



ECOLOGY SOLUTIONS

Part of the ES Group

GREAT WILSEY PARK,
HAVERHILL:
HV CABLE DIVERSION
RESERVED MATTERS
APPLICATION

**Landscape and Ecological
Management Plan**

Pursuant to Condition 7 of
DC/15/2151/OUT

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PLANS

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Ecology Solutions was commissioned by Redrow Homes in October 2018 to prepare materials to address the requirements of planning conditions for the development at Great Wilsey Park (reference: DC/15/2151/OUT).
- 1.2. Condition 7 requires that a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) be submitted and approved prior to commencement of development. The condition states:

No development shall commence within any phase or reserved matters application until a Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) for that phase or reserved matters application has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The content of the LEMP shall include the following.

- a) Description and evaluation of features to be managed including all new and existing woodland and coppiced areas, tree and shrub belts, field margin compensatory habitat, new and existing hedgerows and gapping up of existing areas of grassland, meadow and hedgerow margins with intended management regimes, those parts of the site that contain notable plant species recorded on the site, watercourse margins, attenuation ponds and associated features.
- b) Ecological constraints on site and how these influence management.
- c) Aims and objectives of management.
- d) Appropriate management options for achieving aims and objectives.
- e) Prescriptions for management actions.
- f) Preparation of a work schedule (including an annual work plan capable of being rolled forward over a five-year period).
- g) Details of the body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan.
- h) Ongoing monitoring and remedial measures.
- i) Strategy for the provision of information about sensitive habitats through a variety of outlets such as interpretation boards, new resident information packs.

The management plan for the existing Great Field Plantation woodland must include monitoring of public use of the woodland such that the design of pathways, fencing, hedging and other management operations are iterative, with the aim that the woodland design reflects the needs of the new community. Control of litter and dog waste (within normal refuse collection) can be part of this iterative process. The management plan should identify areas for coppicing to encourage understorey development.

The LEMP shall also include details of the legal and funding mechanism(s) by which the long-term implementation of the plan will be secured and the management body(ies) responsible for its delivery. The plan shall also set out (where the results from monitoring show that conservation aims and objectives of the LEMP are not being met) how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the fully functioning biodiversity objectives of the originally approved details.

The development shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved LEMP. All elements of the mitigation strategy shall be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: To ensure the satisfactory development of the site and that wildlife habitats and protected species are considered as part of the design process and are not affected adversely by the development.

- 1.3. This document forms part of a Reserved Matters Application (RMA) for the undergrounding of a HV Cable and additional green and blue infrastructure associated with the Redrow scheme. This is hereafter referred to as the 'HV

Cable Diversion RMA'. This term is also used in this document to refer to the land subject to this RMA.

- 1.4. This report sets out the management of features of ecological interest due to be retained and created and describes the wildlife enhancements and mitigation strategies to be implemented as part of the HV Cable Diversion RMA.
- 1.5. This LEMP has been written with regard to published guidance from the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)¹ and in accordance with Natural England and other relevant guidelines for protected species. It should be read in conjunction with materials produced by Exterior Architecture concerning the landscape strategy.
- 1.6. The document is set out as follows:
 - Ecological baseline and evaluation of important features within the site;
 - Objectives of the LEMP in order to maximise the ecological potential of features due to be retained within the site;
 - Specific ecological mitigation and enhancement measures to be provided in order to achieve the objectives;
 - Timescale for the delivery of these measures; and
 - Responsibilities for implementation and compliance.
- 1.7. In general, the focus of the ecological mitigation, enhancements and management is on the land covered by the Infrastructure RMA, which is subject to separate consideration. The majority of the land within the HV Cable Diversion RMA consists of arable fields, which is of limited ecological interest and in general offers limited opportunities for protected and notable species. Some existing interest is present, including hedgerows, ditches and field margins.

¹CIEEM (2018). *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine*. Version 1.1 – Updated September 2019. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.

2. CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

2.1. The development at Great Wilsey Park is informed by several sources of information, including:

- National Planning Policy Framework (2018);
- St Edmundsbury Core Strategy (2010);
- Haverhill Vision 2031 (2014);
- Joint Development Management Policies Document (2015);
- St Edmundsbury Green Infrastructure Strategy – Final Report (2009);
- Ecology ES Chapter and associated technical reports (2015); and
- ES Addendum (2016).

2.2. In addition to these planning policy and technical sources, reference has been made to information on the natural environment provided by organisations such as Natural England, Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service (SBIS) and Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership (SBP). Regard has been had to designated sites in the locality, to existing habitats and features, and to local nature conservation priorities.

2.3. All these factors have helped to shape the vision and objectives for the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan.

2.4. National Planning Policy Framework

2.4.1. Guidance on national policy for biodiversity and geological conservation is provided by the NPPF, published in March 2012, revised on 24 July 2018 and updated on 19 February 2019. It is noted that the NPPF continues to refer to further guidance in respect of statutory obligations for biodiversity and geological conservation and their impact within the planning system provided by Circular 06/05 (DEFRA / ODPM, 2005) accompanying the now-defunct Planning Policy Statement 9 (PPS9).

2.4.2. The key element of the NPPF is that there should be “*a presumption in favour of sustainable development*” (paragraphs 10 to 11). It is important to note that this presumption “*does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site*” (paragraph 177). ‘Habitats site’ has the same meaning as the term ‘European site’ as used in the Habitats Regulations 2017.

2.4.3. Hence the direction of Government policy is clear; that is, the presumption in favour of sustainable development is to apply in circumstances where there is potential for an effect on a European site, if it has been shown that there will be no adverse effect on that designated site as a result of the development in prospect.

2.4.4. A number of policies in the NPPF are comparable to those in PPS9, including reference to minimisation of impacts to biodiversity and provision of net gains to biodiversity where possible (paragraph 170).

- 2.4.5. The NPPF also considers the strategic approach that Local Authorities should adopt with regard to the protection, maintenance and enhancement of green infrastructure, priority habitats and ecological networks, and the recovery of priority species.
- 2.4.6. Paragraphs 174 to 176 of the NPPF comprise a number of principles that Local Authorities should apply, including encouraging opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments; provision for refusal of planning applications if significant harm cannot be avoided, mitigated or compensated for; applying the protection given to European sites to potential SPAs, possible SACs, listed or proposed Ramsar sites and sites identified (or required) as compensatory measures for adverse effects on European sites; and the provision for the refusal for developments resulting in the loss or deterioration of 'irreplaceable' habitats – unless there are 'wholly exceptional reasons' (for instance, infrastructure projects where the public benefit would clearly outweigh the loss or deterioration of habitat) and a suitable compensation strategy exists.
- 2.4.7. National policy therefore implicitly recognises the importance of biodiversity and that with sensitive planning and design, development and conservation of the natural heritage can co-exist and benefits can, in certain circumstances, be obtained.

