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# **Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Including a Protected Species Assessment of Land at Homefield Road, Haverhill, Suffolk.**

On behalf of:

**J.A.P Architects**

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## 0 SUMMARY

- 0.1 Skilled Ecology Consultancy Ltd. was commissioned by J.A.P Architects to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal including a Protected Species Assessment of Land at Homefield Road, Haverhill, Suffolk. The report is required to accompany a planning application for commercial development of the site.
- 0.2 A daylight survey was conducted on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 by experienced ecologist Roger Spring BSc MCIEEM (licensed to survey for bats & great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*). The survey consisted of an inspection for preferred habitat types and signs and evidence of protected and priority species, such as for bats, great crested newts, reptiles, badgers *Meles meles* and nesting birds following Natural England (English Nature) Guidelines. A local herpetofauna (amphibians & reptiles) record search is also provided.
- 0.3 The site and proposed construction zone is 0.1947ha in area and includes: formerly cleared ground (cleared in 2009 for an adjacent commercial development) with natural regeneration including Vacant or Derelict Land (Good Condition), Bramble Scrub, a small area of Mixed Native Scrub (Poor Condition) and Developed Land; Sealed Surface (hardstanding parking area and 2 x cabins). Around the carparking on-site is also short improved grass (Modified Grassland- Poor Condition).
- 0.4 The site is position in an industrial estate with commercial buildings, parking areas and roads immediately east, west and south of the site. Immediately north of the site are playing fields with boundary immature woodland.
- 0.5 The site was considered low - moderate in ecological value with negligible potential to support protected, priority or rare species (including great crested newts). No signs or evidence of such were recorded during the survey visit. Potential for common nesting birds was noted in the scrub, as well as potential for hedgehogs and occasional foraging bats. The small size of the site and isolated position significantly limits the ecological value of the site and potential to support notable wildlife.
- 0.6 Further ecological surveys or mitigation were considered unnecessary for the development to proceed. Precautionary measures are provided later in the report to minimise any residual risk of impact to protected, priority and rare species and notable habitats.
- 0.7 With the recommendations followed as described, development could proceed with a minimal risk of harm or impact to local ecological value or to protected, priority or rare species.
- 0.8 Biodiversity enhancement recommendations are also included in the report in accordance with national planning policy. Biodiversity Net Gain calculations are provided in separate reporting.

## **1 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

- 1.1.1 Skilled Ecology Consultancy Ltd. was commissioned by J.A.P Architects to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal including a Protected Species Assessment of Land at Homefield Road, Haverhill, Suffolk. The report is required to accompany a planning application for commercial development of the site.
- 1.1.2 Wildlife such as nesting birds, bats, reptiles and great crested newts *Triturus cristatus* are protected by law. Protected and priority species and habitats, are also a material consideration for individual planning decisions under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), 2012, as amended in 2024.
- 1.1.3 This study and report complies with the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisals (Second Edition, 2017).
- 1.1.4 CIEEM guidelines indicate that ecological surveying typically remains valid for between 12 and 18 months (CIEEM, 2019).

## **2 METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1 Desk Study**

- 2.1.1 A local herpetofauna (reptiles & amphibians) data search is provided by Suffolk Biodiversity Information Service (SBIS) and is summarised below.
- 2.1.2 A search of the Multi-Agency Geographical Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) was also conducted, to check for statutory nature conservation sites.
- 2.1.3 These results were then combined with the findings of the site survey, to assess the risk of ecology issues, relevant to planning, occurring on the site.

### **2.2 Study Limitations**

- 2.2.1 No major limitations were identified. The survey was undertaken at a suitable time of year for botanical assessment, though some early flowering species may not have been identifiable.

### **2.3 Initial Site Survey**

#### *Habitats and Surroundings*

- 2.3.1 The site was visited in daylight on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2025 to survey for ecology issues. This included the following:

- Noting the suitability of habitats present on the site, regarding protected, priority and rare species; including plants, amphibians, reptiles, mammals, nesting birds, invertebrates and protected, priority or red-listed Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC);
- Assessing the habitats surrounding the site and in the local area;
- Direct survey for evidence of protected species as far as possible, e.g. for bats, reptiles, great crested newts, badgers *Meles meles*, and nesting birds;
- Checking for invasive species such as Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*.

