
Preliminary Ecological
Appraisal and Day Time
Building Inspection

Red House Farm, Prescott
Road, Cronton, WA8 5PS
Ref: P.2140.24

Date: January 2025
(See revision dates below)

Rev	Date	Details

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ascerta has been instructed by **Hops and Barley** to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Daytime Building Inspection for bats of the land and buildings at Red House Farm, Prescott Road, Cronton, WA8 5PS (hereafter referred to as **the site**).

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Daytime Building Inspection for Bats comprised of a desk study and biological records search, as well as a site walkover survey in order to map habitat types. The survey was extended to assess the potential for protected species to use the site. The assessment provides baseline data regarding the current site conditions and where appropriate allows recommendations to be made in respect of further potential work in order to satisfy current UK wildlife legislation.

Assessed against the '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' 2nd edition (2018), the sites habitats range in ecological value from negligible to within the zone of influence

The site provides habitat for nesting birds, hedgehog and badger. All habitats assessed are likely to be lost to the proposals. However, as the habitats to be lost to the proposals are small in area and not of high ecological value, it is considered that their loss can be mitigated for and the proposals will not adversely affect the ecological value of the wider area, provided the recommendations detailed below are followed.

Bat surveys are conducted in accordance with the Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists - Good Practice Guidelines, published 2023 (the Guidelines). Strict adherence to these is not necessary, but where practice deviates from them, clear reasons and rationale are required.

The site was subject to an extended phase one habitat survey and a preliminary bat roost assessment of all buildings. During the survey and following review of historical species records, it is considered that an impact on birds, badger and hedgehog are likely to occur in relation to the proposals for the site. The following recommendations have been made to avoid an impact on these species:

- If works have not begun by December 2026, an updated site visit will be required to assess the habitats within the site;
- Production and implementation of a hedgehog RAMS to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works;
- Production and implementation of a badger RAMS to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works.
- Precautionary check for badger prior to works commencing to assess if badgers are using the habitats within the site for shelter;
- Vegetation clearance, building works or pruning should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (1st March to 31st August Inclusive) to avoid any impact on breeding birds. Or a nesting bird check undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist should be undertaken immediately prior to works commencing;

1.0 Introduction

Ascerta has been instructed by **Hops and Barley** to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Daytime Building Inspection for bats of the land and buildings at the site. The site OS grid reference is SJ 47713 88488 and the What3Words reference is reef.unable.lost. The extent of the site is displayed in photograph 1.1 below.



Photograph 1.1: Extent of the site.

Our client seeks planning consent to demolish the current residential building and to erect a new dwelling.

The habitats on site comprise of three buildings, hardstanding gravel driveway, a species poor hedgerow, improved grassland with introduced shrubs. The site has a boundary fence with a small stream (D1) running through the grassland.

The site was visited on 18th December 2024 by Kira Lovatt MSc when a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, which includes an assessment of the potential for protected species to be using the site or surroundings, was carried out in accordance with the *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit* (JNCC, 2010). The report was prepared following methods detailed in the CIEEM 'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland' (2018) and 'Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing' (2017).

This report presents the results of the survey including evaluation of habitats on site and potential for protected species to be using the site. The report includes recommendations for further actions where applicable, in order to satisfy current UK wildlife legislation and to achieve our client's objectives. Relevant legislation is detailed within Appendix 4.

Our client's objectives are to assess the potential ecological constraints of the proposed development site.

2.0 Objectives

Our client's objectives are to assess the potential ecological constraints of the proposed development site.

Our objectives are as follows:

- Identify and evaluate any features of ecological value and the potential of the site to support protected species based on the walkover survey and biological records search;
- Identify designated sites within 2km of the site;
- Review protected species records within 2km of the site;
- Map the habitats within the site using JNCC (2010) methods;
- Provide recommendations for further species-specific surveys and mitigation measures where current legislation requires;
- Provide recommendations that seek to enhance the ecological value of the site;
- Provide recommendations to assist our clients in achieving their objectives whilst satisfying current UK wildlife legislation.

3.0 Survey Methods

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal involved the collection and review of data from a desk study and field survey, along with assessment of the value of the habitats following CIEEM guidelines.

3.1 Desk Study

A desk study was undertaken on 5th December 2024 to identify protected and notable habitats and species, and nature conservation designations potentially relevant to the proposed development. The desk study was carried out using the sources detailed in Table 3.1 below.

Table 3.1. Desk Study Data Information

Source	Date Obtained	Data Obtained
Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)	5 th December 2024	• Statutory designated sites within 2km of the site • Protected and Notable habitats within 2km of the site • Ancient woodlands within 2km of the site • European Protected Species Licenses within 2km of the site
Merseyside Biobank	5 th December 2024	• Non-statutory designated sites within 2km of the site • Protected and notable species records within 2km of the site
North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan	5 th December 2024	• Additional protections afforded to species/habitat

3.2 Field Survey

A walkover survey of the site was conducted on 18th December 2024 by Kira Lovatt. The habitat types and features of ecological interest were identified and mapped in compliance with *the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit* (JNCC, 2010). During the survey, weather conditions were recorded to ensure optimal surveying conditions according to guidelines. Any sub-optimal conditions will be discussed in the limitations.

This includes the identification of the main species present and examination of the potential for any protected species. Habitats were mapped (Appendix 1) made for any interesting features.

The surveys particularly focused on the following species and habitat features:

- Mammals (badgers, bats, otter, water vole);
- Birds (including species potentially associated with 'European Sites');
- Amphibians and reptiles;
- Invertebrates;

- Hedgerows and boundaries;
- Invasive plant species; and
- Plant communities and trees.

3.3 Bat Survey Methods

The survey methods followed the guidelines set out by the Bat Conservation Trust's *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 4th Edition* (2023). Habitats, buildings and trees were assessed for suitability for use by bats and categorised independently using table 4.1 page 44 within the Bat Conservation Trust Guidelines (Collins, 2023).

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal for Bats

Habitats on site were assessed for their suitability for bats to use them for roosting, commuting and foraging both on the site and surrounding area. Commuting and foraging habitat suitability was categorised **low** to **high**. Any commuting and foraging habitat valued as **moderate** or above may need further survey effort if lost to the proposals.

Preliminary Roost Assessment Trees

All trees were inspected for Potential Roost Features (PRFs). Features searched for included: Natural or woodpecker holes, cracks/splits in major limbs, loose bark, hollows/cavities, dense epicormic growth, bird and bat boxes. Where such features were found they were investigated for scratches or staining, bat droppings and smoothing of surfaces around entry points. Trees assigned a suitability of **moderate** or above may require further inspection if they are to be lost to the development.

External Inspection of the Buildings

A daytime external inspection of the buildings was carried out during the survey by a suitably experienced ecologist. The buildings were searched externally looking for signs of bats, including staining on barge boards, soffits and more commonly droppings on flat surfaces i.e., window ledges that would indicate potential roosting sites. Possible bat access points such as loose tiles, cracks and crevices or crawl spaces beneath and/or behind roofing materials such as roofing felt, panelling, soffits and tiles were identified and were also checked for signs of use by bats.

Any buildings on-site are categorised as per Table 3.2 (below). Buildings assigned a suitability of **Low** or above may require further inspection if they are to be lost to the development.

Table 3.2: Guidelines for assessing potential suitability of proposed development sites for bats, based on the presence of habitat features within the landscape, to be applied using professional judgement. Guidelines taken from table 4.1 page 44 of the Bat Conservation Trust Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 4th Edition (2023).

Potential suitability	Description	
	Roosting Habitats in structures	Potential flight-paths and foraging habitats
None	<i>No habitat features on site likely to be used by any roosting bats at any time of the year (i.e. a complete absence of crevices/suitable shelter at all ground/underground levels).</i>	<i>No habitat features on site likely to be used by any commuting or foraging bats at any time of the year (i.e. no habitats that provide continuous lines of shade/protection for flight-lines, or generate/shelter insect populations available to foraging bats).</i>
Negligible^a	<i>No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains as bats can use small and apparently unsuitable features on occasion.</i>	<i>No obvious habitat features on site likely to be used as flight-paths or by foraging bats; however, a small element of uncertainty remains in order to account for non-standard bat behaviour.</i>
Low	<i>A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically at any time of the year. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions ^b and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity and not a classic cool/stable hibernation site, but could be used by individual hibernating bats ^c).</i>	<i>Habitat that could be used by small numbers of bats as flight-paths such as a gappy hedgerow or unvegetated stream, but isolated, i.e. not very well connected to the surrounding landscape by other habitat. Suitable, but isolated habitat that could be used by small numbers of foraging bats such as a lone tree (not in a parkland situation) or a patch of scrub.</i>
Moderate	<i>A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions^b and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only, such as maternity or hibernation – the categorisation described in this table is made irrespective of species conservation status, which is established after presence is confirmed).</i>	<i>Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for flight-paths such as lines of trees and scrub or linked back gardens. Habitat that is connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for foraging such as trees, scrub, grassland or water.</i>
High	<i>A structure with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions ^b and surrounding habitat. These structures have the potential to support high conservation status roosts, e.g. maternity or classic cool/stable hibernation site.</i>	<i>Continuous, high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by bats for flight-paths such as river valleys, streams, hedgerows, lines of trees and woodland edge. High-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by foraging bats such as broadleaved woodland, tree-lined watercourses and grazed parkland. Site is close to and connected to known roosts.</i>

^a Negligible is defined as 'so small or unimportant as to be not worth considering, insignificant'. This category may be used where there are places that a bat could roost or forage (due to one attribute) but it is unlikely that they actually would (due to another attribute).

