prejudice, should the Inspector be minded to allow the appeal, the Council requests that the following conditions be imposed to ensure the development is acceptable in planning terms and in accordance with paragraph 57 of the NPPF and relevant PPG advice on the use of planning conditions:

1. The development hereby permitted shall be begun before the expiration of three years from the date of this permission.

REASON: To comply with the provisions of Section 91 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

2. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans and documents:

Location Plan, Existing and Elevations and Floor Plans (Ben 0005 rev A), Existing Block Plan and Topographical Survey (LDS/19634 – Rev A), Proposed Floor Plans (0934/PL/101 Rev B), Proposed Site Plan and Street Scene Plan (934-PL-103-Rev D) and Proposed Elevations (934-PL-102-Rev C)

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning

3. The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in strict accordance with the following approved ecological and tree documents:

- Ecological Impact Assessment, Eclipse Ecology, Report Ref. P283.1.1, dated 27 January 2026 (including Sections 7 and 8 and Appendices 2, 3 and 4);
- Statutory Biodiversity Metric dated 27 January 2026;
- Statutory Biodiversity Metric – Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology (Ref. P283.4.0);
- Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment, Eclipse Ecology, Report Ref. P283.2.0, dated 27 January 2026;
- Net Nutrient Statement;

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and for the protection, mitigation and enhancement of biodiversity.

4. No development shall commence until the tree protection measures shown on Tree Protection Plan WTP1 have been erected on site in accordance with BS5837:2012 Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction – Recommendations.

The development shall thereafter be carried out in accordance with the document entitled "*Tree Information Relating to Planning Application at 75 Bulford Road, Durrington*" (Ref WT122-25 AIA), including Tree Protection Plan WTP1.

The protective fencing shall be retained for the duration of the construction period and shall not be removed, moved or altered without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

Within the protected areas no materials, plant, machinery, waste, chemicals, fuel, spoil or temporary structures shall be stored, and no excavation, level changes, fires or other activities likely to damage retained trees shall take place.

REASON: To safeguard retained trees and their root protection areas during construction in the interests of visual amenity and to accord with Core Policy 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy.

5. The development hereby permitted shall not commence until evidence of compliance to the Wiltshire Council River Avon Special Area of Conservation Mitigation scheme, or an alternative approved mitigation package addressing the additional nutrient input arising from the development, has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To accord with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and Wiltshire Core Strategy Core Policy 69.

6. The dwellings hereby approved shall be designed to achieve a maximum water consumption rate of no more than 110 litres per person per day, including external water use.

Prior to first occupation, a water efficiency report demonstrating compliance with this requirement shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To ensure compliance with the nutrient neutrality mitigation strategy within the Hampshire Avon catchment.

7. Prior to the installation of any ecological enhancement features, details of the number, design and location of biodiversity enhancement measures, including the provision of 4 swift bricks, 2 bee bricks and wildlife-friendly planting, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

The approved measures shall be installed prior to first occupation of either dwelling and retained thereafter.

REASON: To secure biodiversity enhancements and ecological net gains in accordance with Core Policy 50 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and the National Planning Policy Framework.

8. No external lighting shall be installed unless details have first been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The details shall demonstrate compliance with Guidance Note GN08/23 '*Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night*' and GN01:2021 '*Guidance for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light*'.

The lighting shall thereafter be installed and maintained in accordance with the approved details.

REASON: To safeguard commuting and foraging bats and maintain ecological connectivity.

9. No development above slab level shall commence on site until full details and samples of all external facing materials have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority

REASON: In the interests of visual amenity and the character and appearance of the area

10. No development above slab level shall commence on site until a scheme of hard and soft landscaping has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, the details of which shall include :-

- a detailed planting specification showing all plant species, supply and planting sizes and planting densities;
- means of enclosure;
- all hard and soft surfacing materials;

REASON: The application contained insufficient information to enable this matter to be considered prior to granting planning permission and the matter is required to be agreed with the Local Planning Authority before development commences in order that the development is undertaken in an acceptable manner, to ensure a satisfactory landscaped setting for the development and the protection of existing important landscape features.

11. All soft landscaping comprised in the approved details of landscaping shall be carried out in the first planting and seeding season following the first occupation of the building(s) or the completion of the development whichever is the sooner; All shrubs, trees and hedge planting shall be maintained free from weeds and shall be protected from damage by vermin and stock. Any trees or plants which, within a period of five years, die, are removed, or become seriously damaged or diseased shall be replaced in the next planting season with others of a similar size and species, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority. All hard landscaping shall also be carried out in accordance with the approved details prior to the occupation of any part of the development or in accordance with a programme to be agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To ensure a satisfactory landscaped setting for the development and the protection of existing important landscape features.

12. Before the development hereby permitted is first occupied the bathroom window(s) in the north and south side elevations shall be glazed with obscure glass only [to an obscurity level of no less than level 4] and the windows shall be maintained with obscure glazing in perpetuity.

REASON: In the interests of residential amenity and privacy and adjoining uses.

13. Notwithstanding the provisions of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (or any Order revoking or re-enacting or amending that Order with or without modification), no windows, doors or other form of openings other than those shown on the approved plans, shall be inserted in the southern, western or northern elevations above ground floor ceiling level of the development hereby permitted.

REASON: In the interests of residential amenity and privacy and adjoining uses.

14. The first-floor bedroom rooflights (on the western elevation) shall be installed in accordance with the approved plans and shall have a minimum cill height of 1.7 metres above the finished floor level of the bedrooms they serve. The rooflights shall be retained as such thereafter and no alteration shall take place without the prior written approval of the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To prevent overlooking of adjoining properties and to protect neighbouring residential amenity in accordance with Core Policy 57 of the Wiltshire Core Strategy and paragraph 135(f) of the National Planning Policy Framework.

15. No part of the development hereby permitted shall be brought into use until the access and parking spaces have been completed in accordance with the details shown on the approved plans. The areas shall be maintained for those purposes at all times thereafter.

REASON: In the interests of highway safety.

Appendix 2:

Wiltshire Council Appropriate Assessment,
Natural England Appropriate Assessment
and Agent agreement to post BNG

From: [Charlotte Smith](#)
To: [Cracknell, Jessica](#)
Subject: 551952 Construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings - Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington (Wiltshire) PL/2026/00630
Sent: 13/07/2026 14:05:26

Dear Jessica,

Planning Consultation: Demolition of the existing porta cabin building & the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings etc.

Site: Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury SP4 8EU

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority, has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the proposal in accordance with regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.

Your appropriate assessment concludes that your authority is able to ascertain that the proposal will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for all identified adverse effects that could potentially occur as a result of the proposal, Natural England advises that we concur with the assessment conclusions, providing that all mitigation measures are appropriately secured in any planning permission given.

Please accept this email as our required statutory response to your consultation.

Kind Regards

Charlotte

Charlotte Smith MSc
Higher Officer-National Planning Delivery Team
Central Casework Team
Natural England, W4, Dorset Council, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, DT1 1XJ
www.gov.uk/natural-england

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From: [Jack Newman](#)
To: [Cox, David](#)
Cc: [Dan Roycroft](#)
Subject: Re: PL/2026/00630 Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU
Attachments: [P283.4.0 - Former Library, Durrington - Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessments_-_July_2025 \(5\).xlsx](#)
Sent: 26/03/2026 09:13:06

Hi David,

Option 2 securing the mitigation post-permission would be our preference.

Please see attached the BNG conditions assessment sheets.

Kind regards,

Jack



Jack Newman BSc (Hons)
Junior Planner
E. jack@atlasplanninggroup.co.uk
W. www.atlasplanninggroup.co.uk
T. 01722 638 008

From: Cox, David <David.Cox@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 25 March 2026 14:57
To: Dan Roycroft <dan@atlasplanninggroup.co.uk>; Jack Newman <jack@atlasplanninggroup.co.uk>
Subject: FW: PL/2026/00630 Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU

Dear Dan and Jack

Separate to the design and overlooking negotiations – could you please confirm which option your client wished to take by Monday afternoon (30 March) please. This will allow Jessica to complete her consultation response for us.

Can you also please urgently address the raised BNG issue.

Kind Regards

David Cox
Planning Officer – Central Planning Team
Place Directorate

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From: Cracknell, Jessica <Jessica.Cracknell@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Sent: 25 March 2026 13:58
To: Cox, David <David.Cox@wiltshire.gov.uk>
Subject: PL/2026/00630 Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU

Hi David

I have now drafted some comments on application PL/2026/00630.

Before I finalise my comments, I would appreciate some clarification on the approach the applicant intends to take in securing Council credits for the River Avon SAC. There are two possible routes:

Option 1 – Secure credits at permission stage

- The application must not be positively determined until the P-credits have been secured.
- In the absence of a legal agreement, the mitigation fee and administration charge can be secured through a Section 111.
- The administration fee must be paid upon the granting of permission.
- The mitigation fee is payable prior to commencement of development.

Option 2 – Secure mitigation post-permission

- Nutrient neutrality must still be secured before any development can lawfully commence.
- This must be achieved via a planning obligation (either a Grampian condition or a legal agreement).

To ensure my comments accurately reflect the chosen approach, could you please confirm which of these two routes the applicant intends to take?

Additionally, the condition assessment sheets for the baseline habitats have not been submitted as part of the Biodiversity Net Gain documentation. These sheets are a minimum requirement under Article 7 of The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015, and therefore must be provided for review by the Ecology Team prior to determination.

Once I have the clarification above, I will amend and upload my formal comments on the application.

Kind Regards,

Jessica Cracknell (she/her)
Ecologist
Natural and Historic Environment

Wiltshire Council

Please note my normal working hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 – 16:00.

Email: Jessica.Cracknell@wiltshire.gov.uk
Telephone: 01225718865
Web: www.wiltshire.gov.uk
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The Statutory Biodiversity Metric -Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment

Version Number: July 2025 (v1.0.2)

Instructions

The method for assessing habitat condition is split into three main steps, outlined in detail below:

STEP 1: Considerations before assessing condition

STEP 2: Choosing the right condition sheet

STEP 3: Using condition sheets

Step 1: Considerations before assessing condition

The following points must be considered **before** undertaking a condition assessment:

- 1) Condition assessments must be undertaken by a competent person (hereafter referred to as assessor)
- 2) Condition assessments should be undertaken at the optimum time of year for the assessed habitat(s)
- 3) Assessors must have digital or hard copy access to condition sheets (see **Tabs 1-25**) and the survey
- 4) The habitat type of the parcel(s) to be assessed must be determined before consideration can be given
- 5) The location and extent of the habitat parcel(s) to be assessed must be mapped, either on digital or paper
- 6) Each habitat parcel to be assessed must be assigned a unique reference ID.

Step 2: Choosing the right condition sheet

See **SELECTING CONDITION SHEET** tab which lists the habitat types found in the biodiversity metric

- 1) Some condition sheets are unique to a single habitat type; others cover a range of habitat types with
- 2) For each sheet there is version A and B.
 - i. Sheet A can be used to record information for one habitat parcel
 - ii. Sheet B can be used to record information for up to 10 habitat parcels
- 3) Each condition sheet is set to print at A4 and can be used as a paper form.