#### *Bat Inspection*

2.3.2 The assessment for bats was conducted by an experienced ecologist. The building was externally and internally surveyed for bat activity, suitability and potential for roosting following English Nature Bat Mitigation Guidelines (English Nature, 2004) and Bat Conservation Trust Best Practice Guidelines, therefore considerations were:

- the availability of access to roosts for bats;
- the presence and suitability of cracks, crevices, gaps around tiles, ivy growth and other places as roosts;
- signs of bat activity or presence, such as; the bats themselves, droppings, grease marks, scratch marks, urine spatter and prey remains.

2.3.3 Equipment available for use during the survey included a ladder, high powered torch, digital camera, binoculars and a video endoscope.

2.3.4 The availability of access to roosts was assessed based upon the presence of holes large enough to allow entry to bats and lack of cobwebs and dirt.

2.3.5 The outside and inside of buildings were inspected for gaps, cavities, access points and crevices, and any signs of bats (droppings, staining, urine spatter), in accordance with Natural England (English Nature) guidelines (English Nature, 2004).

#### *Reptiles & Amphibians*

2.3.6 The site was inspected for potentially suitable terrestrial habitats for foraging, sheltering or dispersing amphibians and foraging, sheltering, breeding and basking habitat for reptiles. High quality terrestrial refuges searched for, included:

- Log piles & rockeries,
- Thick leaf litter,
- Compost & manure heaps,
- Mammal burrows,
- Deep ground cracks;
- Refuse suitable for shelter;
- Tussock grassland;
- Hedgerows and any other potential habitats.

2.3.7 The pond adjacent to the site was inspected for suitability for great crested newts by undertaking a Habitat Suitability Index assessment as developed by Oldham *et al.* 2000.

*Dormouse, Badgers, & Other Notable Mammals*

2.3.8 Signs and evidence of dormouse, badgers and other protected, priority and rare mammal activity searched for included the following:

- Setts, holes and burrows;
- Foraging holes and other diggings;
- Latrines, droppings, spraints and scats;
- Mammal hairs;
- Paw prints and other tracks;
- Feeding remains;
- Scratch marks, bedding material and other signs.

### 3 RESULTS AND RISK

#### 3.1 Site Description & Location

- 3.1.1 The site and proposed construction zone is 0.1947ha in area and includes: formerly cleared ground (cleared in 2009 for an adjacent commercial development) with natural regeneration including Vacant or Derelict Land (Good Condition), Bramble Scrub, a small area of Mixed Native Scrub (Poor Condition) and Developed Land; Sealed Surface (hardstanding parking area and 2 x cabins). Around the carparking on-site is also short improved grass (Modified Grassland- Poor Condition).
- 3.1.2 The site is position in an industrial estate with commercial buildings, parking areas and roads immediately east, west and south of the site. Immediately north of the site are playing fields with boundary immature woodland.
- 3.1.3 One very small pond is located in a parking area of an adjacent commercial premises approximately 30m east of the site. The pond was dry at the time of the survey with no aquatic vegetation present and is heavily shaded by shrubs and trees overhanging the pond. No other ponds were identified within 250m of the site (Ordnance Survey Maps, 2025).

#### 3.2 Nature Conservation Sites

- 3.2.1 The closest statutorily designated nature conservation site is Haverhill Railway Walk Local Nature Reserve (LNR) designated for its scrub and woodland habitats in a corridor following a former railway line (MAGIC, 2025).

#### 3.3 Data Search

- 3.3.1 The following information is a summary list of local herpetofauna records collated through the SBIS database.

