



Ecological Impact Assessment

Land at Telegraph Way, Kirkby

Lidl GB Ltd.

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Ecological Impact Assessment

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Non-Technical Summary

- i. In July 2025 Enzygo Ltd was commissioned by Lidl GB Ltd. (the Client) to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) of Land at Telegraph Way, Kirkby L32 1TZ (central grid reference SJ 41174 98914), located within the Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council authority. This study will inform proposals for the redevelopment of the site to a supermarket, with associated car parking and landscaping. This report has been updated in October 2025 following a minor change to the proposed layout.
- ii. The following key ecological features and associated recommendations have been identified:
 - **Priority Species** – *(The areas of modified grassland present on-Site provide a significantly limited extent for foraging/ shelter of potential priority species such as Hedgehog that could wander onto Site) - Habitats to be cleared in a sensitive manner under the direct supervision of an ECoW to minimise risk of killing/injury of wildlife during the construction phase.*
- iii. Proposals present opportunities for biodiversity enhancement in order to provide net gains for biodiversity in accordance with national and local policies through providing enhanced opportunities for nesting birds, roosting bats, other priority species, and landscape planting.
- iv. This report has demonstrated that, if the outlined mitigation measures are implemented in full and assuming a sensitive final site layout, no significant residual impact could be expected, and the proposed application will result in 'no net loss in biodiversity,' whilst also providing opportunities for 'biodiversity net gain' in accordance with NPPF and Local Planning Policy.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Commission

- 1.1.1 In July 2025 Enzygo Ltd was commissioned by Lidl GB Ltd. (the Client) to undertake an Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) of Land at Telegraph Way, Kirkby L32 1TZ (central grid reference SJ 41165 98918), located within the Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council authority. This study will inform proposals for the redevelopment of the site to a supermarket, with associated car parking and landscaping. This report has been updated in October 2025 following a minor change to the proposed layout.
- 1.1.2 Note: Enzygo Ltd are not considered to act as a Principal Designer for any mitigation/enhancement strategies identified within this document in accordance with the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CITB, 2016).

1.2 Proposed Development/Identification of Impacts

- 1.2.1 The study will inform proposals for redevelopment of the site to a supermarket, with associated car parking and landscape planting. The Proposed Site Plan (Space, 2025) indicates access will be achieved via Telegraph Way. No significant air quality, dust or drainage impacts have been identified or are anticipated as part of the proposals considering the location, nature and size of the works.
- 1.2.2 Refer to Appendix A for a plan of the proposals.
- 1.2.3 It is assumed no land outside of the redline boundary will be used as a construction compound etc. during the construction phase. A corresponding zone of influence has been considered (this includes any transboundary effects regardless of administrative areas).

1.3 Aims and Objectives

- 1.3.1 The purpose of this report is to provide biodiversity information which succinctly identifies ecological features on site and within the corresponding zone of influence, confirms potential impacts resulting from the proposals, associated effects to ecological features, outlines proportionate avoidance, mitigation and compensation strategies, and identifies enhancements that can be implemented in accordance with the British Standard for Biodiversity BS42020:2013 (BSI, 2013) to demonstrate 'no net loss in biodiversity' and to 'provide net gains for biodiversity' in accordance with NPPF and Local Planning Policy.
- 1.3.2 This report has been produced with reference to current Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEEM, 2017a), Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland, Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine (CIEEM, 2018), Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing (CIEEM, 2017b), Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th edn) (Collins, 2023), and British Standard BS42020:2013 (BSI, 2013).

1.4 Background/Acknowledgments

- 1.4.1 A search of the Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council planning website identified no previous applications associated with the site
- 1.4.2 It is our understanding that to date, there have been no known discussions regarding ecology with the LPA/County Ecologist/third party consultees (e.g. EA or Natural England) for this application.

1.5 Local Planning Policy

1.5.1 Several plans and policies make up the current Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council Local Plan. The following policy from the Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy (Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council, 2016) is applicable to biodiversity and nature conservation (provided in summary only and the full Local Plan document should be viewed for full details):

- **Policy CS8 Green Infrastructure-** Outlines the Borough's commitment to protecting, managing, and enhancing its Green Infrastructure (GI) to deliver multiple environmental and community benefits. It supports the role of GI in improving neighbourhoods, sustaining biodiversity, preserving historic landscapes, mitigating climate change and flood risk, and reducing pollution. The policy also promotes recreational opportunities and sustainable transport connections through green links.

To achieve this, the Council will use planning powers to safeguard key greenspaces, enhance open space quality, and support ecological networks by protecting habitats, watercourses, and wildlife corridors. The integration of biodiversity features into new developments is encouraged, alongside improved public access to greenspace and active travel routes. A landscape-scale approach is promoted, with cross-boundary collaboration to protect internationally designated sites and their supporting habitats. Future greenspace allocations will be detailed in the Site Allocations Plan and supported by guidance within relevant Supplementary Planning Documents.

1.5.2 No further Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) or guidance has been identified which is applicable to this assessment.

