

Berrisford Barns, Brown Edge,  
Stoke-on-Trent  
Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment  
2024



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Client                    Emery Planning

Project Title            Berrisford Barns, Brown Edge, Stoke-on-Trent

Project Reference      RHE.3999

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# Executive Summary

## Development Details

The client is proposing residential development at Berrisford Barns, Brown Edge, Stoke-on-Trent hereafter referred to as the 'site'.

This report describes the predicted changes in biodiversity units resulting from the proposed development. Recommendations are provided so that the development is compliant with biodiversity policy and legislation.

## Biodiversity Impact Assessment

The baseline scores are 0.97 habitat units and 0.1 hedgerow units. The proposals score 1.61 habitat units and 0.52 hedgerow units. This represents a net gain of 67% in habitat units and 3664% in hedgerow units. The Trading Rules are satisfied.

## Outcomes

The proposed development is predicted to achieve a net gain in biodiversity units, which is compliant with current national and local planning policy.

Retained and created habitats will be managed in the long-term through a Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP), which can be secured through a planning condition.



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Project Brief

- 1.1.1 Rachel Hacking Ecology Limited was commissioned in 2023 by Emery Planning to carry out a Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment of a proposed development at Berrisford Barns, Stoke-on-Trent, hereafter referred to as the 'site'. The site is located at O.S. grid reference: SJ 90517 53370 (see Figure 1).



Figure 1. Map showing the location of the site courtesy of Google Maps

- 1.1.2 The site comprises barns and agricultural buildings, surrounded by farmland on three sides and residential properties to the north.

### Description of Development

- 1.1.3 The site will be the subject of a planning application for the construction of two residential buildings.

### Relevant Planning History

- 1.1.4 No previous planning applications were identified.

## 1.2 Scope of Work

- 1.2.1 The Client commissioned Rachel Hacking Ecology to assess the predicted changes in biodiversity units resulting from the proposed development.

## 1.3 Site Visit Information

### Surveyor Details

- 1.3.1 Simon Holden (Associate Ecologist) and Austin Rigby (Junior Ecologist) visited the site on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023. Both surveyors are suitably experienced in completing habitat surveys.



## 2. Methods

### 2.1 Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

2.1.1 The Statutory Biodiversity Metric calculation tool was used to assess the predicted changes in habitat units resulting from the proposed development. This report should be read in conjunction with the spreadsheet: *RHE.3963 Berrisford Barns Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool - macro-enabled*.

- The baseline habitats recorded during the ecological walkover were measured using MapInfo GIS software.
- The baseline habitats were translated into UKHab classification using the translation tool in the metric.
- Habitat conditions were assessed using the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Habitat Condition Assessment sheets.
- The strategic significance of baseline habitats was assessed on whether they were formally identified in a local strategy or policy, or whether they were in an ecologically desirable location.
- The area of individual trees was assessed using the *Tree Helper Tool* within the metric.
- The proposed habitats, including any retained or enhanced habitats, were assessed based on information provided by Emery Planning (areas of proposed habitats).

2.1.2 The predicted change in biodiversity units was determined by calculating the difference between the baseline units and the post-development units.

Austin Rigby carried out the calculations and assessment in November 2023.



## 3. Baseline Habitats

### 3.1 Area Habitats

- 3.1.1 The baseline habitat units of the site are calculated to be 0.97 (see Appendix 2).

#### Developed land; Sealed surface

- 3.1.2 This habitat contains a combination of buildings and hardstanding. Collectively, it dominates the site covering 0.168ha. This habitat is of low strategic importance and very low distinctiveness (automatically assigned by the metric). No condition assessment is required, and this habitat scores no habitat units.

#### Modified grassland

- 3.1.3 The corners of the site support modified grassland. The modified grassland makes up 0.0847ha of the site. This habitat is of low strategic importance and low distinctiveness. The habitat is in poor condition (see Appendix 5). This habitat achieves a score of 0.17 area units.

#### Ruderal/Ephemeral

- 3.1.4 A small area of hardstanding has become sparsely vegetated with ruderal species. The ruderal/ephemeral makes up 0.0071ha. This habitat is of low strategic importance and low distinctiveness. The condition has been assessed as poor (see Appendix 5). This habitat achieves 0.01 area units.

#### Bare Ground

- 3.1.5 The area to the south of the site beneath the coniferous trees consists of bare ground extending to 0.0142ha. This habitat is of low strategic importance and low distinctiveness. The condition has been assessed as moderate (see Appendix 5). This habitat achieves a score of 0.06 area units.

