Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

August 2024

Land at Forest Road
Denmead

Prepared by
CSA Environmental

On behalf of
Bewley Homes

Report No: CSA/7227/01

CSA environmental

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This report may contain sensitive ecological information. It is the responsibility of the Local Authority to determine if this should be made publicly available.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Residential development is proposed at land at Forest Road, Denmead, for which planning permission will be sought.

CSA Environmental was instructed by Bewley Homes to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the Site to identify any ecological constraints to development, inform scheme design, highlight opportunities for ecological enhancement and determine the need for any additional investigation/survey. As part of this PEA, a desk study and field survey of the Site were undertaken in August 2024, including a UK Habitat Classification survey.

Habitats currently present within the Site are generally common and widespread, with the greatest ecological interest associated with the grassland in Field F2, boundary vegetation and trees. These should be retained and protected wherever possible alongside development.

Notable and protected species which may be present include foraging/dispersing/roosting bats, badgers, dormice, breeding birds, reptiles and great crested newts. Further survey work to confirm the presence or likely absence of these species, and the nature of their use of the Site, are recommended to inform an evidence based Ecological Impact Assessment to be prepared in support of planning.

No overriding constraints to development of the Site have been identified. Recommendations have been provided for ecological enhancement measures that could be delivered as part of the proposed development.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This report has been prepared by CSA Environmental on behalf of Bewley Homes. It sets out the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of land at Forest Road, Denmead (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'). Residential development is proposed at the Site, for which planning permission will be sought.

1.2 The scope of this appraisal has been determined with due consideration for best-practice guidance provided by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM, 2017), and to the *Biodiversity: Code of practice for planning and development* (BS 42020:2013) published by the British Standards Institution (2013).

1.3 The Site occupies an area of c. 7.95ha and is located around central grid reference SU 65806 11029, to the north-west of Waterlooville. It consists of a field to the north managed for hay production, with a series of horse grazed paddocks to the south with associated dressage area, hardstanding car park and stables (see Habitats Plan in Appendix A).

1.4 This PEA aims to:

- Characterise baseline ecological conditions of the Site and its wider context
- Identify any ecological constraints to development of the Site
- Inform scheme design
- Identify further ecological surveys and investigation necessary to inform a full Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) of the proposed development
- Highlight opportunities for ecological enhancement

1.5 To achieve these aims, an ecological desk study and field survey were undertaken of the Site, the findings of which are presented herein.

1.6 As set out in best practice guidelines (CIEEM, 2017) a PEA is typically only suitable for planning submission where there are no ecological constraints relating to the project. Where ecological constraints are identified, such as the presence of important ecological features, the effects of development on these features should be assessed within a separate EcIA report, which would supersede the PEA.

2.0 LEGISLATION, PLANNING POLICY & STANDING ADVICE

Legislation

2.1 Legislation relating to wildlife and biodiversity of particular relevance to this PEA includes:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992
- The Environment Act 2021

2.2 This above legislation has been addressed, as appropriate, in the production of this report. Further information on the above legislation is provided in Appendix B.

National Planning Policy

2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, 2023) sets out the government planning policies for England and how they should be applied. Chapter 15: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment, is of particular relevance to this report as it relates to ecology and biodiversity. Further details are provided in Appendix B.

2.4 The Government Circular 06/2005, which is referred to by the NPPF, provides further guidance in respect of statutory obligations for biodiversity and geological conservation and their effects within the planning system.

Local Planning Policy

2.5 A number of local planning policies relate to ecology, biodiversity and/or nature conservation. These are summarised in Table 1 of Appendix B. These policies have been addressed, as appropriate, in the production of this report.

Standing Advice

2.6 Natural England and Defra's Standing Advice (Natural England & Defra, 2014) regarding habitats and protected species aims to support local authorities and forms a material consideration in determining applications in the same way as any individual response received from Natural England following consultation. Standing advice has therefore been given due consideration, alongside other detailed guidance documents, in the production of this report.

3.0 METHODS

Desk Study

3.1 An ecological desk study was undertaken in July 2024 comprising a review of online resources and biological records centre data as detailed below.

3.2 The Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) online database was reviewed to identify nature conservation designations within the following search radii:

- Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar sites within 10km of the Site (including possible/proposed sites)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves (NNR), Local Nature Reserves (LNR) within 3km of the Site
- Other relevant data e.g. Ancient Woodland Inventory within 1km of the Site

3.3 A review was undertaken of the location of any such designations, their distance from and connectivity with the Site, and the reasons for their designation. This information was used to determine whether they may be within the proposed development's Zone of Influence (ZoI).

3.4 Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC) was contacted for details of any non-statutory nature conservation designations and records of protected/notable habitats and species. This information was requested for an area encompassing the Site and adjacent land within c. 2km of its central grid reference. This search area was selected to include the likely zone of influence upon non-statutory designations and protected or notable habitats and species.

3.5 Further online resources were reviewed for information which may aid the identification of important ecological features. The Woodland Trust's online Ancient Tree Inventory was reviewed for known ancient or veteran trees within the Site and adjacent land. Interactive online mapping provided by the charity 'Buglife' was used to determine whether the Site falls within an Important Invertebrate Area.

3.6 In accordance with Natural England's Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines (2001), a desktop search was undertaken to identify ponds within 500m of the Site which may have potential to support breeding great crested newts *Triturus cristatus*, using Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping, the MAGIC database and aerial photography.

3.7 Where possible under the terms of the data provider, relevant desk study data are presented in Appendix C.

Field Survey

3.8 A UK Habitat Classification ('UKHab') survey was carried out in fine and dry weather conditions on 21 August 2024 by Jodie Van Gramberg (FISC Level 3) and Megan Bridgman, encompassing the Site and immediately adjacent habitats that could be viewed.

3.9 UKHab is a unified and comprehensive system for mapping and classifying habitats, designed to provide a simple and robust approach to surveying and monitoring, and replaces Phase 1 Habitat survey methods. The method allows for identification of important habitat types, including habitats of Principal Importance under Section 41 (S41) of the NERC Act (2006) and Habitats Directive Annex I habitats. This method also allows for direct translation of habitats into the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Defra, 2024).

3.10 The following parameters were adopted for the UKHab survey undertaken for this PEA:

- UKHab Professional edition (Butcher *et al*., 2023, commercial End User Licence Agreement (EULA))
- Minimum Mappable Unit (MMU):
    - $10m^2$/0.001ha (polygons)
    - 5m (linear)
- Primary Habitats recorded to a minimum of Level 2 (see below) with UKHab codes provided
- Mandatory secondary codes used
- Base-mapping comprising a combination of aerial imagery and topographic information

3.11 Primary Habitats are recorded to a minimum of Level 2. Where the survey is conducted at an appropriate time of year (e.g. May to July for grassland) habitats may be recorded to Level 3, 4 or 5, only if conditions and the experience of the surveyor allow.

3.12 Alongside the UKHab survey, additional field survey information was collected, comprising:

- Detailed floral species lists recorded for each identified habitat/parcel
- Evidence of, or potential for, European Protected Species (EPS) (including bats, great crested newt, dormouse and otter)
- Evidence of, or potential for, other protected species (including birds, reptiles, water vole, badger and certain invertebrates)
- Evidence of, or potential for, other notable species (including S41 Species of Principal Importance as well as notable, rare, protected or controlled plants and invertebrates)
- Any other survey information relevant to ecological matters

3.13 Results of the UKHab survey are presented on the Habitats Plan in Appendix A. Appendix D provides photographs of the habitats at the Site and Appendix E provides a list of floral species recorded in each habitat parcel. Nomenclature for higher plants within this report is consistent with the fourth edition of The New Flora of the British Isles (Stace, 2019).

