

Baseline Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

Site Address:

Southdean Road, Huyton, Liverpool, L14 8UW

Client:

Breck Homes Limited

Assessment Date:

14th August 2025

Project:

This report is prepared to inform a planning application with the Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council. The proposal is described as:
'Residential development with associated gardens and roads'

BNG assessment methodology and legislation can be found in the Arbtech Supplement: **[BNG Methodology and Legislation – 2025.](#)**

The results and recommendations contained within this report are valid for 18 months. An updated site visit and BNG assessment may be required if the report is to be used any longer than 18 months after completion.

Version Control			
Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	0.1	Katie Whitfield BSc (Hons) MSc, Graduate Ecologist	14/08/2025
Reviewed	0.2	Elen Griffin BSc (Hons), MRSB, Consultant Ecologist	18/08/2025
Final	1.0	Katie Whitfield BSc (Hons) MSc, Graduate Ecologist	22/08/2025

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Site Location and Context

A baseline habitat map is provided in **Appendix 1**, a post development habitat map in **Appendix 2**, a proposed development plan in **Appendix 3**, headline BNG results in **Appendix 4**, and condition assessments in **Appendix 5**.

The site is centred at National Grid Reference SJ 42665 92689 and has an area of approximately 2.790ha. The site is characterised by sealed surfaces, other broadleaved woodland, other neutral grassland, willow and bramble scrub and scattered trees. The site is surrounded by residential dwellings in all directions as well as priority woodland, woodpasture and parkland and numerous ponds ~1.95km northeast. The wider landscape comprises extensive residential areas, with further greenspaces and woodland parcels interspersed within.



This report should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

- ❖ Statutory BNG Metric – Southdean Road L14 8UW – v1 (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025)
- ❖ Proposed Plan (Breck Homes, 2025)
- ❖ Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) - Southdean Road L14 8UW – v2 (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025)
- ❖ Arboricultural Impact Assessment – Southdean Road L14 8UW (Tree Solutions., 2025)

Executive Summary

- ❖ The site generates 19.07 area-based habitat units. To achieve a minimum +10% uplift a minimum of 20.97 area-based habitat units are required.
- ❖ Trading rules are foreseen to be a constraint: the removal of sparsely vegetated land (low distinctiveness habitat), other broadleaved woodland (medium distinctiveness), urban trees (medium distinctiveness), willow scrub (medium distinctiveness), bramble scrub (medium distinctiveness) and other neutral grassland (medium distinctiveness) must be made up for on a like-for-like or like-for-better basis. In other words, unless sufficient amounts of other neutral grassland, other broadleaved woodland, heathland and shrub, urban trees and low distinctiveness habitats are proposed, the site will generate a trading error for the loss of these habitat types.
- ❖ Given the proposed vegetation clearance of the site to facilitate the provision of a residential area with associated, gardens, parking and roads it is unlikely that net gain will be achieved within the site's red line boundary. Off-site compensation will likely be required.

Introduction

BNG Informative	
	<p>Date reflected by BNG calculations: 30th June 2025</p> <p>The baseline biodiversity value of the site is derived from the site as observed during the PEA field survey (Arbtech Consulting Ltd., 2025). As evident in the screenshots of satellite imagery obtained from GoogleEarth dated 20th September 2019 and 6th March 2025, the site does not appear to have undergone any degradation. The habitats on site, and therefore biodiversity value of the site, is not considered to have undergone degradation since 30th January 2020.</p>
<p>Habitat Degradation Statement</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Historical imagery < 20 Sept 2019 > > </p>  </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Historical imagery < 6 Mar 2025 > > </p>  </div> </div>