#### Introduced Shrub

- 3.1.6 Some areas around the boundaries of the site have been planted with ornamental shrubs, these areas extend to 0.0045ha. This habitat is of low strategic importance and low distinctiveness. Condition assessment is not applicable. This habitat achieves a score of 0.01 area units.

#### Trees

- 3.1.7 Four small and two large trees are present on site, amounting to a cumulative area of 0.0896ha. This habitat is of low strategic importance and medium distinctiveness. The condition has been assessed as moderate (see Appendix 5). Trees achieve a score of 0.72 area units.

## 3.2 Linear Habitats

- 3.2.1 A single non-native/ornamental hedgerow measuring 0.014km exists to the northeast site boundary. This habitat is of low strategic importance and very low distinctiveness. The condition is automatically assessed as poor. This habitat achieves a score of 0.01 hedgerow units.



## 4. Proposed Habitats

### 4.1 Retained Habitats

#### Trees

- 4.1.1 Two large trees will be retained with a score of 0.59 units.

### 4.2 Created Habitats

#### Developed Land; Sealed Surface

- 4.2.1 Buildings, pavements, roads and hardstanding will extend to 0.129ha. This is a habitat of very low distinctiveness and low strategic significance. Condition assessment is not applicable. Developed land; sealed surface scores zero units.

#### Vegetated Garden

- 4.2.2 To the rear of each property is an area designated for garden space extending to 0.0487ha. This habitat is of low distinctiveness and low strategic significance. Condition assessment is not applicable. Vegetated garden scores 0.09 units.

#### Introduced Shrub

- 4.2.3 Ornamental shrub planting extends to 0.003ha. This habitat is of low distinctiveness and low strategic significance. Condition assessment is not applicable. Introduced shrub scores 0.01 unit.

#### Modified Grassland

- 4.2.4 A strip of amenity grassland will be created forming a footpath around the site, extending to 0.0082ha. This habitat is of low distinctiveness and low strategic significance. The target condition is poor, taking approximately one year to achieve. Poor modified grassland scores 0.02 area units.
- 4.2.5 Other areas of modified grassland (moderate condition) will extend to 0.042ha. This habitat will be created by sowing with a wildflower seed mix and managing with a late annual cut-and-collect. This is predicted to take four years to achieve and scores 0.14 area units.

#### Pond

- 4.2.6 A pond and associated aquatic/emergent/semi-emergent vegetation will be installed to the south of the property. The pond will extend to 0.00452ha, is of medium distinctiveness and low strategic significance. The target condition is moderate which will take three years to achieve. The pond scores 0.14 area units.



#### Mixed scrub

- 4.2.7 A mix of native scrub species will be planted along the southern borders of the site creating an understorey for the trees. The mixed scrub will extend to 0.044 hectares, is of medium distinctiveness and low strategic significance. The target condition is moderate, which will take 5 years to achieve. Mixed scrub scores 0.29 area units.

#### Trees

- 4.2.8 Thirty-five small trees will be planted, the equivalent area of these is 0.143ha. This habitat is of medium distinctiveness and low strategic significance. Target condition is moderate, which will take 27 years to achieve. Urban trees score a total of 0.44 units.

## 4.3 Linear Habitats

#### Ornamental Hedgerow

- 4.3.1 A new section of non-native ornamental hedgerow will be planted, extending to 0.076km. This hedgerow has very low distinctiveness and low strategic significance. The target condition is poor and will take one year to achieve. The native hedgerow achieves a score of 0.07 units.

#### Native Hedgerow

- 4.3.2 A new section of native hedgerow will be planted, extending to 0.235km. This hedgerow has low distinctiveness and low strategic significance. The target condition is poor and will take one year to achieve. The native hedgerow achieves a score of 0.45 units.



## 5. Assessment

### 5.1 Baseline Units

5.1.1 Baseline habitats score 0.97 area units and 0.1 hedgerow units.

### 5.2 Proposed Habitats

5.2.1 Proposed habitats score 1.61 area units and 0.52 hedgerow units.

### 5.3 Predicted Change

5.3.1 The Biodiversity Impact Assessment shows a net gain of 0.64 area units (+67%) and 0.51 in hedgerow units (3663%) (see Appendix 2).