Limitations

3.14 There were no specific limitations to the desk study. The field survey was conducted in good conditions, however at a suboptimal time of year, outside of the June/July peak botanical grassland season. This limitation is not considered to undermine the classification of habitat type, as per the survey aims, however a follow up peak season survey will be needed to categorise 'habitat condition' (for example to provide definitive counts of species/m^2).

3.15 Furthermore, access to the entirety of Field F2 was restricted by the presence of grazing animals, however this is not considered to undermine the classification of habitat type, with species lists taken where possible around the animals and from boundaries.

Evaluation and Assessment

3.16 The evaluation and assessment of ecological features is beyond the scope of a PEA and has therefore not been undertaken here. Formal evaluation and assessment of any identified important ecological features should be undertaken as part of either a full EcIA, or receptor-specific survey and assessment in accordance with the published CIEEM method (CIEEM, 2018).

4.0 BASELINE ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Nature Conservation Designations

Statutory

4.1 There are no statutory designations covering any part of the Site.

4.2 Eight international statutory designations were identified within 10km of the Site. These were the Solent and Dorset Coast SPA (c. 6.2km south of the Site), Portsmouth Harbour SPA (c. 6.2km south), Portsmouth Harbour Ramsar (c. 6.2km south), Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA (c. 6.2km south-east), Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar (c. 6.2km south-east), Solent Maritime SAC (c. 6.2km south-east), Solent and Isle of Wight Lagoons SAC (c. 7.2km south-east) and Butser Hill SAC (c. 8.9km north-east).

4.3 Two national statutory designations were identified within 3km of the Site. These were the Lye Heath Marsh SSSI (c. 2.3km south-west) and Hook Heath Meadows SSSI (c. 2.9km south-west). No local statutory designations were identified within 3km of the Site.

4.4 The Site is present within the fluvial catchment of the Potwell tributary, discharging to the Solent and associated European site designations.

4.5 These statutory designations are described in Table 1 below. In general, given their reasons for designation and sensitivities, and with consideration of their spatial relationship with the Site, the presence of these statutory designations is not considered to represent a significant constraint to development. The exception to this is the Solent designations, which are discussed further in Section 5.

Non-Statutory

4.6 Eight non-statutory designations were identified within 1km of the Site. These were the Creech Walk East Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) located immediately south of the Site, Piper's Hill Wood SINC (c. 485m east), Soake Farm Meadows SINC (c. 495m north-east), Soake Farm Meadows South SINC (c. 505m north-east), Kings Pond Meadow SINC (c. 720m north-east), Creech Edge Scrub SINC (c. 780m south-west), Creech Walk West SINC (c. 935m west) and Inhams Lane Meadow 5 SINC (c. 1km north-west). These non-statutory designations are described in Table 1 below.

4.7 Of particular notes is Creech Walk East SINC located immediately to the south of the Site. This designation is recorded as comprising a pasture woodland or wooded common of considerable biological and historical interest.

Table 1. Statutory and Non-Statutory Designations within search radii

Site Name & Designation	Distance & Direction from Survey Area	Special Interests or Qualifying Features
International Designations within 10km		
Solent and Dorset Coast SPA	c. 6.2km south	Regularly supports internationally important breeding populations of sandwich tern *Sterna sandvicensi*, common tern *Sterna hirundo* and little tern *Sterna albifrons.*
Portsmouth Harbour SPA	c. 6.2km south	Supports internationally important populations of overwintering migratory brent geese *Branta bernicla*, red-breasted merganser *Mergus serrator* and black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa islandica*.
Portsmouth Harbour Ramsar	c. 6.2km south	Large industrialised estuary comprising one of the four largest expanses of mudflats and tidal creeks on the south coast of Britain. The site support large beds of narrow-leaved *Zostera angustifolia* and dwarf eelgrass *Zostera noltii*, extensive green alga and sea lettuce *Ulva* sp., as well as internationally important numbers of wintering dark-bellied brent geese and nationally important numbers of grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola*, dunlin *Calidris alpina alpine* and black-tailed godwit.
Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA	c. 6.2km south	Supports important assemblages of breeding birds, including little tern and sandwich tern. The site also supports the migratory species of ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula*, black-tailed godwit, dark-bellied brent goose, dunlin, grey plover and redshank *Tringa tetanus.* The area also regularly supports an assemblage of at least 20,000 waterfowl.
Chichester and Langstone Harbours Ramsar	c. 6.2km south	Large estuarine basins comprising extensive mud and sand flats exposed at low tide. Of particular significance for over-wintering wildfowl and waders, as well as providing a diversity of coastal and transitional habitats supporting important plant and animal communities.
Solent Maritime SAC	c. 6.2km south	Contains several Annex I habitats including estuaries, spartina swards, Atlantic salt meadows, sandbanks, mudflats and sandflats exposed at low tide, coastal lagoons, annual vegetation of drift lines, perennial vegetation of stony banks, *Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand, and shifting dunes along the shoreline with marram grass *Ammophila arenaria.*

Solent and Isle of Wight Lagoons SAC	c. 7.2km south-east	Designation for the presence of a series of Annex I coastal lagoons.
Butser Hill SAC	c. 8.9km north-east	Designation for the presence of Annex 1 habitats 'Semi-natural dry grassland and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates' and 'English yew *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles'. Also an importance orchid area.
National Designations within 3km		
Lye Heath Marsh SSSI	c. 2.3km south-west	
Hook Heath Meadows SSSI	c. 2.9km south-west	Area of unimproved meadows, scrub and woodland supporting a notable invertebrate assemblage.
Local Designations within 3km		
-	-	-
Non-Statutory Designations within 1km		
Creech Walk East SINC	Immediately south	Pasture woodland and wooded commons of considerable biological and historical interest. Areas of heathland which are afforested or have succeeded to woodland.
Piper's Hill Wood SINC	c. 485m east	Ancient Semi-natural Woodlands.
Soake Farm Meadows SINC	c. 495m north-east	Lowland meadow neutral grassland supporting green-winged orchid *Anacamptis morio*.
Soake Farm Meadows South SINC	c. 505m north-east	Semi-improved grassland which retains a significant element of unimproved grassland.
Kings Pond Meadow SINC	c. 720m north-east	Semi-improved grassland which retains a significant element of unimproved grassland.
Creech Edge Scrub SINC	c. 780m south-west	Agriculturally unimproved grassland which is not of recent origin.
Creech Walk West SINC	c. 935m west	Presence of hazel dormice *Muscardinus avellanarius*.
Inhams Lane Meadow 5 SINC	c. 1km north-west	Agriculturally unimproved grassland which is not of recent origin.

Habitats and Flora

4.8 Habitats recorded on-site are illustrated in Appendix A with detailed species lists provided in Appendix E. Relevant UKHab codes are provided within parentheses for each habitat type recorded [e.g. Other Neutral Grassland (g3c)].

Irreplaceable Habitats

4.9 There is no ancient woodland, as shown on the ancient woodland inventory, covering any part of the Site or immediately adjacent land. The nearest parcel is Piper's Hill Wood SINC (c. 485m east of the Site). No trees on or adjacent to Site are listed on the Ancient Tree Inventory.

Notable Flora Records

4.10 The HBIC provided 106 records of 19 notable plant species from within the search area. A total of 35 records are of butcher's-broom *Ruscus aculeatus* which was recorded during the field survey within Boundary B5. Also of note is a total of 21 records of green-winged orchid for which the Soake Farm Meadows SINC is designated for. These records are all present within the above designation, the closest of which located c. 550m north-east of the Site.

4.11 A further 102 records of 30 invasive non-native plant species were identified within the search area. A total of 10 records are of rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum* which was recorded during the field survey within Boundary B5. Furthermore, five records are of butterfly-bush *Buddleja davidii* which was observed within Boundary B4.

4.12 Of potential relevance to the on-site boundary features is cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, and of relevance to the grassland strip extending from Field F2 along the west of Boundary B6 are yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeodbolon argentatum* and bluebell *Hyacinthoides hispanica* x non-scripta.