**Table 1 - Summary of local records.**

Species	Approximate Location	Date
Slow worm	650m west	2022
Grass snake	1.8km east	2018
Common toad	2km south east	2010

#### 3.4 Protected, Priority & Rare Species

##### *Vegetation & Habitats*

- 3.4.1 The site includes natural regeneration on improved and disturbed soils including Vacant or Derelict Land, Bramble Scrub, a small area of Mixed Native Scrub and Developed Land; Sealed Surface (hardstanding parking area and 2 x cabins). Around the carparking on-site is also short improved grass (Modified Grassland- Poor Condition).



- 3.4.2 Plants recorded in the Vacant or Derelict Land included: annual meadow grass *Poa annua*, creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans*, ox-eye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare*, red clover *Trifolium pratense*, bristly ox-tongue *Helminthotheca echioides*, black medick *Medicago lupulina*, dandelion *Taraxacum* agg., black knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, wild carrot *Daucus carota*, germander speedwell *Veronica chamaedrys*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, marestail *Equisetum arvense*, hedge bedstraw *Galium mollugo*, meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis*, daisy *Bellis perennis*, hemlock *Conium maculatum*, teasel *Dipsacus fullonum* and hairy sedge *Carex hirta*.
- 3.4.3 Plants recorded in the Modified Grassland included: annual meadow grass *Poa annua*, perennial rye grass *Lolium perenne*, creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans*, dandelion *Taraxacum* agg., ox-eye daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare* and ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*.
- 3.4.4 The Mixed Native Scrub included: hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, oak *Quercus robur* (sapling), poplar *Populus* sp. (sapling), dogrose *Rosa canina*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, cherry *Prunus* sp. (sapling) and walnut *Juglans regia* (sapling).
- 3.4.5 No Schedule 9 invasive plants were observed.
- 3.4.6 No UK priority habitats were present or proposed for impact.
- 3.4.7 No protected, priority or rare plants were observed or were likely to be present.

#### *Bats*

- 3.4.8 The cabins on site was considered negligible in suitability or potential for roosting bats with negligible opportunities for roosting bats. The structures are mostly overgrown with bramble and other vegetation.
- 3.4.9 No internal or external signs or evidence of bats were found associated with the structures.
- 3.4.10 Trees present were too small in trunk diameter and immature to support roosting bats.
- 3.4.11 Bats may on occasion visit the site for foraging, though given its small size, habitats present and adjacent street lighting, bat activity on the site and in the local area is likely to be low.

#### *Other Protected or Priority Mammals*

- 3.4.12 The proposed construction zone is small was considered low in suitability or potential for other protected or priority mammals such as hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*, badgers *Meles meles*, harvest mouse *Micromys minutus*, water voles *Arvicola amphibious*, otter *Lutra lutra* and brown hare *Lepus europaeus*. It is possible that on occasions the site may be crossed by hedgehogs, though significant use was considered unlikely.

- 3.4.13 No signs or evidence of any protected, priority or rare mammals were discovered on or adjacent to the site.

#### *Birds*

- 3.4.14 Birds observed or heard on or close to the site during the survey included; wood pigeon *Columba palumbus*, starling *Sturnus vulgaris*, common whitethroat *Curruca communis*, collard dove *Streptopelia decaocto*, robin *Erithacus rubecula*, blue tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*, goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis* and cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* (in distance).
- 3.4.15 Starling and cuckoo are UK priority species and red-listed Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC). Both species were heard off-site in adjacent habitats, the cuckoo was a significant distance from the site. Common whitethroat are amber-listed BoCC and were likely nesting in the scrub on site with typical territorial behaviour observed in the south of the site.
- 3.4.16 No signs of protected birds such as barn owls *Tyto alba* were present. The proposed construction zone is likely to be used by low numbers of nesting birds in the scrub present.
- 3.4.17 The BoCC ratings are summarised as follows:
- Red-listed - highest conservation concern;
  - Amber-listed - moderate conservation concern;
  - Green-listed - least conservation concern.