Step 3: Using condition sheets (Tabs 1-25)

The following instructions and points of clarification apply to most condition assessment sheets:

- A) Assess the habitat parcel against each condition assessment criterion, recording a 'pass' or 'fail' for each
- B) If condition varies within a parcel during the assessment then start a new condition assessment. Stop
- C) Some condition assessment sheets have 'essential' criteria. Essential criteria must be passed to achieve a 'Good' status
- D) Some condition assessment sheets list species that are indicative of suboptimal condition status. Tick if present
[Report any high-risk non-native invasive species to the GG non-native species secretariat](#)
- E) Any relevant evidence for passing or failing criteria, or for a particular score, should be captured with photos
- F) Record any survey limitations on the condition sheet, such as access restrictions or timing restrictions
 - i. If a definitive pass or fail cannot be assigned through baseline survey, assume the criterion is passed
 - ii. When monitoring post-intervention habitat, fail criteria which cannot be assessed due to survey limitations
- G) Once all applicable condition criteria have been assessed, assign a result of Good, Moderate or Poor
 - i. The 'Fairly Good' or 'Fairly Poor' condition categories are intermediate categories for site-specific assessment
 - ii. They should only be applied through application of professional judgement, and sound ecological knowledge
 - iii. If used, these categories can only be used to adjust the results of a standard metric condition assessment
 - iv. Ensure any constraints are made clear in the 'Assessor's comments' box in the metric and assessment sheet
- H) If a habitat parcel is failing all criteria, it may be that the habitat type has been recorded incorrectly or the assessor is not qualified to assess that habitat type

The condition assessment survey is a good opportunity to identify any potential opportunities for habitat improvement

The **CA SUMMARY SHEET** can be filled out after the survey to summarise information about the survey

- i. The site or location of the condition assessment survey
- ii. The number of condition sheets used

iii. The number and type of habitat parcels surveyed and the condition they achieved

Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat	Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat
Cropland	Arable field margins cultivated annually
	Arable field margins game bird mix
	Arable field margins pollen and nectar
	Arable field margins tussocky
	Cereal crops
	Winter stubble
	Horticulture
	Intensive orchards
	Non-cereal crops
	Temporary grass and clover leys
Grassland	Traditional orchards
	Bracken
	Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM
	Lowland calcareous grassland
	Lowland dry acid grassland
	Lowland meadows
	Modified grassland
	Other lowland acid grassland
	Other neutral grassland
	Tall herb communities (H6430)
	Upland acid grassland
	Upland calcareous grassland
	Upland hay meadows
Heathland and shrub	Blackthorn scrub
	Bramble scrub
	Gorse scrub
	Hawthorn scrub
	Hazel scrub
	Lowland heathland
	Mixed scrub
	Mountain heaths and willow scrub
	Rhododendron scrub
	Willow scrub
	Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)
	Other sea buckthorn scrub
	Upland heathland
Individual tree	Rural tree
	Urban tree
Lakes	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies
	Ornamental lake or pond
	High alkalinity lakes
	Low alkalinity lakes
	Marl lakes
	Moderate alkalinity lakes
	Peat lakes
	Ponds (priority habitat)
	Ponds (non-priority habitat)
	Reservoirs

Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat	Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat
	Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)
Sparsely vegetated land	Calaminarian grasslands
	Coastal sand dunes
	Coastal vegetated shingle
	Ruderal/Ephemeral
	Tall forbs
	Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats
	Limestone pavement
	Maritime cliff and slopes
	Other inland rock and scree
Urban	Allotments
	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
	Bioswale
	Biodiverse green roof
	Built linear features
	Cemeteries and churchyards
	Developed land; sealed surface
	Biodiverse green roof
	Facade-bound green wall
	Ground based green wall
	Ground level planters
	Intensive green roof
	Introduced shrub
	Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land
	Other green roof
	Rain garden
	Actively worked sand pit quarry or open cast mine
	Sustainable drainage system (SuDS)
	Unvegetated garden
	Vacant or derelict land
	Bare ground
	Vegetated garden
Wetland	Blanket bog
	Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)
	Fens (upland and lowland)
	Lowland raised bog
	Wetland – Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)
	Purple moor grass and rush pastures
	Reedbeds
	Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)
Woodland and forest	Felled
	Lowland beech and yew woodland
	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
	Native pine woodlands
	Other coniferous woodland
	Other Scot's pine woodland
	Other woodland; broadleaved

Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat	Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat
	Other woodland; mixed
	Upland birchwoods
	Upland mixed ashwoods
	Upland oakwood
	Wet woodland
	Wood-pasture and parkland
Coastal lagoons	Coastal lagoons
Coastal saltmarsh	Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds
	Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds
Rocky shore	High energy littoral rock
	High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
	Moderate energy littoral rock
	Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
	Low energy littoral rock
	Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
	Features of littoral rock
	Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk
Intertidal sediment	Littoral coarse sediment
	Littoral sand
	Littoral muddy sand
	Littoral mud
	Littoral mixed sediments
	Littoral seagrass
	Littoral seagrass on peat, clay or chalk
	Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels
	Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria
	Features of littoral sediment
	Artificial littoral coarse sediment
	Artificial littoral muddy sand
	Artificial littoral mud
	Artificial littoral sand
	Artificial littoral mixed sediments
	Artificial littoral seagrass
	Artificial littoral biogenic reefs
Intertidal hard structures	Artificial hard structures
	Artificial features of hard structures
	Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)
Hedgerows and Lines of trees	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees
	Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
	Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
	Species-rich native hedgerow
	Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
	Native hedgerow with trees
	Ecologically valuable line of trees
	Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch
	Native hedgerow

Statutory Biodiversity Metric broad habitat	Statutory Biodiversity Metric habitat
	Line of trees
	Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch
	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow
Watercourse	Priority habitat Other rivers and streams Ditches Canals Culvert

[illegible]

Source Material
UKHab
UKHab
UKHab
See notes
See notes
See notes
See notes
See notes

Classification habitat name in UKHab / EUNIS / Annex 1
Arable field margins cultivated annually
Arable field margins wild bird mix
Arable field margins pollen and nectar
Arable field margins tussocky
Cereal crops
Winter stubble
Horticulture
Intensive orchards
Non-cereal crops
Temporary grass and clover leys
Traditional orchards
Bracken
Floodplain wetland mosaic
Lowland calcareous grassland
Lowland dry acid grassland
Lowland meadows
Modified grassland
Other lowland acid grassland
Other neutral grassland
Tall herb communities (H6430)
Upland acid grassland
Upland calcareous grassland
Upland hay meadows
Blackthorn scrub
Bramble scrub
Gorse scrub
Hawthorn scrub
Hazel scrub
Lowland heathland
Mixed scrub
Mountain heaths and willow scrub
Rhododendron scrub
Willow scrub
Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)
Other sea buckthorn scrub
Upland heathland
N/A
N/A
Aquifer-fed naturally fluctuating water bodies
Ornamental lakes or ponds
N/A
N/A
N/A
N/A
N/A
Ponds (priority habitat)
Pond (non-priority)
Reservoir

Classification habitat name in UKHab / EUNIS / Annex 1
Mediterranean temporary ponds (H3170)
Calaminarian grasslands
Sand dunes
Coastal vegetated shingle
Ruderal or ephemeral
Tall forbs
Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats
Limestone pavement
Maritime cliff and slopes
Other inland rock
Allotments
Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
Bioswale
Biodiverse green roof
Built linear features
Cemeteries and churchyards
Developed land; sealed surface
Biodiverse green roof
Facade-bound green wall
Ground-based green wall
Ground level planters
Intensive green roof
Introduced shrub
Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land
Other green roof
Rain garden
Active sand pit or quarry or open cast mine
Sustainable drainage system
Unvegetated garden
Vacant or derelict land
Bare ground
Vegetated garden
Blanket bog
Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)
Lowland fens; Upland flushes fens and swamps; Other wetlands
Lowland raised bog
Oceanic valley bog
Purple moor-grass and rush pastures
Reedbeds
Transition mires and quaking bogs - lowland (H7140) / upland
Felled
Lowland beech and yew woodland
Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Native pine woodlands
Other coniferous woodland
Other Scot's pine woodland
Other broadleaved woodland

Classification habitat name in UKHab / EUNIS / Annex 1
Other woodland; mixed
Upland birchwoods
Upland mixed ashwoods
Upland oakwood
Wet woodland
Wood-pasture and parkland
Saline coastal lagoons
Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds
-
High energy littoral rock
High energy littoral rock
Moderate energy littoral rock
Moderate energy littoral rock
Low energy littoral rock
Low energy littoral rock
Features of littoral rock
Features of littoral rock
Littoral coarse sediment
Littoral sand and muddy sand
Littoral sand and muddy sand
Littoral mud
Littoral mixed sediments
Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms
Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms
Littoral biogenic reefs
Littoral biogenic reefs
Features of littoral sediment
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
-
Species-rich native hedgerow
Species-rich native hedgerow
Species-rich native hedgerow
Native hedgerow
Species-rich native hedgerow
Native hedgerow
Native hedgerow
Ecologically valuable line of trees
Ecologically valuable line of trees
Native hedgerow

Classification habitat name in UKHab / EUNIS / Annex 1
Line of trees
Line of trees
Non-native and ornamental hedgerow
-
-
-
-
-

Other definition or notes
None
The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name.
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
As defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
Record all other sea buckthorn scrub as ‘Other sea buckthorn scrub’
None
None
As defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
As defined in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
None
None
≥ 2ha
≥ 2ha
≥ 2ha
≥ 2ha
≥ 2ha
< 2ha
< 2ha
Some larger reservoirs are covered by the WFD Lakes typology.

Other definition or notes

Record temporary water bodies not meeting this definition as another pond or lake habitat type

None

The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name.

None

The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name

None

None

None

None

The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

This classification relates to non-vegetated working areas only.

None

None

None

None

None

None

None

The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name

None

None

None

None

The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name

None

None

None

None

None

None

The metric habitat type differs from the UKHab name

Other definition or notes
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
None
see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Adapted from EUNIS)
None
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate
None
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate
None
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate
None
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate
None
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate
None
None
None
None
None
None
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on substrate
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on reef forming species
Subset of EUNIS habitat based on reef forming species
None
see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Adapted from EUNIS)
see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Adapted from EUNIS)
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see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Adapted from EUNIS)
see tab G1 in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Adapted from EUNIS)
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
None
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes

Other definition or notes
Use combined UKHab codes
Use combined UKHab codes
None
As detailed in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. Do not use JNCC definitions to determine this Priority Habitat habita type.
As detailed in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
As detailed in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
As detailed in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.
As detailed in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.