## 6. Summary

- 6.1.1 The proposed development is predicted to result in a net gain of area units and hedgerow units. The Trading Rules are satisfied.
- 6.1.2 This complies with the current requirements of the NPPF (2023) which states that development should deliver a net gain in biodiversity.
- 6.1.3 A Landscape and Ecology Management Plan (LEMP) will be produced to ensure that retained and newly created habitats are managed to maximise their value for wildlife in the long-term. This can be secured through an appropriately worded planning condition.



# Appendix 1: Planning Policy & Legislation

## National Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF 2023) describes the Government's planning policy for England and how it should be applied. Within this framework, the requirements in relation to biodiversity are included within several policies. The two most relevant to individual planning decisions are Paragraphs 174 and 180, shown below:

- 174. Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:
  - a) protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, sites of biodiversity or geological value and soils (in a manner commensurate with their statutory status or identified quality in the development plan);
  - b) recognising the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside, and the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services – including the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land, and of trees and woodland;
  - c) maintaining the character of the undeveloped coast, while improving public access to it where appropriate;
  - d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; etc...
- 180. When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:
  - a) 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;
  - b) 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;
  - c) 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; and



- d) 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.

## Legislation

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000) includes the notification and confirmation of Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). SSSIs can be notified for their floral, faunal, geological, or physiographical features. Protection against damaging operations and management of SSSIs is also included within the Act. Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are zones around an SSSI account for the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and identify development proposal which could have adverse impacts.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000) protects native animals, plants and habitats. Under the Act it is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild animal listed on Schedule 5 and it is an offence to interfere with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturb animals occupying such places. The Act prohibits picking, uprooting or destroy any wild plant (or any attached seed or spore) listed in Schedule 8.

European Protected Species (EPS) such as bats, Hazel Dormouse, Otter, Natterjack Toad, Smooth Snake, Sand Lizard and Great Crested Newt are protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The Acts make it an offence to:

- a) Deliberately capture, injure or kill an EPS;
- b) Deliberately impair an EPS's ability to survive, breed, reproduce, rear or nurture young; to hibernate or migrate; or significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the EPS.
- c) Possess or control live or dead EPS or any part of, or anything derived from a EPS;
- d) Damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of an EPS;
- e) Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place that is used for shelter or protection by an EPS;
- f) Intentionally or recklessly disturb a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection that is occupied by an EPS.



All common herptiles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000). Grass Snake, Slow Worm, Common Lizard, Adder are protected against intentional killing or injury. Common Frog, Common Toad, Smooth Newt and Palmate Newt is protected against sale. In addition, all British reptiles, Common toad and Great Crested Newt are listed as Species of Principal Importance.

All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). It is an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage, or destroy its nest whilst in use or being built, or take or destroy its eggs. It is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb a species listed on Schedule 1 of the Act while they are nest building or at or near a nest with eggs or young, or to disturb the dependent young.

The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 makes it an offence to wilfully, or to attempt to kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a Badger, or intentionally or recklessly interfere with a sett. Interference of a sett includes disturbing badgers during occupation of a sett, or damaging or destroying a sett, or obstructing access to the sett.

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a duty on every public authority to have regard to conserving biodiversity. Section 41 of the same Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of the living organisms and types of habitats that are of 'Principal Importance' for the purpose of conserving biodiversity. The Secretary of State must take steps, as appear reasonably practicable, to further the conservation of those living organisms and habitats in any list published under this section. The list of species and habitats of principal importance currently includes 943 species and 56 habitats. These are the species and habitats found in England which are regarded as conservation priorities under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework

The Hedgerows Regulations 1997 protect 'important' hedgerows from destruction or damage. A hedgerow is 'important' if it (a) has existed for 30 years or more; and (b) satisfies at least one of the criteria listed in Part II of Schedule 1 of the Regulations. Under the Regulations, it is against the law to remove or destroy 'important' hedgerows unless permitted by the local planning authority.