2.5. St Edmundsbury Core Strategy

- 2.5.1. The St Edmundsbury Core Strategy was adopted on 14 December 2010. The Core Strategy sets out the vision, objectives, spatial strategy and overarching policies for the provision of new development in the Borough up to 2031. A single policy within the Core Strategy relates to ecology.
- 2.5.2. *Policy CS2 Sustainable Development* relates to sustainable environmental design measures, appropriate to the location and scale of development. Measures relating to ecology include:
- Protection, conservation and the minimisation of impact to local wildlife and biodiversity;
 - The implementation of a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) to identify, create or sustain networks of protected habitat; and
 - Ensuring conformity to appropriate national standards, codes of practice and regulations.

2.6. Haverhill Vision 2031

- 2.6.1. The Haverhill Vision 2031 document is a comprehensive plan, guiding the overall direction of future service provision and the management of growth in Haverhill for at least the next 20 years.
- 2.6.2. *Policy HV4: Strategic Site – North-east Haverhill* relates specifically to the Great Wilsey Park development. There are no elements of the policy that relate directly to ecology or nature conservation but does state that a buffer is identified which could provide a variety of supporting uses including Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS).

- 2.6.3. *Policy HV18: Green Infrastructure in Haverhill* refers to the maintenance, protection, enhancement and establishment of the green infrastructure network in and around Haverhill through the implementation of the St Edmundsbury Green Infrastructure Strategy. The policy states that opportunities exist to extend the coverage and connectivity of the strategic green infrastructure network and where appropriate, should be undertaken in association with new development.

2.7. Joint Development Management Policies Document

- 2.7.1. The Joint Development Management Policies Document was adopted on 27 February 2015 by Forest Heath District Council and on 24 February 2015 by St Edmundsbury Borough Council. The document replaces a number of policies within each councils existing Local Plan, replacing them with locally specific management policies for a wide range of topics, including preservation of the environment.
- 2.7.2. *Policy DM2: Creating Places - Development Principles and Local Distinctiveness* promotes good design within new developments to ensure a better quality of life for people within the area. Measures proposed include taking mitigation measures into account to not adversely affect sites, habitats, species and features of ecological interest.
- 2.7.3. *Policy DM3: Masterplans* covers analysis of site conditions and key ecological identification for land allocated in Local Plans and Site Allocations DPD, following concept plan preparation, when a Local Planning Authority masterplan is required. This includes:
- Extensive landscaping, green infrastructure and open space to ensure sufficient recreational space and support for local wildlife.
 - A full biodiversity plan of species and habitat protection and mitigation, compensation, and habitat creation.
- 2.7.4. *Policy DM10: Impact of Development on Sites of Biodiversity and Geodiversity Importance* mandates the recognition of advice provided by Natural England, the Suffolk Wildlife Trust and other specialist sources, specifically relating to:
- a. the ecological or geological value and objectives for which the site was classified or designated;
 - b. the integrity of the site in terms of its wildlife value, its diversity and relationship with other ecological resources;
 - c. the cumulative impact of the proposal and other developments on the wildlife or geological value of the site;
 - d. the presence of protected species, habitat areas and wildlife corridors, or geological features, and proposed measures to safeguard and enhance them;
 - e. the opportunity to create new habitat areas and to improve the conservation status of locally vulnerable species;
 - f. guidance set down within Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP), habitat management plans and other relevant sources; and
 - g. the extent to which the imposition of conditions or planning obligation:
 - i. would mitigate the effects of the development and/or protect the geological or nature conservation value of the locality;
 - ii. ensure replacement habitat or features; and/or

iii. ensure that resources are made available for the future enhancement and management of the replacement habitat or feature to enable it to attain the quality and attributes that have been lost. Proposals for development which would adversely affect the integrity of areas of international nature conservation or geological importance, as indicated on the Policies Map, will be determined in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). Proposed development likely to result in adverse effects to a SSSI will not be permitted unless the benefits of the development, at this site, clearly outweigh both the impacts that it is likely to have on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest and any broader impacts on the national network of SSSIs.

2.7.5. *Policy DM11: Protected Species* limits development exclusively to that which does not risk or, where unavoidable, satisfactorily mitigates against adverse impact on species protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended), the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981), [REDACTED] and the Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan and subsequent legislation. The policy states that suitable measures should be taken to reduce disturbance to a minimum, maintain the population identified on site, or provide adequate alternative habitats to sustain at least the current levels of population.

2.7.6. *Policy DM12: Mitigation, Enhancement, Management and Monitoring of Biodiversity* states that measures for the protection of biodiversity and the mitigation of any adverse impacts should be included in the design of all developments, and enhancements for biodiversity should be included in all proposals, equal to the scale of the development.

2.8. **St Edmundsbury Green Infrastructure Strategy – Final Report**

2.8.1. The Green Infrastructure Strategy was developed by Land Use Consultants on behalf of St Edmundsbury Borough Council and sets out the green infrastructure requirements for the Borough and a framework of delivery.

2.8.2. Projects relevant to the site include:

- The creation of green corridors to the north of Haverhill, improving links between the Stour Brook and the Stour Valley Path, as well as several other sites of interest. These links are primarily for pedestrian use but will also act as wildlife corridors; and
- Landscape planting to be delivered in advance of, or alongside development to provide landscape and visual mitigation and habitat connectivity.

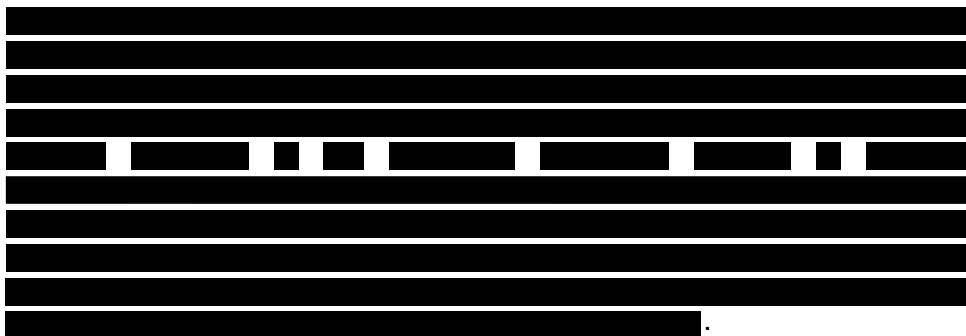
2.9. **ES Chapter (2015) and Addendum (2016)**

2.9.1. A series of surveys were undertaken to establish the baseline interest and inform the outline planning application process for the site. These were reported in the ES Chapter and accompanying technical appendices.