Habitat type	Condition sheet
Area habitats	
Broad habitat type: Cropland	
Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually	Condition Assessment N/A
Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix	
Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar	
Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky	
Cropland - Cereal crops	
Cropland - Winter stubble	
Cropland – Horticulture	
Cropland - Intensive orchards	
Cropland - Non-cereal crops	
Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys	
Broad habitat type: Grassland	
Grassland - Bracken	Condition Assessment N/A
Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM	See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for details on recording.
Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland	Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness
Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland	
Grassland - Lowland meadows	
Grassland - Modified grassland	Grassland Low distinctiveness
Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland	Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness
Grassland - Other neutral grassland	
Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430)	
Grassland - Traditional orchards	Orchard
Grassland - Upland acid grassland	Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness
Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland	
Grassland - Upland hay meadows	
Broad habitat type: Heathland and scrub	
Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub	Scrub
Heathland and shrub - Bramble scrub	Condition Assessment N/A
Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub	Scrub
Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub	
Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub	
Heathland and shrub - Lowland heathland	Heathland
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub	Scrub
Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub	Use Heathland condition sheet for Mountain heaths OR
	Scrub condition sheet for Willow scrub
Heathland and shrub - Rhododendron scrub	Condition Assessment N/A
Heathland and shrub – Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)	Scrub
Heathland and shrub – Other sea buckthorn scrub	Condition Assessment N/A
Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland	Heathland
Heathland and shrub – Willow scrub	Scrub
Broad habitat type: Lakes	
Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	Lakes
Lakes - High alkalinity lakes	
Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes	
Lakes - Marl lakes	
Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes	
Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond	Lakes OR
	Ponds
Lakes - Peat lakes	Lakes
Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat)	Ponds
Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)	
Lakes - Reservoirs	Lakes
Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170)	Use Lake condition sheet for Temporary lakes OR
	Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools
Broad habitat type: Sparsely vegetated land	

Habitat type	Condition sheet
Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grasslands	Grassland Medium/High/Very High distinctiveness
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes	Coastal
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle	
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral	Urban
Sparsely vegetated land – Tall forbs	
Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats	Sparsely vegetated land
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement	Limestone pavement
Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes	Coastal
Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree	Sparsely vegetated land
Broad habitat type: Urban	
Urban - Allotments	Urban
Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	N/A - Other
Urban - Bioswale	Urban
Urban - Biodiverse green roof	
Urban - Built linear features	N/A - Other
Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards	Use Urban condition sheet as default.
Urban - Developed land; sealed surface	N/A - Other
Urban - Facade-bound green wall	Urban
Urban - Ground based green wall	
Urban - Ground level planters	Condition Assessment N/A
Urban - Intensive green roof	Urban
Urban - Introduced shrub	Condition Assessment N/A
Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land	Urban
Urban - Other green roof	Condition Assessment N/A
Urban - Rain garden	Urban
Urban - Actively worked sand pit, quarry or open cast mine	Condition Assessment N/A
Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS)	Urban
Urban - Unvegetated garden	N/A - Other
Urban – Vacant or derelict land	Urban
Urban – Bare ground	
Urban - Vegetated garden	Condition Assessment N/A
Broad habitat type: Wetland	
Wetland - Blanket bog	Wetland
Wetland - Depressions on peat substrates (H7150)	
Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland)	
Wetland - Lowland raised bog	
Wetland – Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)	
Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures	
Wetland – Reedbeds	
Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)	
Broad habitat type: Woodland	
Woodland and forest - Felled	No assessment required - condition fixed at Good
Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland	Woodland
Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	
Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands	
Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland	
Woodland and forest - Other Scot’s pine woodland	
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved	
Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed	
Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods	
Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods	
Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood	
Woodland and forest - Wet woodland	
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland	
Broad habitat type: Coastal lagoons	
Coastal lagoons - Coastal lagoons	Coastal lagoons
Broad habitat type: Coastal saltmarsh	
Coastal saltmarsh - Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	Coastal saltmarsh
Coastal saltmarsh - Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds	

Habitat type	Condition sheet
Broad habitat type: Intertidal hard structures	
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures	Intertidal hard structures
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard structures	
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)	
Broad habitat type: Intertidal sediment	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral coarse sediment	Intertidal sediment
Intertidal sediment - Littoral sand	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral muddy sand	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral mud	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral mixed sediments	
Intertidal sediment - Features of littoral sediment	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral coarse sediment	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mixed sediments	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral mud	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral muddy sand	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral sand	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass	Intertidal seagrass
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass	
Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels	Intertidal biogenic reefs
Intertidal sediment - Littoral biogenic reefs – Sabellaria	
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral biogenic reefs	
Broad habitat type: Rocky shore	
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock	Rocky shore
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock	
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock	
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock	
Rocky Shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk	
Broad habitat type: Individual trees	
Individual trees – Rural tree	Individual trees
Individual trees – Urban tree	
Hedgerows and Lines of trees habitats	
Broad habitat type: Hedgerows and lines of trees	
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Line of trees	Line of trees
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch	
Hedgerows and lines of trees – Ecologically valuable line of trees	
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch	
Hedgerows and lines of trees – Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	No assessment required - condition fixed at Poor
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow	Hedgerow
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow with trees	
Hedgerows and lines of trees - Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	

Survey Cover Sheet			
Survey date/s		Site name or location	
Weather conditions		Project or development name	
Surveyor name		On-site or off-site	
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	
Notes			

Site or location	Condition sheets	Total number of condition sheets used, or habitat parcels	Number of parcels of each condition achieved					Notes
			Good	Fairly Good	Moderate	Fairly Poor	Poor	
	Coastal							
	Coastal lagoons							
	Coastal saltmarsh							
	Ditches							
	Grassland low distinctiveness							
	Grassland medium, high, very high distinctiveness							

	Heathland							
	Hedgerow							
	Individual trees							
	Intertidal biogenic reefs							
	Intertidal hard structures							
	Intertidal seagrass							
	Intertidal sediment							

	Lakes							
	Limestone pavement							
	Line of trees							
	Orchard							
	Ponds							
	Rocky shore							
	Scrub							

	Sparsely vegetated land							
	Urban							
	Wetland							
	Woodland							
	Wood-pasture and parkland							

Condition Sheet: COASTAL Habitat Type

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal sand dunes
Sparsely vegetated land - Coastal vegetated shingle
Sparsely vegetated land - Maritime cliff and slopes

Habitat Description

[See UKHab](#)

On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type, with characteristic indicator species present in the typical successional stages, transitions and or mosaics, at sufficient cover and frequency to be a good example. ¹ Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	Vegetation structure (sward height variation, zonation) is varied and not uniform.		
C	Naturally open ground or bare surfaces are present as part of a sequence of colonisation and succession.		
D	Coastal processes needed to support the habitat are functional and are not modified by hard engineering or other forms of negative intervention.		
E	The landform reflects the interaction of coastal processes and geology, and there is a varied topography present supporting the relevant range of habitat types.		

F	There is an absence of invasive non-native species² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA³). Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition⁴ 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.			
G	Any scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) present accounts for less than 10% of the area within the habitat or bare substrate matrix. Blocks of scrub or woodland, which might be desirable in their own right should be classified and mapped separately.			
H	Water quality and quantity (for example, seasonal fluctuations in dune slacks or seepages on cliff slopes) is sufficient to support the range of water-dependent parts of the habitat.			
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)				
Number of criteria passed				
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
Passes 7 or 8 criteria including essential criterion A		Good (3)		
Passes 5 or 6 criteria; OR Passes 7 criteria excluding essential criterion A		Moderate (2)		
Passes 4 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score				
Footnotes				
Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Footnote 4 - <u>General coastal species indicative of suboptimal condition:</u> creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , bramble, white willow <i>Salix alba</i> hybrids, sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only outside its restricted native range) and non-native garden plants. <u>Grassland species indicative of suboptimal condition:</u> creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> . <u>Heathland species indicative of suboptimal condition:</u> bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> . There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.				

[illegible]

Number of criteria passed												
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√										
Passes 7 or 8 criteria including essential criterion A	Good (3)											
Passes 5 or 6 criteria; OR Passes 7 criteria excluding essential criterion A	Moderate (2)											
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score												
Notes												
Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Footnote 4 - <u>General coastal species indicative of suboptimal condition:</u> creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , bramble, white willow <i>Salix alba</i> hybrids, sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only outside its restricted native range), and non-native garden plants. <u>Grassland species indicative of suboptimal condition:</u> creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> . <u>Heathland species indicative of suboptimal condition:</u> bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>.												

Condition Sheet: COASTAL LAGOONS Habitat Type						
EUNIS Habitat Type						
Coastal lagoons						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Description						
The coastal lagoons EUNIS habitat description is available here: EUNIS -Factsheet for Coastal lagoons (europa.eu)						
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Extent of lagoon waterbody¹; • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition²; • Salinity in parts per thousand (ppt); • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment; • Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts; • Assessment of litter; • Visual record of water clarity; • Observations of the functioning and state of the isolating barrier; and • Observations of the functioning and state of the lagoon banks.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
A	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is ‘Occasional’ on the SACFOR scale ³ ; or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 4.	No invasive non-native species are present above ‘Frequent’ on the SACFOR scale ³ ; or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 4.	One or more invasive non-native species ‘Abundant’ on the SACFOR scale ³ ; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 4.		
B	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ⁵ .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ⁵ .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ⁵ .		
C	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		

D	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 6 for details.		
E	Salinity	Salinity is between 15 - 40 ppt.	Salinity values are close to (but still within) the ends of range acceptable for lagoons (15 - 40 ppt).	Salinity values are either hypersaline >40 ppt or hyposaline <15 ppt.		
F	Isolating barrier	Fully functional and permitting tidal exchange.	Slightly damaged but some water exchange still occurring.	Not functioning. No water exchange occurring making the lagoon hyposaline.		
G	Physical damage of lagoon banks	No physical damage present ⁷ .	Only small, isolated patches of physical damage present ⁷ .	Evidence of significant physical damage ⁷ .		
H	Water clarity	Water is clear.	Water clarity is reduced.	Water is turbid and water clarity is poor (not just after heavy rain).		
Total Score (out of a possible 24)						
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved	
TOTAL SCORE 18-24 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 12-17 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						
Footnotes						

[illegible]

G	Physical damage of lagoon banks	No physical damage present ⁷ .	Only small, isolated patches of physical damage present ⁷ .	Evidence of significant physical damage ⁷ .											
H	Water clarity	Water is clear.	Water clarity is reduced.	Water is turbid and water clarity is poor (not just after heavy rain).											
Total Score (out of a possible 24)															
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved										
TOTAL SCORE 18-24 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION TOTAL SCORE 12-17 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION															
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score															
Footnotes															

Condition Sheet: COASTAL SALTMARSH Habitat Type						
EUNIS Habitat Types						
Saltmarshes and saline reedbeds						
Artificial saltmarshes and saline reedbeds						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Description						
EUNIS -Factsheet for Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds (europa.eu)						
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • List of biological communities and species - including whether they are representative or characteristic of disturbance and or pollution; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Observations on zonation and transitions to other habitats, including variations in vegetation structure and sward height¹; • Observations of naturally open ground or bare surfaces such as creeks or pans being present in a mosaic with vegetated areas; • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Assessment of litter; and • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.		
C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .		
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		

E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4.		
F	Zonation and transition to other habitats	Zonation of vegetation or communities is clear and continuous ⁵ . Distribution of the feature and transition to other habitats, including associated transitional habitats within the site is reflective of expected natural distribution seaward and landward.	Up to 2 of the expected zones are absent or significantly impacted by human modification of the shoreline, and transitions to other habitats are restricted in less than 20% of the habitat boundaries ⁵ .	Zonation of vegetation or communities is not clearly visible or is significantly impacted by human modification of the shoreline ⁵ . Or transitions to other habitats are restricted in more than 20% of the habitat boundaries.		
Total score (out of a possible 18)						
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved	
TOTAL SCORE 14 - 18 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 9 - 13 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 6 - 8 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						
Footnotes						

[illegible]

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Footnotes

Condition Sheet: DITCH Habitat Type			
Habitat Type			
Watercourses - Ditches			
Habitat Description			
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide.			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 ditch is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.		
B	A range of emergent, submerged and floating-leaved plants are present. As a guide >10 species of emergent, floating or submerged plants present in a 20 m ditch length.		
C	There is less than 10% cover of filamentous algae and or duckweed <i>Lemna</i> spp. (these are signs of eutrophication).		
D	A fringe of aquatic marginal vegetation is present along more than 75% of the ditch.		
E	Physical damage is evident along less than 5% of the ditch, with examples of damage including: excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, or any other damaging management activities.		
F	Sufficient water levels are maintained - as a guide a minimum summer depth of approximately 50 cm in minor ditches and 1 m in main drains.		
G	Less than 10% of the ditch is heavily shaded.		
H	There is an absence of non-native plant and animal species ¹ .		
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
Passes 8 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 6 or 7 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

Footnotes

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Footnotes

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Former Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington	Survey date and Surveyor name	17th December 2026 Cassie Todd
Limitations (if applicable)	None	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference	SU 16027 44325	Habitat parcel reference	
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m ² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	No	
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 vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	
C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	Yes	
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	No	
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	

Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)		
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)	4	
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> . Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover. Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			

[illegible]

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score
Footnotes
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .
Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.
Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types			
Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland Grassland - Lowland meadows Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland Grassland - Other neutral grassland Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430) [Not to be confused with the Tall forbs secondary code – see UKHab guidance for details.] Grassland - Upland acid grassland Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland Grassland - Upland hay meadows Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		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 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.		
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens ² .		
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%.		