#### *Reptiles*

- 3.4.18 The site is small, though did support patches of habitat theoretically suitable for widespread reptiles. However, the site has previously (2009) been completely cleared to bare ground and used as a construction storage yard for the adjacent commercial buildings. The site is isolated in the landscape being surrounded by roads, parking and commercial buildings indicating that re-colonisation of the site by reptiles following clearance in 2009 was considered improbably.
- 3.4.19 The survey was undertaken in optimal weather for active reptiles. sunny locations were watched for extended periods for basking and foraging reptiles. No reptiles were observed on or adjacent to the site.

### *Great Crested Newts & Other Amphibians*

- 3.4.20 The proposed construction zone is small, though did support patches of habitat theoretically suitable as terrestrial habitat for amphibians, including great crested newts. However, the site has previously (2009) been completely cleared to bare ground and used as a construction storage yard for the adjacent commercial buildings. The site is isolated in the landscape being surrounded by roads, parking and commercial buildings making accessing the site by amphibians perilous.
- 3.4.21 The adjacent pond was inspected for suitability for breeding great crested newts and other amphibians. The pond was found to be very small and dry with dense shade from overhanging shrubs and trees. The pond was likely to dry annually for substantial periods and unlikely to be suitable for breeding great crested newts or other amphibians. The pond and the site are isolated in the landscape from any other ponds with no other ponds identified within 250m and those located beyond 250m away separated from the pond and site by major dispersal obstacles such as busy roads and commercial facilities.
- 3.4.22 No signs or evidence of great crested newts or other amphibians were observed during the survey visit.

### *Invertebrates*

- 3.4.23 The site was found to be low in suitability and ecological value for invertebrates of conservation concern with common and widespread habitats present on the site.
- 3.4.24 Protected, priority or rare invertebrates were not observed during the survey visit.

### *Other Protected, Priority or Rare Species*

- 3.4.25 No signs or evidence of any other protected or priority species were observed on the site, nor were there any particularly suitable habitats present for such species.

## **4 DISCUSSION OF RISK AND LEGISLATION**

### **4.1 Protected & Priority Species**

#### *Bats*

- 4.1.1 Bats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 and under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Some bats are also UK priority species. A summary of the offences likely to be relevant to development are:

- Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or take a bat;

- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place that a bat uses for shelter or protection, whether bats are present or not;
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of any bat;
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection;
- Deliberately disturb a bat anywhere.

4.1.2 Bats will use the site and adjacent habitats for foraging on occasion during mild weather conditions. However, the proposed construction zone is very small and illuminated by adjacent street lighting making it unlikely to be of significant value for local bat populations.

4.1.3 No potential bat roosting habitat is present on the site.

4.1.4 The proposed development posed a negligible risk of harm or significant impact to bats, bat roosts or local bat conservation. Further surveys or mitigation were considered unnecessary.

4.1.5 However, to minimise any residual risk of impact, precautionary measures, detailed later in the report, should be followed.

#### *Other Protected, Priority or Rare Mammals*

4.1.6 The site is small in area and low in suitability or potential for any other protected, priority or rare mammals such as hedgehogs or badgers. No signs or evidence of such were observed on the site.

4.1.7 The risk of the proposed development impacting negatively upon such species was very low. Further surveys or mitigation were considered unnecessary. However, to minimise any residual risk of impact to hedgehogs, precautionary measures, detailed later in the report, should be followed.

#### *Reptiles*

4.1.8 Widespread reptile species including, grass snake, adder, slow worm and common lizard, are protected from intentional killing and injuring under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They are also UK priority species.

4.1.9 The site is small in area and low in suitability for reptiles of any species given the isolated nature of the site and past site clearance. Reptiles were not found during the survey visit. The risk of presence or significant impact to reptiles from the proposed development was considered very low.

4.1.10 Therefore, further reptile surveys or mitigation were considered unnecessary. However, to minimise any residual risk of impact, precautionary measures, detailed later in the report, should be followed.

### *Amphibians*

4.1.11 Great crested newts are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as amended by the Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000, and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. Great crested newts are also UK priority species. A summary of the offences likely to be relevant to development are:

- Intentionally or deliberately capture or kill;
- Intentionally injure;
- Deliberately disturb, or intentionally or recklessly disturb in a place of shelter or protection;
- Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place;
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to a place used for shelter or protection.