2.9.2. It was concluded that the adverse effects of the development on designated sites and habitats and species of interest can be avoided or adequately mitigated and / or compensated by the creation of new habitats and wildlife corridors included in the design. The loss of arable farmland and replacement with new semi-natural habitats was seen as being of benefit to

biodiversity. The overall effects on ecology were not considered likely to be significant.

2.9.3.



2.10. Designated Sites

2.10.1. The site is not subject to any statutory or non-statutory designation, nor is it immediately adjacent to such a designation. The following designated sites are present in the locality, and illustrated on Plan ECO1:

- *Trundley and Wadgell's Wood, Great Thurlow Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)* is situated some 2.7km to the north of the site at its closest point. The site has been designated for its substantial areas of ancient, semi-natural woodland. Both woodlands also possess a network of wide grassy rides.
- *Over and Lawn Woods SSSI* lies on chalky boulder clay and has been designated for its ancient woodland supporting well developed plant and animal communities. It is some 3.9km north-west of the site at its closest point.
- *Haverhill Railway Walks Local Nature Reserve (LNR)* is some 340m to the south of the site. It is designated for its tree and scrub cover, providing a valuable wildlife corridor.

2.10.2. The Landscape and Ecological Management Plan will aim to complement these existing nature conservation designations wherever possible, particularly Haverhill Railway Walks LNR, a short distance to the south.

2.11. Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership

2.11.1. Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership has prepared a list of the UK Priority Species which occur in the region. The list includes:

- Mammals including Barbastelle Bat *Barbastella barbastellus*, Brown Long-eared Bat *Plecotus auritus*, Lesser Horseshoe Bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, Noctule Bat *Nyctalus noctula*, Soprano Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, Dormouse, Otter *Lutra lutra*, Water Vole *Arvicola amphibius*, Harvest Mouse *Micromys minutus*, Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*, Polecat *Mustela putorius* and Brown Hare *Lepus europaeus*;

- Birds such as [REDACTED] Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*, Linnet *Carduelis cannabina* and Bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*;
 - Adder *Vipera berus*, Grass Snake *Natrix helvetica*, Common Lizard *Zootoca vivipara* and Slow Worm *Anguis fragilis*;
 - Common Toad *Bufo bufo*, Great Crested Newt *Triturus cristatus*, and Natterjack Toad *Bufo calamita*; and
 - A wide range of invertebrates and vascular and non-vascular plants.
- 2.11.2. Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP) or factsheets have been prepared for certain species including bats, Dormice, Otters, Water Voles, [REDACTED] and Linnets.
- 2.11.3. A suite of factsheets is currently being developed, and many of the existing BAPs have now been archived. However, they remain available as they still contain useful information.
- 2.11.4. Ecological survey work undertaken to inform the outline planning application and the recent updates completed by Ecology Solutions has established that the site supports, or has potential to support, several of these local conservation priority species. A key objective of the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan will be to maximise opportunities for these species wherever possible.
- 2.11.5. Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership has Habitat Action Plans (HAP) for the following habitats of relevance to the site and the development. A number of the HAP documents have now been replaced by factsheets. The following HAPs have been considered as part of this strategy:
- Hedgerows;
 - Mixed Deciduous Woodland;
 - Arable Field Margins;
 - Rivers and Streams; and
 - Ponds.
- 2.11.6. Suffolk Biodiversity Partnership has also prepared a Planning Biodiversity Action Plan to assist local authority and other planning departments meet their legal obligations towards biodiversity.
- 2.12. Consultation with Wildlife Trust**
- 2.12.1. Suffolk Wildlife Trust has previously been consulted regarding the scope of the development and their aspirations for the site.
- 2.12.2. It is expected that further opportunities for consultation and feedback will be taken as the development progresses.

3. DESCRIPTION AND EVALUATION OF FEATURES TO BE MANAGED

3.1. This section sets out the inventory of existing habitats to be retained and managed, identifying features of particular interest or importance that will be priorities for management. This information is derived from work undertaken to inform the outline ES, as well as walkover surveys undertaken by Ecology Solutions in 2018/19.

3.2. Existing Woodland

3.2.1. The woodland strip in the south of the HV Cable Diversion RMA consists of mature broad-leaved specimens. There is no active management of the woodland.

3.2.2. The woodlands within the site, being plantations, were not classed by the ES as habitats of principal importance under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006. The ES recognised their value for wildlife, however, and categorised them as being of local value. The ES classed the watercourse as being of no more than local nature conservation value.

3.3. Field Margins

3.3.1. The field margins consist of semi-improved neutral grassland, with a range of common species, as summarised below.

Yorkshire Fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Red Clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Cock's-foot <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	White Clover <i>Trifolium repens</i>
Creeping Bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Knapweed <i>Centurea nigra</i>
False Oat-grass <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	Ribwort Plantain <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Timothy <i>Phelum pratense</i>	Ragwort <i>Senecio jacobea</i>
Meadow Foxtail <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Betony <i>Stachys officinalis</i>
Red Fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> agg	Tufted vetch <i>Vicia cracea</i>
Meadow Fescue <i>Festuca pratensis</i>	Hop Trefoil <i>Trifolium campestre</i>
Sweet Vernal Grass	Dove's-foot Crane's-bill
<i>Anthoxanthum oderatum</i>	<i>Geranium molle</i>
Soft Brome <i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	Smooth Tare <i>Vicia tetrasperma</i>
Wild Oat <i>Avena fatua</i>	Rough Hawk's-beard <i>Crepis biennis</i>
Meadow Oat-grass <i>Avenula pratensis</i>	Field Bindweed <i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>
Black Grass <i>Alopecurus myosuroides</i>	Dandelion <i>Taraxicum officinale</i> agg.
Barren Brome <i>Bromus sterilis</i>	Wetted Thistle <i>Cardus crispus</i>
Glaucous Sedge <i>Carex flacca</i>	Red Bartsia <i>Odontites vernus</i>
Smooth Hawk's-beard	Smooth Sow-thistle
<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Spring Sedge <i>Carex caryophyllea</i>	Creeping Buttercup
	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>

3.3.2. Arable field margins are listed as habitats of principal importance under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, as well as being Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats. With the exception of the field margins in the north of the Redrow site – outwith the HV Cable Diversion RMA – which the ES classed as being of value at the site level, the margins were considered to be of negligible nature conservation interest owing in part to their easily replicable nature.

3.4. Existing Hedgerows

3.4.1. Thirteen hedgerows are present within the Redrow site, two of which fall in the HV Cable Diversion RMA. Table 3.1 below, using data extracted from the ES chapter, summarises their features and interest. Assessment under Hedgerow Evaluation Grading System (HEGS) found H14 being classified as low value, with H17 being of moderate value. Neither hedgerow is considered to be 'important' under the Hedgerow Regulations 1997. Both hedgerows contain at least 80% native species and therefore are habitats of principal importance in England under section 41 of the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities Act 2006; they are also Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan habitats. The ES classed the existing hedgerows as being of local level importance to nature conservation.