^b For example, in terms of temperature, humidity, height above ground level, light levels or levels of disturbance.

^c Evidence from the Netherlands shows mass swarming events of common pipistrelle bats in the autumn followed by mass hibernation in a diverse range of building types in urban environments (Korsten et al., 2016 and Jansen et al., 2022). Common pipistrelle swarming has been observed in the UK (Bell, 2022 and Tomlinson, 2020) and winter hibernation of this species has been detected at Seaton Delaval Hall in Northumberland (National Trust, 2018). This phenomenon requires some research in the UK, but ecologists should be aware of the potential for larger numbers of this species to be present during the autumn and winter in prominent buildings in the landscape, urban or otherwise.

3.4 Badger Survey Methods

The site was searched for setts and badger field signs including foraging areas, latrines and tracks. Attention was paid to the presence of the following field signs:

- Setts: single holes or a series of holes likely to be interconnected underground;
- Latrines: badgers usually deposit faeces in excavated pits;
- Paths and footprints;
- Scratching posts: at the base of trees;
- Snuffle holes: areas where badgers have searched for insects;
- Day nest: bundles of vegetation where badgers may sleep above ground; and
- Traces of hair.

3.5 Evaluation

Habitats and species on the site were evaluated following the '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' (2018). A geographical frame of reference is assigned to each habitat and species, with **International Value** being most important, then **National, Regional, County, District, Local** and lastly, within the immediate **Zone of Influence (Zoi)** of the proposals only.

Value judgements are based on characteristics that can be used to identify ecological resources or features likely to be important in terms of biodiversity. These include site designations such as SSSIs. For undesignated features, the size, conservation status (locally, nationally or internationally), and the quality of the ecological resource are considered. Ecological resource quality can refer to habitats (for instance if they are particularly diverse, or a good example of a specific habitat type), other features (such as wildlife corridors or mosaics of habitats) or species populations or assemblages.

The recommendations detailed within this report aim to meet requirements of the Environment Act and Statutory Biodiversity Metric as far as possible at this stage.

3.6 Limitations

The site visit was undertaken in December. Although this within the sub-optimal time of year for phase 1 habitat surveys, sufficient vegetation was present to enable habitat identification. It is not considered a limit to the conclusions of the report based on the habitats found within the site and the works proposed.

Access to carry out an internal inspection of the building was not available. Small gaps under tiles, between stonework and between roof lining could not be fully examined for the presence of bats. These access restrictions are considered within the report conclusions.

The absence of biological records does not necessarily mean the absence of species. This has been considered within the report conclusions.

The site was visited on only one occasion. This produces a snapshot of habitats and species on the site and others may be present at different times of the day or year. This limitation has been considered within this report.

4.0 Survey Results

4.1 Desk Study

Statutory sites

No statutory designated sites were identified within a 2km radius of the proposed development site.

Non-statutory sites

Seventeen non-statutory designated sites were identified within a 2km radius of the proposed development site. These are listed in Table 4.2 below.

Table 4.1 Non-statutory Designated Sites

Non-Statutory Designated Site	Reason for Designation	Distance to Proposed Development
Alder Brook, Cronton Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	A brook flowing through high quality agricultural land with good habitat diversity.	2.34km east
Big Water and Big Water Wood, Halsnead Park LNR	A lake that is regularly fished with good mix of aquatic and emergent plants. Broadleaf woodland borders the lake.	1.56km northwest
Blundell Hills Golf Course LNR	A golf course containing a range of habitats including, woodland, scrub, wetlands and hedgerows. These habitats support a high diversity of species and include a number of nationally, regionally and locally rare species.	1.94km northeast
Brickwall Covert, Tarbock LNR	A mature broadleaf and mixed plantation woodland with associated wetland areas.	1.83 south west
Dagger's Bridge Wood, Cronton LNR	A broadleaf woodland dissected by two brooks, Foxes Bank Brook and Chapel Brook. The confluence of these two streams is in the woodland. Interesting wetland plants enhance this site.	1.24km northwest
Dog Clog Brook, Tarbock LNR	An open water course providing good water vole habitat.	1.13km southwest
George's Wood and adjacent land, Cronton LNR	Predominantly a mature broadleaf woodland with a large area of neutral grassland. Other habitats include scrub and wetland.	986m southeast
Land, east of Fox's Bank Brook, Cronton LNR	A stream valley with broadleaf woodland on the east bank, possibly of ancient origin.	756m south
Mine Waste, Cronton LNR	A predominantly wooded site with two ponds on its north-western side. A mix of dry and wet acid grasslands is present around the ponds and to the south.	819m southwest

Ochre Brook, Tarbock LNR	Fast flowing stream in channel recovering from works to the banks.	1.45km west
Ox Lane Wood, Tarbock LNR	Mature broadleaf woodland bisected by a ditch with ponds. A unique feature in this area of Knowsley.	1.82km west
Rough Head Wood, Cronton LNR	A semi-natural broadleaf woodland with ponds and a stream. Dead wood has been left and provides good habitat.	1.14km northeast
Woodland, Sandfield Park LNR	A mature, predominantly broadleaf woodland with a pond, acidic grassland and scrub.	1.94km north
Strettles Bog, Tarbock LNR	A small area of broadleaf woodland and neutral grassland bisected by Chapel Brook.	1.34km northwest
Tarbock Green Ditch LNR	An open water course providing good water vole habitat.	1.69km southeast
The Old Wood North, Halsnead Park LNR	A mature broadleaf woodland set in a clough valley with rock outcrops and a former quarry. The woodland was separated from the Old Wood South by construction of the M62 motorway.	1.46km northwest
The Old Wood South, Halsnead Park LNR	A predominantly broadleaf woodland with ditch and marsh habitats. Bracken dominated areas can also be found.	1.24km northwest

The full designations for each site are listed within Appendix 5.

The site lies within a Natural England SSSI Impact Risk Zone, however a consultation with Natural England will not be triggered as the proposals are for residential dwelling only.

Priority Habitats

Woodland

Two areas of Ancient Woodland were returned within 2km of the site, the closest being located 1.1km northwest.

Numerous areas of Priority Habitat Deciduous Woodland were returned within 2km of the site, the closest being located 140m northeast.

Several areas of Priority Habitat Traditional Orchard were returned within 2km of the site, the closest being located 750m southwest.

The site lies within a Conservation Target area for the following Priority Species:

- Lapwing
- Redshank

The site also falls within a breeding area for the following Grassland Assemblage Farmland Birds:

- Corn bunting
- Grey partridge
- Lapwing
- Snipe
- Tree sparrow
- Yellow wagtail

Priority Species

Following a review of records held by Merseyside Biobank, several priority species that have the potential to occur within the vicinity of the proposed development have been identified. These include birds, bats, badger, hedgehog and amphibians. The species records are summarised below, and the detailed records held by Merseyside Biobank within 2km of the site are displayed within Appendix 5. Protected species legislation can be found within Appendix 4.

No species records were returned by Merseyside Biobank within the site boundary.

Birds

Three hundred and fifty-eight records were returned for bird species within 2km of the site. Species returned include tree sparrow, swift, starling, yellow hammer, willow tit. All species recorded within 2km are displayed within Appendix 5.

Bats

Merseyside Biobank returned thirty-one records for bats within the search area. Bat species include common pipistrelle, brown-long eared bat, Leisler's Bat, myotis sp. and noctule. The closest of which was a record of Leisler's bat located 597m northeast of the site.

Amphibians

Seventeen records for great crested newt were returned within 2km of the site. The closest of which was a 2004 record located 1.58km west the site.

A further one hundred and seventy-one amphibians were returned within 2km of the site. Species presents include common frog, common toad, smooth newt. The closest of which was a record of common frog located 2km west of the site.

Reptiles

Four records for Reptiles were returned within 2km of the site. Species present includes slow worm. The closest of which was a record of slow worm located 1.68km east of the site.

Otter

Eighteen records for otter were returned within 2km of the site. The closest of which was located 1.76km north-west of the site.

Water vole

Ninety-one records for water vole were returned within 2km of the site. The closest of which was record located 1.58km west of the site.

Badger

Four records for badger were returned within 2km of the site. The closest of which was located 1.77km southwest of the site.

Other mammals

Forty-one records for other mammals were returned within 2km of the site. Species include hedgehog and brown hare and grey squirrel. The closest of which was a record of hedgehog located 1.50km west of the site. The most recent was a 2022 record of a hedgehog located 1.70km northwest of the site.