Other neutral grassland (g3c)

4.13 Fields F1 and F2 comprise a series of 'Other neutral grassland' rotationally grazed paddocks, with a uniformly short sward height and scattered bare ground due to over-grazing.

4.14 Species frequently present within Field F1 include creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*, selfheal *Prunella vulgaris* and hawkbit *Leontodon* sp., alongside perineal rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, common fleabane *Pulicaria dysenterica*, Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, clover *Trifolium* sp. and red fescue *Festuca rubra*.

4.15 Of note, the majority of Field F2 is mapped as 'Good Quality Semi Improved Grassland (non-priority)' habitat under the priority habitat inventory. Species frequently present within Field F2 include creeping buttercup, daisy *Bellis perennis* and selfheal, alongside Yorkshire-fog, annual meadow-grass *Poa annua*, crested dog's-tail, dock *Rumex* sp., bent grass *Agrostis* sp. and common fleabane. Four individual oak *Quercus* sp. trees (T1-4) are present within Field F2.

4.16 A linear strip of unmanaged 'Other neutral grassland', c. 3m in width, extends north-east from Field F2 to the west of Boundary B6, bordering an off-site woodland. The strip appears to form a vehicular access track to Field F2 from Forest Road, however, in consideration of its tall sward height, it would not appear to be in regular use. Species present include false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, bent grass, meadow-grass *Poa* sp., cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis*, perennial rye-grass, rush *Juncus* sp., bindweed *Calystegia* sp.

and barren brome *Anisantha sterilis*. Woodland ground flora species were also observed including great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*, bittersweet *Solanum dulcamara*, hedge woundwort *Stachys sylvatica*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, enchanter's-nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, herb Robert *Geranium robertianum* and bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*.

Modified grassland (g4)

4.17 Field F3 comprises a 'Modified grassland' field which appeared to have been sown for hay/sileage and cut earlier in the season given its relatively short uniform sward height. The field predominantly comprised perennial rye-grass, alongside occasional spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*, common fleabane, creeping buttercup, field bindweed *Calystegia arvensis*, creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. saplings. The outgrown field margins also comprised Yorkshire-fog, false oat-grass, dock and bent grass.

Developed land; sealed surface (u1b)

4.18 A hardstanding parking area is present to the south of the Site within which three timber clad stables (Structures S1-3) are present.

Bare ground (g; 510)

4.19 Two enclosed bare ground paddocks adjoined to Structure S1 which appear to have previously been 'Other neutral grassland' prior to excessive poaching from horses.

Artificial unvegetated unsealed surface (u1c)

4.20 A dressage area is present to the south of the Site, comprising a rubber pellet surface.

Native hedgerows (h2a)

4.21 Boundary B2 is a well-managed native hedgerow, c. 2m in height, present along the southern boundary of Field F1, comprising hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, ivy *Hedera helix*, willow *Salix* sp., yew *Taxus baccata* and common nettle *Urtica dioica*.

4.22 Boundary B4 is a well-managed native hedgerow, c. 2m in height, present along the north- and south-eastern boundaries of Field F1 adjacent to an off-site neighbouring garden and Furzeley Road. Species present include oak, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, common fleabane, hedge bindweed *Calystegia sepium*, bramble, hawthorn, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and butterfly bush.

4.23 Boundary B8 is a well-managed native hedgerow, c. 3m in height, present along the eastern boundary of Field F3. Species present include willow, oak and blackthorn.

Native hedgerow with trees (h2a; 11)

4.24 Boundary B5 is an outgrown native hedgerow with mature trees present along the southern and western boundaries of Field F2. Species present include oak, hawthorn, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, ivy, laurel *Laurus* sp., common nettle, hazel *Corylus avellana*, rhododendron, bramble and butcher's-broom.

4.25 Boundary B6 is an outgrown native hedgerow with mature trees present along the western boundary of Field F3, adjacent to the strip of 'Other neutral grassland'. Species present include ash, hazel, oak, ivy and willow.

4.26 Boundary B9 is a native hedgerow with trees present along the northern boundary of Field F3, comprising oak, hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, willow and ash.

4.27 Boundary B10 is a short section of native hedgerow with trees present within the north-eastern corner of Field F2 adjacent to an off-site neighbouring garden. Species present include willow, bramble, hawthorn and ivy.

Native hedgerow with trees associated with bank or ditch (h2a; 11, 50)

4.28 Boundary B3 is a native hedgerow present between Fields F1 and F2 comprising hawthorn, bramble, ivy, germander speedwell *Veronica chamaedrys* and bittersweet with interspersed mature oak trees. A ditch, dry at the time of the field survey, is associated with the western face of the boundary. The boundary is between c. 2 and 3m in height, with a c. 10m gap present approximately centrally along the boundary.

Line of trees (w; 33)

4.29 Boundary B1 is 'Line of trees' present along the southern boundary of the Site, adjacent to the hardstanding parking area, comprising ash and willow.

Line of trees associated with bank or ditch (w; 33, 50)

4.30 Boundary B7 is a sparse 'Line of trees' comprising mature oak and ash trees, with a single fallen oak tree. The boundary is present to the south of Field F3 with a ditch, dry at the time of the field survey, present connecting to Boundary B3.

Fauna

Bats

4.31 A total of 346 bat records were identified within the search area, dating from 1989 to 2023. These include common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, Nathusius's pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii*, brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auratus*, barbastelle *Barbastella barbastellus*, serotine *Eptesicus serotinus*,

Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*, whiskered bat *Myotis mystacinus*, Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri*, Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leisleri*, noctule *Nyctalus noctula and greater horseshoe Rhinolophus ferrumequinum.*

4.32 A total of 14 records are dispersed around the Site within a c. 250m radius. These include automated static monitoring surveys undertaken in 2022, during which passes of barbastelle, common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, Nathusius's bat, serotine, Leisler's bat and noctule were detected each month between April and October. Moreover, these records include an emergence of an individual Myotis, suspected to be a Natterer's bat, from a dwelling (c. 60m east of the Site), dating from 2023, and a series of records relating to brown-long eared roosts dating between 2008 and 2023.

4.33 The grassland fields and boundary vegetation, comprising native hedgerows and mature lines of trees, are suitable for foraging and dispersing bats. Furthermore, on-site structures and semi-mature/mature trees in the boundary vegetation have the potential to support roosting bats.

Badger

4.34 The HBIC have provided four records of badger *Meles meles* from within the search area, dating from 1991 to 2008. The closest record is c. 970m east of the Site, dating from 2008, with no further information on the type of record (i.e. droppings, sett) provided.

4.35 Badgers are common and widespread and will persist in a variety of habitats. Habitats on-site provide opportunities for foraging, shelter and dispersal, and are well-connected with the wider landscape. A potential sett entrance was identified along Boundary B6 associated with an uplifted root.

Dormouse

4.36 A total of six records of dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius* were identified within the search area, dating from 2006 to 2018. The closest record is c. 1.2km north-west of the Site, dating from 2018, with no further information on the type of record (i.e. number of individuals, nest) provided. The remaining five records are clustered c. 1.5km south-east associated with Sheepwash Coppice.

4.37 The boundary vegetation provides suitable foraging and nesting opportunities for dormice, with good connectivity to the wider landscape, in particular Creech Woods present immediately south of the Site, which is known to support dormice.

Riparian Mammals

4.38 No records of water vole *Arvicola amphibius* or otter *Lutra lutra* were identified within the search area.

4.39 There are no watercourses or suitable riparian habitat capable of supporting water vole or otters within or in close proximity to the Site. These species are therefore scoped out as a constraint to development.