Hedge Ref.	Woody Species	Height	Width	% Gaps	Ditch (wet or dry)	Grass Verge	Standard Trees	Connections	HEGS Grade	Impt. under Hedgerow Regulations
H14	Defunct hedgerow. Cs, Cm, Qr	2m	2m	30%+	Dry	Yes	<3	1	4	No
H17	Cm, Qr, Um	4m	2m	0%	Wet	Yes	1	2	3-	No

Table 3.1. Existing Hedgerow Inventory (reproduced from ES chapter).
 (Cm / Hawthorn; Cs / Dogwood; Qr / English Oak; and Um / Elm.)

3.5. Existing Ditches

3.5.1. The field boundaries to the north of Hedgerow H14 and the west of Hedgerow H17 include dry ditches that were both dry at the time of the most recent survey and appear to do so for most of the time, supporting ruderal species such as Great Willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*. The ES classed the ditch as being of no more than local nature conservation value.

4. ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS

- 4.1. This document has been informed by the background information accrued for the outline ES and by updated surveys undertaken by Ecology Solutions of the Redrow Homes site in 2018/19.
- 4.2. Habitats of value in the context of the HV Cable Diversion RMA include field margins, ditches, hedgerows, woodland edge and individual trees (especially where these also offer suitable nesting opportunities for bird species or potential roosting opportunities for bats).
- 4.3. The majority of the HV Cable Diversion RMA consists of intensively managed arable fields. These are intrinsically of low ecological interest, with the large arable fields in particular offering relatively little for wildlife. The woodland edge comprises mature broad-leaved specimens; The hedgerows, while a significant ecological asset, are gappy or missing in places.
- 4.4. None of these habitats pose an overriding ecological constraint in themselves, with the majority of the habitats of greater value being retained and enhanced as part of the green infrastructure associated with the RMA.
- 4.5. Surveys undertaken to inform the outline planning application and those completed in 2018/19 identified a complement of bat species foraging along the linear features; the presence of Common Lizard *Zootoca vivipara*; and an assemblage of breeding and wintering birds within the HV Cable Diversion RMA. Some use of the wider Redrow site by Badgers and Dormice, and the amphibians Common Toad and Smooth Newt were also identified. Otters and Water Voles are known to be present in the wider locality. The site is expected to support a range of common invertebrates, but interest will be limited by the intensive arable management.
- 4.6. The presence of these species does not represent a constraint to development as such, since the results of the earlier work have informed the layout assessed in the outline ES and the parameter plans with which the Redrow scheme must comply. Nevertheless, the management prescriptions set out in the following pages have regard to the potential presence of these species within existing and proposed habitats, and the need for sympathetic treatment.
- 4.7. Overall, the HV Cable Diversion RMA possesses excellent potential for wildlife gains, in combination with the measures proposed for the Infrastructure RMA, retaining and enhancing the best of the existing habitats, while promoting new opportunities through the strategies for green and blue infrastructure networks. The establishment of new habitats and future management of the network as a whole will deliver significant benefits.

5. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF MANAGEMENT

- 5.1. This section sets out the vision and conservation objectives for the HV Cable Diversion RMA strategy.

The vision for the strategy is to provide a framework for enhancement and management across the site such that demonstrable net gains for biodiversity are achieved.

5.2. Defining the Conservation Objectives

- 5.2.1. Defining a set of objectives is central to the effectiveness of this strategy, given that it is intended to provide a framework that will safeguard existing nature conservation interest and provide guidance on enhancement and future management.
- 5.2.2. Specific objectives for the conservation of particular species or groups and particular habitats of nature conservation interest are set out in the relevant sections to follow. The nature of these objectives has been guided by the principles set out in UK and European wildlife legislation, notably the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2017. Furthermore, the formulation of these objectives has also been influenced by national and local biodiversity and conservation targets, as set out in the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework and the Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP).
- 5.2.3. The overarching objectives for nature conservation are as follows:

Objective 1

To safeguard species important in the national and local context, and to maintain or enhance their conservation status as appropriate.

Objective 2

To ensure that the site continues to support a similar complement of species to that already existing.

Objective 3

To enhance the biodiversity of the site, where this is compatible with the above objectives.

5.3. Achieving the Objectives

- 5.3.1. Information on the existing situation within the HV Cable Diversion RMA, and the Redrow site as a whole, and its environs with regard to any habitats of ecological interest and the presence of protected species has been collated as part of the preparation of this document and it is upon this foundation that the specific enhancements and management prescriptions to follow are based.
- 5.3.2. Where appropriate, specific objectives are defined in the sections to follow.

- 5.3.3. The Landscape and Ecological Management Plan, and the various measures described in the following sections, are illustrated on Plan ECO2.
- 5.3.4. This document should be read in conjunction with the materials produced by Exterior Architecture on the landscape strategy for the HV Cable Diversion RMA, namely the GA and Planting Plans, the Planting Schedule and Landscape Strategy.

6. WOODLAND

- 6.1. This section is concerned with the management of the existing woodland edge to the south of the HV Cable Diversion RMA and new woodland buffer planting to be undertaken to the north and the east of the RMA, as shown on the GA and Planting Plans.

To establish high quality new habitats using appropriate native species mixes.

To promote greater habitat diversity in existing woodland.

6.2. Prescriptions for Management Actions

- 6.2.1. The woodland strip in the south of the HV Cable Diversion RMA comprises mature broad-leaved specimens. Long term management will encourage growth of native species and diversification of the habitat.
- 6.2.2. A significant area of new woodland buffer planting is to be established to the northern and eastern boundaries (see Table 6.1 below). This will be based around W8 NVC woodland as recommended in the ES. Long term management will encourage growth of native species and diversification of the habitat.

No	Species
392	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>
358	Downy Birch <i>Betula pubescens</i>
377	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>
312	Dogwood <i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
2234	Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>
96	Spindle <i>Euonymus europaeus</i>
280	Beech <i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
181	Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
86	Wild Privet <i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>
142	Crab Apple <i>Malus sylvestris</i>
113	Wild Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>
377	Blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>
86	Buckthorn <i>Rhamnus cathartica</i>
169	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
162	Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>
1116	Small-Leaved Lime <i>Tilia Cordata</i>
86	Wayfaring-tree <i>Viburnum lantana</i>

Table 6.1. New lowland Ash woodland planting species list.

6.3. Initial Aftercare and Long-term Management and Maintenance

Trees

- 6.3.1. Watering will be required during periods of drought for no less than the first three years after planting to ensure satisfactory establishment.

- 6.3.2. Trees will be inspected every six months for the first two years to ensure that they are healthy, not diseased or damaged, or dead. After the first two years, trees can be inspected annually if found to be establishing well.
- 6.3.3. Any failed trees within the first five years will be replaced and maintained for a subsequent five years. Tree replacement will occur in early spring or late autumn.
- 6.3.4. Annual pruning will be completed between January and March. Emergency pruning will be undertaken immediately after a critical fault is identified.