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.		
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.		
Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			
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)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Notes			
Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover. Footnote 3 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> . There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site. Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement. Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			

[illegible]

Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)												
Number of criteria passed												
Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√										
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)											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score												
Notes												
Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover. Footnote 3 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> . There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site. Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, by applying professional judgement. Footnote 5 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).												

Condition Sheet: HEATHLAND Habitat Type			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types			
Heathland and shrub - Lowland heathland Heathland and shrub - Mountain heaths and willow scrub Heathland and shrub - Upland heathland			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present. ¹ Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	There are at least two dwarf shrub species Frequent ² , and cover of dwarf shrubs is between 25-75% for lowland heathland, 50-75% for upland dry heath, or >20% for upland wet heath. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
C	All heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> age-classes (pioneer, degenerate and mature) present with at least 10% pioneer heather in the lowlands or at least 10% degenerate or mature in the uplands. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
D	Unshaded bare ground is between 1-10%. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
E	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³ and shallon <i>Gaultheria shallon</i> ⁴ . Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
F	No signs of disturbance of sensitive areas ⁵ , including managed burns.		
G	No more than 33% of heather shoots have been recently grazed, or flowering heather plants are at least Frequent ² in autumn.		
H	The canopy cover of scattered trees and or scrub (not including gorse <i>Ulex</i> spp.) is: •less than 20% for upland heaths; •less than 15% for lowland dry heaths; and •less than 10% for lowland wet heaths.		

I	Total gorse cover is less than 50%, with common gorse <i>Ulex europaeus</i> less than 25%.		
J	The cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 5% ⁶ .		
K	No signs of any damaging activities ⁷ or contamination to the habitat such as: artificial drains, peat extraction, silt, leachate or eutrophication.		
Essential criteria for achieving Good condition achieved (Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 11 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
Passes 9 - 11 criteria including all essential criteria A - E.	Good (3)		
Passes 7 or 8 criteria; OR Passes 9 - 10 criteria but fails any essential criteria (criteria A - E).	Moderate (2)		
Passes 6 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. Footnote 2 – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare. Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Footnote 5 – Professional judgement should be used to assess this and evidence should be provided according to the INSTRUCTIONS Tab of this spreadsheet. Definition of sensitive areas: (a) Vegetation severely wind-clipped, mostly forming a mat less than 10 cm thick. (b) Areas where soils are thin and less than 5 cm deep. (c) Hill slopes greater than 1 in 2 (26°), and all the sides of gullies. (d) Ground with abundant, and or an almost continuous carpet of Sphagnum moss <i>Sphagnum</i> spp., bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> , liverworts and or lichens. (e) Areas with noticeably uneven structure, at a spatial scale of around 1 m² or less. The unevenness (more commonly found in very old heather stands) will relate to distinct, often large, spreading dwarf shrub bushes. The dwarf shrub canopy will not be completely continuous, and some of its upper surface may be twice as high as other parts. Layering is likely to be present and may be common. (f) Pools, wet hollows, peat hagsgs and erosion gullies within 10 m of the edge of watercourses. Footnote 6 – Cover of bracken may exceed 5% where there is an identified biodiversity benefit, for example bracken beds in the South Pennines as nesting sites for twite <i>Linaria flavirostris</i> .			

[illegible]

Number of criteria passed												
Condition Assessment Result (out of 11 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√										
Passes 9 - 11 criteria including all essential criteria A - E.	Good (3)											
Passes 7 or 8 criteria; OR Passes 9 - 10 criteria but fails any essential criteria (criteria A - E).	Moderate (2)											
Passes 6 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score												
Footnotes												
Footnote 1 – Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description. Footnote 2 – According to the relative abundance DAFOR scale – Dominant, Abundant, Frequent, Occasional or Rare. Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Footnote 4 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement. Footnote 5 – Professional judgement should be used to assess this and evidence should be provided according to the INSTRUCTIONS Tab of this spreadsheet. Definition of sensitive areas: (a) Vegetation severely wind-clipped, mostly forming a mat less than 10 cm thick. (b) Areas where soils are thin and less than 5 cm deep. (c) Hill slopes greater than 1 in 2 (26°), and all the sides of gullies. (d) Ground with abundant, and or an almost continuous carpet of Sphagnum moss <i>Sphagnum</i> spp., bilberry <i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> , liverworts and or lichens. (e) Areas with noticeably uneven structure, at a spatial scale of around 1 m² or less. The unevenness (more commonly found in very old heather stands) will relate to distinct, often large, spreading dwarf shrub bushes. The dwarf shrub canopy will not be completely continuous, and some of its upper surface may be twice as high as other parts. Layering is likely to be present and may be common. (f) Pools, wet hollows, peat hagsgs and erosion gullies within 10 m of the edge of watercourses. Footnote 6 – Cover of bracken may exceed 5% where there is an identified biodiversity benefit, for example bracken beds in the South Pennines as nesting sites for twite <i>Linaria flavirostris</i> . Footnote 7 – Damaging activities include: accidental or unmanaged fires; managed fires on wet heath; excessive poaching; damage from machinery use or storage; and damaging levels of public access resulting in trampling and or litter.												

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types					
Habitat Type					
Native hedgerow Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch Native hedgerow with trees Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch Species-rich native hedgerow Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch Species-rich native hedgerow with trees Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch					
Habitat Description					
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification					
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name		
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference		
Condition Assessment Details					
A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. Each attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional groups which pass or fail the 'favourable condition' criteria.					
This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook ¹ and Favourable Conservation Status document ² . For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook.					
Best practice would be to record the species, age, spacing and other key information about all trees present along a hedgerow within the 'Habitat Description' box, as well as other key features of the hedgerow.					
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). 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).		
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).		
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).		

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.		
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.		
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 .		
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).		

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 ⁸), 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.		
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.		

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 (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
Score achieved:		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score		

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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).												
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.												
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.												
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 .												
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).												
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 ⁸), 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.												
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.												
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								Score achieved							
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			Score achieved						
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 (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1							
Score achieved:									
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score									

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 the separate Line of trees condition sheet for a line of <u>rural</u> trees. You should only use the Line of trees condition assessment and record that habitat type in <u>rural</u> locations.			
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 should predominantly 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			Survey date and Surveyor name
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).		
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).		
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature) ¹ .		
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.		
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.		
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.		
Number of criteria passed			
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)	
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			

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												

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL BIOGENIC REEFS Habitat Type						
EUNIS Habitat Types						
Littoral biogenic reefs - Mussels Littoral biogenic reefs - Sabellaria Artificial littoral biogenic reefs						
Habitat Description						
See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below: Littoral biogenic reefs - JNCC Marine Habitat Classification						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Percentage cover of recognisable biogenic reef structures across the bed; • Distribution of the habitat seaward and landward limits and extent; • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment; • Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts; • Assessment of litter; • Whether the habitat distribution is constrained by human modification; and • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	One or more invasive non-native species are present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		

C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .		
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline / mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		
Total Score (out of a possible 15)						
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved	
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						
Footnotes						

[illegible]

Total Score (out of a possible 15)													
Condition Assessment Result				Result Achieved									
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION													
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION													
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION													
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													
Footnotes													

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL HARD STRUCTURES Habitat Type						
Artificial Habitat Types						
Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures Intertidal hard structures - Artificial features of hard structures Intertidal hard structures - Artificial hard structures with integrated greening of grey infrastructure (IGGI)						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Description						
See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric.						
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition; • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment; • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; and • Assessment of litter.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is ‘Occasional’ on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above ‘Frequent’ on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	One or more invasive non-native species present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		

C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .		
D	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		
E	Amount of colonisation	More than three different communities of flora or fauna present.	Two or three different communities of flora or fauna present.	One or no communities of flora or fauna present.		
Total Score (out of a possible 15)						
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved	
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						

[illegible]

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEAGRASS Habitat Type						
Habitat Types						
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass						
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk						
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Description						
See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below: JNCC littoral seagrass bed habitat description						
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Percentage cover of seagrass across the bed; • Distribution of the seagrass landward, seaward and extent should be recorded; • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment; • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; • Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts; • Assessment of litter; and • Evidence of visible rhizomes.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is ‘Occasional’ on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above ‘Frequent’ on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for list.	One or more invasive non-native species present at an ‘Abundant’ level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		

C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .		
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		
Total score (out of a possible 15)						
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved	
TOTAL SCORE 12 - 15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 8 - 11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 5 - 7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						
Footnotes						

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEAGRASS Habitat Type																
Habitat Types																
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass																
Intertidal sediment - Littoral seagrass - on peat, clay or chalk																
Intertidal sediment - Artificial littoral seagrass																
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name													
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)													
Habitat Description																
See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below: JNCC littoral seagrass bed habitat description																
Habitat Attributes to Record																
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Percentage cover of seagrass across the bed; • Distribution of the seagrass landward, seaward and extent should be recorded;										Habitat parcel reference						
• Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present;																
• Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;										Grid reference						
• Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; • Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts; • Assessment of litter; and • Evidence of visible rhizomes.																
Condition Assessment Criteria																
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion										Notes (such as justification)	
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.												
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for list.	One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.												
C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .												
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).												
E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.												
Total Score (out of a possible 15)																
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved											
TOTAL SCORE 12 - 15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION																
TOTAL SCORE 8 - 11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION																
TOTAL SCORE 5 - 7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION																
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score																