1.5.3 At the time of writing The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority has not yet published a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), although draft details are available.

1.5.4 Refer to Appendix B for relevant details of European and National Legislation, and National Planning Policy.

1.6 Site Context

1.6.1 The approximately 0.6ha site lies in Kirkby Town Centre, Knowsley, and comprises a series of regularly managed amenity grassland areas interspersed with hard standing pathways, roads, and car parking. The grassland appeared recently mown with low sward height, exhibiting limited botanical diversity. A network of pedestrian walkways and kerbed verges bisect the open space, some of which contain sporadic growth of ruderal species in cracks or edges.

1.6.2 The wider landscape is predominantly urban and forms part of the built environment of Kirkby. The northern boundary of the Site adjoins the A506, beyond which lies Kirkby Church of England Primary School. To the east and south, the landscape continues with retail developments and associated car parking. To the west, a row of Sycamore trees (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) lines Hall Lane, which leads towards a roundabout and a broader urban setting.

1.6.3 The site lies within the Merseyside Conurbation National Character Area (Natural England, 2013) which is characterised as *"predominantly urban and suburban landscape, based around the settlements of Liverpool, Birkenhead, Bootle, Kirkby, Maghull, Huyton, Bebington and Wallasey. The NCA sits on a low-lying but gently rolling platform punctuated by low sandstone ridges and bisected by the lower estuary of the River Mersey. There is a dense settlement pattern of housing and large-scale industry focusing on the city of Liverpool and Birkenhead/east Wirral, with their diverse historic and cultural centres. Many of the city edge settlements function as*

commuter settlements. There is a large proportion of industrial land use, with docks, warehouses and associated commercial land, interlinked by an extensive transport infrastructure.”

Figure 1 – Site Area



Image courtesy of Google Image Pro 7.3.6.10201, [Grid Ref: SJ 77671 95696]. Imagery date March 2025.
Image accessed 30th October 2025.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Desk Study

2.1.1 Desk study details were obtained from the following sources on the associated dates to provide background on ecological features in the vicinity of the site. In each case the search included the site and the specified area beyond the site boundary based on the expected zone of influence. Candidate and potential designations are considered too as these are also legally protected. The records search included:

- Statutory sites designated or classified under international conventions or European legislation within a 5km radius, statutory sites designated under national legislation (including Marine), non-statutory designations, existing EPS Licence applications and Great Crested Newt Pond Survey records within a 2km radius, and Priority Habitat & Ancient Woodland Inventory within a 0.5km radius [Magic Map, 24th July 2025] (DEFRA, 2025);
- Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) and Biodiversity Conservation Areas within the immediate zone of influence [Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council, 24th July 2025] (Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council, 2025).
- Waterbodies within a 0.5km radius (Online mapping sources including: Google Maps; Magic Map; and Ordnance Survey Street View, 24th July 2025); and
- Locally designated wildlife sites & any notified Local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitats, Legally protected species, any Priority species (which includes: National Biodiversity Species, Local BAP Species, Species of conservation concern and Red Data Book (RDB) species, Birds of Conservation Concern (BOCC), nationally rare and nationally scarce species, and OSPAR Commission list of threatened/declining species) and Invasive species (listed under section 14 of Schedule 9 only) within a 2km radius, and any important hedgerows/veteran trees within the immediate zone of influence [Merseyside Biobank (29th July 2025)].

2.1.2 The Data has been edited where relevant to prevent sensitive or confidential records being made public in accordance with Guidelines for Accessing, Using and Sharing Biodiversity Data in the UK (CIEEM, 2023).

2.2 Field Survey

2.2.1 Field Surveys were undertaken on the following dates by the identified staff, all of whom satisfy necessary field survey competencies as stipulated by the Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). Weather conditions on the day of survey have been included and where relevant survey/class licence numbers referred to.

Table 1 – Survey Dates and Conditions

Survey	Date	Staff/Licence	Environmental Conditions and Times
Preliminary Ecological Appraisal	4 th July 2025	Ethan Westmerland MSc, BSc (Hons) – Assistant Ecologist at Enzygo Ltd.	Dry and moderate cloud (50% cloud cover), and 23°C with light wind.

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

- 2.2.2 In accordance with Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal 2nd Edition (CIEEM, 2017a) the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) survey included the following.

UK Habitat Classification

- 2.2.3 This assessment has utilised the UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) methodology (UKHab, 2023), as the recommended published method of habitat classification. It has been used to categorise and map the primary habitat types present within the survey area using a standard set of habitat categories, with associated secondary codes/features identified where applicable. Details of current management and habitat condition have also been recorded where appropriate.
- 2.2.4 Each of the main habitats has been described; including details of component plant species abundances (recorded using the DAFOR scale: D=Dominant, A=Abundant, F=Frequent, O=Occasional, R=Rare). Additionally, any stands of non-native invasive plant species were recorded. Habitat extents have been visually mapped onto a topographic plan, with approximate location/areas recorded only (a GPS unit has not been utilised to accurately recorded these).