7. HEDGEROWS AND TREES

7.1. This section is concerned with the establishment and management of existing and new hedgerows and trees.

7.2. Conservation Objectives

To establish high quality new habitats using appropriate native species mixes.

To manage hedgerows to promote dense structure and enhanced habitat for wildlife

7.3. Prescriptions for Management Actions

7.3.1. The existing hedgerow network is a key green infrastructure asset and is to be retained and enhanced wherever possible. Unless otherwise stated on the Hedgerow Removal Plan 5055-L-112 rev C accompanying the outline application (see Appendix 1), new gaps established will generally be maximum of 12m to allow for Dormouse dispersal. Gaps in existing hedgerows will be reinforced with native species. New hedgerow and shrub planting will comprise native species as shown on the GA and Planting Plans and Planting Schedule and listed in Table 7.1 below. Existing hedgerows will be 'gapped up' where necessary using species below.

Native Hedgerow and Shrub Species
Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>
Dogwood <i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>
Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Crab Apple <i>Malus sylvestris</i>
Blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Dog Rose <i>Rosa canina</i>
Elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i>
Guelder Rose <i>Viburnum opulus</i>

Table 7.1. Native Hedgerow and Shrub species list.

7.3.2. Hedgerows will continue to be managed. Management will aim to ensure continued good structure. Hedgerows will be cut on rotation, so that not all are cut in any one year. This will encourage greater availability of winter forage for birds.

7.3.3. Hedgerows will be laid on rotation to encourage greater structural diversity.

7.3.4. Individual tree species to be planted throughout the HV Cable Diversion RMA are set out in Table 7.2 below. New tree planting is shown on Plan ECO2.

No	Species
5	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i>
9	Field Maple <i>Acer campestre</i> 'Streetwise'
28	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>
39	Hornbeam <i>Carpinus betulus</i>
6	Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
26	Lebanese Wild Apple <i>Malus trilobata</i>
32	Flowering Cherry <i>Prunus</i> 'Accolade'
12	Wild Cherry <i>Prunus Avium</i> 'Knight's Early Black'
8	Bird Cherry <i>Prunus padus</i>
13	Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>
7	White Willow <i>Salix alba</i>

Table 7.2. Tree planting species list.

7.4. Initial Aftercare and Long-term Management and Maintenance

Trees

- 7.4.1. Watering will be required during periods of drought for no less than the first three years after planting to ensure satisfactory establishment.
- 7.4.2. Trees will be inspected every six months for the first two years to ensure that they are healthy, not diseased or damaged, or dead. After the first two years, trees can be inspected annually if found to be establishing well.
- 7.4.3. Any failed trees within the first five years will be replaced and maintained for a subsequent five years. Tree replacement will occur in early spring or late autumn.
- 7.4.4. Annual pruning will be completed between January and March. Emergency pruning will be undertaken immediately after a critical fault is identified.

Shrubs and Hedgerows

- 7.4.5. Shrub and hedgerow planting will be inspected every three months to ensure that they are healthy, not diseased or damaged, or dead. Any failed species will be removed and replaced with the same species and size.
- 7.4.6. Pruning and dead-heading will be completed at the end of the plant flowering seasons (spring to autumn) as required.

8. GRASSLAND

8.1. This section is concerned with the establishment of the grassland, as shown on the GA and Planting Plans.

8.2. Conservation Objectives

To establish high quality new habitats using appropriate native species mixes.

To manage these habitats appropriate to maximise botanical and wildlife interest.

8.3. Prescriptions for Management Actions

8.3.1. The planting schedule includes the provision of wet and dry grassland habitat, designed to encourage greater wildflower diversity, and the provision of an attenuation basin as a habitat containing taller vegetation. This habitat diversification will favour invertebrates and will in turn provide net gains for local wildlife.

8.3.2. The existing field margins are recognised to be of relatively higher botanical interest. These will be retained and subject to ongoing management in line with other grassland areas to maximise their botanical interest. There will be no storage of materials or tracking over of these areas, and no new tree planting. Where appropriate, discreet signage will be used to encourage members of the public to walk on designated paths.

8.3.3. New areas of wildflower grassland are to be established throughout the HV Cable Diversion RMA. These areas are currently principally intensive arable and field margins respectively. In conjunction with the drainage strategy, areas of dry and wet grassland will be established (see Tables 8.1 and 8.2 below).

8.3.4. Liaison with Suffolk Wildlife Trust will be held to determine the feasibility of using seed sourced from local nature reserves and designated sites, to ensure locally native varieties. Should this not be practicable, approved seed mixes appropriate for the habitat and soil type will be used.

8.3.5. Newly established meadows will be cut on an annual basis as required, with the arisings removed. These would be retained as 'habitat piles' in suitable locations to encourage reptiles.

EM6 Meadow Mixture for Chalk & Limestone Soils Species	% per Mix
Wild Flowers	
Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.5%
Kidney Vetch <i>Anthyllis vulneraria</i>	0.5%
Common Knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i>	1.5%
Greater Knapweed <i>Centaurea scabiosa</i>	2%
Wild Basil <i>Clinopodium vulgare</i>	0.4%
Wild Carrot <i>Daucus carota</i>	1%
Lady's Bedstraw <i>Galium verum</i>	2%
Field Scabious <i>Knautia arvensis</i>	1.5%

Rough Hawkbit <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	0.4%
Oxeye Daisy <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.5%
Bird's-foot Trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	0.6%
Sainfoin <i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	1.5%
Wild Marjoram <i>Origanum vulgare</i>	0.2%
Hoary Plantain <i>Plantago media</i>	0.7%
Salad Burnet <i>Sanguisorba minor</i>	2%
Cowslip <i>Primula veris</i>	1%
Selfheal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	1%
Meadow Buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i>	1%
Bulbous Buttercup <i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>	1.5%
Small Scabious <i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	0.2%
	20%
Grasses	
Quaking-grass <i>Briza media</i>	4%
Glaucous Sedge <i>Carex flacca</i>	0.2%
Crested Dog's-tail <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	32%
Sheep's-fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i>	24%
Slender Creeping Red Fescue <i>Festuca rubra ssp. litoralis</i>	12.6%
Crested Hair-grass <i>Koeleria macrantha</i>	2%
Smaller Cat's-tail <i>Phleum bertolonii</i>	4%
Yellow Oat-grass <i>Trisetum flavescens</i>	1.2%
	80%

Table 8.1. Emorsgate Seeds EM6 Meadow Mixture for Chalk and Limestone Soils species list.