Irreplaceable Habitat Statement	No irreplaceable habitats as listed under the Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations (2024) are currently present nor were present before 30 th January 2020.		
Metric Version & Publication Date	Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool first published 29 th November 2023 with last updates to metric tools and user guides on 23 rd July 2024.		
BNG Target Uplift	+10%		
National Character Area (NCA)	58 – Merseyside Conurbation		
Strategic Significance	Liverpool City Region Combined Authority, the responsible authority for the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) for Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council. This was used along with supplementary planning documents, to determine strategic significance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Local Nature Recovery Strategy Local Nature Recovery Strategy Liverpool City Region Combined Authority ❖ The Local Habitat Map Spectrum Spatial 		
	Habitat	Baseline / Post-Development	Justification
	Urban Trees (T1-T96)	Baseline	Such trees present an important ecological stepping stone to priority woodland and wood pasture and parkland found to the northeast, therefore contributing to the natural connectivity of such habitats in its location. As such T1 – T96 have ‘medium’ strategic significance.
	Other broadleaved woodland	Baseline	The woodland presents a further ecological stepping stone to priority woodland and wood pasture and parkland found to the northeast, and as such contributes to the natural connectivity of such habitats in its location. Other broadleaved woodland is not formally identified within the LNR and so is given a ‘medium’ strategic significance.
Limitations			
There were no specific limitations to the assessment.			

Baseline

Baseline Biodiversity Value: On-Site				
Area-Based Habitats (A-1)				
Habitat	Area (ha)	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Developed land; sealed surface	0.5211ha	Areas of concrete surfacing are interspersed within the site, particularly to the south where a large area is located which previously formed a playground. Access paths are also found to the north, east and west.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Sparsely vegetated land	0.0714ha	A parcel of sparsely vegetated land is found to centrally within the site. Vegetation cover is ~50% and includes occasional common nettles, bramble sp., lowbush blueberry, common hawthorn saplings and European mountain ash saplings. There are ~21 scattered trees within this habitat parcel. A section of this habitat parcel has been damaged from a previous fire.	Poor: Passes 2 of 4 criteria. Assessed using the 'Sparsely vegetated urban land' habitat type condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance
Other neutral grassland	1.5897ha	There are two sections of other neutral grassland. The first section (G1) is found to the south and southwest of the site within the site which was previously used as a playground. G1 is unmanaged with swards >30cm for ~60%, >10cm for ~10% and <7cm for 20% of the habitat parcel. There are several patches of dead grass interspersed within as well as a large amount of litter. Further, areas of bare ground are evident due to human footfall. Species assemblage Includes dominant red fescue (<i>Festuca rubra</i>), abundant creeping bent (<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>), Italian ryegrass (<i>Lolium multiflorum</i>), cocks-foot (<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>), frequent white clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>), bramble sp. (<i>Rubus</i> spp.), field horsetail (<i>Equisetum arvense</i>), tiny vetch (<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>), occasional selfheal (<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>), sorrel dock (<i>Rumex acetosa</i>), creeping thistle (<i>Cirsium arvense</i>), dandelion agg. (<i>Taraxacum</i> agg.), drooping sedge (<i>Carex pendula</i>), common ragwort (<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>), and rare sand sedge (<i>Carex arenaria</i>) and yellow goats beard (<i>Tragopogon pratensis</i>). The second habitat parcel (G2) is found to the north and northwest of the site, situated within a field which is utilised by local residents to walk dogs in. Although there is occasional human footfall, there are trodden paths interspersed within	Poor: passes 1 of 7 criteria excluding essential criterion A (G1-G2) Assessed using the 'Grasslands Low Distinctiveness' habitat type condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance

		the habitat, causing areas of bare ground for ~10% of the habitat parcel, but allowing the remaining grassland to have tall swards of >30cm for ~70% and <10cm for 30% of the area. Species assemblage is similar to G1 but also includes abundant Yorkshire fog (<i>Holcus lanatus</i>) and frequent goose grey (<i>Potentilla anserina</i>). In total ~85 scattered trees are found within G1 and G2.		
Bramble scrub	0.4575ha	Parcels of bramble scrub are interspersed throughout the site, comprising of dominant Bramble sp. (<i>Rubus</i> spp.) with occasional dog rose sapling (<i>Rosa canina</i>), common ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>) and rugosa rose (<i>Rosa rugosa</i>). within. Parcels of scrub are particularly dense to the northeast and centrally of the site. There are ~11no. scattered trees within the habitat parcel.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance
Willow scrub	0.1178ha	A pocket of willow scrub is found in the western corner of the site, comprising dominant goat willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>) and occasional silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>) saplings.	Poor: passes 1 of 5 criteria Assessed using the 'Scrub' habitat type condition sheet	Low strategic significance
Urban trees	0.6677ha	96no. trees were considered in the baseline, all of which were present at the time of the PEA survey. All 96no. trees achieved 'good' condition by passing 6 of 6 criteria. See PEA, GLTA and AIA for more information.	Good: passes 6 of 6 criteria. 80no. small 12no. medium 4no. large	Medium strategic significance