Footnotes

Condition Sheet: INTERTIDAL SEDIMENT Habitat Type						
Habitat Types						
Littoral coarse sediment Littoral sand Littoral muddy sand Littoral mud Littoral mixed sediments Features of littoral sediment Artificial littoral coarse sediment Artificial littoral mixed sediments Artificial littoral mud Artificial littoral muddy sand Artificial littoral sand						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Description						
See tab G1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric and the below: EUNIS littoral sediment description						
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Description of sediment character; • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes; • Description of species diversity and community composition; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Observations on transitions to other habitats; • Assessment of litter; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment; • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water; and • Description of zonation.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per criterion	Notes (such as justification)
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present e.g. groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present e.g. groynes, that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		

B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 1 for details.	One or more invasive non-native species are present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale; they occupy more than 10% of the habitat; or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 1 for details.		
C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. Elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ² .		
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		
E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 3 for details.		
Total Score (out of a possible 15)						
Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved	
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						
Footnotes						

[illegible]

TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION											
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score											
Footnotes											

Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools] Lakes - High alkalinity lakes Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes Lakes - Marl lakes Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes Lakes - Peat lakes Lakes - Reservoirs Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]			
Habitat Description			
See Water Framework Directive:			
WFD Lakes typologies description			
For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and 'Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:			
UKHab			
Condition Assessment Criteria			
The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see below). There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment score. Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at: Contribute naturalness data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England			
The key documents are: Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF) Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF) Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF) Annex-III - Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF) Annex IV – Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF) Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF) Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)			
We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' website portal: Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved	
1 Natural	Good (3)		
2	Fairly good (2.5)		
3	Moderate (2)		
4	Fairly poor (1.5)		
5 Least natural	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

Condition Sheet: LAKE Habitat Type											
Habitat Types											
Lakes - Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Ornamental ponds and pools] Lakes - High alkalinity lakes Lakes - Low alkalinity lakes Lakes - Marl lakes Lakes - Moderate alkalinity lakes Lakes - Peat lakes Lakes - Reservoirs Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary lakes, or use Pond condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools]											
Habitat Description											
See Water Framework Directive:											
WFD Lakes typologies description											
For 'Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating waterbodies', 'Reservoirs' and 'Temporary lakes, ponds and pools' see UK Habitat Classification:											
UKHab											
Condition Assessment Criteria											
The Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' is used to assess the condition of lakes. Scores for four attributes (physical, hydrological, chemical, and biological naturalness) are averaged to generate an overall 'habitat naturalness assessment score' which can then be translated into a condition score for use in the metric (see below). There are other elements considered in the lake naturalness assessment, but these are not included when calculating the condition assessment score. Details of the methodology for assessing naturalness of lakes are available at: Contribute naturalness data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England											
The key documents are: Lake naturalness assessment – guidance document (PDF) Annex I – Printable lake naturalness survey form to use in field (PDF) Annex II – Physical naturalness photographs (PDF) Annex - III Hydrological naturalness photographs (PDF) Annex IV – Chemical naturalness photographs (PDF) Annex V – Plant functional group photographs (PDF) Annex VI – Further species recording (PDF)											
We encourage recording of data on lakes on the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' website portal: Contribute data – Discovering Priority Habitats in England (wpengine.com)											
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name									
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)									
		Habitat parcel reference									
Limitations (if applicable)											
		Grid reference									
Average 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment' Class	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved									
1 Natural	Good (3)										
2	Fairly good (2.5)										
3	Moderate (2)										
4	Fairly poor (1.5)										
5 Least natural	Poor (1)										
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score											

Condition Sheet: LIMESTONE PAVEMENT Habitat Type			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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	Cover of typical emergent pavement flora and clint-top vegetation accounts for at least 25% of total vegetation cover (the area excluding bare rock).		
B	Cover of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) ¹ is less than 1%. Non-native species in this instance include beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> and sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> ² .		
C	Species indicative of suboptimal condition ³ make up less than 1% of vegetated ground cover.		
D	Less than 25% of live leaves (broadleaved plants), fronds (ferns) or shoots (dwarf shrubs) show signs of grazing or browsing.		
E	There is no evidence of damage to the pavement surface.		
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Criterion passed (Yes or No)	
Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

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Footnotes

Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* , false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* , crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* , bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* , spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare* , curled dock *Rumex crispus* , broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius* , common ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris* , common nettle *Urtica dioica* , other pernicious perennial species. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Condition Sheet: LIMESTONE PAVEMENT Habitat Type													
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type													
Sparsely vegetated land - Limestone pavement													
Habitat Description													
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification													
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name										
			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)										
Limitations (if applicable)			Habitat parcel reference										
			Grid reference										
Condition Assessment Criteria													Notes (such as justification)
			Criterion passed (Yes or No)										
A	Cover of typical emergent pavement flora and clint-top vegetation accounts for at least 25% of total vegetation cover (the area excluding bare rock).												
B	Cover of invasive non-native species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) ¹ is less than 1%. Non-native species in this instance include beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i> and sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i> ² .												
C	Species indicative of suboptimal condition ³ make up less than 1% of vegetated ground cover.												
D	Less than 25% of live leaves (broadleaved plants), fronds (ferns) or shoots (dwarf shrubs) show signs of grazing or browsing.												
E	There is no evidence of damage to the pavement surface.												
Number of criteria passed													
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓										
Passes 5 criteria		Good (3)											
Passes 4 criteria		Moderate (2)											
Passes 3 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													
Footnotes													

Footnote 1 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

Footnote 2 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.

Footnote 3 – Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* , false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* , crested dog’s-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* , bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* , spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare* , curled dock *Rumex crispus* , broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius* , common ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris* , common nettle *Urtica dioica* , other pernicious perennial species. There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.

Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Line of trees Line of trees – associated with bank or ditch Ecologically valuable line of trees Ecologically valuable line of trees – associated with bank or ditch			
Please see the separate Individual trees condition sheet for linear blocks and groups of trees in an <u>urban</u> setting. You should only use this Line of trees condition assessment and record this habitat type in <u>rural</u> locations.			
Habitat Description			
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook¹. For further clarifications please refer to the Handbook. Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 for standing advice.			
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name
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	At least 70% of trees are native species.		
B	Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide.		
C	One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.		
D	There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice ² .		
E	At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). 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.		
			Number of criteria passed
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√
Passes 5 criteria		Good (3)	
Passes 3 or 4 criteria		Moderate (2)	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			

Condition Sheet: LINE OF TREES Habitat Type														
Habitat Types														
Line of trees Line of trees – associated with bank or ditch Ecologically valuable line of trees Ecologically valuable line of trees – associated with bank or ditch Please see the separate Individual trees condition sheet for linear blocks and groups of trees in an <u>urban</u> setting. You should only use this Line of trees condition assessment and record this habitat type in <u>rural</u> locations.														
Habitat Description														
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook ¹ . For further clarifications please refer to the Handbook. Where ancient and veteran trees are present within the line of trees, see Footnote 2 for standing advice.														
On-site or off-site, site name and location				Survey date and Surveyor name										
				Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)										
Limitations (if applicable)				Habitat parcel reference										
				Grid reference										
Condition Assessment Criteria													Notes (such as justification)	
				Criterion passed (Yes or No)										
A	At least 70% of trees are native species.													
B	Tree canopy is predominantly continuous with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide.													
C	One or more trees has veteran features and or natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates, such as presence of standing and attached deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.													
D	There is an undisturbed naturally-vegetated strip of at least 6 m on both sides to protect the line of trees from farming and other human activities (excluding grazing). Where veteran trees are present, root protection areas should follow standing advice ² .													
E	At least 95% of the trees are in a healthy condition (deadwood or veteran features valuable for wildlife are excluded from this). 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.													
Number of criteria passed														
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓											
Passes 5 criteria		Good (3)												
Passes 3 or 4 criteria		Moderate (2)												
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)												
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score														

Footnotes

Condition Sheet: ORCHARD Habitat Type			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Traditional orchard			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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	Presence of ancient ¹ and or veteran ¹ trees. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	Presence of deadwood in or on trees, or on the ground: at least 20% of mature trees have deadwood associated with them. Some examples of deadwood are: standing, attached and fallen trees or limbs; dead stems; branches and branch stubs greater than 10 cm diameter; and internal cavities. The types and distribution of deadwood provide a range of habitats suitable to support a wide assemblage of saproxylic invertebrates. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
C	Less than 5% of fruit trees are smothered by scrub. Small patches of dense scrub and or scattered scrub growing between trees can be beneficial to biodiversity, however these occupy less than 10% of ground cover.		
D	There is evidence of formative and or restorative pruning to maintain longevity of trees.		
E	At least 95% of the trees are free from damage caused by humans or animals, for example browsing, bark stripping or rubbing on non-adjusted ties.		
F	Grassland is not overgrazed, poaching is not evident around the trees, with no more than 10% of trees poached under the canopy.		
G	Species richness of the grassland is equivalent to a medium, high, or very high distinctiveness grassland.		
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁴ make up less than 10% of ground cover.		

Essential criteria achieved (required for good condition - Yes or No)			
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
Passes 6- 8 criteria, including essential criteria A and B.	Good (3)		
Passes 4 or 5 criteria; OR Passes 6 or 7 criteria but fails an essential criterion.	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			

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Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved $\times/\sqrt$										
Passes 6- 8 criteria, including essential criteria A and B.	Good (3)											
Passes 4 or 5 criteria; OR Passes 6 or 7 criteria but fails an essential criterion.	Moderate (2)											
Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score												
Footnotes												

Condition Sheet: POND Habitat Type			
Habitat Type			
Lakes - Ponds (priority habitat) Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat) Lakes - Temporary lakes ponds and pools (H3170) [Use this condition sheet for Temporary ponds and pools, use Lake condition sheet for Temporary lakes] Lakes - Ornamental lake or pond [Use this condition sheet for Ornamental ponds, use Lake condition sheet for Ornamental lakes]			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 - applicable to all ponds (woodland ¹ and non-woodland):			
A	The pond is of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution. Turbidity is acceptable if the pond is grazed by livestock.		
B	There is semi-natural habitat (moderate distinctiveness or above) completely surrounding the pond, for at least 10 m from the pond edge for its entire perimeter.		
C	Less than 10% of the water surface is covered with duckweed <i>Lemna</i> spp. or filamentous algae.		
D	The pond is not artificially connected to other waterbodies, such as agricultural ditches or artificial pipework.		
E	Pond water levels can fluctuate naturally throughout the year. No obvious artificial dams ² , pumps or pipework.		
F	There is an absence of listed non-native plant and animal species ³ .		
G	The pond is not artificially stocked with fish. If the pond naturally contains fish, it is a native fish assemblage at low densities.		
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for all non-woodland ponds:			

H	Emergent, submerged or floating plants (excluding duckweed) ⁴ cover at least 50% of the pond area which is less than 3 m deep.		
I	The pond surface is no more than 50% shaded by adjacent trees and scrub.		
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓
Results for woodland ponds which require assessment of 7 core criteria			
Passes 7 criteria		Good (3)	
Passes 5 or 6 criteria		Moderate (2)	
Passes 4 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)	
Results for non-woodland ponds which require assessment of 9 criteria			
Passes 9 criteria		Good (3)	
Passes 6 to 8 criteria		Moderate (2)	
Passes 5 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habitat. Footnote 2 – This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian beaver <i>Castor fiber</i> . Footnote 3 - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG GB High Impact Species List should be absent: WFD UKTAG (2021) <i>Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level of impact</i> [online]. Available from:			

[illegible]

Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Moderate (2)												
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)												
Results for non-woodland ponds which require assessment of 9 criteria													
Passes 9 criteria	Good (3)												
Passes 6 to 8 criteria	Moderate (2)												
Passes 5 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)												
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													
Footnote 1 - A woodland pond will be surrounded on all sides by woodland habitat.													
Footnote 2 – This excludes natural dams such as those created by Eurasian beaver <i>Castor fiber</i> .													
Footnote 3 - Any species included on the Water Framework Directive (WFD) UKTAG GB High Impact Species List should be absent: WFD UKTAG (2021) <i>Classification of aquatic alien species according to their level of impact</i> [online]. Available from:													

Condition Sheet: ROCKY SHORE Habitat Type						
Habitat Types						
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock						
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock						
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock						
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock						
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk						
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk						
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk						
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			Habitat parcel reference			
Habitat Description						
EUNIS -Factsheet for Features of littoral rock (europa.eu)						
Habitat Attributes to Record						
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes across the full vertical extent of the shore¹; • Description of species diversity and community composition across the full vertical extent of the shore¹; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present; • Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment; • Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts; • Assessment of litter; and • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.						
Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 point)	Poor (1)	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.	Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.		
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.	One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale, they occupy more than 10% of the habitat or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.		
C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .	Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .	Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .		
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).	Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		

E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.	Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.		
	Total score (out of a possible 15)					
	Condition Assessment Result					Result Achieved
	TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION					
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION						
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION						
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						

Condition Sheet: ROCKY SHORE Habitat Type																				
Habitat Types																				
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock																				
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock																				
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock																				
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock																				
Rocky shore - High energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk																				
Rocky shore - Moderate energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk																				
Rocky shore - Low energy littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk																				
Rocky shore - Features of littoral rock - on peat, clay or chalk																				
On-site or off-site, site name and location					Survey date and Surveyor name															
Limitations (if applicable)					Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)															
Habitat Description																				
EUNIS -Factsheet for Features of littoral rock (europa.eu)																				
Habitat Attributes to Record																				
The following information should be recorded within the condition assessment sheet: • Description of presence of typical communities and biotopes across the full vertical extent of the shore ¹ ; • Description of species diversity and community composition across the full vertical extent of the shore ¹ ; • Observations on coastal process functioning and any human physical modifications present;										Habitat parcel reference										
• Presence and abundance of non-native species; • Percentage cover of algal growths that could be attributed to nutrient enrichment;										Grid reference										
• Presence and density of non-natural structures and direct human impacts; • Assessment of litter; and • Water Framework Directive (WFD) classification of overlying water.																				
Condition Assessment Criteria																				
Indicator		Good (3 points)		Moderate (2 point)		Poor (1)		Score per indicator								Notes (such as justification)				
A	Coastal processes	Coastal processes are functioning naturally. No evidence of human physical modifications which are clearly impacting the habitat.		Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting up to 25% of the habitat.		Artificial structures present, for example groynes that are impeding the natural movement of sediments or water, affecting more than 25% of the habitat.														
B	Presence and abundance of invasive non-native species	Not more than one invasive non-native species is 'Occasional' on the SACFOR scale or is occupying more than 1% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.		No invasive non-native species are present above 'Frequent' on the SACFOR scale or they occupy between 1-10% of the habitat. No high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition present, see Footnote 2 for details.		One or more invasive non-native species present at an 'Abundant' level on the SACFOR scale, they occupy more than 10% of the habitat or a high-risk species indicative of suboptimal condition is present – GB Non-native Species Secretariat should be notified, see Footnote 2 for details.														
C	Water Quality	No visual evidence of pollution. There are no nuisance algal growths that are likely to be attributable to nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .		Visual evidence of low to moderate levels of pollution. elevated algal growth with increases in cover that may indicate nutrient enrichment. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .		Visual evidence of high algal growth that is indicative of nutrient enrichment. Signs of eutrophication that would impede bird feeding. Consider seasonality of survey timing ³ .														
D	Non-natural structures and direct human impacts	No evidence of impacts from direct human activities, or they occupy <1% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies 1-10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).		Evidence of impacts from direct human activities occupies >10% of the habitat area (for example, pontoons, moorings, boats, crab tiles, bait digging or anchoring scars).														
E	Litter (when examining a beach strandline, mean high water line or intertidal rocky shore)	Following the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0036 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to up to 20 items per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.		Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter does not exceed 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to between 21 and 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.		Following the MCS beach litter survey method, the number of items of litter exceeds 0.0078 m ⁻¹ min ⁻¹ person ⁻¹ , equivalent to more than 47 items of litter per person per 100 m per hour. See Footnote 4 for details.														
Total score (out of a possible 15)																				
Condition Assessment Result								Result Achieved												
TOTAL SCORE 12-15 (75-100%) = GOOD CONDITION																				
TOTAL SCORE 8-11 (50-75%) = MODERATE CONDITION																				
TOTAL SCORE 5-7 (0-50%) = POOR CONDITION																				
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score																				

Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160) Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub			
Habitat Description			
For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:	Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>) - Special Areas of Conservation (jncc.gov.uk)		
For other scrub types see:	ukhab – UK Habitat Classification		
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range). ¹ - At least 80% of scrub is native, - There are at least three native woody species ² , - No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only in its restricted native range), or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i> , which can be up to 100% cover).		
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran ³) shrubs are all present.		
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁶ make up less than 5% of ground cover.		
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.		
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.		
		Number of criteria passed	
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√	

Passes 5 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

Condition Sheet: SCRUB Habitat Type														
Habitat Types														
Heathland and shrub - Blackthorn scrub														
Heathland and shrub - Gorse scrub														
Heathland and shrub - Hawthorn scrub														
Heathland and shrub - Hazel scrub														
Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub														
Heathland and shrub - Dunes with sea buckthorn (H2160)														
Heathland and shrub - Willow scrub														
Habitat Description														
For Dunes with sea buckthorn see:		Dunes with sea-buckthorn (Dunes with Hippophae rhamnoides) - Special Areas of Conservation (jncc.gov.uk)												
For other scrub types see:		ukhab – UK Habitat Classification												
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name											
			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)											
Limitations (if applicable)			Habitat parcel reference											
			Grid reference											
Condition Assessment Criteria												Notes (such as justification)		
		Criterion passed (Yes or No)												
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description (where in its natural range). ¹ - At least 80% of scrub is native, - There are at least three native woody species ² , - No single species comprises more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> (only in its restricted native range), or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i> , which can be up to 100% cover).													
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran ³) shrubs are all present.													
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁶ make up less than 5% of ground cover.													
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.													
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.													
Number of criteria passed														
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score		Score Achieved ×/√										
Passes 5 criteria		Good (3)												
Passes 3 or 4 criteria		Moderate (2)												
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)												
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score														

Condition Sheet: SPARSELY VEGETATED LAND Habitat Type			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types			
Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats			
Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 parcel represents a good example of its specific sparsely vegetated habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with characteristic indicator species consistently present. ¹		
B	The cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> , scrub and trees is less than 25%.		
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁴ make up less than 5% of vegetated ground cover.		
D	Vegetation cover of vascular and non-vascular plants is between 5 and 50%.		
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 4 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√
Passes 4 criteria		Good (3)	
Passes 3 criteria		Moderate (2)	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			

Condition Sheet: SPARSELY VEGETATED LAND Habitat Type													
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types													
Sparsely vegetated land - Inland rock outcrop and scree habitats													
Sparsely vegetated land - Other inland rock and scree													
Habitat Description													
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification													
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name										
			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)										
Limitations (if applicable)			Habitat parcel reference										
			Grid reference										
Condition Assessment Criteria													
			Criterion passed (Yes or No)										Notes (such as justification)
A	The parcel represents a good example of its specific sparsely vegetated habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with characteristic indicator species consistently present. ¹												
B	The cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> , scrub and trees is less than 25%.												
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁴ make up less than 5% of vegetated ground cover.												
D	Vegetation cover of vascular and non-vascular plants is between 5 and 50%.												
Number of criteria passed													
Condition Assessment Result (out of 4 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓										
Passes 4 criteria		Good (3)											
Passes 3 criteria		Moderate (2)											
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)											
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													
Footnotes													

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			
Bare ground and ephemeral/ruderal.			
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	Former library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington	Survey date and Surveyor name	17th December 2026 Cassie Todd
Limitations (if applicable)	None	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference	SU 15999 44326	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.	No	
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.	No	
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).	Yes	
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)			Yes
Number of criteria passed			1
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓
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)	
• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.		Poor (1)	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: 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														
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			Survey date and Surveyor name											
			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)											
Limitations (if applicable)			Habitat parcel reference											
			Grid 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.													
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.													
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).													
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 ×/√										
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)											
• 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: WETLAND Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM - See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. Wetland - Blanket bog Wetland - Depression on peat substrates (H7150) Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland) Wetland - Lowland raised bog Wetland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1) Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures Wetland - Reedbeds Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)			
Habitat Description			
For Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS			
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for Floodplain wetland mosaic (FWM) and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (CFGM). For CFGM also see the below:			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh UK BAP Priority Habitat description			
Priority Habitat Inventory (England) - data.gov.uk			
All other wetland habitats - see UK Habitat Classification (UKHab):			
UKHab			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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 wetland habitat types :			
A	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year - this could be open water or saturation of soil at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to maintain water levels as specified above. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present. ¹		
C	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.		
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.		
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.		
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁴ make up less than 5% of ground cover.		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Fen and Purple moor grass and rush pasture habitats only:			
G	No more than 25% of the habitat area has a continuous cover of litter (such as dead vegetation) preventing regeneration.		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Bog habitats only:			

H	Sphagnum moss <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. and cottongrasses <i>Eriophorum</i> spp. are at least Frequent ⁵ . Cover of ericaceous dwarf shrubs ⁶ is less than 75%.		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Reedbed habitats only:			
I	The reedbed has a diverse structure with between 60% and 80% reeds <i>Phragmites australis</i> . Other areas may include open water (at least 10%), species-rich fen ⁷ and or wet woodland.		
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM only:			
J	All ditches recorded within the habitat achieve Good condition as assessed using the Ditch condition sheet.		
Essential criterion achieved (required for Good condition) Yes or No:			
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)):			
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.		Good (3)	
•Passes 3 or 4 core criteria; OR •Passes 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.		Moderate (2)	
•Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.		Poor (1)	
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 7 criteria - core criteria and additional criterion specified for habitat type - all habitat types except Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1):			
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A; AND •Passes additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).		Good (3)	
•Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; OR •Passes 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).		Moderate (2)	
•Passes 3 or fewer criteria.		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