European Protected Species Licences

There were no European Protected Species Licence (EPSL) applications within 2km of the site since 2018.

4.2 Habitat Survey

A habitat survey was conducted on 18th December 2024 by Kira Lovat for the site. The habitat types and features of ecological interest were identified and mapped in compliance with *The Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit* (JNCC, 2010). A list and a summary description of key habitats identified within the site is tabled below (see Table 4.2). Notes on the presence or potential presence of protected species are provided in Section 4.6. The Phase 1 Habitat map can be found in P.2140.24.E01 *Phase One Habitat Survey*, Appendix 1 and photographs within Appendix 3. The lists of species recorded during survey are presented in Appendix 2.

Weather conditions during the survey were cold (9°C), dry and overcast (6/8 cloud cover) with a F2 (Beaufort Scale) light breeze, therefore appropriate for this type of survey.

Table 4.2. Habitats present on site including habitat alphanumeric code references from JNCC (2010).

Habitat Description and JNCC Codes	Site Description
<i>Hard standing (J4)</i>	The site presents hardstanding (comprising of gravel and concrete slabs). The areas of hardstanding are used as a driveway and a walkway to access the Building B1. A small area of concrete slabs surrounds building B1 and is encroached by the introduced shrubs along the east of the building. This habitat is displayed in photograph 3 & 4 within Appendix 3.
<i>Buildings (J3.6)</i>	Three buildings are present within the site. The buildings include a modern residential bungalow (B1) with a pitched roof, a brick stable barn with a slate pitched roof (B2) and a corrugated metal barn with a metal roof (B3). The buildings are detailed within section 4.3 below. The buildings are displayed within photographs 1-3 within Appendix 3.

Improved Grassland (B4)	Improved grassland is present throughout the site, located to the north of building B1. The grassland is intensively managed by mowing regularly. The grass sward height is approximately 5cm. annual meadow grass, creeping buttercup and daisy, with nettle located along the hedge to the east of the site. Full species lists are detailed within Appendix 2. This habitat is shown in photograph 6 & 8 within Appendix 3.
Introduced shrub (J1.4)	Areas of introduced shrubs/ornamental planting are present throughout the site within the formal landscaping and is located around the east and the west of building B1. Species present include none-invasive cotoneaster, privet, variegated holly <i>sp.</i> boxus <i>sp.</i> and laurel. This habitat is displayed in photographs 5 within Appendix 3.
Scattered trees (A3.1)	Scattered trees are located across the site, predominately within the introduced grassland and to the south of the site. The trees have been planted as part of formal landscaping of the property with species including spruce, Salix <i>sp.</i> and silver birch, scots pine, dog wood and cherry. This habitat is displayed in photographs 6 and 8 within Appendix 3.
Species Poor Hedge (J2.1.2)	Species poor hedgerows line the east, south and part of the western boundary. The hedge is laid beside a fence and encroaches the fence on the eastern boundary. Species present include hawthorn and privet with honeysuckle encroaching on the eastern boundary. This habitat is displayed in photograph 4 within Appendix 3.
Fence (J1.4)	A wooden fence lines the boarder of the site and is approximately 1m high. The fence is encroached by the species poor hedge in some areas. This habitat is displayed in photograph 6 & 8 within Appendix 3.
Running water – eutrophic (G1.2)	A small stream D1 runs through the improved grassland area. The stream is shallow, with moderate flow. No vegetation was seen within the stream during the site visit. This habitat is displayed in photograph 6 & 7 within Appendix 3.

4.3 Preliminary Bat Roost Assessment of Buildings

Table 4.3. Preliminary bat roost assessment of buildings within the site

Building B1	Building Description
	Building B1 is residential semi-modern bungalow constructed with brick with an interlocking tile pitched roof. Building 1 is displayed within Photographs 1 within Appendix 3. The building is currently occupied and constructed in brickwork with plastic fascia boards. The fascias are intact with no gaps present between the fascia and brickwork. The pointing is intact with no gaps or cracks identified. The windows and doors are PVC frames with intact double glazed glass windows. The roof is a pitched roof construction with interlocking tiles that present no gaps or slipped tiles. A conservatory is located on the east aspect of the building with brick construction and plastic PVC windows. No gaps are present along the brickwork or along the windows. No evidence of bats was identified during the external inspection.
	Assessment of B1
	The building was assessed to have negligible hibernation potential for crevice and void dwelling bats and negligible potential for day and maternity roosts for crevice dwelling bats and negligible potential for void dwelling bats. Overall, the building is classified as having negligible bat roosting potential.

Building B2	Building B2 is a brick stable barn building with a slate tile roof. The building also presents a wooden lean-to with a slate roof. Building 2 is displayed within Photographs 2 within Appendix 3. The building presents stable sections for horses and previous storage areas for other farm equipment. The door of the building has a wooden stable door on the northern elevation, with wooden doors located over the windows of the building. during the inspection, the top section of the door was open. The building may support nesting birds such as swallows and swifts but has limited bat roost potential. The brickwork of the building is in good order, with no gaps or cracks identified. The roof has had recently repaired tiles but presented no gaps between the tiles.
	Assessment of B1 The building was assessed to have negligible hibernation potential for crevice and void dwelling bats and negligible potential for day and maternity roosts for crevice dwelling bats and negligible potential for void dwelling bats. Overall, the building is classified as having negligible bat roosting potential.
Building B3	Building B3 is a corrugated metal barn with a sloped metal roof. The building presents a large opening on the north aspect of the building. There are no gaps present within the construction of the building. Building 3 is displayed within Photographs 3 within Appendix 3.
	Assessment of B1 The building was assessed to have negligible hibernation potential for crevice and void dwelling bats and negligible potential for day and maternity roosts for crevice dwelling bats and negligible potential for void dwelling bats. Overall, the building is classified as having negligible bat roosting potential.

4.4 Protected and Notable Species

Table 4.4: Habitat suitability for protected and notable species, including evidence, further survey information and reference to photographs/drawings where applicable.

Birds	Habitat suitability
	The introduced shrub, improved grassland, scattered trees, species poor hedge and buildings within the site provide suitable foraging and nesting opportunities for bird species.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	During the survey no birds were identified at the site. The site lies within a Conservation Target area for the Priority Species, Lapwing and Redshank. The site also falls within a breeding area for Grassland Assemblage Farmland Birds including, Corn bunting, Grey partridge, Lapwing, Snipe, Tree sparrow and Yellow wagtail, however the areas are small in size and subject to disturbance limiting their suitability.
	Further survey required
	For any vegetation removal or building works, a nesting bird survey will be required (section 5.2).
	Habitat suitability
	The buildings on site offer negligible potential to support bat roosts as detailed above in section 4.4. The trees within the site were subject to a ground level inspection for potential bat features during the survey. No features, such as cracked/split limbs or tear outs were

Bats	identified. The trees on site have low bat roost potential and do not require further surveys. The introduced shrub, species poor hedgerow, improved grassland and scattered trees within the site provide good suitability for commuting and foraging bats, with good connectivity to the surrounding land use.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	Evidence of bats was not identified within the site during the survey.
	Further survey required
	Bats will not be impacted by the proposals within the site therefore, bats do not require further consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further within this report as the majority of the site will be retained and not affected by the proposed developments.
Badger	Habitat suitability
	The introduced scrub, improved grassland and species poor hedge habitats within the site provide limited foraging and shelter habitat for badger.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of badger was identified within the site during the survey.
	Further survey required
Water vole	No further survey effort of badger will be required; however Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) should be implemented (see section 5.2).
	Habitat suitability
	The site and adjacent areas provide limited suitable habitats for water vole. The stream D1 on the site will not be affected by the proposed development. The stream D1 has steep sides and is drainage from nearby fields. Limited vegetation was location along the banks of the stream D1 during the site visit. A small pipe from underground is the initial start point of section of stream.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of water vole was identified during the site visit.
	Further survey required
	Water vole will not be impacted by the proposals within the site therefore, water vole do not require further consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further within this report.
Otter	Habitat suitability
	The site and adjacent areas provide limited suitable habitats for otter. The stream D1 will not be impacted by the proposed developments. The stream (D1) has steep sides and is drainage from nearby fields. Limited vegetation was location along the banks of the stream D1 during the site visit. A small pipe from underground is the initial start point of section of stream, limiting suitability for commuting otter.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of otter were identified during the site visit.
	Further survey required
	Otter will not be impacted by the proposals within the site therefore, otter do not require further consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further within this report.