<p>Other broadleaved woodland</p>	<p>0.1647ha</p>	<p>There are two areas of other broadleaved woodland found to the west and south of the site which have naturally colonised. The first parcel to the south (W1) has a canopy cover comprising of dominant white poplar (<i>Populus alba</i>) and occasional silver birch (<i>Betula pendula</i>), common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>) and goat willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>) all of which has a Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) between 7.5cm and 29.9cm. Of the trees present ~50% are mature, ~30% are semi-mature and ~20% are young. Numerous white aspen (<i>Populus alba</i>), common hawthorn (<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>), dog rose (<i>Rosa canina</i>) and goat willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>) saplings are interspersed throughout indicative of natural tree regeneration. The understorey layer includes dominant common ivy (<i>Hedera helix</i>), frequent bramble sp. (<i>Rubus</i> spp.), and occasional rugosa rose (<i>Rosa rugosa</i>).</p> <p>The second parcel of woodland to the west (W2) has a canopy cover comprising of dominant <i>prunus</i> sp., and occasional goat willow (<i>Salix caprea</i>) with ~15% of DBH >60cm, ~30% of DBH between 30cm and 59.9cm and ~55% of DBH between 7.5cm and 29.9cm. Of these trees ~20% are mature, ~30% are semi-mature and ~50% are young. Numerous goat willow saplings are interspersed within. One of the trees has been burnt near the base of the stem. The understorey layer includes dominant common nettles (<i>Urtica dioica</i>) and frequent herb robert (<i>Geranium robertianum</i>).</p>	<p>Moderate: Scores 31/32 out of 39 points (W1 – W2)</p> <p>Assessed using the ‘Woodland’ habitat type condition sheet</p>	<p>Medium strategic significance</p>
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Change of Biodiversity Value

		Biodiversity Units		
		Area-Based	Linear-Based	Watercourse-Based
On-Site	Baseline	19.07 ❖ Sealed surfaces (0) ❖ Sparsely vegetated land (0.14 units) ❖ Other neutral grassland (6.36 units) ❖ Bramble scrub (1.83 units) ❖ Willow scrub (0.47 units) ❖ Urban tree (8.81 units) ❖ Other broadleaved woodland (1.45 units)	N/A	N/A
	Units required	20.97		