- 8.3.6. Areas of wet grassland will be seeded with a meadow mixture for wetland species, as set out in Table 8.2 below:

EM8 Meadow Mixture for Wetlands Species	% per Mix
Wild Flowers	
Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.2%
Sneezewort <i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	0.2%
Betony <i>Stachys officinalis</i>	1%
Common Knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i>	2.5%
Meadowsweet <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	2%
Lady's Bedstraw <i>Galium verum</i>	2%
Rough Hawkbit <i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	0.5%
Oxeye Daisy <i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.5%
Bird's-foot Trefoil <i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	0.7%
Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	0.5%
Ribwort Plantain <i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	1%
Cowslip <i>Primula veris</i>	1%
Selfheal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	1.5%
Meadow Buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i>	2%
Yellow Rattle <i>Rhinanthus minor</i>	1.5%
Great Burnet <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	1.5%
Pepper-saxifrage <i>Silaum silaus</i>	0.5%
Ragged Robin <i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	0.4%
Devil's-bit Scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>	0.5%
	20%
Grasses	
Common Bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	10%
Meadow Foxtail <i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	1%
Sweet Vernal Grass <i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	3%
Quaking-grass <i>Briza media</i>	2%

Crested Dog's-tail <i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	32%
Tufted Hair-Grass <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i>	1%
Slender Creeping Red Fescue <i>Festuca rubra ssp. litoralis</i>	24%
Meadow Barley <i>Hordeum brachyantherum</i>	1%
Meadow Fescue <i>Festuca pratensis</i>	6%
	80%

Table 8.2. Emorsgate Seeds EM8 Meadow Mixture for Wetlands species list.

8.4. Initial Aftercare and Long-term Management and Maintenance

- 8.4.1. Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture.
- 8.4.2. **EM6 Meadow Mixture for Chalk and Limestone Soils and EM8 Meadow Mixture for Wetlands.** Newly sown meadows will be mown regularly throughout the first year of establishment to a height of 40-60mm. This will control annual weeds and help maintain balance between faster growing grasses and slower developing wild flowers. Cuttings will be removed if dense. Residual perennial weeds will be carefully dug out or spot treated.
- 8.4.3. In subsequent years, on poor shallow soils the grass will be cut once or twice at the end of the summer.
- 8.4.4. On deeper soils best results are usually obtained by traditional meadow management. This will include a cut to 50mm after flowering in July or August. The cuttings will be left to dry and shed seed for 1-7 days before being removed from the site. The grass can then be maintained at a height of 50mm through to spring.
- 8.4.5. Areas of new and retained and enhanced planting, as well as ponds and swales, will be monitored annually for the first five years to ensure that the species diversity and composition is developing in such a way as to enhance the site for wildlife.
- 8.4.6. Watering will be required during periods of drought to ensure satisfactory establishment. Watering will be undertaken as required to maintain healthy plant growth.

9. ATTENUATION FEATURES

9.1. This section is concerned with the establishment and management of new attenuation features.

9.2. Conservation Objectives

To establish high quality new habitats using appropriate native species mixes.

To manage these features to ensure unimpeded drainage while having regard to wildlife.

9.3. Prescriptions for Management Actions

9.3.1. For the most part these new features will not be permanently wet, but some areas will be designed to retain water. The design of the attenuation basin includes small ponds designed to hold water, and a variety of shallow scrapes and channels, as well as embayments and spits. This diversity of slopes and banks offering varying water depths and retention will create a variety of micro-habitats for wildlife and will diversify the habitats currently present. Locally native aquatic and emergent species will be planted to encourage early naturalisation (see GA and Planting Plans, Planting Schedule and Tables 9.1 and 9.2 below).

Marginal Planting Species
Marsh-marigold <i>Caltha palustris</i>
Lesser Pond-sedge <i>Carex acutiformis</i>
Common Spike-rush <i>Eleocharis palustris</i>
Water Avens <i>Geum rivale</i>
Yellow Iris <i>pseudacorus</i>
Jointed Rush <i>Juncus articulatus</i>
Purple-loosestrife <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>
Water Mint <i>Mentha aquatica</i>
Water Forget-me-not <i>Myosotis scorpioides</i>
Reed Canary Grass <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>

Table 9.1. Marginal planting species list.

9.3.2. Newly established basins will be seeded with locally native species mixes and managed appropriately. Areas of dry and wet grassland will be established. The blue infrastructure network of swales will provide new foraging and dispersal opportunities for a variety of wildlife.

EP1F Wild Flowers for Pond Edges Species	% per Mix
Sneezewort <i>Achillea ptarmica</i>	2.5%
Wild Angelica <i>Angelica sylvestris</i>	10%
Marsh-marigold <i>Caltha palustris</i>	1%
Common Knapweed <i>Centaurea nigra</i>	7.5%
Hemp-agrimony <i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	5%
Meadowsweet <i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>	15%
Water Avens <i>Geum rivale</i>	2.5%
Square-stalked St John's-wort <i>Hypericum tetrapterum</i>	2.5%
Yellow Iris <i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	20%

Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil <i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	5%
Gypsywort <i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	4%
Purple-loosestrife <i>Lythrum salicaria</i>	3%
Water Mint <i>Mentha aquatica</i>	0.5%
Common Fleabane <i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	0.5%
Meadow Buttercup <i>Ranunculus acris</i>	10%
Great Burnet <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>	3%
Ragged Robin <i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>	4%
Devil's-bit Scabious <i>Succisa pratensis</i>	2.5%
Tufted Vetch <i>Vicia cracca</i>	1.5%
	100%

Table 9.2. Emorsgate Seeds EP1F Wild Flowers for Pond Edges species list.

9.4. Initial Aftercare and Long-term Management and Maintenance

- 9.4.1. Seed is best sown in the autumn or spring but can be sown at other times of the year if there is sufficient warmth and moisture.
- 9.4.2. **EP1F Wild Flowers for Pond Edges.** In the first year, annual weed growth should be cut back to encourage the development of a good perennial ground cover.
- 9.4.3. Once established, vegetation should be managed on a rotational basis, removing short sections every 2-3 years to provide a variation in structure. Dense stands of single species may also benefit from selective thinning. Vegetation removal should be undertaken between September and November to cause the least disruption to wildlife.
- 9.4.4. Ditches will be checked on an annual basis. Where it is necessary to dig out, this will be done over winter to avoid the bird nesting season (March to July inclusive) which also covers the amphibian breeding season.