Amphibians	Habitat suitability
	The improved grassland introduced shrub and intact species poor hedge provide terrestrial habitats for amphibians and the stream D1 may provide some aquatic habitat for amphibians but is fast flowing and therefore unsuitable for most amphibian species. No ponds were identified within 2km of the site as identified on Magic Maps.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of amphibians was identified within the site during the survey.
	Further survey required
	Amphibians will not be impacted by the proposals within the site therefore, amphibians do not require further consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further within this report.
Reptiles	Habitat suitability
	The habitats within the site do not offer suitability to support reptiles. Ecotones are not present within the site and the habitats are scattered across the site with no suitable connectivity except for the boundary hedge/fence.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of reptiles was identified within the site during the survey.
	Further survey required
	No further survey for reptile will be required. Reptiles do not require consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further.
Invertebrates	Habitat suitability
	The improved grassland, species poor hedge and introduced shrub provides some limited habitat for invertebrates. The improved grassland is regularly maintained through mowing.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of invertebrates was identified within the site during the survey.
	Further survey required
	No further survey for invertebrates will be required. Invertebrates do not require consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further.
Small mammals	Habitat suitability
	The improved grassland, species poor hedge and introduced shrub habitats within the site provide foraging and shelter habitat for small mammal species such as hedgehog.
	Species seen / Evidence of presence / Features identified
	No evidence of hedgehog was identified within the site during the survey.
	Further survey required
	No further survey effort of other small mammals will be required; however Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) should be implemented (see section 5.2).

Invasive species

No non-native invasive species were identified within the site during the walkover survey.

5.0 Evaluation and Recommendations

5.1 Designated Sites and Habitats

There are no statutory or non-statutory protected sites within the vicinity of the proposals that are likely to be influenced by the proposals due to the distance from the site. It is considered that there will be no impact on any statutory or non-statutory sites in the vicinity as a result of the proposals.

Mitigation

The habitats on site comprise of buildings, hardstanding, improved grassland, introduced shrub, scattered trees and species poor hedgerow. These habitats are considered to have an ecological value of Local **within the zone of influence** of the site or lower. The site contains no designated or priority habitats. Overall, the proposals are unlikely to adversely affect the ecological value of the area.

5.2 Protected and Notable Species Recommendations

Birds

The introduced shrub, improved grassland, scattered trees, species poor hedge and buildings provide suitable habitat for nesting and foraging bird species. It is recommended that vegetation clearance and building works should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (**1st March to 31st August Inclusive**) to avoid any impact on breeding birds. If vegetation clearance cannot be undertaken outside of the breeding bird season, a nesting bird check undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist should be undertaken immediately prior to works commencing. If an active birds' nest is identified a suitable buffer zone should be implemented where no works are to occur within until the young have fledged the nest.

Bats

The habitats on site provide **low** suitability for commuting and foraging bats.

Drawing/Plan of buildings on site can be found at P.2140.24.E01 in Appendix 1. The buildings on site were assessed to provide **negligible** potential for bats.

The trees on the site can be found at P.2140.24.E01 in Appendix 1. A ground level bat inspection survey was undertaken on the trees at the site to identify bat suitable habitats and/or any signs of roosting bats. The trees on site were assessed to provide **low** bat roost potential, all trees will be retained in the proposals and require no further works in relation to bats.

Badger

The site provides limited habitat for badger within the introduced shrub, species poor hedge and improved grassland.

As badgers are a mobile species it is recommended an **updated badger check of suitable habitats** is undertaken prior to works commencing within the site to avoid harm to badger that may have moved into the habitats within the site. It is recommended that a **Badger Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) Method Statement** is implemented during the works to avoid harm to this species. The RAMS should include:

- Construction materials stored on pallets so as not to create a badger refuge area; and
- Existing refuge areas should be removed by hand so badgers within are not harmed during their removal.

Small mammals

The site provides habitat for hedgehogs within the introduced shrub, species poor hedge and improved grassland.

These habitats are likely to be impacted by the proposals and therefore, it is recommended that a **Hedgehog Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) Method Statement** is implemented during the works to avoid harm to this species. The RAMS should include:

- Construction materials stored on pallets so as not to create a hedgehog refuge area; and
- Existing refuge areas should be removed by hand so hedgehogs within are not harmed during their removal.

To enable hedgehog continued use of the site it is advised that gaps of at least 13cm by 13cm are left under any new garden fences to enable hedgehog to roam freely within the area following development. To mitigate for the loss of habitat that could be used by hibernating hedgehogs it is recommended that a hedgehog hibernaculum is provided within the landscaping.

5.3 Enhancements

In order to meet requirements for biodiversity protection and enhancement outlined within the NPPF, it is recommended that ecological enhancements are included. These could include:

- Provision of 2 bird boxes (25mm, 28mm or 32mm entrance hole box), attached to or integrated within retained or new buildings on site;
- Provision of 2 bat features (e.g. Vivara bat bricks or '*bird brick houses*' bat boxes) integrated within new or retained buildings.

6.0 Conclusions

The site was subject to an extended phase one habitat survey and a preliminary bat roost assessment of all buildings. During the survey and following review of historical species records, it is considered that an impact on birds, badger and hedgehog are likely to occur in relation to the proposals for the site. The following recommendations have been made to avoid an impact on these species:

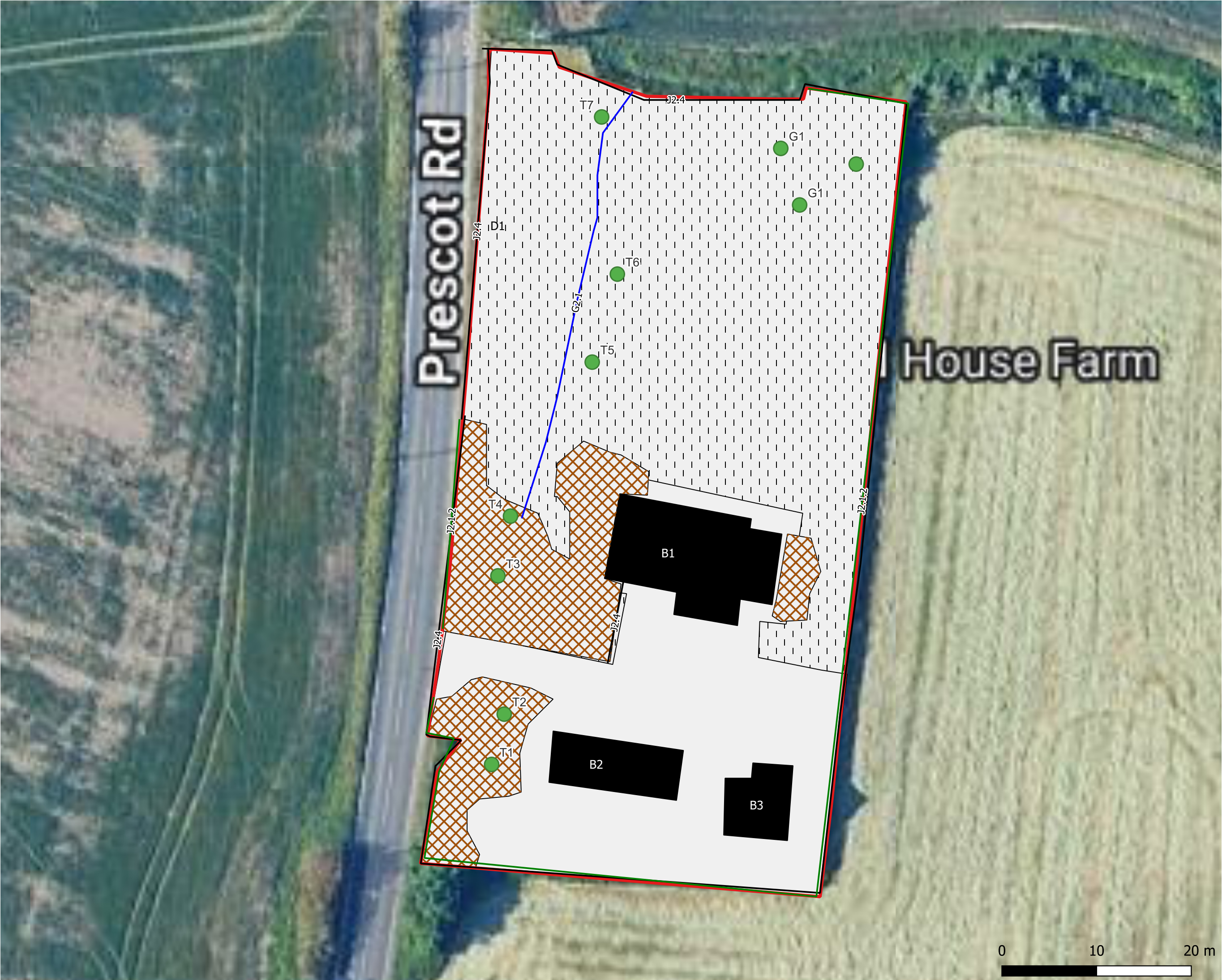
- If works have not begun by December 2026, an updated site visit will be required to assess the habitats within the site;
- Production and implementation of a hedgehog RAMS to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works;
- Production and implementation of a badger RAMS to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works.
- Precautionary check for badger prior to works commencing to assess if badgers are using the habitats within the site for shelter;
- Vegetation clearance, building works or pruning should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (1st March to 31st August Inclusive) to avoid any impact on breeding birds. Or a nesting bird check undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist should be undertaken immediately prior to works commencing;

It is considered that there would be very limited impacts on the local ecology as a result of the proposals, provided the recommendations detailed within section 5.0 above are followed.