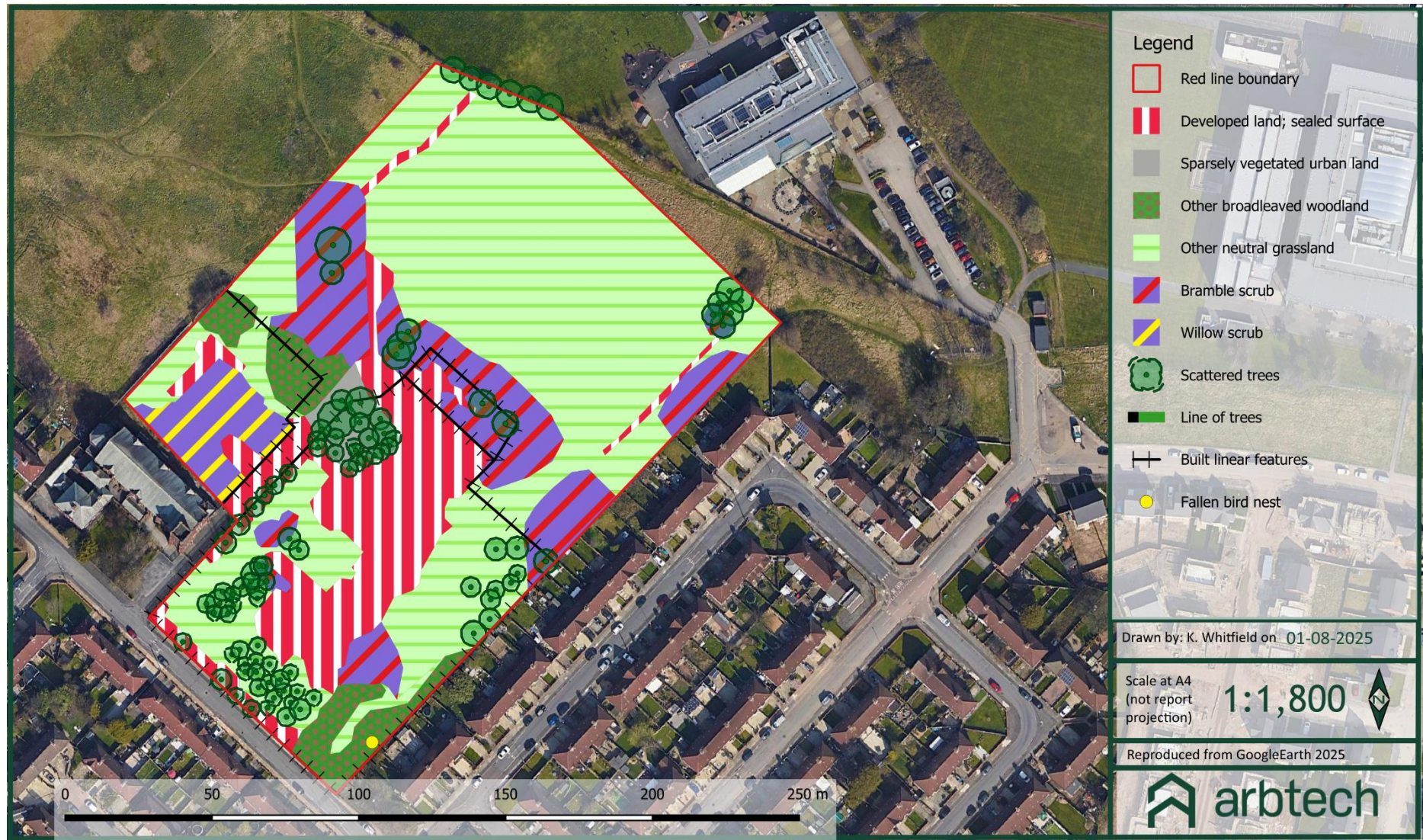
Results, Discussion, and Next Steps

BNG Informative	
Results and Next Steps	<p>The site generates 19.07 area-based habitat units. To achieve a minimum +10% uplift, a minimum of 20.97 area-based habitat units are required.</p> <p>A post-development BNG assessment must be undertaken to discern the net change of biodiversity value as a result of the proposed development.</p>
General recommendations	<p>Trading rules are foreseen to be a constraint: the removal of sparsely vegetated land (low distinctiveness habitat), other broadleaved woodland (medium distinctiveness), urban trees (medium distinctiveness), willow scrub (medium distinctiveness), bramble scrub (medium distinctiveness) and other neutral grassland (medium distinctiveness) must be made up for on a like-for-like or like-for-better basis. In other words, unless sufficient amounts of other neutral grassland, other broadleaved woodland, heathland and shrub, urban trees and low distinctiveness habitats are proposed, the site will generate a trading error for the loss of these habitat types.</p> <p>No habitats can be created in BNG within any areas proposed to be private residential gardens. This includes any trees, green roofs, or wildflower meadows which may be proposed within such residential curtilages. Semi-natural habitats such as scrub, woodland, trees, and grassland should therefore be provisioned within communal areas under central management.</p> <p>Given the proposed vegetation clearance of the site to facilitate the provisioning of a residential area with associated gardens, parking and roads it is unlikely that net gain will be achieved within the site’s red line boundary. Off-site compensation will likely be required, and can be done by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ creating the required habitats off-site (i.e. outside the red line boundary) <i>N.B. this will require a baseline ecological survey to determine the baseline value of the off-site parcel of land ideally within the curtilage of the LPA or within the same National Character Area (NCA), and the off-site land must be registered with the government;</i> ❖ purchasing biodiversity units from existing habitat banks <i>N.B. such habitat bank should ideally be within the curtilage of the LPA or within the same NCA; or</i>