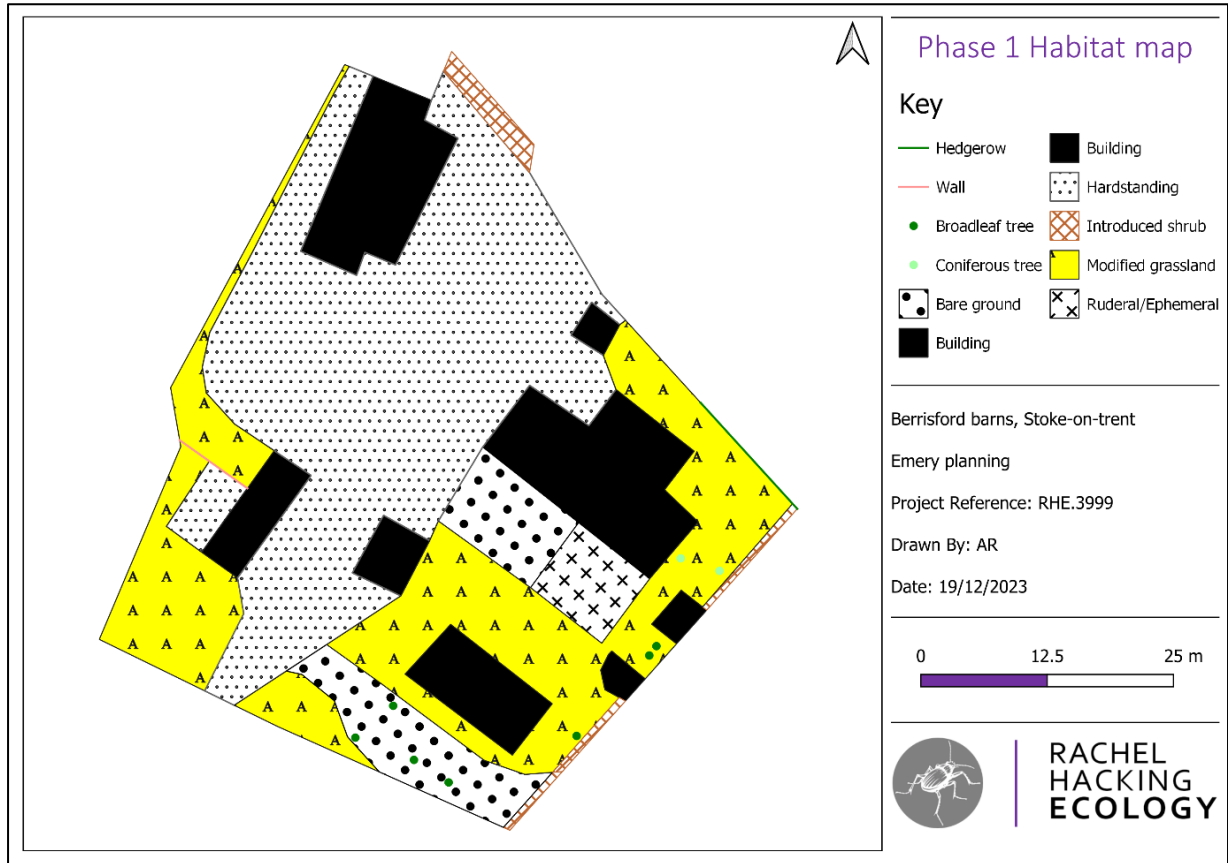


## Appendix 2: Headline results

| FINAL RESULTS                                                                                                                       |                          |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|
| <b>Total net unit change</b><br><small>(Including all on-site &amp; off-site habitat retention, creation &amp; enhancement)</small> | <i>Habitat units</i>     | 0.64     |
|                                                                                                                                     | <i>Hedgerow units</i>    | 0.51     |
|                                                                                                                                     | <i>Watercourse units</i> | 0.00     |
| <b>Total net % change</b><br><small>(Including all on-site &amp; off-site habitat retention, creation &amp; enhancement)</small>    | <i>Habitat units</i>     | 66.55%   |
|                                                                                                                                     | <i>Hedgerow units</i>    | 3663.50% |
|                                                                                                                                     | <i>Watercourse units</i> | 0.00%    |
| <b>Trading rules satisfied?</b>                                                                                                     | Yes ✓                    |          |



## Appendix 3: Plans



## Appendix 4: Species Lists

| Table 3. Species List     |                                     |       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Common Name               | Latin Name                          | Notes |
| Yorkshire fog             | <i>Holcus lanatus</i>               |       |
| <b>Red fescue</b>         | <b><i>Festuca rubra</i></b>         |       |
| Perennial Rye             | <i>Lolium perenne</i>               |       |
| <b>Creeping buttercup</b> | <b><i>Ranunculus repens</i></b>     |       |
| Burdock                   | <i>Arctium</i> sp.                  |       |
| <b>Ragwort</b>            | <b><i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i></b>     |       |
| Soft rush                 | <i>Juncus effusus</i>               |       |
| <b>Horsetail</b>          | <b><i>Equisetum arvense</i></b>     |       |
| Willowherb                | <i>Epilobium</i> sp.                |       |
| <b>Ribwort plantain</b>   | <b><i>Plantago lanceolata</i></b>   |       |
| White clover              | <i>Trifolium repens</i>             |       |
| <b>Leyland cypress</b>    | <b><i>Cupressus × leylandii</i></b> |       |
| Rhododendron              | <i>Rhododendron</i> sp.             |       |
| <b>Willow</b>             | <b><i>Salix</i> sp.</b>             |       |
| Wall cotoneaster          | <i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>     |       |
| <b>Japanese rose</b>      | <b><i>Rosa rugosa</i></b>           |       |
| Privet                    | <i>Ligustrum</i> sp.                |       |