Assessment of possible presence/likely importance for Protected & Priority Species

- 2.2.5 An assessment of the possible presence of protected or priority species, and the likely importance of habitat features present for such species has also been undertaken, particularly where uncommon or specialised habitats are present in accordance with current PEA guidelines (CIEEM, 2017a). However, no specific protected species survey has been undertaken unless listed under additional surveys as below. Any incidental sightings of protected or priority species, or field signs of such species has also been recorded. Species assessed include: Plants & Fungi; Terrestrial/aquatic invertebrates; Fish; Amphibians; Reptiles; Breeding, wintering and migratory birds; Bats (including potential roost sites, foraging and commuting habitats/features), Badger, and Other mammal species.

General

- 2.2.6 A level of importance has been assigned to each ecological feature, where sufficient baseline data is available to do so, in accordance with current guidance (CIEEM, 2018). This is defined within a geographical context as follows: International and European; National; Regional; Metropolitan, County, vice-county or other local authority-wide area; River Basin District; Estuarine system/Coastal cell; and Local (plus Negligible where no associated value has been identified). For example, importance of designated sites reflects the geographical context of the designation (where designated sites no longer meet designation criteria and those formally 'de-notified' or where an undesignated site meets published selection criteria must also be considered). When considering habitats and species contextual information about distribution and abundance of that habitat/species in the area must be considered (if the habitat/species

status is currently in a degraded or unfavourable condition its potential value should be considered).

- 2.2.7 The assessment then considers potential impacts (both positive and negative) generated during the construction and operational phase of the proposed application. Only impacts that are likely to be significant are considered. Impacts that are either unlikely to occur, or if they did occur are unlikely to be significant, are not considered.
- 2.2.8 Cumulative impacts are then considered where the application meets criteria in accordance with national EIA screening guidance (GOV.UK, 2019), and where agreed with the competent authority during scoping. This takes into consideration existing background levels of threat or pressure, looks at critical thresholds, and assess both additive/incremental and associated/connected impacts and effects.
- 2.2.9 Relevant aspects of ecological structure and function are then considered when determining if identified impacts will have a significant effect upon ecological features. Where necessary, this assessment utilises information from other specialists i.e. air quality, hydrology etc, to determine the level of impact. In accordance with current guidance (CIEEM, 2018) these are described using the following characteristics, where relevant: positive or negative; extent; magnitude; duration; frequency and timing; and reversibility.
- 2.2.10 The mitigation hierarchy is then explored in accordance with BS42020:2013 (BSI, 2013). This seeks as a preference to avoid impacts, then to mitigate unavoidable impacts, and as a last resort, to compensate for unavoidable residual impacts that remain after avoidance and mitigation measures. Justification has been provided by the client/their planner where the mitigation hierarchy cannot be followed, or for example where compensation is a preferred approach where the competent authority has adopted a County wide strategy i.e. District Level Licensing Schemes (GOV.UK, 2019). In this instance current national Biodiversity Offsetting guidance has also been consulted (GOV.UK, 2019). Additional information has also been provided by the client/their planner where the applicant wishes to demonstrate exceptional circumstances or where they wish to pursue alternative strategies. Any residual impacts following mitigation measures etc are then identified.
- 2.2.11 All mitigation measures follow species specific current best practice guidance and the source has been identified accordingly. Deviation from guidance has been explained by the ecologist and is proportionate to the predicted degree of risk to biodiversity and to the nature and scale of the proposed works.
- 2.2.12 It is important that planning decisions are based on up-to-date ecological data, and the specific timeframe over which survey data is considered valid follows general advice (CIEEM, 2019). Additionally, it should be noted that the presence/absence and status of protected species can change seasonally/annually. The age of data should also be assessed separately when considering the submission of an EPS Licence (i.e. Natural England may require data to be from the current season).
- 2.2.13 Local Environmental Records Centres (LERC) issue a licence for use of provided biodiversity data for 1 year only, after which time this should be renewed to validate an application (and reports updated accordingly to incorporate any new records). Following completion of surveys all relevant biodiversity data will be submitted to the relevant LERC and other groups as appropriate.

2.3 Limitations

- 2.3.1 Data held by consultees may not be exhaustive; the absence of evidence does not indicate evidence of absence. Enzygo cannot take responsibility for the accuracy of external data sources and as such discrepancies and inaccuracies may occur.
- 2.3.2 Natural England do not hold information of Ancient Woodland less than 2ha in size.
- 2.3.3 Records over 10 years old for transient species (as these are likely to have moved during the interim) and species protected from sale only under the W&C Act 1981 and amendments, are excluded (as these are not relevant to a planning application). Additionally, given the large number of priority species, these have only been included if identified from the desk study and/or habitats recorded on site have been assessed as providing suitable conditions.
- 2.3.4 Geological & landscape sites have only been included within this report where they have biodiversity or nature conservation components to their designation.
- 2.3.5 At certain times of year flora species may be in a state of senescence and are not readily identifiable. However, March represents a suitable time to identify the majority of flora species, and it was possible to easily classify the commonly occurring habitat types. The timing of the surveys is not perceived as a survey limitation.
- 2.3.6 This document does not contain a comprehensive list of botanical species on site. Only plant species characteristic of each habitat and incidental observations of notable plant species were recorded.
- 2.3.7 Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council do not supply information on Important Hedgerows.