10. WORK SCHEDULE AND FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Habitat	Action	Timing
Trees	Establishment	From Year 1 growing season onwards
	Watering	Where required during first three years in periods of drought
	Inspection	Every six months for first two years to check for damage and disease. Replaced if failing
	Inspection	Annually from two years onwards if establishing well
	Pruning	Between January and March as required
Grassland	Sowing	Generally autumn sowing, possibly spring
EM6 Chalk / Limestone Meadow and EM8 Wetlands Meadow	Mowing	Mow regularly during growing season of first year to height of 40.60mm. Remove arisings.
	Spot treatment of weeds	Using approved herbicide or digging out
	Mowing	From year 2 onwards, cut to 50mm after flowering in July / August. Leave cuttings to dry for 1-7 days to shed seed, then remove arisings. Maintain grass at height of 50mm to spring
Grassland	Arisings	Retain proportion of arisings as habitat piles in reptile mitigation areas
Woodland Edge	Log piles	Using felled timber from Year 1 onwards; replenished with further woodland management
New Woodland	Establishment	From Year 1 growing season onwards
	Watering	Where required during first three years in periods of drought
	Inspection	Every six months for first two years to check for damage and disease. Replaced if failing
	Inspection	Annually from two years onwards if establishing well
	Pruning	Between January and March as required
Hedgerows	Gapping up	From Year 1 growing season onwards
	Watering	Where required during first three years in periods of drought
	Inspection	Every six months for first two years to check for damage and disease. Replaced if failing
	Inspection	Annually from two years onwards if establishing well
	Cutting	Over winter on three-year rotation, so only one third cut in any one year, unless adjacent to public right of way, cycleway or pedestrian route
	Laying	Hedgerows laid in rotation by experienced contractor, over winter period
Attenuation Features	Invasive species	Annual check. Spot treatment with approved herbicide or digging out
EPF1 Pond Edges	Weed growth	Cut back in first year
	Cutting	Manage on rotational basis every 2-3 years to provide varied structure. Cut back short sections, remove dense stands of single species. Remove vegetation between September and November.
Ditches	Digging out	Where necessary done over winter to minimise wildlife effects

11. IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING

- 11.1. Redrow Homes has ultimate responsibility for implementation of this strategy. The individual currently leading for Redrow Homes is Richard Franks, Senior Engineering Manager, and the responsibility for implementation will be his or that of his appointed successor.
- 11.2. It is the responsibility of the appointed individual at Redrow Homes to instruct appropriate experienced contractors to establish the various features and habitats proposed, and also the responsibility of the appointed individual at Redrow Homes to instruct appropriate experienced ecologists and / or landscape contractors to check the work.
- 11.3. Clear channels between these parties and their associates on the ground will be in operation at all times, by email and telephone as appropriate.
- 11.4. Redrow and the landowner will establish a joint management company to manage and maintain the public landscape areas of Great Wilsey Park. The management company will be responsible for the ongoing maintenance of areas of soft landscaping within public open spaces, attenuation basins and Great Field Plantation.

12. MONITORING AND REMEDIAL MEASURES

- 12.1. A separate comprehensive Biodiversity Monitoring Strategy for the HV Cable Diversion RMA has been prepared to address the requirements of Condition 45. That document should be referred to for full details of monitoring of newly established habitats and features.
- 12.2. The results of this monitoring work will be fed back into the evolution of this strategy, to adjust the approach to management where necessary, to ensure that the development still delivers the defined aims and objectives.

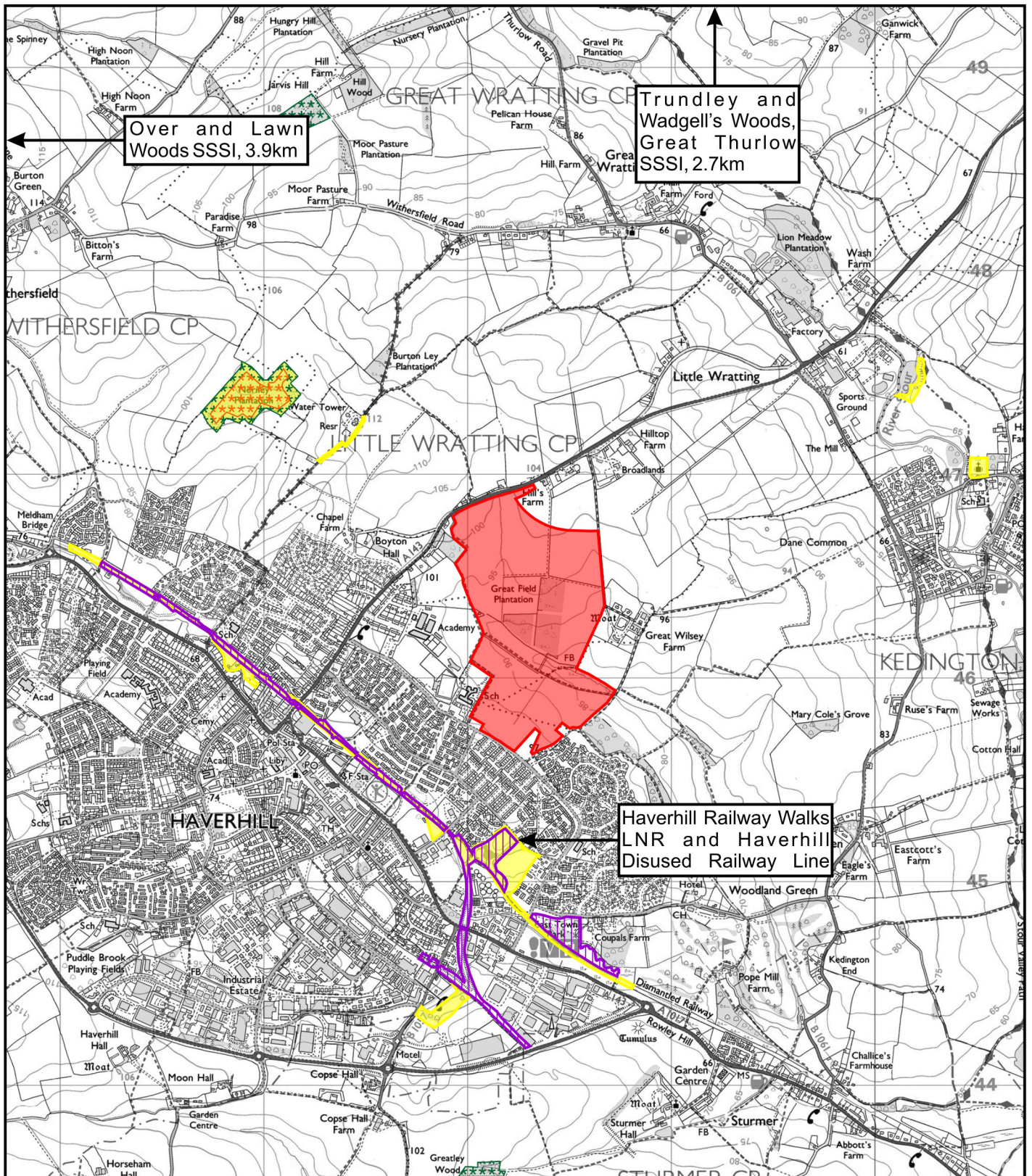
13. INFORMATION STRATEGY

- 13.1. New residents will be provided with an information pack setting out the value of the various retained and proposed habitats and features within the Redrow site. This will be provided at occupation.
- 13.2. Three to four information and interpretation boards will be provided in key locations within the green infrastructure, setting out the wildlife interest of the site and how residents and visitors can find out more. These are to be provided as part of the Infrastructure RMA rather than the HV Cable Diversion RMA.
- 13.3. The precise text and locations will be agreed with West Suffolk Council, with the boards installed prior to first occupation of the new development.