- ❖ purchasing statutory biodiversity credits from the government *N.B. metric rules dictate if statutory credits are required, double the amount of credits will be required to compensate for a single unit deficit.*

The mechanism for securing this off-setting will need to be proposed to and confirmed by the LPA and would be linked to the application through a planning obligation Section 106 (s106) agreement. The proposed habitat compensation should be of an appropriate distinctiveness to meet the trading rules of BNG.

Appendix 1: Baseline Habitat Plan



Appendix 2: Proposed Development Plan



Appendix 4: Headline BNG Results

FINAL RESULTS					
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	<i>Habitat units</i>			-19.07	
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>			0.00	
	<i>Watercourse units</i>			0.00	
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	<i>Habitat units</i>			-100.00%	Total net gain achieved is less than target set ▲
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>			0.00%	
	<i>Watercourse units</i>			0.00%	
Trading rules satisfied?		No - Check Trading Summaries ▲			
Area created must match area lost for both onsite and offsite ▲					
Unit Type	Target	Baseline Units	Units Required	Unit Deficit	
<i>Habitat units</i>	10.00%	19.07	20.97	20.97	
<i>Hedgerow units</i>	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	No additional hedgerow units required to meet target ✓
<i>Watercourse units</i>	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	No additional watercourse units required to meet target ✓
Input errors/rule breaks present in metric ▲					

Appendix 5: Baseline Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets

Sparsely vegetated land; assessed using 'Urban' habitat type condition sheet

Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	The parcel represents a good example of its specific sparsely vegetated habitat type - the appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description, with characteristic indicator species consistently present. ¹	Y	The appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches its UKHab description.
B	The cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> , scrub and trees is less than 25%.	N	Cover of bracken, scrub and trees is >25%.
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ² (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and species indicative of suboptimal condition ⁴ make up less than 5% of vegetated ground cover.	N	No invasive species observed. Species indicative of suboptimal condition make up >50% of parcel.
D	Vegetation cover of vascular and non-vascular plants is between 5 and 50%.	Y	Vegetation cover is ~50%.
Number of criteria passed			2
Condition Assessment Result (out of 4 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/✓	
Passes 4 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)	✓	

Other Neutral Grassland; assessed using 'Grasslands Medium/High/Very High Distinctiveness' habitat type condition sheet:

Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes/Justification
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high proportion of characteristic indicator species present relative to the specific habitat type. Note – this criterion is essential for achieving moderate or good condition for non-acid grassland types only.	N	Indicator species are not present in a consistently high proportion.
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7cm and at least 20% is more than 7cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.	Y	Sward height is varied.
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens.	N	Bare ground is evident for ~10% of habitat parcel.
D	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) is less than 5%.	N	Cover of bracken is <20% and cover of scrub is ~10%.
E	Combined cover of species indicative of sub-optimal condition and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.	N	Physical damage is evident for ~10% of area. No invasive non-native plant species present.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types			
F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m ² present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 2 and 4 cannot contribute towards this count). Note – this criterion is essential for achieving good condition for non-acid grassland types only.	N	There are ~7-8 species per m ² .
Essential criterion for good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)		N	
Number of criteria passed		1	
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ✓
Non-acid grassland types (result out of 6 criteria)			
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F		Good (3)	
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A		Moderate (2)	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F		Poor (1)	✓

Willow Scrub; assessed using 'Scrub' habitat type condition sheet:

Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes/Justification
A	The scrub is a good representation of the habitat type it has been identified as, based on its UKHab description (where in its natural range). The appearance and composition of the vegetation closely matches the characteristics of the specific scrub type. At least 80% of scrub is native, and there are at least three native woody species, with no single species comprising more than 75% of the cover (except hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i> , common juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i> , sea buckthorn <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> or box <i>Buxus sempervirens</i> , which can be up to 100% cover).	N	Goat willow is evident for >75% of cover.
B	Seedlings, saplings, young shrubs and mature (or ancient or veteran) shrubs are all present.	N	All shrubs are saplings or young shrubs
C	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA) and species indicative of sub-optimal condition make up less than 5% of ground cover.	Y	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species.
D	The scrub has a well-developed edge with scattered scrub and tall grassland and or forbs present between the scrub and adjacent habitat.	N	There is no developed edge within.
E	There are clearings, glades or rides present within the scrub, providing sheltered edges.	N	No clearings, glades or rides are present.
Number of criteria passed			1
Condition Assessment Result (out of 5 criteria)		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ✓
Passes 5 criteria		Good (3)	
Passes 3 or 4 criteria		Moderate (2)	
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)	✓

Urban Trees; assessed using 'Individual Trees' habitat type condition sheet:

Condition Assessment Criteria		Condition Achieved (Y/N)	Notes/Justification
A	The tree is a native species (or more than 70% within the block are native species).	Y	>70% of trees are native species.
B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).	Y	Tree canopy is predominantly continuous (individual trees automatically pass this criterion)
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature).	Y	>50% of trees are mature
D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by anthropogenic activities such as vandalism or herbicide use. There is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.	Y	>90% of trees are free of damage, albeit 5no. trees which have been burnt.
E	Natural Ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	Y	Natural ecological niches are present in the form of ivy and peeling bark.
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.	Y	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.
Number of criteria passed			6
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ✓
Passes 5 or 6 of 6 criteria		Good (3)	✓
Passes 3 or 4 of 6 criteria		Moderate (2)	
Passes 0, 1 or 2 of 6 criteria		Poor (1)	

Other Broadleaved Woodland; assessed using 'Woodland' habitat type condition sheet:

Condition Assessment Criteria							
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator		Notes (such as justification)
					W1	W2	
A	Age distribution of trees	Three age-classes present.	Two age-classes present.	One age-class present.	2	2	There are two age classes present (young and intermediate).
B	Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland.	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland.	3	3	No evidence of significant browsing present in woodland.
C	Invasive plant species	No invasive species present in woodland.	Rhododendron <i>Rhododendron ponticum</i> or cherry laurel <i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> not present, other invasive species <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species >10% cover.	3	3	No invasive species are present.
D	Number of native tree species	Five or more native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species across woodland parcel.	3	2	W1: There are >5 native shrubs or trees present. W2: There is three to four native shrubs and trees present.
E	Cover of native tree and shrub species	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native.	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native.	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native.	3	3	Canopy and understorey both comprise >80% native species.
F	Open space within woodland	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted.	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space.	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space. But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category.	3	3	Woodland is less than 10ha; woodland clearing estimated to be ~10%.
G	Woodland regeneration	All three classes present in woodland; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height	One or two classes only present in woodland.	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland.	3	3	Seedlings, saplings and young trees are all present

Condition Assessment Criteria							
Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator		Notes (such as justification)
					W1	W2	
		(DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.					
H	Tree health	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback.	11% to 25% mortality and/or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present.	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present.	3	3	Tree mortality less than 10% with no evidence of pests, diseases, or crown dieback.
I	Vegetation and ground flora	Recognisable NVC plant community at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community at ground layer present.	2	2	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community present.
J	Woodland vertical structure	Three or more storeys across all survey plots or a complex woodland.	Two storeys across all survey plots.	One or less storey across all survey plots.	2	2	Two storeys present.
K	Veteran trees	Two or more veteran trees per hectare.	One veteran tree per hectare.	No veteran trees present in woodland.	1	1	No veteran trees present.
L	Amount of deadwood	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities.	1	1	Less than 25% of woodland contains deadwood.
M	Woodland disturbance	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident.	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground.	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground.	2	2	Nutrient enrichment observed (nettles).

Condition Assessment Criteria						
Indicator	Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator		Notes (such as justification)
				W1	W2	
Total Score (out of a possible 39)						W1: 31 W2: 30
Condition Assessment Result			Condition Assessment Score		Result Achieved	
Total score >32 (33 to 39)			Good (3)		Moderate	
Total score 26 to 32			Moderate (2)			
Total score <26 (13 to 25)			Poor (1)			