3.0 Baseline Ecological Conditions

3.1.1 Ecological features identified by the desk study/field survey are presented below, along with their details and associated ecological value. Refer to appended drawings for the location/extent of ecological features where relevant.

Table 2 – Ecological Features

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Statutory sites designated or classified under international conventions or European legislation		
<i>No internationally designated sites within a 5km radius of the site</i>	-	-
Statutory sites designated under national legislation (& Impact Risk Zones)		
Impact Risk Zone (IRZ)	The Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) in which the site lies states the LPA should consult Natural England on the likely impacts of the following development categories: - Infrastructure: Airports, helipads and other aviation proposals. - Air Pollution: Livestock & poultry units with a floorspace > 500m², slurry lagoons > 4000m². - Combustion: General combustion processes >50MW energy input. Including: energy from waste incineration, other incineration, landfill gas generation plant, pyrolysis/gasification, anaerobic digestion, sewage treatment works, other incineration/combustion.	Proposals do not meet the criteria for which LPA should consult Natural England.
Local Nature Reserves		
<i>No Local Nature Reserves within a 2km radius of the site</i>		
Other locally designated wildlife sites		
Meadow, Kirkby (Mill Brook), south of Old Hall Lane, Kirkby (SBI) 440m west of Site	A meadow within a wet flush on the banks of Kirkby Brook. Sandstone exposures on the banks add to the diversity.	County
Kirkby Brook, includes Mill Brook, Kirkby (SBI) 475m west of Site	Stream course and banks rich in plants with exposures of sandstone in places and wet flushes	County
Mill Brook, West Vale (SBI) 630m west of Site	Open water course providing good habitat for water voles.	County
Kirkby Brook (SBI) 850m south of Site	Open water course providing good habitat for water voles.	County

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Simonswood Brook, Kirkby (SBI) 1.3km north of Site	The brook forms the borough boundary and has a broadleaf woodland on sandstone exposures.	County
Northwood Forest Hills (SBI) 1.56km northeast of Site	An area of former industrial and residential land, which has since been developed to include a pond and a swamp with locally rare plant species. Unimproved Neutral grassland covers large areas of the Site and this is species rich.	County
Kirkby Brook, Northwood (SBI) 1.65km east of Site	Open water course providing good habitat for water voles.	County
River Alt, Kirkby (SBI) 1.83km southwest of Site	Open water course providing good habitat for water voles.	County
Wango Lane, Kirkby (SBI) 1.95km west of Site	An area of marsh and fen vegetation with developing willow carr. This Site is contiguous with an area in Sefton district.	County
England HPI, Local BAP Habitats, Ancient Woodland, Important Hedgerows, Veteran Trees, TPOs and Conservation Areas		
Deciduous Woodland Habitat of Principal Importance (HPI) 135m West of Site	A total of approximately 2.83ha Deciduous Woodland HPI indicated within a 500m radius, with the closest woodland found approximately 135m west of the western boundary of Site.	Local
Ancient Woodland	Magic Map (DEFRA, 2025) showed no areas of Ancient Woodland within 500m radius of the proposed site.	Negligible
Veteran Trees	Woodland Trust (Woodland Trust, 2025) showed no veteran trees in close proximity to the site,	Negligible
Tree Protection Orders (TPO)	No TPO's listed on the Knowsley's Planning and TPO portal within the 500m range of Site.	Negligible
Green/Blue & Aquatic Infrastructure, Dark Zones, and Local Policy		
Green Infrastructure	Whilst the site is largely comprised of areas of hardstanding which does not provide any notable green infrastructure function, the small areas of modified grassland provide a very limited extent of connectivity and wildlife corridor function across the landscape.	Negligible
Blue Infrastructure	No blue infrastructure identified onsite, or adjacent to the site.	Negligible
Dark Zones	There are no known dark zones across the site. In accordance with the standard guidance specified in the <i>Guidance Notes for Reduction of Obtrusive Lighting</i> (Institution of Lighting Professionals, 2021), the application site likely falls under Environmental Zone E4 (Town/ City Centre – High district brightness).	N/A

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Habitat Types		
Developed land – sealed surface (u1b) 	The majority of Site (~0.27ha) consists of hard standing car parking associated with the Kirkby shopping centre and public footpaths interspersed between small areas of grassland This does not represent any UK or Local BAP Priority Habitat.	Negligible