Other Mammals

4.40 A total of 12 records of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* were identified within the search area, dating from 2008 to 2012. The closest record is c. 395m north of the Site associated with a residential dwelling. All records are clustered within the residential areas of Denmead and the neighbouring village of Cowplain. The on-site grassland and boundary vegetation are suitable for supporting foraging and dispersing hedgehog. The Site is well-connected to the surrounding landscape including woodland and residential gardens which are likely to support this species, however a notable assemblage is not anticipated.

4.41 Three records of brown hare *Lepus europaeus* were identified within the search area, one of which dating from 1999 and the remaining two records from 2009. These records are all present to the north of the Site, the closest of which c. 1.3km, dating from 1999. The on-site grassland and woodland edge habitat are suitable for foraging and dispersing brown hare, however, given the scale of the Site, and lack of recent records, a notable assemblage is not anticipated.

Birds

4.42 A total of 560 records of 61 bird species were identified within the search area, dating from 1993 to 2022. Closest to the Site is a cluster of records including sand martin *Riparia riparia* and Red List species red wing *Turdus iliacus* and mistle thrush *Turdus viscivorus* (c. 410m south of the Site), dating between 1993 and 2022. Species of potential relevance to the off-site SINC woodland are tree pipit *Anthus trivialis*, song thrush *Turdus philomelos*, wood warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*, woodlark *Lullula arborea* and redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*.

4.43 The grassland and boundary vegetation on-site are capable of supporting foraging and breeding by a range of generalist bird species.

Reptiles

4.44 A total of 25 records of three reptile species were identified within the search area including grass snake *Natrix Helvetica*, slow worm *Anguis fragilis* and common lizard *Zootoca vivipara*. Closest to the Site (c. 30m west) are two records each of slow worm and grass snake within Parklands Business Park, all dating from 2019. A cluster of five records of slow worm is present c. 1.2km north-west of the Site within a residential garden, dating between 2009 and 2020.

4.45 The grassland field margins and boundary vegetation provide suitable habitat for foraging and sheltering reptiles, with the Site sharing connectivity with further suitable habitat in the local landscape.

Amphibians

4.46 A total of 11 records of common toad *Bufo bufo* were identified within the search area, dating between 1989 and 2022. Closest to the Site (c. 30m west) are two records within Parklands Business Park, dating from 2018 and 2019.

4.47 The boundary vegetation and grassland field margins provide suitable habitat for sheltering, foraging and dispersing amphibians. A more detailed appraisal of the Site in respect of great crested newt is provided below.

Great Crested Newt

4.48 Nine records of great crested newt were identified within the search area, dating between 2019 and 2023. Closest to the Site (c. 30m west) are three records within Parklands Business Park, dating from 2011, 2013 and 2017. A single great crested newt Class Survey License Return is also present within Parklands Business Park, with the species confirmed present on 12 survey visits undertaken between March and May 2017. The remaining records are all present to the north of the Site, the closest of which c. 900m.

4.49 Despite spending much of their annual lifecycle within the terrestrial environment, great crested newts are dependent upon the presence of suitable aquatic breeding habitat in order for a population to persist. No potential breeding ponds were identified on-site during the site survey, while ten appear to be present within a dispersible range of the Site, based on OS mapping. The closest of these ponds are both located within Parklands Business Park, Pond P1 (c. 20m west) and Pond P2 (c. 150m west), within which based on the above records, great crested newts are assumed to have been historically present.

4.50 Terrestrial habitats within the Site, notably the arable grassland margins, woodland edge and hedgerow bases, are suitable to support dispersal, refuge and foraging by great crested newts.

Invertebrates

4.51 A total of 126 records of 50 invertebrate species were identified within the search area. The majority of these records are clustered c. 1.2km west of the Site within Creech Woods. Of potential relevance to the on-site hedgerows and grassland margins is the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5 listed stag beetle *Lucanus cervus*, and to the off-site SINC woodland silver-washed fritillary *Argynnis paphia* and purple emperor *Apatura iris*.

4.52 The Site is not present within an Important Invertebrate Area (IIA). Furthermore, the habitats on-site are generally common and widespread and are considered to be unlikely o support an important assemblage of invertebrates.

5.0 DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Nature Conservation Designations

Statutory

5.1 The Site is present within the fluvial catchment of the Potwell tributary, discharging to the Solent and associated European site designations. The qualifying features of these designations are known to be sensitive to and already suffering from eutrophication. Nutrient (principally nitrogen) loading within treated foul effluent resulting directly from the proposed development is unlikely to have a significant effect on the qualifying habitat and species in isolation, however, may act in combination with wider project housing growth to undermine conservation objectives. A nutrient neutrality calculation will therefore be required to assess the nutrient budget for the proposed development.

Non-Statutory

Creech Walk East SINC

5.2 Creech Walk East SINC is located adjacent to the southern boundary of the Site, comprising pasture woodland/woodland common habitat of biological and historical interest. This parcel is not a mapped 'Woodpasture and Parkland BAP' Priority Habitat, however, is a contiguous component of the wider Creech Woods which includes parcels of mapped deciduous woodland priority habitat.

5.3 While there is no evidence to suggest this woodland is ancient woodland, it is clearly of high ecological importance and development proposals should ensure both direct and indirect negative effects are avoided. Guidance from Natural England and the Forestry Commission in respect of ancient woodland recommends a minimum buffer of 15m from the woodland edge to avoid direct impacts on current and future potential rooting areas. Wider buffers are often appropriate to avoid development edge effects such as disturbance from artificial lighting and chemical pollution, which could undermine the ecological interest of the woodland. Given its size, the Site should readily accommodate such a buffer, therefore the presence of the SINC woodland is not considered to represent an overriding constraint to the principle of development.

Habitats and Flora

5.4 Legislation and existing policy supports the provision of Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) through development. The NPPF states that planning decisions should provide net gains for biodiversity, and central government have legislated a requirement for at least 10% net gain in

relation to all planning permissions, evidenced through application of the Biodiversity Metric.

5.5 While much of the Site is dominated by habitats of limited ecological interest, areas of greater biodiversity value have been identified, specifically the boundary vegetation and trees. On-site losses should be minimised through the retention and enhancement of these habitats, and gains should be sought through the design of green infrastructure.

5.6 It is recommended that the scheme design be informed by the application of the Biodiversity Metric, to provide a quantitative assessment of losses or gains in biodiversity. This calculation should be informed by an in-season Habitat Condition Assessment of the habitats present on-site.

Invasive Non-Native Species

5.7 At the detailed design stage, it will be necessary for construction activities to commit to measures which avoid the spread of invasive non-native species, and ongoing management to target their removal. However, the presence of these species does not represent a constraint to the principle of development.

Grassland

5.8 From an ecological perspective it would be recommended to bias built form to the north-east of the Site and prioritise habitat retention and enhancement in the south-west (adjacent to the off-site woodland SINC, and in the location of the mapped 'good quality semi-improved grassland' non-priority habitat present within Field F2) as part of green infrastructure.

5.9 In season habitat condition assessment of the grassland will assist in better understanding the relative ecological importance of the mapped non-priority grassland, in the context of the rest of the on-site neutral grassland.

Hedgerows and trees

5.10 On-site internal and boundary vegetation includes native hedgerows and lines of trees. Hedgerows are a Section 41 Habitat of Principal Importance, a LBAP priority habitat in Hampshire, and represent important foraging, refuge and dispersal habitat for a range of fauna. Boundary vegetation should therefore be retained, losses associated with access creation should be minimised, and retained sections should be protected and buffered from development edge effects (such as artificial lighting, disturbance from domestic pets, fly tipping of garden waste and spread of non- native species). This is in line with Policy CP15 of the Winchester City Council Local Plan by which proposals should protect, conserve or enhance the district's Green Infrastructure.

Fauna

Bats

5.11 Boundary hedgerows and trees offer suitable habitat for dispersing bats and should therefore be retained and protected alongside development, as described above.