7.0 References

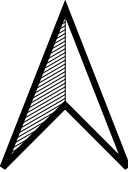
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Appendix 1



KEY

- Survey Area
- G2.1 - Running water
- eutrophic (D1)
- J2.1.2 - Intact hedge
- species-poor
- J2.4 - Fence
- A3.1- Scattered Trees
- B4 - Improved grassland
- J1.4 - Introduced shrub
- J3.6 - Buildings
- J5 - Hardstanding ground



DO NOT SCALE.
ALL COORDINATES RELATED TO LOCAL GRID.
LOCATED TO NG BY BEST FIT TO DETAIL.
EXTRACTED FROM OS DIGITAL DATA.

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CLIENT:
Hops and Barley

PROJECT:
Red House Farm, Prescott Road,
Cronton, WA8 5PS

DRAWING TITLE:
Phase One Habitat Map

SCALE: 1:500@A3	DRAWN BY: KL	DRAWING No: P.2140.24.E01
DATE: 19/12/2024	CHKD BY: LK	REV: -

Appendix 2

Appendix 2: Species Lists

Table 1: Flora Species

English Name	Scientific Name
Annual meadow grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Box	<i>Boxus sp.</i>
Cherry	<i>Prunus sp.</i>
Clover	<i>Trifolium sp.</i>
Cock's-foot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Common daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Common hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Common nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster sp.</i>
Crack willow	<i>Salix fragilis</i>
Creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>
Variegated Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera caprifolium</i>
Laurel	<i>Laurus sp.</i>
Meadow grass	<i>Poa sp.</i>
Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>
Paperback birch	<i>Betula papyrifera</i>
Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Scots pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Silver birch	<i>Betula pendula</i>
Weeping willow	<i>Salix x sepulcralis</i>
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>

Appendix 3

Appendix 3: Photographs

Table 3: Photographs of the site

	
Photograph 1: Building B1 Brick residential house with limited bat roost potential.	Photograph 2: Building B2 Brick stable barn with wooden lean-to.
	
Photograph 3: Building B2 and B3 with the gravel hardstanding driveway.	Photograph 4: Species poor hedge, gravel hardstanding and improved grassland.



Photograph 5: Introduced shrub landscaping located around building B1.



Photograph 6: Improved grassland with small stream (D1) and scattered trees.



Photograph 7: Stream D1 located within the improved grassland.



Photograph 8: Scattered sots pine trees with low bat roost potential.

Appendix 4

Appendix 4: Relevant Legislation

European Legislation

The following Directives have been adopted by the European Union and provide protection for fauna and flora species of European importance and the habitats which support them:

- Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive);
- Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive).

UK Legislation

The Habitats Directive has been transposed into national legislation through the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (The Habitats Regulations). This provides for the designation and protection of 'European Sites' (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar Sites, including proposed or potential European Sites) and the protection of 'European Protected Species'.

The key UK legislation relating to nature conservation is the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (W&C Act). This Act is supplemented, *inter alia*, by provision in the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act). Additional species and habitat specific UK legislation includes the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

The Environment Act sets out how the UK will maintain environmental standards following leaving of the EU. The Bill builds on the vision of the 25 Year Environment Plan, with the ambition from the government to leave the environment in a better state than it was when inherited.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2024 has been published to provide further planning guidance. Wildlife, biodiversity and ecological networks are referred to in Section 15 '*Conserving and enhancing the natural environment*'. The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes and sites of biodiversity value, recognise the wider benefits from natural capital and ecosystem services and minimising impacts on and provided net gains for biodiversity. Further guidance is provided within Government Circular 06/05: *Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System*.

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance are listed under section 41 of the NERC Act and are a material consideration in planning decisions. Planners require relevant, up to date information from ecological surveys in order to assess the effects of a proposed development on biodiversity as Councils have a statutory obligation under section 40 of the NERC Act to consider biodiversity conservation in the determination of planning applications.

Background information about the lists of priority habitats and species (Species and Habitats of Principal Importance) can be found within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Although this has been succeeded by the '*UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework*', many of UK BAP tools are still relevant. BAPs identify habitats and species of nature conservation priority on a UK (UK BAP) and Local (LBAP) scale. Most BAP priority habitats and species have Habitat Action Plans (HAP) and Species Action Plans (SAP) and there are also "grouped action plans" for groups of related species with similar conservation requirements. The LBAP relating to this site is the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan.

Badgers

The legislation protecting badgers in England and Wales is the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

Under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 it is an offence *inter alia* to:

- Wilfully kill, injure or take a badger, or to attempt to do so;
- Cruelly ill-treat a badger; or
- Intentionally or recklessly interfere with a badger sett by (a) damaging a sett or any part of one; (b) destroying a sett; (c) obstructing access to or any entrance of a sett; (d) causing a dog to enter a sett; or (e) disturbing a badger when it is occupying a sett.

The Badger Act 1992 defines a badger's sett as *"any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger"*

Natural England can issue licences to enable works to continue that may affect a protected species. In relation to disturbance of badgers, Natural England (2009) gives guidelines on disturbance which will require a licence. These includes: *"using very heavy machinery (generally tracked vehicles) within 30 metres of any entrance to an active sett; using lighter machinery (generally wheeled vehicles), particularly for any digging operation, within 20 metres; light work such as hand digging or scrub clearance within 10 metres. There are some activities which may cause disturbance at greater distances (such as using explosives or pile driving) and these should be given individual consideration."*

Bats

In England, all bats and their roosts are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Several species of bat are also highlighted as Priority Species under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and within the Local BAP.

Under the current legislation as summarised on pages 9 and 10 of the Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 4th Edition (2023) it is a criminal offence to:

"To kill, capture, injure or take a wild bat;

- *To damage or destroy a place used by a bat for breeding or resting. All offences of this nature are identified within the Habitats Regulations. This offence is unique in that it can be committed accidentally. No element of intentional, reckless or deliberate action needs to be evidenced;*
- *To disturb bats anywhere (roosts, flight lines or foraging areas) if levels of disturbance can be shown to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, to rear or nurture their young, to hibernate or migrate or to affect significantly local distribution or abundance;*
- *To intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat, whilst it is occupying a place of shelter or protection;*
- *To intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place used by a bat for shelter or protection; and*
- *To be in possession or control of a bat alive or dead (or any part of a bat or anything derived from a bat, although bat droppings are generally considered to be acceptable), or to transport a bat, to sell or exchange a bat or to offer to sell or exchange a bat taken from the wild."*

Breeding Birds

Breeding Birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act which make it an offence to:

- *intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built;*
- *intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird;*
- *have in one's possession or control any wild bird, dead or alive, or any part of a wild bird (including eggs), which has been taken in contravention of the Act or the Protection of Birds Act 1954;*
- *intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.*

Great Crested Newt

The great crested newt is fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) and the Habitats Regulations, 2017. It is also a Species of Principal Importance. The legislation makes it an offence to:

- *Deliberately (or intentionally) kill, injure or capture (or take) a great crested newt, or great crested newt egg or eft;*
- *Deliberately (intentionally) damage or destroy any breeding site or resting place (i.e. pond, refuge, hibernaculum);*
- *Deliberately or recklessly obstruct access to any breeding site or resting place;*
- *Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt, in particular disturbance which is likely to:*
 - *impair the ability of the great crested newt to survive, breed, reproduce, or to rear or nurture young;*
 - *impair the ability of the great crested newt to hibernate or migrate; or significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of great crested newts*

Water Vole

Water voles are a Species of Principal Importance and also fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which makes it an offence to:

- *intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection;*
- *intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles whilst occupying a structure or place used for that purpose;*
- *intentionally kill, injure or take water voles;*
- *possess or control live or dead water voles or derivatives;*
- *sell water voles or offer or expose for sale or transport for sale; and*
- *publish or cause to be published any advertisement which conveys the buying or selling of water voles.*

Otter

Otter and their resting places protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and under EC Directive (92/43/EEC), listed under Annexes II and IVa.

Under European Legislation implemented in Britain under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2019 (as amended) it is an offence to *damage or destroy an otter's place of shelter, whether intentionally or accidentally*. Under this legislation it is also an offence to *deliberately disturb an otter*.

Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it is an offence to:

- *'Intentionally' kill, injure or take an otter without a licence;*
- *Damage, destroy or obstruct access to a place used by an otter for shelter*

It is a criminal offence to intentionally, wilfully kill, injure or take any of the aforementioned protected species or to destroy or disturb its habitat.

Local Policy

The site lies within Cronton and is covered by the Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy (adopted January 2016). Policies CS2 (Principal 4) and CS8 aim to ensure biodiversity is retained and enhanced during development and biodiversity protection is referenced in other policies including CS19, CS21, CS23 and CS24. These policies have been taken into account when preparing this report.