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Modified Grassland (g4) 	Five separate areas of Modified Grassland were found dispersed around the areas of hardstanding car park. The grassland areas were seen to be recently mown with low sward height, exhibiting limited botanical diversity. Vegetation was similar in each section Species include abundant Perennial Ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>), Rare: Cock's Foot (<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>), Common Daisy (<i>Bellis perennis</i>), Common Nettle (<i>Urtica dioica</i>), Common Ragwort (<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>), Ribwort Plantain (<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>) and White Clover (<i>Trifolium repens</i>) Modified Grassland does not represent any UK or Local BAP Priority Habitat.	Negligible

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Legally Protected & Priority Species (& Consultation Zones where applicable)		
Bats	No habitats present on Site were well suited for bats with minimal foraging or roosting opportunities. The highly urbanised landscape and associated noise would likely deter bats. The local data centre provided records of bat species relating to: Common Pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>), Daubentons bat (<i>Myotis daubentoniid</i>) and Soprano pipistrelle (<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>). The closest record is at least 800m away from the Site boundary.	Negligible
Badger	No incidental evidence of Badger (e.g. setts, latrines, prints etc.) was observed during the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal survey. The foraging potential found on Site is extremely limited with minimal natural habitats. The local records search identified no records of Badgers within a 2km radius of the Site in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Dormouse	The site features predominantly hardstanding surfaces with small sections of grassland, providing no opportunities for Dormouse which typically inhabit mature hedgerow and woodland copses in open countryside. In addition, the site is in an area of the Country where this species is significantly rare, if not extinct. No records of Dormouse within a 2km radius, in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Otter and Water Vole	The site features no waterbodies or watercourses providing any suitable habitat for Otter and Water Vole. The data centre returned two records of Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>), both from 2020 with the closest located 1.9km southwest of Site. The data centre also returned three records relating to Water Vole (<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>) with most recent being from 2022 located 1.1km north of Site.	Negligible

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Other Protected Mammals	No evidence of, or specific opportunities for, any other species of protected mammal. No records of any other protected mammal species within a 2km radius, in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Specially Protected Birds	No evidence of, or significant specific opportunities for, any specially protected bird species within the limited modified grassland present onsite. The data search has revealed no records of any Schedule 1 protected birds within a 2km radius in the last 10 years .	Negligible
Breeding, Wintering and Migratory Birds	Whilst the site is comprised of hardstanding and modified grassland offering limited foraging habitat for a restricted range of birds likely present in the local area, no potential nesting habitat is present. No open undisturbed conditions suitable for any ground-nesting bird species such as Skylark (<i>Alauda arvensis</i>) and Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>).. No habitats present which are likely to specifically attract or provide opportunities for migratory or wintering bird species. The data search has revealed no records of any Priority Species of bird within a 2km radius in the last 10 years .	Negligible
Common Reptiles	The predominantly hardstanding and mown grassland habitats do not provide any opportunities for common reptiles. Although, the grassland may provide a limited extent of suitable habitat for reptile individuals, it is noted the site displays high levels of urban activity and further is not directly connected to any optimal reptile habitat such as wetlands or heathland and provides potential for individual numbers of Common Reptiles only. No records of common reptiles within 2km of the site in the last 10 years.	Negligible

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Great Crested Newt	Whilst there are no waterbodies onsite providing any potential for breeding GCN within the site, aerial imagery and Magic Map (DEFRA, 2025) indicates there are two ponds within a 500m radius of the site, 370 and 405m west of Site respectfully. The site consists entirely of hardstanding and grassland habitats, which offer a limited extent of suitable terrestrial habitat. Natural England GCN Risk Zones indicated the proposed site is outside of the Risk Zone (Natural England, 2025). The local data records centre featured no records of GCN within 2km of the site within the last 10 years. Magic Map (DEFRA, 2025) found no EPSLs, Class Survey Licence Returns, or Pond Surveys for GCN within a 2km radius of the site.	Negligible
Other Protected Herpetofauna	No suitable habitats within or immediately adjacent to the site specifically suitable for other species of protected herpetofauna. No records of other protected amphibian or reptile species within a 2km radius, in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Protected Fish/Marine	There are no watercourses or waterbodies within the site providing any opportunities for fish or marine species. No records of any protected fish within a 2km radius in the last 10 years.	Negligible
White-clawed Crayfish	No watercourses within the site to serve as potential habitat for White-clawed Crayfish. No records of White-clawed Crayfish within a 2km radius in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Protected Invertebrates	Due to the site comprised of hardstanding, and sects of mowed modified grassland, the site is unlikely to support a range or diversity of invertebrates or likely to support any protected invertebrate species. No records of Protected Invertebrates within a 2km radius in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Protected Flora	No protected flora species detected during the survey and the site is unlikely to support a range of protected flora. No records of Protected Flora within a 2km radius in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Invasive Flora	No invasive flora species detected during the survey and no specific opportunities for any invasive species identified. The data centre returned records on invasive flora in the search vicinity in the last 10 years, this included: Fringed Water Lilly (<i>Nymphoides peltate</i>), Himalayan Balsam (<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>) and Japanese Knotweed (<i>Fallopia japonica</i>). The closest record to Site is found ~250m west of Site.	Negligible