5.12 Night-time bat walkover surveys and periods of automated static monitoring are recommended to understand diversity, distribution and abundance of bat species utilising the Site. Night-time bat walkover surveys involve surveyors observing bat behaviour within the different habitats on-site, looking out for potential flight lines and roosting sites, and recording species with a hand-held bat detector. Static automated monitoring is utilised to identify the species of bat present and for understanding the activity levels in different areas of the Site.

5.13 Any structures or trees that are to be removed as part of the proposed development will need to be assessed as part of a Preliminary Roost Assessment or Ground Level Tree Assessment respectively in order to determine their level of roost potential. Further roost surveys would be recommended in the event any structure/tree is assessed to have significant roost potential are to be lost, in order to confirm the presence or likely absence of roosting bats.

Badger

5.14 Habitats on-site provide opportunities for foraging, shelter and dispersal, and are well-connected with the wider landscape. Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act (1992). Records indicate the presence of badger in the landscape, with a potential sett entrance observed within Boundary B6 during the field survey, therefore a dedicated badger survey is recommended to establish the presence/likely absence of badger within the Site, and to determine how they are using the Site.

Dormice

5.15 Dormice are known to persist in the local area, and suitable habitat is present on-site and in the local landscape. Nest tube surveys would be appropriate at the application stage to confirm presence or likely absence of dormice within the Site. Retention and enhancement of suitable dormouse habitat within the Site, comprising all external boundaries and internal Boundary B3, recommended where possible to maintain connectivity for any populations which may be present within the Site.

Hedgehogs

5.16 As there are records of hedgehogs in the area and the Site contains suitable shelter, foraging and dispersal habitat, it is likely that hedgehogs are present. Although they are not a protected species, hedgehog

populations are rapidly declining and throughout the UK, primarily due to habitat loss and fragmentation (British Hedgehog Preservation Society & PTES, 2018). Provision of hedgehog gaps in new fencing (or, where relevant, timber post and rail fencing created with no wire mesh infill) to create hedgehog highways throughout the Site are recommended as a way to maintain habitat connectivity. Log piles and hedgehog houses can be placed around the Site to provide suitable shelter and hibernation opportunities.

Breeding birds

5.17 The on-site habitats and boundary vegetation are suitable for nesting and foraging bird species. Breeding bird surveys are therefore recommended to establish the diversity of species which utilise the Site.

Reptiles

5.18 Opportunities for reptiles were confirmed at the Site comprising grassland field margins and boundary vegetation. All British reptile species are listed within Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and are afforded protection against killing and injury under parts of sub-section 9(1) of the Act. In addition, all British reptile species are species of principal important as per S41 of the NERC Act (2006) in England. Surveys to confirm the presence or likely absence of reptile species are therefore recommended. This requires reptile refugia mats to be placed within suitable habitat around the Site at frequent intervals. These mats are then checked for the presence of reptiles or their field signs at up to weekly intervals between April and September inclusive.

Great Crested Newt

5.19 Terrestrial habitats within the Site, notably the arable grassland margins, woodland edge and hedgerow bases, are suitable to support dispersal, refuge and foraging by great crested newts, and local records indicate the presence of this species in the local landscape. While no ponds are present on-site, the pond search (see Appendix C) identified ten ponds within a potential dispersal range, sharing habitat connectivity with the Site. It is recommended that a Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment of each pond be undertaken to determine their suitability to support great crested newt breeding. If suitable, further surveys would be recommended to determine presence or likely absence.

Summary of Recommendations

5.20 Based on the ecological constraints identified above, Table 2 summarises recommendations for further work necessary to determine the need for, and scope of, any avoidance, mitigation and/or compensation measures to address potential adverse effects of development. The outcome of this further work will inform an EcIA of the final scheme.

Table 2. Recommendations for further investigation/survey

Ecological Feature	Further Work	Applicable Timescales
Baseline Habitats	Detailed in-season botanical surveys of grassland	June - July
	Habitat condition assessments to inform Statutory Biodiversity Metric for BNG	
Bats	Preliminary ground-based roost assessment of on-site trees	Anytime
	Preliminary Roost Assessment of Structures S1-S3	Anytime
	Seasonal walked transects and periods of automated static monitoring	April - October
Badgers	Dedicated badger survey	Any time(optimal October – November / March – April)
Dormice	Nest tube surveys	April - November
Birds	Breeding bird surveys to determine the presence, distribution and breeding status	Three to six surveys (late March to early July)
Reptiles	Refugia surveys	April - September
Great crested newts	Habitat Suitability Index assessment, with the potential for further presence / likely absence surveys	March - June

Opportunities for Ecological Enhancement

5.21 To promote adherence to the NPPF and policy CP16 of Winchester City Council Local Plan the following opportunities for ecological enhancement have been identified:

- Aquatic habitat creation to provide new aquatic opportunities and increase biodiversity
- Incorporation of native plants and those of wildlife importance in to landscaping scheme to provide foraging opportunities for birds, invertebrates and bats
- Improved connectivity of green infrastructure with new hedgerow planting and infill planting
- Provision of new bat roosting opportunities within new buildings and retained mature trees
- Provision of bird nesting opportunities within new buildings and retained mature trees
- Provision of hedgehog gaps in new fencing to promote habitat connectivity across and within the Site

6.0 CONCLUSIONS

6.1 No significant ecological constraints to development at the Site have been identified, however the following additional investigation/survey work is recommended to inform an evidence-based EcIA of the proposed development, such that suitable ecological impact avoidance, mitigation and/or compensation measures may be adopted:

- In-season botanical surveys of grassland habitat
- In-season Habitat Condition Assessments
- Bat surveys, including seasonal night-time bat walkover surveys, monthly static monitoring periods
- Preliminary Roost Assessment of Structures S1-3
- Dedicated badger survey
- Dormouse nest tube surveys
- Breeding bird surveys
- Reptile refugia surveys
- Habitat Suitability Index assessment

6.2 Recommendations for ecological enhancement measures that could be delivered as part of development at the Site have been provided here-in, which will aid accordance with policy CP16 of Winchester City Council Local Plan.

6.3 No overriding constraints to development have been identified subject to the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures in respect of confirmed ecological constraints, and further recommended survey work.