Appendix 5



Biodiversity Information Report 09/12/2024

**MBB reference: 4226-LTE
Site: Prescott Road, White House Farm,
Knowsley, WA8 5PS**

Your Ref: None supplied
Your contact: Jack Kay

MBB Ref: 4226-LTE
MBB Contact: Gabriel Dixon

Date: 09/12/2024

Merseyside BioBank biodiversity information report

These are the results of your data request relating to **an area at Prescott Road, White House Farm, Knowsley, WA8 5PS defined by a buffer of 2000 metres around the centre of grid reference SJ4771188491.**

You have been supplied with the following:

- records of **protected** taxa that intersect the search area
- records of **BAP** taxa that intersect the search area
- records of **Red Listed** taxa that intersect the search area
- records of other '**notable**' taxa that intersect the search area
- records of WCA schedule 9 taxa (including '**invasive plants**') that intersect the search area
- a map showing the location of monad and tetrad references that overlap the search area
- a list of all **designated sites** that intersect your search area
- citations, where available, for intersecting Local Wildlife Sites
- a list of **other sites of interest** (e.g. Ancient Woodlands) that intersect your search area
- a map showing such sites
- a list of all **BAP habitats** which intersect the search area
- a map showing BAP habitats
- a summary of the area for all available mapped **Phase 1 and/or NVC habitats** found within 500m of your site
- a map showing such habitats

Merseyside BioBank (MBB) is the Local Environmental Records Centre (LERC) for North Merseyside. We collect and collate biological and environmental information and make it available to people and organisations that have need to access such information in North Merseyside. We promote the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan and wider participation in biological recording and conservation through education, community involvement and by supporting the biological recording community of North Merseyside.

Merseyside BioBank is an information node of the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) and integrate records from our own databases with those of the NBN Atlas.

The product charge for this data request is not a charge for the data themselves, but rather a fixed rate that enables us to cover a portion of our running costs. Our annual income from data requests is something less than 20% of our total running costs.

Species records

The biological records held by Merseyside BioBank come from a variety of sources; from large organisations to individual amateur naturalists. Merseyside BioBank operates as managers or custodians of these records but the individuals and groups, who provide their records free of charge, retain copyright on their data. Without their contribution, we would not be able to provide the records included in this report. Their efforts, expertise and goodwill make a substantial contribution to the protection of North Merseyside's biodiversity.

You may only use the records in this document subject to our access terms and conditions which can be found in Appendix 1. Non-adherence to these terms and conditions will be viewed as a breach of contract, which may result in legal redress being sought.

This report also integrates records from the NBN Atlas. Some NBN data providers give us permission to download and integrate their records at a higher resolution than available through public access in order to contribute to the protection of North Merseyside's biodiversity.

Details of the biological records summarised in the following tables, and the sources from which they are derived, are included in a separate spreadsheet sent alongside this report. Note that the date ranges in the summary tables (headed 'Dates') show the earliest and latest years for which records have been summarised for each taxon.

Protected Species

'UK Protected species' are those taxa specifically identified by UK legislation including: Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); Protection of Badgers Act 1992; Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The latter regulations enact the European Union's (EU) Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) in the UK and supercede The Conservation Regulations 1994 and 2010. In our list of protected species, you may see designations that refer to schedules in the 1994 and 2010 regulations, but these remain unchanged under the 2017 regulations.

Some protected species may not be legally disturbed unless you are in possession of an appropriate license. If you are in any doubt as to whether or not a license is required, you should contact Natural England.

The following tables detail the protected species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
amphibian	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	94	1981-2022	WCA5/9.5a
	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	31	1990-2022	WCA5/9.5a
	Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	17	2004-2022	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Smooth Newt	<i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>	46	1990-2022	WCA5/9.5a
bird	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	4	1997-1999	WCA1i
	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	4	1997-2014	WCA1i
	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	4	1998-2005	WCA1i
flowering plant	Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	122	1968-2022	WCA8
reptile	Slow-worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	4	2006	WCA5/9.1k/l,WCA5/9.5a
terrestrial mammal	Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	5	2016-2023	PBA
	Bat	<i>Chiroptera</i>	20	1987-2021	HabRegs2
	Bats	<i>Vespertilionidae</i>	1	1989	HabRegs2
	Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	7	1995-2012	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	14	2002-2021	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	1	1991	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Feral Ferret	<i>Mustela putorius subsp. furo</i>	1	1993	HabRegs4
	Leisler's Bat	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	1	2021	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Myotis Bat species	<i>Myotis</i>	2	2007-2011	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Noctule	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	10	2003-2021	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	18	2015-2017	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	16	1989-2015	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	9	2003-2022	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c
	Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	91	1989-2016	WCA5/9.4.a,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.4c
	Whiskered/Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus/brandtii</i>	1	2003	HabRegs2,WCA5/9.4b,WCA5/9.5a,WC A5/9.4c

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
WCA5/9.5a	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.5a)	Section 9.5 Animals which are protected from being sold, offered for sale or being held or transported for sale either live or dead, whole or part.
HabRegs2	The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2010 (Schedule 2)	Schedule 2- European protected species of animals.
WCA5/9.4b	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.4b)	Section 9.4 Animals which are protected from intentional disturbance while occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection.
WCA5/9.4c	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5)	Animals which are protected from their access to any structure or place which they use for shelter or protection being obstructed.
WCA1i	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 1 Part 1)	Birds and their young, for which it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb at, on or near an active nest. They are protected by special penalties at all times.
WCA8	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 8)	Plants which are protected from intentional picking, uprooting or destruction (Section 13 1a); selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale (live or dead, part or derivative) (Section 13 2a); advertising (any of these) for buying or selling (Section 13 2b).
WCA5/9.1k/l	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.1 (killing/injuring))	Section 9.1. Animals which are protected from intentional killing or injuring.
PBA	Protection of Badgers Act (1992)	The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 protects badgers from taking, injuring, killing, cruel treatment, selling, possessing, marking and having their setts interfered with, subject to exceptions.
HabRegs4	The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2010 (Schedule 4)	Schedule 4- Animals which may not be taken or killed in certain ways
WCA5/9.4.a	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.4, subdivision a)	Section 9.4 subdivision a - Animals which are protected from intentional damage or destruction to any structure or place used for shelter or protection.

North Merseyside BAP Species

The North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan (NM BAP) was published in September 2001 and last reviewed in 2008. Like other Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) its purpose is to focus local conservation on national priority species and habitats. However, LBAPs also embrace the idea of 'local distinctiveness' and species which are not considered UK conservation priorities can be catered for by LBAPs if they are of particular local significance. Such is the case with the NM BAP which currently names 74 species of which 57 are not conservation priority species but are included because their conservation is considered to be a priority in North Merseyside.

The following tables detail the North Merseyside BAP species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
amphibian	Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	17	2004-2022	LBAP
bird	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	5	1998-1999	LBAP
	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	22	1998-2007	LBAP
	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	7	1998-2004	LBAP
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	8	1998-1999	LBAP
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	8	1998-2008	LBAP
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	23	1998-2008	LBAP
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	13	1998-2008	LBAP
	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	10	1998-2008	LBAP
	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	4	1998-2004	LBAP
flowering plant	Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	122	1968-2022	LBAP
insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>	29	1989-2022	LBAP
	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	39	1989-2022	LBAP
	Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	12	2008-2013	LBAP
	Brown Hawker	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	13	1984-2016	LBAP
	Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	10	1982-2022	LBAP
	Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	27	1990-2022	LBAP
	Common Hawker	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>	4	1990-1996	LBAP
	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>	8	2010-2020	LBAP
	Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	9	2009-2020	LBAP
	Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrosoma nymphula</i>	1	2022	LBAP
	Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>	6	2008-2020	LBAP
	Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	1	2019	LBAP
	Southern Hawker	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>	6	1984-2021	LBAP

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
terrestrial mammal	Bat	<i>Chiroptera</i>	20	1987-2021	LBAP
	Bats	<i>Vespertilionidae</i>	1	1989	LBAP
	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	32	1905-2022	LBAP
	Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	7	1995-2012	LBAP
	Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	14	2002-2021	LBAP
	Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	1	1991	LBAP
	Leisler's Bat	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	1	2021	LBAP
	Myotis Bat species	<i>Myotis</i>	2	2007-2011	LBAP
	Noctule	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	10	2003-2021	LBAP
	Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	16	1989-2015	LBAP
	Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	9	2003-2022	LBAP
	Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	91	1989-2016	LBAP
	Whiskered/Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus/brandtii</i>	1	2003	LBAP

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
LBAP	North Merseyside BAP	Species that are incorporated within the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan. These species may or may not also be UK BAP species. Some species have their own action plans within the NM BAP, others are members of group species action plans.

NM BAP species: Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

Great Crested Newt is thought to have been in decline since the 1940s. Over a period of five years in the 1980s 2% of all UK colonies were lost, and although Britain remains a stronghold for this species, it is now considered to be dependant on conservation and is afforded international protection.

There is no current North Merseyside population estimate, though recent surveys suggest that in the general North West area around 25% of ponds have Great Crested Newts. A study of the parts of the Sefton Coast showed that a number of populations were present.

This species is highly dependant on the quality of ponds and also the habitat in the surrounding area (where they forage and hibernate away from the water). Habitat loss is the greatest cause of decline with many ponds being drained or drying up as a result of natural succession. Removal of scrub and woodland in addition to over-grazing and intensive management of surrounding grassland is also detrimental. Other factors which may affect population levels include predation by fish and waterfowl, habitat fragmentation and pollution.