Ecological Feature	Details	Ecological Importance
Invasive Fauna	No invasive fauna species detected during the survey and no specific opportunities for any invasive species identified. No records of invasive fauna were identified within 2km of the site in the last 10 years.	Negligible
Priority Species	The grassland may provide a significantly limited foraging and sheltering opportunities for Priority Species, which may be present in the urban landscapes such as Hedgehog (<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>). Records in the wider area include Hedgehog identified within 2km of the site within the last 10 years.	Local

4.0 Assessment and Mitigation

- 4.1.1 Assessment of impacts and the associated ecological effect to identified ecological features are presented below. Ecological features have been screened out where these are of negligible importance, no likely significant impacts have been identified or where impact is unlikely to occur.
- 4.1.2 To clarify, other than the ecological features listed below, there are no perceived potential impacts on any other sites, habitats or species in the wider area. The proposals are of a type, scale and distance that any direct or indirect construction or operational impacts on the other identified ecological features are reasonably discounted.

Table 3 – Assessment of effect and mitigation measures

Ecological Feature	Impact	Avoidance/Mitigation	Compensation	Significance of Residual Effect
Priority Species	Risk of killing/injury of Priority Species during site clearance and construction activities Minor adverse, permanent, irreversible impact	The sensitive clearance measures described above to ensure the protection of any common reptiles will also serve to minimise the risk of killing/injury of SPI such as Hedgehog, Common Toad and invertebrates which may be present at the site. Any wildlife discovered will be safely moved to suitable refuge habitat outside of the construction area.	None required.	No significant effect anticipated

5.0 Enhancement and Monitoring

- 5.1.1 Opportunities for biodiversity enhancement (above and beyond those required to mitigate for any identified impacts) have been determined through consideration of: Ecological Features identified on site and within the zone of influence; Historical records of protected species/habitats present within the locality; National and Local planning policy including National and Local Biodiversity habitats/species; Local Development Plans including consideration of Green/Blue Infrastructure Resource; Consultation with third parties/stakeholders where applicable; and Other influencing factors such as underlying Geology/Hydrology, intended operational activities, and existing disturbance activities within the locality. This makes specific reference to Biodiversity Net Gain, Good practice principles for development (CIEEM, IEMA, CIRA, 2019).
- 5.1.2 In accordance with the local and national policy and the Environment Act 2021 there is a requirement to demonstrate at least a +10% biodiversity net gain, and a BNG calculation i.e. DEFRA metric, is to be provided. Additional biodiversity enhancements will include the following and will provide additional benefits to wildlife and biodiversity, and which are not accounted for in the DEFRA Metric which deals with areas of habitat only and not point specific enhancements such as bird and bat boxes. The specific location and details of the proposals can be detailed within a Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy (BES) in accordance with BS42020:2013 or detailed on Landscape Plans as appropriate.

Table 4 – Additional Enhancement

Ecological Feature	Additional Enhancement
Landscape Planting	The final landscape planting scheme should incorporate a range of native species and wildflower species which are known to be of value to wildlife, and which are suitable to the site location and conditions.

- 5.1.3 No post-determination monitoring is perceived necessary. To comply with guidance set out in BS42020:2013, a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) which includes consideration of biodiversity can be produced prior to the commencement of construction activities, including site clearance works. A Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) will also be produced prior to operation of the site. A Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) may also be requested to secure long-term habitat creation/enhancement.

6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1.1 Suitable mitigation measures can be incorporated into the proposed application to avoid/ mitigate/ compensate any potential impacts to ecological features and to demonstrate 'no biodiversity net loss' in accordance with NPPF and local planning policy. As such, no significant residual impact can be expected which would prevent the positive determination of a planning application or development of this site.
- 6.1.2 Additionally, the site development allows the opportunity to provide local enhancements to demonstrate a 'biodiversity net gain'.