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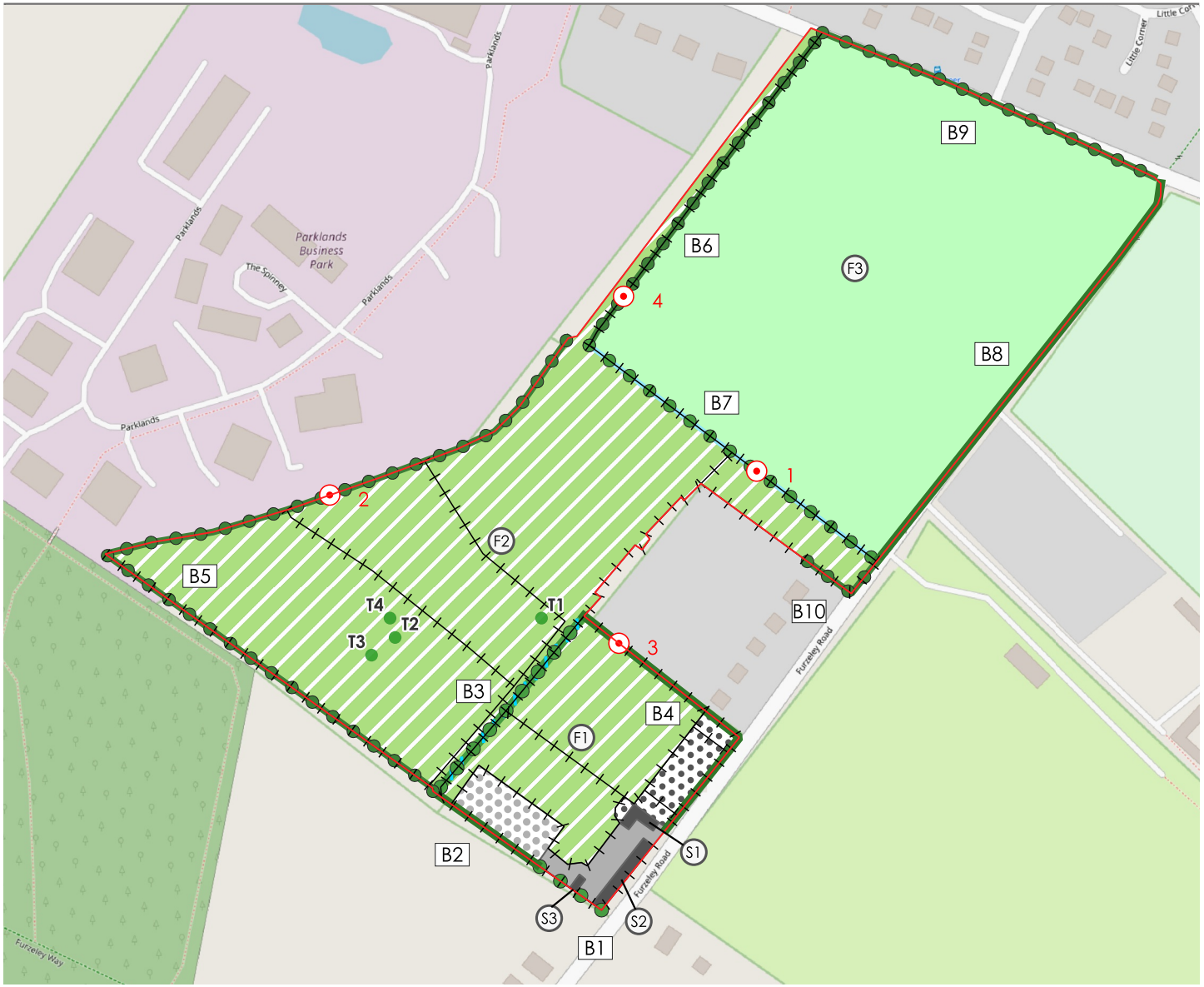
Appendix A

Habitats Plan



- Indicative site boundary
- Other neutral grassland (g3c)
- Modified grassland (g4)
- Developed land; sealed surface (u1b)
- Buildings (u1b5)
- Artificial unvegetated unsealed surface (u1c)
- Bare ground (g; 510)
- Native hedgerow (h2a)
- Native hedgerow with trees (h2a; 11)
- Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch (h2a; 11, 50)
- Line of trees (w; 33)
- Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch (w; 33, 50)
- Tree
- Fence
- Field/Structure reference
- Boundary reference
- Target note
  1 - Fallen deadwood
  2- Presence of non-native invasive species Rhododendron with Boundary B5
  3 - Presence of non-native invasive species butterfly-bush in Boundary B4
  4 - Possible badger sett entrance

0 2.5 5 km

CSA environmental
Worting House, Church Lane, Basingstoke RG23 8PY
t 01256 632340
e basingstoke@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Project	Land at Forest Road, Denmead	Date August 2024	Drawing No. CSA/7227/100
Drawing Title	Habitats Plan	Scale Refer to scale	Rev -
Client	Bewley Homes	Drawn MB	Checked MR

Appendix B

Legislation and Planning Policy

1.1. The **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017** (as amended) make prescriptions for the designation and protection of Sites of Community Importance ('European sites', i.e. Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas) and European Protected Species (EPS). The latter include all native bats, great crested newts, dormice, otters and certain reptiles, listed under Annex II of the Regulations. Following the UK's departure from the European Union, the provisions of the Regulations have been retained through enactment of the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, which came into force on 31 December 2020.

1.2. The **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** (as amended, principally by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) forms the basis for protection of statutory designated sites of national importance (e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest; SSSIs) and native species that are rare and vulnerable in a national context. Additionally, badgers are protected under the **Protection of Badgers Act 1992**.

1.3. The **Environment Act 2021** received Royal Assent in November 2021. Through an amendment to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 the Environment Act introduced a mandatory requirement for all planning permissions to be conditional upon the submission of a Biodiversity Gain Plan for approval by the Local Planning Authority. The Plan will need to demonstrate a net gain of at least 10% in the biodiversity value of the development site.

1.4. Section 40(1) of the **Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006** (as amended) states that each public authority, "must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving and enhancing biodiversity." This legislation makes it clear that planning authorities should consider impacts to biodiversity when determining planning applications, with particular regard to the Section 41 (S41) lists of 56 habitats and 943 species of principal importance. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) has been superseded by the Biodiversity 2020 Strategy, however Local BAPs continue to influence biodiversity management and conservation effort, including through the spatial planning system, at the local scale.

1.5. The **National Planning Policy Framework (2023)** (NPPF) sets out government planning policies for England and how they should be applied. With regards to ecology and biodiversity, Chapter 15: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment, paragraph 180, states that the planning system and planning policies should minimise impacts on and provide net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.

1.6. Paragraph 186 sets out the principles that local planning authorities should apply when determining planning applications:

- If significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused.
- Development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
- Development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons and a suitable compensation strategy exists.
- Development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.

1.7. Accompanying the NPPF, central government guidance on the implementation of planning policies is set out within online Planning Policy Guidance (PPG). The Natural Environment PPG addresses principles across a broad spectrum of topics targeting biodiversity conservation, from individual site and species protection through to the supporting of ecosystem services, and the use of local ecological networks to support the national Nature Recovery Network. In particular, the PPG promotes the delivery of measurable Biodiversity Net Gain through the creation and enhancement of habitats alongside development.

1.8. The **Government Circular 06/2005**, which is referred to within the NPPF, defines statutory nature conservation sites and protected species as a material consideration in the planning process.

1.9. Local planning policies of relevance to ecology, biodiversity and/or nature conservation have been set out in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Summary of regional and local planning policy relating to ecology