Condition Sheet: WETLAND Habitat Type													
Habitat Types													
Grassland - Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM - See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide. Wetland - Blanket bog Wetland - Depression on peat substrates (H7150) Wetland - Fens (upland and lowland) Wetland - Lowland raised bog Wetland - Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1) Wetland - Purple moor grass and rush pastures Wetland - Reedbeds Wetland - Transition mires and quaking bogs (H7140)													
Habitat Description													
For Oceanic valley mires - see EUNIS													
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for Floodplain wetland mosaic (FWM) and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (CFGM). For CFGM also see the below:													
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh UK BAP Priority Habitat description													
Priority Habitat Inventory (England) - data.gov.uk													
All other wetland habitats - see UK Habitat Classification (UKHab):													
UKHab													
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name											
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)											
Limitations (if applicable)		Habitat parcel reference											
		Grid reference											
Condition Assessment Criteria													
		Criterion passed (Yes or No)											Notes (such as justification)
Core Criteria - must be assessed for all wetland habitat types :													
A	The water table is at, or near the surface throughout the year - this could be open water or saturation of soil at the surface. There is no artificial drainage, unless specifically to maintain water levels as specified above. Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.												
B	The parcel represents a good example of its specific habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with vascular and non-vascular characteristic indicator species consistently present. ¹												
C	The water supplies (groundwater, surface water and or rainwater) to the wetland are of good water quality, with clear water (low turbidity) indicating no obvious signs of pollution.												
D	Cover of scrub and scattered trees are less than 10%.												
E	Cover of bare ground is less than 5%.												
F	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁴ make up less than 5% of ground cover.												
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Fen and Purple moor grass and rush pasture habitats only:													
G	No more than 25% of the habitat area has a continuous cover of litter (such as dead vegetation) preventing regeneration.												
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Bog habitats only:													

H	Sphagnum moss <i>Sphagnum</i> spp. and cottongrasses <i>Eriophorum</i> spp. are at least Frequent ⁵ . Cover of ericaceous dwarf shrubs ⁶ is less than 75%.												
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Reedbed habitats only:													
I	The reedbed has a diverse structure with between 60% and 80% reeds <i>Phragmites australis</i> . Other areas may include open water (at least 10%), species-rich fen ⁷ and or wet woodland.												
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Floodplain wetland mosaic and CFGM only:													
J	All ditches recorded within the habitat achieve Good condition as assessed using the Ditch condition sheet.												
Essential criterion achieved (required for Good condition) Yes or No:													
Number of criteria passed													
Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓											
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 6 criteria (Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1)):													
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria, including criterion A.	Good (3)												
•Passes 3 or 4 core criteria; OR •Passes 5 core criteria but fails criterion A.	Moderate (2)												
•Passes 2 or fewer core criteria.	Poor (1)												
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 7 criteria - core criteria and additional criterion specified for habitat type - all habitat types except Depression on peat substrates (H7150) and Oceanic valley mire [1] (D2.1):													
•Passes 5 or 6 core criteria including criterion A; AND •Passes additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Good (3)												
•Passes 4 or 5 of 7 criteria; OR •Passes 6 of 7 criteria but fails criterion A or additional criterion G, H, I or J (choose the one specified for the habitat type).	Moderate (2)												
•Passes 3 or fewer criteria.	Poor (1)												
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													

Condition Sheet: WOODLAND Habitat Type						
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types						
Woodland and forest - Lowland beech and yew woodland Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland Woodland and forest - Native pine woodlands Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland Woodland and forest - Other Scot's pine woodland Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed Woodland and forest - Upland birchwoods Woodland and forest - Upland mixed ashwoods Woodland and forest - Upland oakwood Woodland and forest - Wet woodland						
Habitat Description						
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification						
This condition sheet is based on the England Woodland Biodiversity Group (EWBG) Woodland Condition Survey Method, available here:						
Woodland Wildlife Toolkit (sylva.org.uk)						
IMPORTANT: This biodiversity metric woodland condition assessment must be used to assess woodland being input into the biodiversity metric. The outputs of this condition assessment are not equivalent to, nor are they comparable with the scores from the EWBG condition assessment, because the EWBG assessment has been adapted for the biodiversity metric, including the removal of EWBG Indicator 7 (Proportion of favourable land cover around woodland) and Indicator 14 (Size of woodland), and minor changes to other indicators.						
On-site or off-site, site name and location			Survey date and Surveyor name			
Limitations (if applicable)			Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)			
Grid reference			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.		
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 .		
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.		
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.		

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 .		
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 .		
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 .		
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 .		
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.		
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 .		
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees ¹² per hectare.	One veteran tree ¹² per hectare.	No veteran trees ¹² present in woodland.		
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 .		
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 .		
Total Score (out of a possible 39)						
Condition Assessment Result					Condition Assessment Score	Result Achieved
Total score >32 (33 to 39)					Good (3)	
Total score 26 to 32					Moderate (2)	
Total score <26 (13 to 25)					Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score						

[illegible]

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 .											
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.											
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 .											
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees ¹² per hectare.	One veteran tree ¹² per hectare.	No veteran trees ¹² present in woodland.											
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 .											
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 .											
Total Score (out of a possible 39)															
Condition Assessment Result			Condition Assessment Score		Result Achieved										
Total score >32 (33 to 39)			Good (3)												
Total score 26 to 32			Moderate (2)												
Total score <26 (13 to 25)			Poor (1)												
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score															

Condition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE AND PARKLAND Habitat Type			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland			
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
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	Presence of ancient and or veteran trees ¹ . Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.		
B	Three different life-stages (for example young, mature or veteran) of open grown or pollarded trees ¹ are present, to ensure replacement and continuity of tree cohort, veteran characteristics and habitat.		
C	Native scrub is present with a variety of heights, widths, shapes and species compositions - as planted or naturally established individual plants, or clumps of trees or shrubs ² .		
D	Frequent ³ presence of decaying wood providing ecological niches – such as standing, attached and fallen deadwood (for example, dead stems, branches and branch stubs), trees with heart-rot, or hollowing in the trunk or major limbs. Decay features might be revealed by certain types of fungal fruiting bodies.		
E	There is no evidence of recent adverse impact on tree health by human activities, livestock, wild animals, pests or diseases (this excludes veteran features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, ground compaction, grazing damage to bark and roots, competition or shading from surrounding trees.		
F	Ground cover comprises open habitats, for example grassland or heathland, which are unimproved or semi-improved (medium distinctiveness or higher).		
G	Ground cover is subject to an appropriate management regime providing structural diversity for vertebrates and invertebrates, which is not being or threatened by infill of trees and scrub, by natural establishment or forestry plantation, native or non-native. See Footnote 4 for details.		
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ⁵ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁶), and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁷ make up less than 5% cover (this excludes ancient and veteran trees).		
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓
Passes 7 or 8 criteria and meets criterion A		Good (3)	
Passes 5 or 6 criteria OR Passes 7 criteria but fails criterion A		Moderate (2)	
Passes 4 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			

Condition Sheet: WOOD-PASTURE AND PARKLAND Habitat Type													
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type													
Woodland and forest - Wood-pasture and parkland													
Habitat Description													
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification													
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name											
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)											
Limitations (if applicable)		Habitat parcel reference											
		Grid reference											
Condition Assessment Criteria													
		Criterion passed (Yes or No)										Notes (such as justification)	
A	Presence of ancient and or veteran trees ¹ . Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition.												
B	Three different life-stages (for example young, mature or veteran) of open grown or pollarded trees ¹ are present, to ensure replacement and continuity of tree cohort, veteran characteristics and habitat.												
C	Native scrub is present with a variety of heights, widths, shapes and species compositions - as planted or naturally-established individual plants, or clumps of trees or shrubs ² .												
D	Frequent ³ presence of decaying wood providing ecological niches – such as standing, attached and fallen deadwood (for example, dead stems, branches and branch stubs), trees with heart-rot, or hollowing in the trunk or major limbs. Decay features might be revealed by certain types of fungal fruiting bodies.												
E	There is no evidence of recent adverse impact on tree health by human activities, livestock, wild animals, pests or diseases (this excludes veteran features valuable for wildlife). For example, no evidence of poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, ground compaction, grazing damage to bark and roots, competition or shading from surrounding trees.												
F	Ground cover comprises open habitats, for example grassland or heathland, which are unimproved or semi-improved (medium distinctiveness or higher).												
G	Ground cover is subject to an appropriate management regime providing structural diversity for vertebrates and invertebrates, which is not being or threatened by infill of trees and scrub, by natural establishment or forestry plantation, native or non-native. See Footnote 4 for details.												
H	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ⁵ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁶), and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁷ make up less than 5% cover (this excludes ancient and veteran trees).												
Number of criteria passed													
Condition Assessment Result (out of 8 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓											
Passes 7 or 8 criteria and meets criterion A	Good (3)												
Passes 5 or 6 criteria OR Passes 7 criteria but fails criterion A	Moderate (2)												
Passes 4 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)												
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score													

Condition + Encroachment Reporting Sheet: RIVERS and STREAMS		
River Condition Assessment (RCA) + Encroachment results for: Priority rivers,		
Site name/location:		Unique river section reference:
GPS of MoRPh5 midpoint		River section length:
<i>Rivers and streams form naturally draining networks within the wider landscape.</i>		
RCA River Type and Habitat Description for full river section (from walkover su		
THE RESULTS OF THE 32 RCA INDICATORS FOR EACH RIVER SECTION SHOULD BE INSERTED		
Condition Assessment Criteria		RCA Index values
RCA INDEX ID	RCA INDEX NAME	Insert values -4 to 0 OR 0 to 4; Highlight those >2 OR <-2
BANK TOP		
B1	Bank top vegetation structure	
B2	Bank top tree feature richness	
B3	Bank top water-related features	
B4	<i>Bank top NNIPS cover</i>	
B5	<i>Bank top managed ground cover</i>	
BANK FACE		
C1	Bank face riparian vegetation structure	
C2	Bank face tree feature richness	
C3	Bank face natural bank profile extent	
C4	Bank face natural bank profile richness	
C5	Bank face natural bank material richness	
C6	Bank face bare sediment extent	
C7	<i>Bank face artificial bank profile extent</i>	
C8	<i>Bank face reinforcement extent</i>	
C9	<i>Bank face reinforcement material severity</i>	
C10	<i>Bank face NNIPS cover</i>	
CHANNEL MARGIN		
D1	Channel margin aquatic vegetation extent	
D2	Channel margin aquatic morphotype richness	
D3	Channel margin physical feature extent	
D4	Channel margin physical feature richness	
D5	<i>Channel margin artificial features</i>	
CHANNEL BED		
E1	Channel aquatic morphotype richness	
E2	Channel bed tree features richness	
E3	Channel bed hydraulic features richness	
E4	Channel bed natural features extent	
E5	Channel bed natural features richness	
E6	Channel bed material richness	
E7	<i>Channel bed siltation</i>	
E8	<i>Channel bed reinforcement extent</i>	
E9	<i>Channel bed reinforcement severity</i>	
E10	<i>Channel bed artificial features severity</i>	
E11	<i>Channel bed NNIPS extent</i>	

E12	Channel bed filamentous algae extent	
Overview of RCA and river section assessment		
River Condition Assessment PRELIMINARY SCORE:		River Type and class bands:
River Shape index:		Is the river channel OVERDEEP? <i>If yes, what supporting evidence is provided?</i>
River Condition Assessment FINAL CLASS:		IS THE RCA FINAL CLASS MODIFIED ? <i>If yes, why and what supporting evidence is provided?</i>
Summary of RCA results (and Encroachment where applicable) with recommendations		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve the river condition score		

[illegible]

ment

ndations for improvements

Version
Version 1.0.0
Version 1.0.1
Version 1.0.2

Changes made

Initial draft statutory version

Individual trees tab – added wording to say *‘Please see the separate Line of Trees condition sheet for rural trees. You should only use the Line of Trees condition assessment and record that habitat type in rural locations.’*

Individual trees tab – changed *‘Canopies must overlap continuously’* to *‘Canopies should predominantly overlap continuously’*

Coastal tab – wording added to the list of ‘General coastal species indicative of suboptimal condition’ to say *‘sea buckthorn (only outside its restricted native range)’*

Scrub tab – wording added to Criterion A to say sea buckthorn can be 100% cover *‘(only in its restricted native range)’*

Instructions tab – changed date at top of sheet from ‘November 2023’ to ‘February 2024’

Habitat definitions tab – removed reference to ‘see Technical Annex 2’ from the table. Cells C11, C131 – C140.