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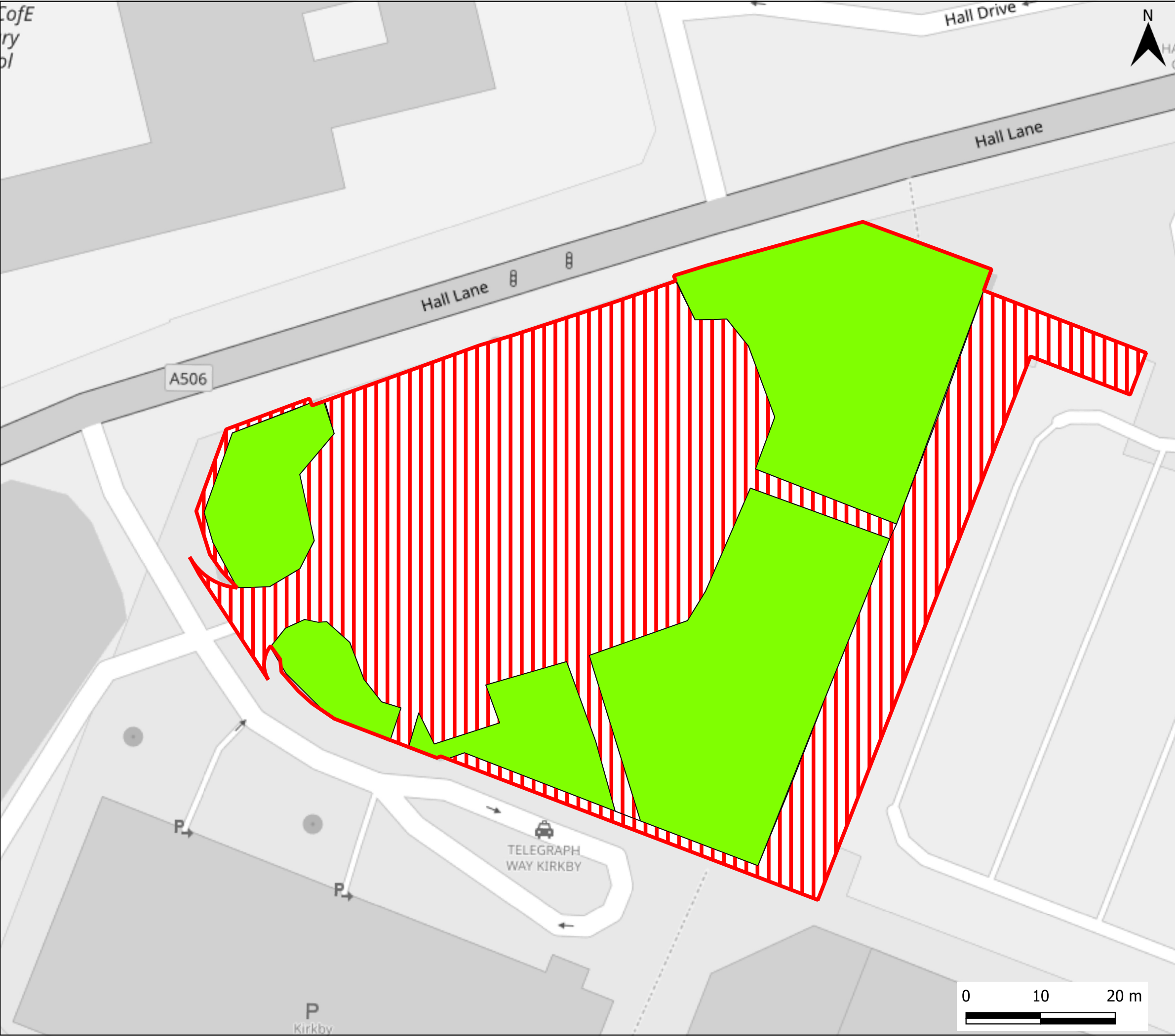
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Drawings – UK Habitat Classification Survey



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Modified grassland (g4)
- Developed land - sealed surface (u1b)

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P02	30/10/25	Redline updated	LW	EW	EW
P01	25/07/25	Preliminary Issue	SD	EW	EW