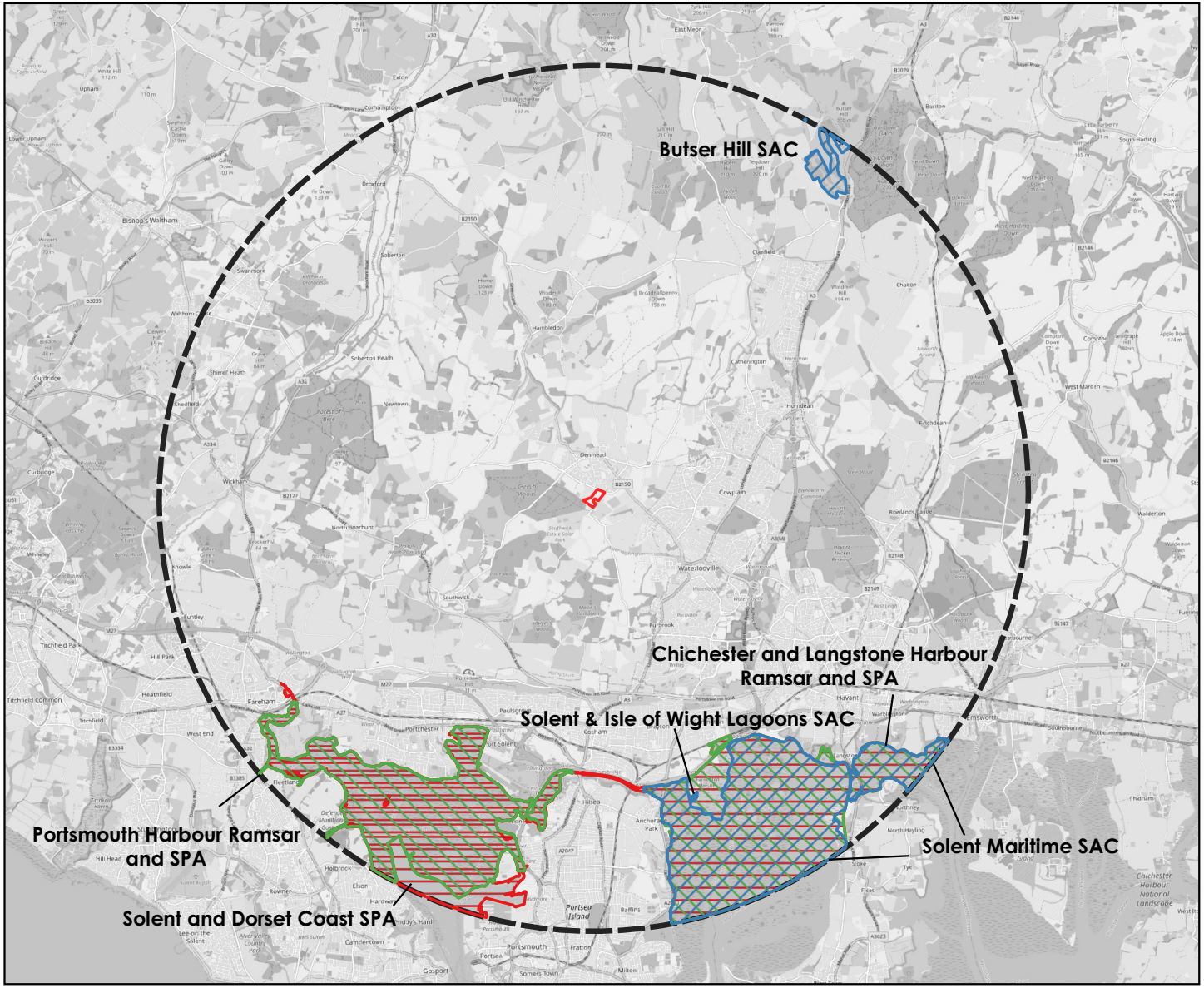
Policy	Summary
Winchester City Council Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy Adopted 2013	

Policy	Summary
Policy CP15: Green Infrastructure	The Local Planning Authority will support development proposals which: • maintain, protect and enhance the function or the integrity of the existing green infrastructure network identified at a District and sub regional level, including strategic blue and green corridors and spaces, particularly where the proposal allows for the enhancement of GI both on-site and in the immediate area; • provide a net gain of well managed, multifunctional green infrastructure, in accordance with the categories and standards specified in Policy CP7 and appropriate for the scale of development, through on-site provision which: – addresses deficits in local green infrastructure provision where appropriate; – integrates with the green network/grid identified at the District and sub-regional level; – provides a high quality public realm for the local community; – encourages public access to and within the natural environment where appropriate; – allows for adaptation to climate change; – is well planned to allow cost effective ongoing management of the GI; – links areas of biodiversity; – is provided at the earliest feasible stage. Where on-site provision is not possible financial contributions will be required for the provision and management of GI sites and will be negotiated on a site by site basis.
Policy CP16: Biodiversity	The Local Planning Authority will support development which maintains, protects and enhances biodiversity across the District, delivering a net gain in biodiversity, and has regard to the following: • protecting sites of international, European, and national importance, and local nature conservation sites, from inappropriate development. • supporting habitats that are important to maintain the integrity of European sites. • new development will be required to show how biodiversity can be retained, protected and enhanced through its design and implementation, for example by designing for wildlife, delivering BAP targets and enhancing Biodiversity Opportunity Areas. • new development will be required to avoid adverse impacts, or if unavoidable ensure that impacts are appropriately mitigated, with compensation measures used only as a last resort. Development proposals will only be supported if the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the harm to the habitat and/or species. • maintaining a District wide network of local wildlife sites and corridors to support the integrity of the biodiversity network, prevent fragmentation, and enable biodiversity to respond and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Policy	Summary
	• supporting and contributing to the targets set out in the District's BAP for priority habitats and species. Planning proposals that have the potential to affect priority habitats and/or species or sites of geological importance will be required to take account of evidence and relevant assessments or surveys.

Appendix C

Desk Study Information



N

- Indicative site boundary
- 10km buffer
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Ramsar
- Special Protection Area (SPA)

0 2.5 5 km

CSA environmental

Worting House, Church Lane,
Basingstoke RG23 8PY

t 01256 632340
e basingstoke@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Project	Land at Forest Road, Denmead	Date July 2024	Drawing No. CSA/7227/101
Drawing Title	International Designations within 10km of the Site	Scale Refer to scale	Rev -
Client	Bewley Homes	Drawn MB	Checked MR

Indicative site boundary

3km buffer

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

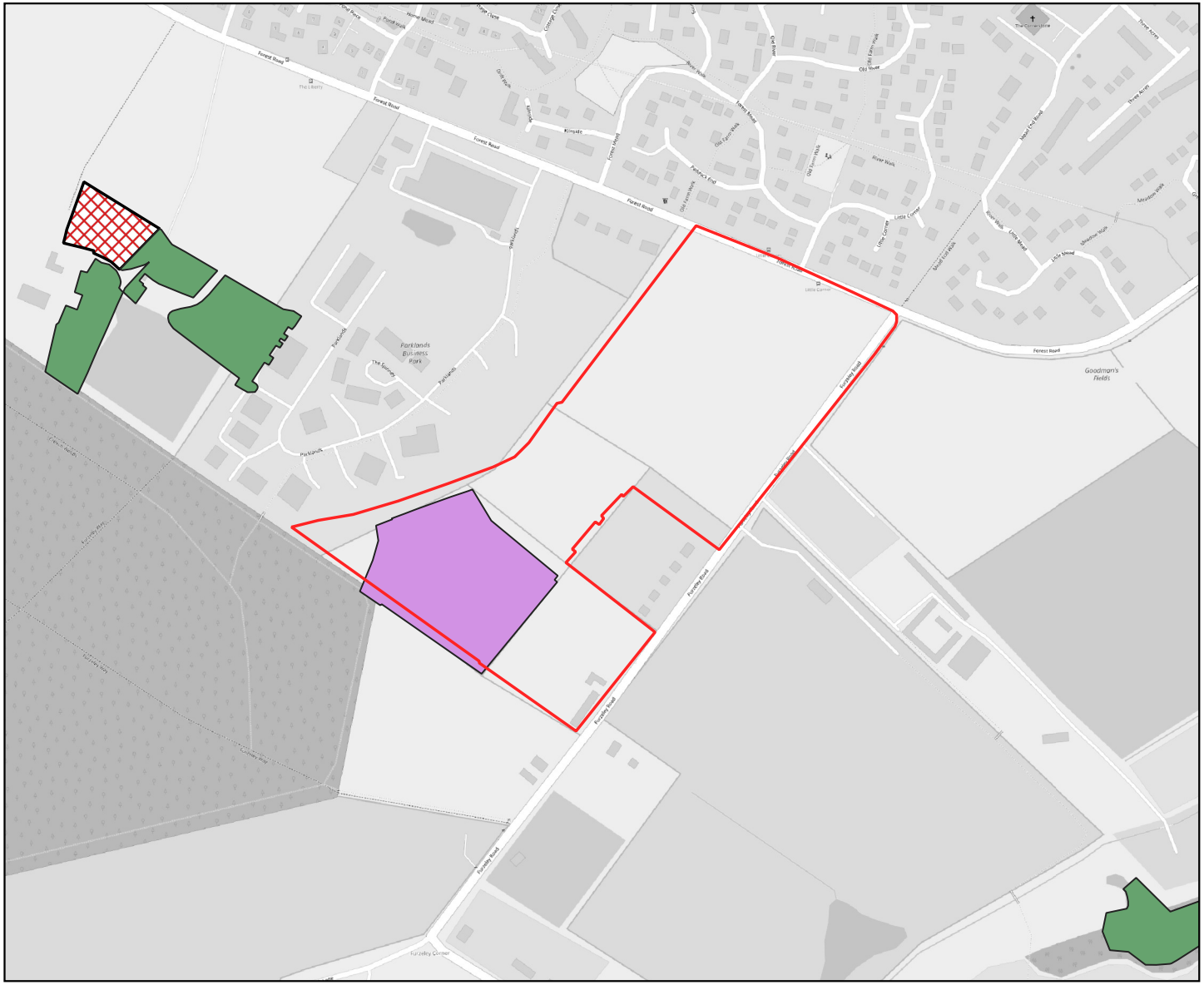
0 0.75 1.5 km

CSA environmental

Worting House, Church Lane,
Basingstoke RG23 8PY

t 01256 632340
e basingstoke@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Project	Land at Forest Road, Denmead	Date July 2024	Drawing No. CSA/7227/102
Drawing Title	National and Local Designations within 3km of the Site	Scale Refer to scale	Rev -
Client	Bewley Homes	Drawn MB	Checked MR