4.1.12 Common and widespread amphibian species, such as common toads, have been recorded within 2km of the site, though not particularly nearby (SBIS, 2025). Great crested newts have not been recorded within 2km of the site (SBIS, 2025). These facts combined with the small size of the site and poor suitability for the only pond within 250m of the site to support great crested newts meant the risk of great crested newts occurring nearby and being impacted by the proposed development was considered very low.

4.1.13 Therefore, further amphibian surveys or mitigation were considered unnecessary. However, to minimise any residual risk of impact precautionary measures detailed later in the report, should be followed.

### *Birds*

4.1.14 Wild birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and, with certain exceptions (e.g. pest species) in certain situations, it is an offence to intentionally:

- Kill or injure any wild bird;
- Take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built;
- Take or destroy the egg of any wild bird.

4.1.15 Some bird species (such as barn owls) are also specially protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and others are UK priority species.

4.1.16 Widespread protected and priority birds (such as fieldfare and song thrush etc.) are likely to be present locally and may on occasions visit the site.

However, the risk of significant impact or harm to protected, or UK priority birds was considered very low.

4.1.17 Low numbers of common and widespread bird species are likely to use the bramble scrub and mixed native scrub on the site for nesting.

4.1.18 Further bird surveys or mitigation for protected birds were considered unnecessary. However, to prevent harm to common nesting birds, precautionary measures detailed later in the report, should be followed.

#### *Plants & Habitats*

4.1.19 The proposed development was highly unlikely to impact negatively on botanically important habitats or rare plant species. No UK priority habitats are present or proposed for impact. Further botanical surveys or mitigation for such were considered unnecessary.

4.1.20 No Schedule 9 invasive plants were identified or proposed for impact. The risk of spreading such plants or infringing the relevant legislation was considered negligible.

#### *Invertebrates*

4.1.21 The proposed construction zone was considered low in ecological value for invertebrates of conservation concern and unlikely to support a significant population of invertebrates of conservation concern.

4.1.22 It was considered unnecessary to undertake further invertebrate surveys or provide mitigation for invertebrates.

#### *Other Protected & Priority species*

4.1.23 No signs or evidence of other protected, priority or rare species were observed on the site. The risk of presence or impact to such species was very low. Further ecological surveys or mitigation for any other protected, priority or rare species was unnecessary.

## **4.2 Other Issues**

#### *Sensitive Habitats*

4.2.1 The site is small, low-moderate in ecological value and positioned a significant distance from any designated nature conservation sites. Therefore, the risk of significant (direct or indirect) impact to statutorily or non-statutorily designated nature conservation sites was considered negligible.

4.2.2 Therefore, further ecological recommendations, above those already detailed in this report, were considered unnecessary for the protection of locally designated nature conservation sites.

## **5 RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **5.1 Impact Avoidance Precautionary Measures & Habitat Compensation**

#### *Bats*

5.1.1 The risk of significant impact to bats was considered negligible. To further minimise the risk of impact, the below recommendations, should be followed:

- Any new proposed external lighting should be minimised. Where external lighting is required, it should be LED lamps (<2700k) with glass glazing, rather than plastic, as these produce the least amount of heat and UV light possible, minimising the attraction effects on insects and minimising disturbance to local bats.
- Any external lighting proposed for the development should be aimed carefully, to minimise illumination of boundary habitats and avoid light spillage into the sky, or horizontally out from any buildings, by using hoods or directional lighting.
- External security lighting should be set on short timers and be sensitive to large moving objects only, to prevent any passing bats switching them on.