Project
Land at Telegraph Way, Kirkby

Client
Lidl GB Limited

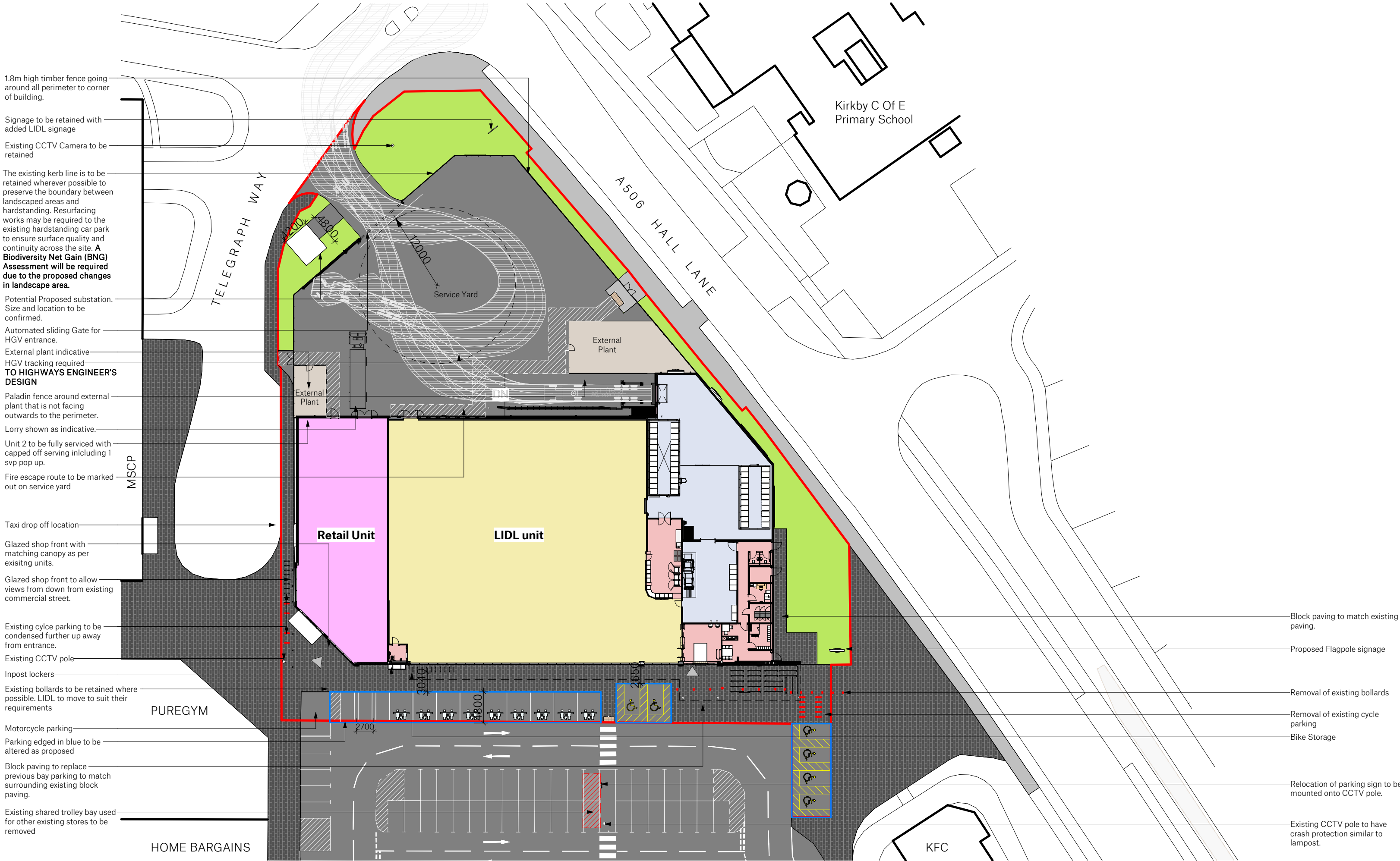
Drawing Title
UK Habitat Classifications Map

Scale 1:500 @ A3	Date 25/07/2025	Status Preliminary
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DWG No. MAN1230073-ENZ-XX-XX-DR-Z-0001	Revision P02
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Appendix A – Proposed Site Plan

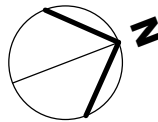


OVERALL

SITE AREA (Approx.):	6380 m ²
BUILDING AREAS - LIDL	
Ancillary Area	224 m ²
Sales Area	1516 m ²
Warehouse Area	495 m ²
GROSS INTERNAL AREA (TOTAL)	2235 m ²

Retail Unit	473m2
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	Tarmac (Vehicles)		Tarmac (Pedestrians) to be retained where possible
	Paving to match existing		Concrete cast in-situ
	Soft		Tactile



Store Specification

Bespoke

Drawing Purpose

PLANNING

This drawing has been prepared for the sole purpose of forming part of a planning application, and should not be used for any other purpose.



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Project

Lidl Kirkby

Drawing Title

Proposed Site Plan

Project No.	Drawing No.	Status	Rev.	Scale at A2
08984	XX-XX-D-A-91001	S3	P26	1:500

File Reference: **08984-SPACE-XX-XX-D-A-91001-S3-P26**

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Appendix B - Legislation and National Planning Policy

Wildlife legislation and policy relevant (or potentially relevant pending further survey) to the proposed works, based on the findings of the desk study and field survey are set out below. This legal information is a summary only, and the original legal documents should be consulted for definitive information.

Legislation Protection Afforded to Sites/Habitats that could Potentially be Affected by the Proposed Works

Designated Site/Habitat	Legal Status
None	-

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (the NERC Act) places a legal duty on public bodies, including planning authorities, to 'have regard' to the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their normal functions, which includes consideration of planning applications.

In compliance with Section 41 of the NERC Act, the Secretary of State has published a list of species and habitats considered to be of principal importance for conserving biodiversity in England under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework. This is known as the list of Habitats and Species of Principal Importance (HPI/SPI), of which there are 56 habitats and 943 species. The HPI/SPI list is used to guide planning authorities in implementing their duty under the NERC Act.

National Planning Policy

The NPPF (2024) set out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is a presumption in favour of sustainable development.

The NPPF states that:

'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 and incorporating features which support priority or threatened species such as swifts, bats and hedgehogs;
- e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air and water quality, taking into account relevant information such as river basin management plans; and
- f) remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate.

Plans should: distinguish between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites; allocate land with the least environmental or amenity value, where consistent with other policies in this Framework take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.

To protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity, plans should:

a) identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation; and

b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

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.

The following should be given the same protection as habitats sites:

a) potential Special Protection Areas and possible Special Areas of Conservation;

b) listed or proposed Ramsar sites; and

c) sites identified, or required, as compensatory measures for adverse effects on habitats sites, potential Special Protection Areas, possible Special Areas of Conservation, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

The presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), unless an appropriate assessment has concluded that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of the habitats site.



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