Indicative site boundary

Deciduous woodland

Good quality semi improved grassland

No main habitat but additional habitats present

0 100 200 m

CSA environmental

Worting House, Church Lane,
Basingstoke RG23 8PY

t 01256 632340
e basingstoke@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Project	Land at Forest Road, Denmead	Date July 2024	Drawing No. CSA/7227/103
Drawing Title	Priority Habitats	Scale Refer to scale	Rev -
Client	Bewley Homes	Drawn MB	Checked MR

Appendix D

Photographs

Photograph 1. Hardstanding car park.

Photograph 2. Structure S1.

Photograph 3. Structure S1.

Photograph 4. Structure S2.

Photograph 5. Structure S3.

Photograph 6. Dressage area.

Photograph 7. Field F1.

Photograph 8. Overgrown south-eastern boundary of Field F1.

Photograph 9. Boundary B3.

Photograph 10. Boundary B3.

Photograph 11. Boundary B4.

Photograph 12. Field F2, including Tree T1.

Photograph 13. Excessive poaching in Field F2 from horse grazing.

Photograph 14. Boundary B5.

Photograph 15. Rhododendron in Boundary B5.

Photograph 16. Grassland strip extending north-east from Field F2, present to the west of Boundary B6.

Photograph 17. Boundary B6.

Photograph 18. Field F3.

Photograph 19. Field F3.

Photograph 20. Deadwood present in Boundary B7.

Photograph 21. Boundary B8.

Photograph 22. Boundary B9.

Photograph 23. Boundary B10.

Photograph 24. Dry ditch associated with Boundary B3 and B7.

Appendix E

Habitats and Flora Species List

Table 1. Habitat Polygons

Site Name	Land at Forest Road, Denmead					
Survey Date and Surveyor(s)	21/08/2024 Jodie Van Gramberg and Megan Bridgman					
		Habitat Parcel Number/Habitat Type				
Scientific Name	**Common Name**	F1 Other neutral grassland	F2 Other neutral grassland	Other neutal grassland stripe	Field F3 Modified grassland	Field F3 margins
Ferns						
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken			X		
Herb Species						
Bellis perennis	Daisy		X			
Calystegia arvensis	Field bindweed				X	
Calystegia sp.	Bindweed			X		
Circaea lutetiana	Enchanter's-nightshade			X		
Cirsium arvense	Creeping thistle	X				
Cirsium vulgare	Spear thistle				X	
Epilobium hirsutum	Great willowherb			X		
Epilobium sp.	Willowherb			X		
Geranium robertianum	Herb Robert			X		
Geum urbanum	Wood avens			X		
Hypericum androsaemum	Tutsan St John's-wort			X		
Leontodon sp.	Hawkbit	X				
Potentilla reptans	Creeping cinquefoil				X	
Prunella vulgaris	Selfheal	X	X			
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common fleabane	X	X	X	X	X
Ranunculus repens	Creeping buttercup	X	X		X	
Rumex sp.	Dock		X	X		X
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet			X		
Stachys sylvatica	Hedge woundwort			X		
Trifolium sp.	Clover	X				
Sedges and Rushes						
Juncus sp.	Rush			X		
Grasses						
Agrostis sp.	Bent grass	X	X	X		X
Alopecurus pratensis	Meadow foxtail			X		
Anisantha sterilis	Barren brome			X		
Arrhenatherum elatius	False oat-grass			X		X
Cynosurus cristatus	Crested dog's-tail	X	X			
Dactylis glomerata	Cock's-foot			X		
Festuca rubra	Red fescue	X				
Festuca sp.	Fescue					
Holcus lanatus	Yorkshire-fog	X	X	X		X
Lolium perenne	Perennial rye-grass	X		X	X	X

Scientific Name	Common Name	Habitat Parcel Number/Habitat Type				
		F1 Other neutral grassland	F2 Other neutral grassland	Other neutal grassland stripe	Field F3 Modified grassland	Field F3 margins
Poa annua	Annual meadow-grass		X			
Poa sp.	Meadow-grass			X		
Woody Species						
Broadleaved						
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn			X		
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble			X	X	X

Table 2. Linear Habitats

Site Name	Land at Forest Road, Denmead										
Survey Date and Surveyor(s)	21/08/2024 Jodie Van Gramberg and Megan Bridgman										
		Habitat Parcel Number/Habitat Type									
Scientific Name	**Common Name**	B1 - Line of trees	B2 - Native hedgrow	B3 - Native hedgerow with trees	B4 - Native hedgerow	B5 - Native hedgerow with trees	B6 - Native hedgerow with trees	B7 - Line of trees	B8 - Native hedgerow	B9 - Native hedgerow with trees	B10 - Native hedgerow with trees
Ferns											
Pteridium aquilinum	Bracken					X					
Herb Species											
Calystegia sepium	Hedge bindweed				X						
Pulicaria dysenterica	Common fleabane				X	X					
Rhododendron sp.	Rhododendron					X					
Solanum dulcamara	Bittersweet			X							
Urtica dioica	Common nettle		X			X	X				
Veronica chamaedrys	Germander speedwell			X							
Woody Species											
Coniferous											
Taxus baccata	Yew		X								
Broadleaved											
Acer pseudoplatanus	Sycamore									X	
Buddleja davidii	Butterfly-bush				X						
Corylus avellana	Hazel					X	X			X	
Crataegus monogyna	Hawthorn		X	X	X	X				X	X
Fraxinus excelsior	Ash	X			X		X	X		X	
Hedera helix	Ivy		X	X		X	X				X
Ilex aquifolium	Holly					X					
Laurus sp.	Laurel					X					
Prunus spinosa	Blackthorn				X				X	X	
Quercus sp.	Oak			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Rubus fruticosus agg.	Bramble			X	X	X					X
Ruscus aculeatus	Butcher's-broom					X					
Salix sp.	Willow	X	X				X		X	X	X

CSA environmental

Dixies Barns, High Street,
Ashwell, Hertfordshire
SG7 5NT

t 01462 743647
e ashwell@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Office 20, Citibase,
95 Ditchling Road,
Brighton BN1 4ST

t 01273 573871
e brighton@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

9 Hills Road,
Cambridge,
CB2 1GE

t 07713 468300
e cambridge@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

3 Ripple Court,
Brockeridge Park, Twyning,
Tewkesbury GL20 6FG

t 01386 751100
e tewkesbury@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Wizu Workspace, 32 Eyre St,
Sheffield City Centre,
Sheffield S1 4QZ

t 07838 290741
e sheffield@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk

Worting House,
Church Lane, Basingstoke,
RG23 8PY

t 01256 632340
e basingstoke@csaenvironmental.co.uk
w csaenvironmental.co.uk