#### *Hedgehogs, Reptiles & Great Crested Newts*

5.1.2 The risk of hedgehogs, reptiles and great crested newts being significantly impacted by the development was considered very low, to minimise any residual risk of impact or harm or impact, the below recommendations should be followed:

- Vegetation clearance for the development, including scrub reduction, should be by hand during fine and dry weather conditions under Ecological supervision by a great crested newt licensed Ecologist. The supervising Ecologist should provide a Toolbox Talk to contractors on great crested newts, reptiles and hedgehogs related to identification and what to do if one is found. The Ecologist should then stay to supervise the clearance.
- Construction materials should be stored on hardstanding or on pallets to prevent wildlife from sheltering in the materials and being harmed by movement of the materials.
- Waste material from demolition works should be placed into skips or removed off site immediately.
- No construction work at night when many vulnerable species are active.

- Any excavations for the development should be covered at night or should have a roughly sawn plank placed in them to facilitate escape.
- If at any stage hedgehogs, reptiles, great crested newts or other notable wildlife are observed on the site, works should stop immediately, and the animal should be allowed to disperse of its own accord, or an Ecologist should be contacted for advice. An identification photograph is provided in the Appendices of this report for contractors.

### *Birds*

5.1.3 Any reduction or removal of scrub required should be conducted outside of the main bird breeding season (March until the end of August). If this timescale is not practical, then an Ecologist should check the site for active bird nests before development works commence.

5.1.4 If an active bird nest was found, it would be necessary to protect the nest from harm or disturbance until the bird had finished nesting.

## **5.2 Enhancements & Biodiversity Net Gain**

5.2.1 By undertaking the following recommended biodiversity enhancements, the site will be improved for local wildlife and provide a net-gain in accordance with national planning policy (NPPF, 2024).

5.2.2 The addition of bat boxes and bird boxes on the completed building will increase the potential roosting and nesting sites for local bats and birds. Specifically, the following boxes should be used:

- 1 x Woodstone Bat Box.
- 1 x Vivara Pro Sparrow Terrace.

5.2.3 The boxes will be mounted externally on the new building installed high (at least 4m) and should be free from obstruction and light sources. The bat box should ideally be positioned facing a southerly aspect, while the bird box should be facing a northerly direction or otherwise be out of direct sunlight.

5.2.4 Wildlife boxes can be purchased on-line through suppliers such as The Wildlife Shop and NHBS.

5.2.5 Any new soft landscaping should include only native and/or wildlife attracting species.

5.2.6 New/restored grass areas should be sown with a wildflower meadow mixture such as EM1 from Emorsgate Seeds.

5.2.7 Biodiversity Net Gain calculations are provide in separate reporting.



## 6 CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The proposed construction zone is small in area and supported common and widespread habitats low-moderate in ecological value.
- 6.2 No signs or evidence of protected, priority or rare species were identified on the site or were likely to be significantly impacted by the proposed development.
- 6.3 Therefore, further ecological surveys or mitigation were considered unnecessary. However, precautionary measures are provided to minimise any residual risk of impact to notable local wildlife.
- 6.4 With the recommendations followed as described, the proposed development could proceed with a minimal risk of impact to protected, priority or rare species or notable habitats.
- 6.5 Furthermore, by following the enhancements, the proposed development would be enhanced further for the benefit of local wildlife in accordance with national planning policy. Biodiversity Net Gain is provided in separate reporting.