## Appendix 5: Condition assessments

Modified Grassland:

| Condition Assessment Criteria                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Criterion passed (Yes or No) | Notes |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------|
| A                                                                                  | There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m <sup>2</sup> present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). <b>Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No                           |       |
|                                                                                    | Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m <sup>2</sup> (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet. |                              |       |
| B                                                                                  | Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No                           |       |
| C                                                                                  | Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present).<br><br>Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Yes                          |       |
| D                                                                                  | Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No                           |       |
| E                                                                                  | Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) <sup>2</sup> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | No                           |       |
| F                                                                                  | Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Yes                          |       |
| G                                                                                  | There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species <sup>3</sup> (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA <sup>4</sup> ).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Yes                          |       |
| Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                              | No    |
| Number of criteria passed                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                              | 3     |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)                                    | Condition Assessment Score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Score Achieved ×/✓           |       |
| Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A                     | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No                           |       |
| Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A                     | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | No                           |       |
| Passes 3 or fewer criteria;<br>OR<br>Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A) | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Yes                          |       |



Ruderal/Ephemeral:

| Condition Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Criterion passed (Yes or No) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Core Criteria - must be assessed for <b>all urban habitat types</b> :                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                              |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Vegetation structure is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and breed. A single structural habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habitat area.                                                                                                                                                                             | No                           |
| B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The habitat parcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering species providing nectar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No                           |
| C                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>Invasive non-native plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA<sup>1</sup>) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional judgement)<sup>2</sup> cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area<sup>3</sup>.</p> <p><b>Note - to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than &lt;5% cover).</b></p> | Yes                          |
| Condition Assessment Result                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Condition Assessment Score   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Score Achieved x/√           |
| Results for habitats requiring assessment of <b>3 core criteria</b> only ( <b>all listed urban habitats except Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, Bioswale, SuDS and Green roofs</b> ):                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes all 3 core criteria;</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.</li> </ul>                                         | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | No                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria;</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes 3 of 3 core criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.</li> </ul> | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | No                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                         | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Yes                          |

Bare ground:

| Condition Assessment Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Criterion passed (Yes or No) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Core Criteria - must be assessed for <b>all urban habitat types</b> :                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                              |
| A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Vegetation structure is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and breed. A single structural habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habitat area.                                                                                                                                                                             | No                           |
| B                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | The habitat parcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering species providing nectar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Yes                          |
| C                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p>Invasive non-native plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA<sup>1</sup>) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional judgement)<sup>2</sup> cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area<sup>3</sup>.</p> <p><b>Note - to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than &lt;5% cover).</b></p> | Yes                          |
| Condition Assessment Result                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Condition Assessment Score   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Score Achieved x/√           |
| Results for habitats requiring assessment of <b>3 core criteria</b> only ( <b>all listed urban habitats except Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, Bioswale, SuDS and Green roofs</b> ):                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                              |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes all 3 core criteria;</li> </ul> AND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.</li> </ul>                                         | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | No                           |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria;</li> </ul> OR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes 3 of 3 core criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.</li> </ul> | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Yes                          |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                         | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Yes                          |

## Individual Trees:

| Condition Assessment Criteria                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Criterion passed (Yes or No) |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| A                                               | The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).                                                                                                                                                                                                     | n                            |
| B                                               | The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).                                                                                         | y                            |
| C                                               | The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature) <sup>1</sup> .                                                                                                                                                                                                        | n                            |
| D                                               | There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height. | n                            |
| E                                               | Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.                                                                                                                                                     | n                            |
| F                                               | More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.                                                                                                                                                                                                                | y                            |
| Number of criteria passed                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                              |
| Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria) | Condition Assessment Score                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Score Achieved x/√           |
| Passes 5 or 6 criteria                          | Good (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | No                           |
| Passes 3 or 4 criteria                          | Moderate (2)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Yes                          |
| Passes 2 or fewer criteria                      | Poor (1)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Yes                          |