Heugrow tab – see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 and UK Habitat Classification removed, leaving

intertidal biogenic reefs tab – changed see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 to say see tab G1 of the

Intertidal Hard Structures tab – changed see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 to say see tab G1 of the

Intertidal Seagrass tab – changed see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 to say see tab G1 of the

Intertidal Sediment tab – changed see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 to say see tab G1 of the

Statutory Biodiversity Metric

Pond tab – removed ‘For ponds (non-priority) – see the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2.’

Habitat Definitions tab – cell E48 – removed reference to ‘<2ha’ for Ornamental lake or pond.

Habitat Definitions tab – cell E54, E55 – changed ‘<=2ha’, from Ponds (priority) and Ponds (non-priority) to ‘<2ha’.

Habitat Definitions tab – row 55 – removed references to ponds (non-priority) having a definition different to that in

UKHAB

Formatting corrections to sheet 8B

Reformatting of instructions and habitat definition sheets

Clarification of information in the habitat definitions sheet

Addition of the RCA form

Amended references in habitat definition sheet

Date released
29th November 2023
12th February 2024
3rd July 2025

Appropriate Assessment of Effects on a European Site

This is a record of the appropriate assessment of Wiltshire Council required by Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. The project has been assessed as likely to have significant effects on one or more European protected sites and is not directly connected to or required for the management of such sites.

PART A: INFORMATION REVIEWED	
Information about the plan or project	Application Number: PL/2026/00630 Site Address: Durrington Library, 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU Proposal: Demolition of the existing porta cabin building and the construction of a pair of semi-detached dwellings, landscaping and associated works This development falls within the catchment of the River Avon SAC and has potential to cause adverse effects alone or in combination with other developments through discharge of phosphorus in wastewater. Therefore, the application is screened into Appropriate Assessment (AA) under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).
European site(s)	River Avon SAC Hampshire Catchment
List of European Site interest features and Conservation Objectives	Qualifying Features: Annex 1 Habitat Type - Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculon fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation; Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water-crowfoot Annex II Species <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>; Desmoulin's whorl snail <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>; Sea lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i>; Brook lamprey <i>Salmo salar</i>; Atlantic salmon <i>Cottus gobio</i>; Bullhead The conservation objectives for the site are: Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring; ➤ The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species; ➤ The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats;

	➤ The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species; ➤ The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely; ➤ The populations of qualifying species, and, ➤ The distribution of qualifying species within the site. European Site Conservation Objectives for River Avon Special Area of Conservation Site Code: UK0013016 published by Natural England 27 November 2018 (Version 3)
Information about the SAC	The River Avon is one of the most diverse chalk streams in the UK, with over 180 species of plants, one of the most diverse fish faunas, and a wide range of aquatic invertebrates. The River Avon is Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) includes a number of rivers and adjacent habitats. Conservation objectives for the SAC and supplementary advice for implementing them have been published by Natural England (NE)^{1,2}. These are underpinned by targets for various chemical and physical attributes of the river in line with Common Standards Monitoring Guidance (CSMG). Development within the catchment has the potential to have a detrimental effect upon its qualifying features through direct damage, sedimentation, pollution, disturbance, or changes to its hydrological regime. Currently development in the catchment has resulted in elevated levels of phosphorous through foul water discharges from sewage treatment works and package treatment plants preventing the conservation objectives from being achieved and causing the river to be in unfavourable condition. Development that falls within the catchment of the River Avon SAC and has potential to cause adverse effects alone or in combination with other developments through discharge of phosphorus in wastewater. Elevated phosphorous preventing the conservation objectives from being achieved and causing the river to be in unfavourable condition.
Other relevant plans or projects	Wiltshire Core Strategy adopted January 2015 There are no other relevant planning applications for this section of the River Avon. All planning applications with the potential to impact on the River Avon SAC are subject to Habitat Regulations Assessment to ensure all potential impacts on the SAC

	are properly assessed and adverse impacts on it avoided.
PART B: IMPACT PREDICTION ALONE	
Impact	Predicted Effect of Impact
Elevated phosphorous through discharge of phosphorus in wastewater.	Yes - The submitted nutrient calculation calculated a total phosphorus budget of 0.23 kg TP/year pre 2030 and 0.06 kg TP/year post 2030. The budget has been approved by Wiltshire Council. The budget has been approved by Wiltshire Council.
Desmoulins whorl snail requires wetland conditions found in flood zone 3. The SAC could be affected even if the application affects wetland habitat outside the SAC boundary. Examples of impact could be trampling, direct loss, land drainage, grazing etc.	The application does not lie in flood zone 3.
Nutrient Enrichment ((Water is "fertilized" causing increased plant growth and accumulation of organic matter that can degrade water quality))	In the absence of mitigation, there is the potential for nutrient enrichment as a result of elevated phosphorus levels through the discharge of phosphorus in wastewater.
Alterations to groundwater flows could occur where developments require deep excavations, extensive EA response may indicate potential for significant effects since it is responsible for permits for water abstraction and any works within 8m of a main river.	Alterations to ground water flows are not predicted.
Toxic contamination (poisonous chemicals enter the river system directly or indirectly).	Toxic contamination is not predicted.
Physical changes (e.g. works/works traffic close to the river bank/in flood plain. Modification of river banks or beds, including retaining walls, laying of pipes across the river bed).	The application lies 380m west of the banks of the SAC therefore physical changes are not predicted.
Is there a risk of discharges which do not fall under the EA regulation system e.g. use of detergents, oil storage etc in agricultural apps?	This is an application for residential development.
Construction phase impacts e.g. surface run-off, solid debris falling into river, damage to	The application lies 380m west of the banks of the SAC therefore construction impacts are not predicted.

banks, water abstraction, soil disturbance, spread of invasive non-native plants.	
PART C: IMPACT PREDICTION IN-COMBINATION	
In combination with other plans or projects? This development falls within the catchment of the River Avon SAC and has potential to cause adverse effects alone or in combination with other developments through discharge of phosphorus in wastewater	
PART D: CONSEQUENCES FOR CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES	
Does the project or plan have the potential to cause delays in progress towards achieving the conservation objectives of the site by:	
Adversely impacting the extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species/	Yes - Increased phosphorus levels causes the rapid growth of plants through Eutrophication. This results in adverse impacts on the qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species.
Adversely impacting the structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats	Yes - Increased phosphorus levels causes the rapid growth of plants through Eutrophication. This results in adverse impacts on the structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats.
Adversely impacting the structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species	Yes - Increased phosphorus levels causes the rapid growth of plants through Eutrophication. This results in adverse impacts on the structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species.
Adversely impacting the supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely	Yes - Increased phosphorus levels causes the rapid growth of plants through Eutrophication. This results in adverse impacts on the supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely.
Reducing the population of key species.	Yes - Increased phosphorus levels causes the rapid growth of plants through Eutrophication. This results in adverse impacts on the population of key species.
Reducing the distribution of qualifying species within the site.	Yes - Increased phosphorus levels causes the rapid growth of plants through Eutrophication. This results in adverse impacts on the distribution of key species.
PART E: MITIGATION PROPOSED	
The development lies within the Mid Avon Netheravon sub-catchment where the Council's mitigation scheme is currently available but confirmation of the use of Council credits has not been secured by the applicant. A Council-led scheme of phosphorus credits may be available for development which meets certain criteria at a fixed cost per kilogram of phosphorus, provided supply of mitigation is available at the time of purchase. However, the planning permission will neither secure bespoke mitigation nor reserve any Council phosphorus credits. Mitigation ensuring the development does not add to the existing nutrient burden has therefore been secured by the following planning condition:	

The development hereby permitted shall not commence until evidence of compliance to the Wiltshire Council River Avon Special Area of Conservation Mitigation scheme, or an alternative approved mitigation package addressing the additional nutrient input arising from the development, has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

REASON: To accord with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, and Wiltshire Core Strategy Core Policy 69.

Mitigation will therefore be required to remove the calculated phosphorus burden of 0.23 kg TP/year from the catchment prior to the commencement of construction.

To ensure compliance with the prevailing mitigation strategy a water usage condition has also been secured with this permission which states:

The overnight development hereby approved shall be designed to ensure it does not exceed 110 litres per person per day water consumption levels (which includes external water usage) and a water efficiency assessment should be submitted. Before the development is brought into use, a water efficiency report certifying that this standard has been achieved shall be submitted to the local planning authority for its written approval.

REASON: To ensure compliance with the prevailing mitigation strategy for nutrient neutrality in the water catchment within which this development is located.

A water efficiency calculation will be needed to discharge this condition. For guidance on how to do this and what is required, please refer to the following document: *'The Building Regulations 2010 – Sanitation, hot water safety and water efficiency'*, Appendix A (p36-44).

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/504207/BR_PDF_AD_G_2015_with_2016_amendments.pdf

Development will not commence until mitigation has been submitted to and agreed by the Local Planning Authority. Discharge of Grampian condition will be subject to AA.

Development will not be permitted to commence until that AA has been concluded favourably.

Further Conditions:

The development will be carried out in strict accordance with the following documents:

- Section 7 and 8, Appendices 2, 3 and 4 of the Ecological Impact Assessment. 27 January 2026. Eclipse Ecology. Report Ref. P283.1.1;
- The Statutory Biodiversity Metric. 27 January 2026;
- The Statutory Biodiversity Metric -Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology. P283.4.0 – Former Library Durrington - Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition assessments - July 2025;
- Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment. 27 January 2026. Eclipse Ecology. Report Ref. P283.2.0;
- Natural England Nutrient Neutrality budget calculator for the River Avon SAC. Net Nutrient Statement;
- RE: Tree Information relating to planning application at 75 Bulford Road, Durrington, Salisbury, SP4 8EU. 16 January 2026. Wadey Trees. Ref. WT 122-25 AIA.

REASON: For the avoidance of doubt and for the protection, mitigation and enhancement of biodiversity.

INFORMATIVES:

Hampshire Avon Phosphorus Mitigation

Evidence of compliance to the Wiltshire Council River Avon Special Area of Conservation Mitigation Scheme means the certificate of allocation of credits and confirmation of financial contribution to the scheme.

An alternative mitigation package must be approved by the local planning authority and Natural England with evidence of allocation to the scheme.

PART F: CONCLUSION

Is the project likely to affect site integrity?

a) Alone?	No
b) In combination with other plans or projects?	No

Recommendation:

The appropriate assessment concludes no adverse effects on the integrity of the River Avon SAC subject to suitable mitigation measures being secured by S106/conditions and implemented, with a subsequent Appropriate Assessment provided to Natural England for their agreement.

Name of officer(s) making the assessment and date	Jessica Cracknell Ecologist, Wiltshire Council 26/03/2026
Natural England Comments	
Name of Natural England officer and date	