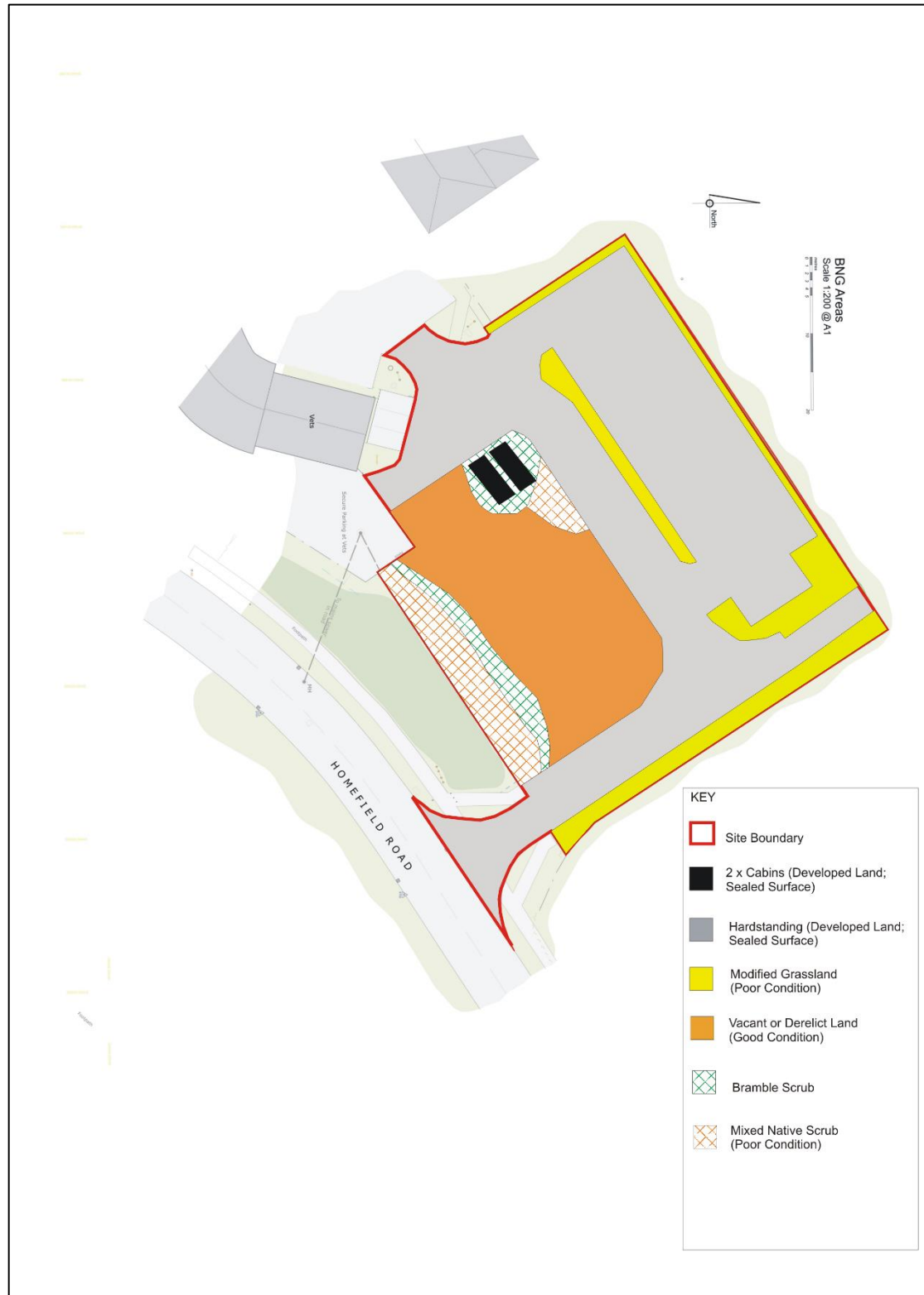
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## 8 APPENDICES

### 8.1 Appendix 1: Maps

*Figure 1 – Location Plan & Habitat Map*



**Figure 2 – Proposed Development**



## 8.2 Appendix 2: Photographs

*Photograph 1 – Main site area facing from east to west.*



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025

*Photograph 2 – Cabin in north west corner of the site.*



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025



***Photograph 3 – Southern boundary (mixed native scrub and bramble scrub).***



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025

***Photograph 4 – Southern boundary facing east.***



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025



***Photograph 5 – North east boundary.***



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025

***Photograph 6 – Northern boundary – outside of the site.***



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025



***Photograph 7 – Northern boundary- outside of the site.***



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025

***Photograph 8 – Adjacent pond approximately 30m east of the site.***



Photograph by Roger Spring 2025

### **8.3 Appendix 3: Great Crested Newt Identification Photograph**

During construction contractors should remain vigil to the possible presence of great crested newts. If great crested newts are found during works, all activities on the site must stop and an Ecologist contacted for advice. The below is an identification photograph for contractors.