NM BAP species: Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*)

Nationally this species has significantly declined with a loss of 90% of the UK population between 1970 and 2005 and large contractions in the species range.

Locally Corn Bunting is thought to have undergone severe declines with only an estimated 200 pairs remaining in 1997-99. Corn Buntings are sparsely distributed across much of North Merseyside's arable farmland.

Declines are thought to be caused by changes in agricultural practices. Sowing cereals later in the year, increasing use of herbicide and the removal of fallow fields have all greatly reduced winter seed sources. Increasing use of pesticides has reduced the availability of invertebrate food sources. Earlier crop harvesting may also result in the destruction of some nests, especially where there are limited uncropped areas.

NM BAP species: Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)

The UK population of Grey Partridge declined by 88% between 1970 and 2005 and though still widespread shows distinct variation according to agricultural practices. In North Merseyside there were an estimated 300 pairs in 1997-99 and they are present in all suitable habitat.

Loss of suitable habitat is the main cause of decline in this species, with changes in agricultural practices being particularly detrimental. The amalgamation of small fields into a larger ones and the removal of hedgerows, ditches and other field margins have destroyed potential nesting sites. Changes in sowing, harvesting and crop type have removed essential winter food sources.

NM BAP species: Urban Birds (*Delichon urbicum*; *Passer domesticus*; *Sturnus vulgaris*; *Apus apus*)

The four species covered by the NM BAP Urban Birds Species Action Plan (House Martin, Swift, House Sparrow and Starling) are considered to be in significant decline across the UK. In North Merseyside House Sparrows and Starlings currently breed in all urban areas, while House Martins are restricted to areas nearer sources of mud for nest-building. Swifts occurred in only 55 tetrads during 1997-2000.

Urban bird numbers are thought to relate strongly to the availability of prey species, and nesting opportunities.

Declines are most likely caused by the reduction in the diversity and abundance of invertebrate prey species resulting from increased 'tidiness' in our parks and gardens, the use of pesticides and other changes in farm practices. The exclusion of urban birds from breeding in or around modern buildings reduces nesting opportunities for urban birds.

NM BAP species: Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

Between 1987 and 1998 Lapwing declined by 48% in England and Wales with Wales and the SW of England showing greatest loss. Two thirds of the population is now resident in the N and NW of England.

Locally this species continues to breed in all suitable habitats and the 2002-03 surveys indicated a population of around 1,500 pairs with arable farmland and pockets of grassland being particularly favoured.

Local threats are thought to include development in nesting areas, increasing recreation and disturbance, scrub encroachments on coastal grassland and changes in farm practice towards silage production, livestock and agricultural intensification.

NM BAP species: Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)

Although Skylark is widespread throughout Europe and large numbers are thought to breed in the UK, it is in significant decline with a fall in the population of 75% between 1972 and 1996 on lowland farms and an overall fall in the UK population of 53% between 1970 and 2005.

Locally Skylark breeds in all remaining suitable habitat and in 1997-2000 there were 750 breeding pairs but declines are thought to reflect the national trend.

This species relies heavily on traditional arable farming and so declines have largely been due to changes in farming practices in recent decades. Conversion to silage production, changes in sowing times and general agricultural intensification have all been particularly detrimental by reducing nesting habitat and sources of food.

Other causes of decline include overgrazing, disturbance during the breeding season and loss of grassland to development and tree planting.

NM BAP species: Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)

Although still widespread, Song Thrush declined sharply by around 73% in farmland (mid 1970s) and 49% in woodland (1968-1993), while overall UK numbers fell by 50% between 1970 and 2005. The North of the UK is thought to have been hit hardest.

In North Merseyside, though thinly distributed, Song Thrush still breed in most areas with an estimated 500 pairs during 1997-2000. Highest breeding concentrations were found to occur in suburban areas where abundant garden and parkland habitats were present.

Song Thrush are reliant on a variety of habitats to meet their needs at different times of the year and loss of these habitats causes a reduction in numbers.

Local factors in the decline of the species include changes in farm practices that remove nesting habitat (hedgerows and dense scrub), limit the abundance of winter food (changes in sowing, cropping and use of herbicides/molluscicides) or cause the loss of feeding habitat (use of pesticides/herbicides and monocropping).

NM BAP species: Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

British Bluebells make up about 20% of the global population of *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* and are often found in humid woodland habitat, along hedgerows and on occasion along the coast. Locally there are a number of good colonies.

Local threats to the species include possible over-shading in un-managed woodlands, localised trampling by the public in popular areas and hybridisation with the Spanish Bluebell. On a national scale declines are caused by the loss of woodland habitat, grazing by introduced Muntjac, collection of plants and hybridisation with Spanish Bluebell.

NM BAP species: Dragonflies (*Coenagrion puella*; *Ischnura elegans*; *Libellula depressa*; *Aeshna grandis*; *Enallagma cyathigerum*; *Sympetrum striolatum*; *Aeshna juncea*; *Anax imperator*; *Libellula quadrimaculata*; *Pyrrosoma nymphula*; *Aeshna mixta*; *Sympetrum sanguineum*; *Aeshna cyanea*)

Twentyone species of dragonfly and damselfly are included in the NM BAP Dragonflies Species Action Plan. These include vagrant species and some which are thought to be undergoing range expansions in the UK. Eighteen of these species are known to breed in our local area, with significant breeding sites in St Helens and Sefton.

Local causes of decline in this include the destruction or damage of essential wetland habitat through development, waste-tipping and agricultural run-off. Removal of nearby feeding habitats such as woodlands, hedgerows and tall vegetation is also detrimental.

NM BAP species: Brown Hare (*Lepus europaeus*)

Whilst still well distributed in North Merseyside it is thought that the local population of Brown Hare declined in-line with National trends which have shown severe declines in the western pastoral parts of the country to around 20% of the numbers present in Victorian times.

Reasons for local declines are thought to include loss and fragmentation of suitable habitat to development, illegal hunting and changes in farming practices and land use that cause increased disturbance (changes in cropping/sowing times, livestock trampling and recreation).

NM BAP species: Bats (*Plecotus auritus*; *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*; *Myotis daubentonii*; *Nyctalus noctula*; *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)

The NM BAP Bats Species Action Plan covers all species found in North Merseyside since all are considered to be locally threatened.

Bat Species are found throughout North Merseyside, with Pipistrelles (Common/Soprano) most often encountered and Brown Long-eared and Noctules less common. Daubenton's are also frequently encountered in suitable wetland habitat. Whiskered, Brandt's and Natterers are considered rare locally.

Bat species will roost in many locations that are warm, dark, sheltered and little undisturbed. Such places can include derelict buildings, barns, roof spaces and tree hollows.

Factors causing declines in these species include the loss of prey insects due to the increased use of pesticides and general park/garden 'tidiness', loss and fragmentation of habitat mosaics, loss of winter roosts in old trees and buildings and intentional exclusion from buildings by people.

NM BAP species: Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius*)

This species is found throughout Britain but localised to areas of suitable habitat near water. Previously common this species has undergone severe range and population reductions, with a national survey showing a decline of around 89% since 1939, estimated to increased to a loss of 94% by 2000.

Merseyside appears to be a stronghold for the species with 75% of sites surveyed having Water Voles present in 1989-90. Though they may still be in decline locally, it is thought to be at a lower level than nationally.

Local declines in the species are caused by inappropriate management of bank-side habitats and waterside developments as well as predation by invasive species such as mink. The use of rodenticides and loss of habitat connectivity may also be factors in population declines.

Act Section 41 Species

Known also as 'Species of Principle Importance in England' and the 'England Biodiversity List' this list was developed to meet the requirements of Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). The list is derived, almost wholly, from the 2012 revised list of 'UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework' priority species. (So called 'research only' moth species have been excluded from the report.). The section 41 list is used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies, including local and regional authorities, in implementing their duty under section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 'to have regard' to the conservation of biodiversity in England, when carrying out their normal functions. In particular:

- Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities must use it to identify the species that should be afforded priority when applying the requirements of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to maintain, restore and enhance species and habitats.
- Local Planning Authorities must use it to identify the species that require specific consideration in dealing with planning and development control, recognising that under NPPF the aim of planning decisions should be to minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity.
- All Public Bodies must use it to identify species that should be given priority when implementing the NERC Section 40 duty.