PLANS

PLAN ECO1

Site Location and Ecological Designations








Over and Lawn Woods SSSI, 3.9km

Trundley and Wadgell's Woods, Great Thurlow SSSI, 2.7km

Haverhill Railway Walks LNR and Haverhill Disused Railway Line

KEY:

-  SITE LOCATION
-  LOCAL NATURE RESERVE (LNR)
-  COUNTY WILDLIFE SITE (CWS)
-  ANCIENT WOODLAND
-  ANCIENT REPLANTED WOODLAND



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8110: GREAT WILSEY PARK,
HAVERHILL

PLAN ECO1: SITE LOCATION AND
ECOLOGICAL DESIGNATIONS

Rev: A
Jul 2019

PLAN ECO2

Landscape and Ecological Management Plan



KEY:

- MITIGATION MEASURE
- ENHANCEMENT MEASURE



Based on Exterior Architecture Drawing No. 200115_ExA_1868_Illustrative Masterplan-1-1250



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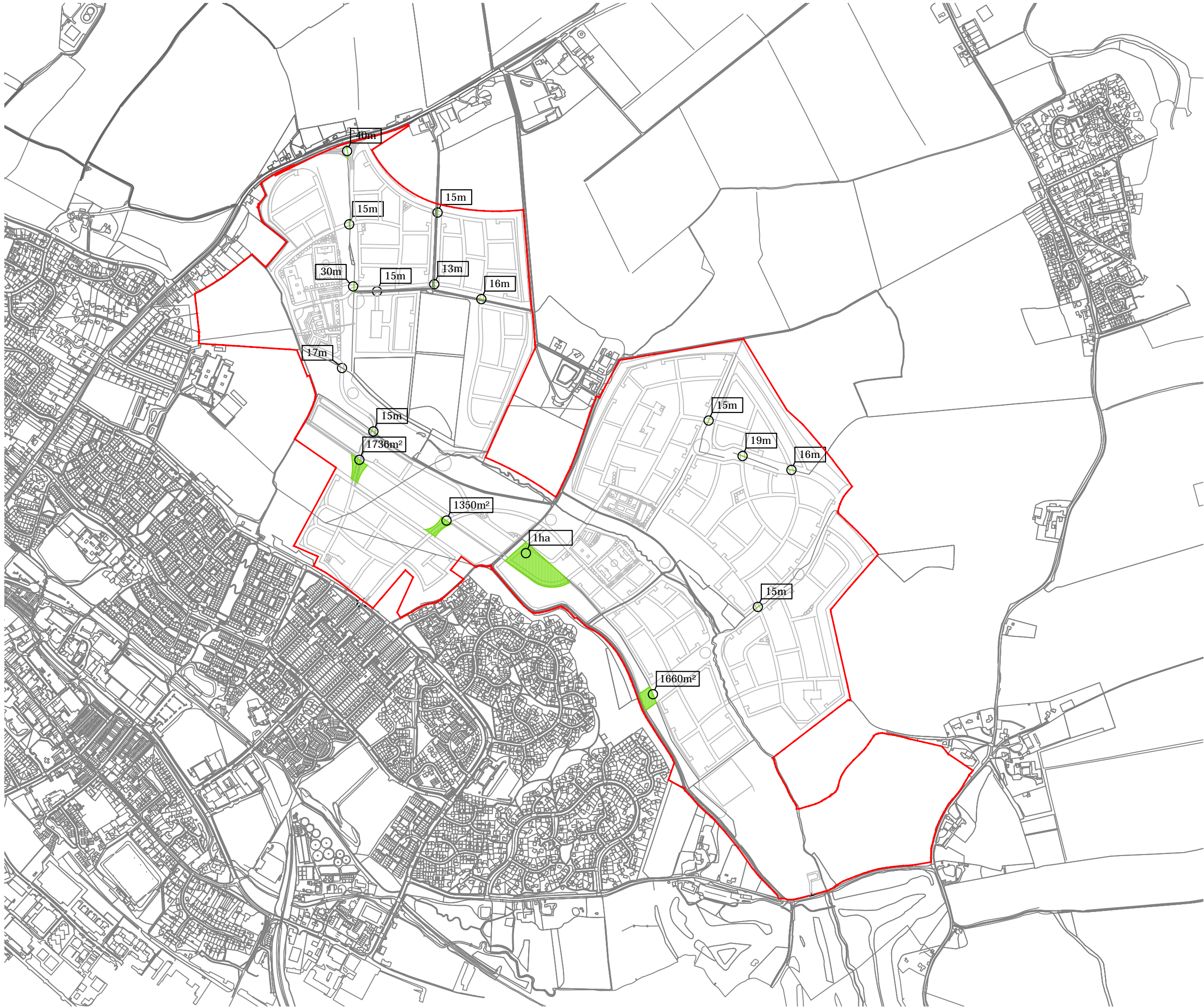
PLAN ECO2:
LANDSCAPE AND ECOLOGICAL
MANAGEMENT PLAN

Rev: B
Jan 2020

APPENDICES

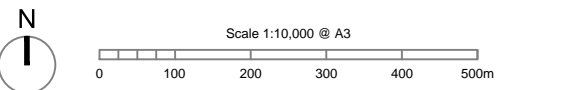
APPENDIX 1

Hedgerow Removal Plan 5055-L-112 rev C



NOTES

All dimensions to be verified on site. Do not scale this drawing.
 All discrepancies to be clarified with project Landscape Architect.
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- Application boundary 168.34ha
- Hedgerow to be removed to facilitate road access (Total length) 241m
(Assumed 2.5 roadside clearance for visibility)
- Woodland to be removed (Total area) 1.47ha

rev	date	description	by
C	10.08.15	Coupsals Road access / car park included	NJE
B	06.08.15	Change to site access	NJE
A	21.07.15	Change to road layout	SJ

masterplanning ■
 environmental assessment ■
 landscape design ■
 urban design ■ FPCR Environment and Design Ltd
 ecology ■ Lockington Hall
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HALLAM LAND MANAGEMENT LTD

project
**Great Wilsey Park
 Haverhill**

drawing title
Hedgerow Removal Plan

scale 1:10,000@A3 drawn NJE date July 2015

drawing number **5055-L-112** rev **C**



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