The following tables detail the NERC Section 41 species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
amphibian	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	31	1990-2022	Sect.41
	Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	17	2004-2022	Sect.41
bird	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	4	1998-2007	Sect.41.suppl
	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	5	1998-1999	Sect.41.suppl
	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	3	1998-1999	Sect.41
	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	11	1998-2008	Sect.41.suppl
	Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	7	1997-2008	Sect.41
	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	22	1998-2007	Sect.41
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	8	1998-1999	Sect.41
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	8	1998-2008	Sect.41
	Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	2	2006-2007	Sect.41
	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates minor</i>	1	1999	Sect.41.suppl
	Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	8	1998-2002	Sect.41.suppl
	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	12	1998-2008	Sect.41
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	23	1998-2008	Sect.41,Sect.41.suppl
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	13	1998-2008	Sect.41.suppl
	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	2	1998-1999	Sect.41
	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	10	1998-2008	Sect.41.suppl
	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	15	1998-2015	Sect.41
	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	1	1998	Sect.41
	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>	4	1998-2005	Sect.41.suppl
	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	1	1998	Sect.41.suppl
	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	17	1998-2007	Sect.41
bony fish (Actinopterygii)	European Eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	9	1989-2008	Sect.41
flowering plant	Grape-hyacinth	<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	3	2017	Sect.41
	Spreading Hedge-parsley	<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	1	1991	Sect.41
insect - butterfly	Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	13	1905-1996	Sect.41
insect - moth	Bordered Gothic	<i>Sideridis reticulata</i>	1	1857	Sect.41
	Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	2	2013	Sect.41
reptile	Slow-worm	<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	4	2006	Sect.41
terrestrial mammal	Bat	<i>Chiroptera</i>	20	1987-2021	Sect.41
	Bats	<i>Vespertilionidae</i>	1	1989	Sect.41
	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	32	1905-2022	Sect.41
	Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	7	1995-2012	Sect.41
	Feral Ferret	<i>Mustela putorius subsp. furo</i>	1	1993	Sect.41
	Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	39	2003-2022	Sect.41
	Myotis Bat species	<i>Myotis</i>	2	2007-2011	Sect.41
	Noctule	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	10	2003-2021	Sect.41
	Otter	<i>Lutra lutra</i>	18	2015-2017	Sect.41
	Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	16	1989-2015	Sect.41
	Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	9	2003-2022	Sect.41
	Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	91	1989-2016	Sect.41



***The Local Environmental
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Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
Sect.41	Natural Env. and Rural Communities Act 2006. Species of Principal Importance in England (section 41)	Species "of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity" covered under section 41 (England) of the NERC Act (2006) and therefore need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions with a view to conserving biodiversity.
Sect.41.suppl	Supplementary list to deal with S41 bird sub-sp problems	Bird species corresponding to British sub-species listed in section 41 (England) of the NERC Act (2006).

IUCN Red-listed Species

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (sometimes called 'Red Data Book' species) indicates the conservation status of plants and animals that have been globally evaluated using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria. The system is designed to determine the relative risk of extinction, and the main purpose of the IUCN Red List is to catalogue and highlight those plants and animals that are facing a higher risk of global extinction (i.e. those listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable). The IUCN Red List also includes information on plants and animals that are categorized as 'Extinct' or 'Extinct in the Wild'; on taxa that cannot be evaluated because of insufficient information ('Data Deficient'); and on plants and animals that are either close to meeting the threatened thresholds or that would be threatened were it not for an ongoing taxon-specific conservation programme ('Near Threatened').

The following tables detail the IUCN Red-listed species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
flowering plant	Box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	2	1987	RLGB.DD
	Common Cudweed	<i>Filago vulgaris</i>	1	2008	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Corn Chamomile	<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	4	1989	RLGB.EN
	Field Woundwort	<i>Stachys arvensis</i>	1	1981	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Heracleum sphondylium subsp. flavescens	<i>Heracleum sphondylium subsp. flavescens</i>	1	1986	RLGB.DD
	Large-flowered Hemp-nettle	<i>Galeopsis speciosa</i>	3	1997-2016	RLGB.VU
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Alder Leaf Beetle	<i>Agelastica alni</i>	24	2013-2022	RLGB.DD
insect - butterfly	Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	13	1905-1996	RLGB.Lr(NT)
insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	27	1990-2022	RLGB.DD
mollusc	Large Black Slug	<i>Arion (Arion) ater</i>	3	2011-2021	RLGB.DD
	Marsh Pond Snail	<i>Stagnicola palustris/fuscus/corvus</i>	10	1991	RLGB.DD
	Small Amber Snail	<i>Succinella oblonga</i>	2	2016	RLGB.VU
terrestrial mammal	Bat	<i>Chiroptera</i>	20	1987-2021	RLGB.CR,RLGB.DD,RLGB.EN,RLGB.Lr(NT),RLGB.VU
	Bats	<i>Vespertilionidae</i>	1	1989	RLGB.CR,RLGB.DD,RLGB.EN,RLGB.Lr(NT),RLGB.VU
	Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	39	2003-2022	RLGB.VU
	Leisler's Bat	<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	1	2021	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Myotis Bat species	<i>Myotis</i>	2	2007-2011	RLGB.CR,RLGB.DD
	Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	16	1989-2015	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	91	1989-2016	RLGB.EN

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
RLGB.DD	IUCN (2001) - Data Deficient	A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat or Lower Risk. Listing of taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that a threatened category is appropriate.
RLGB.Lr(NT)	IUCN (2001) - Lower risk - near threatened	Taxa which do not qualify for Lower Risk (conservation dependent), but which are close to qualifying for Vulnerable. In Britain, this category includes species which occur in 15 or fewer hectads but do not qualify as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable.
RLGB.EN	IUCN (2001) - Endangered	A taxon is Endangered when it is not Critically endangered but is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.
RLGB.VU	IUCN (2001) - Vulnerable	A taxon is Vulnerable when it is not Critically Endangered or Endangered but is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium term future.
RLGB.CR	IUCN (2001) - Critically endangered	A taxon is Critically Endangered when it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as defined by any of the criteria A to E.

Nationally Notable Species

These are plants and animals which do not fall within red-list categories but which are none-the-less uncommon in Great Britain.

The following tables detail the Nationally Notable species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
flowering plant	Aggregate-headed Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium aggregatum</i>	2	1981-1989	NR-excludes
	Box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	2	1987	NR-excludes
	Dittander	<i>Lepidium latifolium</i>	2	2020-2021	NS-excludes
	Fly Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera xylosteum</i>	8	2019	NR-excludes
	Fringed Water-lily	<i>Nymphoides peltata</i>	36	1989-2020	NS-excludes
	Grape-hyacinth	<i>Muscari neglectum</i>	3	2017	NR-excludes
	Jacob's-ladder	<i>Polemonium caeruleum</i>	2	1997-2011	NR-excludes
	Large-leaved Lime	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	1	2005	NS-excludes
	Northern Yellow-cress	<i>Rorippa islandica</i>	2	2008	NS-excludes
	Rock Stonecrop	<i>Sedum forsterianum</i>	3	2007	NS-excludes
	Spreading Hedge-parsley	<i>Torilis arvensis</i>	1	1991	NS-excludes
	Water-soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	3	1989-1998	NR-excludes
	Welsh Poppy	<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	1	2002	NS-excludes

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
NS-excludes	Nationally Scarce. Excludes Red Listed taxa	Nationally Scarce - Occurring in 16-100 hectads in Great Britain. Excludes rare species qualifying under the main IUCN criteria
NR-excludes	Nationally Rare. Excludes Red Listed taxa	Nationally Rare - Occurring in 15 or fewer hectads in Great Britain. Excludes rare species qualifying under the main IUCN criteria.

WCA schedule 9 species (including non-native invasive plants)

Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (amended 2010) lists species of plants and animals for which it is a specific offence to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild (plants) or release or allow to escape into the wild (animals). Many of these are invasive non-native plants and animals, but there are also a number of native animals on the list (e.g. Barn Owl) which cannot be released into the wild in England without a license from Natural England.

The following tables detail the WCA Schedule 9 species recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
bird	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	4	1997-1999	MBB-WCA-S9
	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	3	1998-1999	MBB-WCA-S9
	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	1	1998	MBB-WCA-S9
fern	Water Fern	<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	4	2015-2016	MBB-WCA-S9
flowering plant	Canadian Waterweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	10	1968-2008	MBB-WCA-S9
	Cotoneaster horizontalis agg.	<i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i> agg.	1	2000	MBB-WCA-S9
	Duck-potato	<i>Sagittaria latifolia</i>	2	2016	MBB-WCA-S9
	Floating Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	18	2019-2020	MBB-WCA-S9
	Himalayan Balsam	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	129	1987-2022	MBB-WCA-S9
	Himalayan Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	1	2020	MBB-WCA-S9
	Hollyberry Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster bullatus</i>	1	1998	MBB-WCA-S9
	Japanese Knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	41	1968-2022	MBB-WCA-S9
	Japanese Rose	<i>Rosa rugosa</i>	10	1997-2022	MBB-WCA-S9
	Lamium galeobdolon subsp. argentatum	<i>Lamium galeobdolon</i> subsp. <i>argentatum</i>	3	1997-2019	MBB-WCA-S9
	Montbretia	<i>Crocsmia pottsii</i> x <i>aurea</i> = <i>C. x crocsmiiflora</i>	2	1997-2020	MBB-WCA-S9
	Rhododendron ponticum	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	73	1968-2022	MBB-WCA-S9
	Virginia-creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	3	2020	MBB-WCA-S9
terrestrial mammal	Black Rat	<i>Rattus rattus</i>	1	1999	MBB-WCA-S9
	Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	22	1999-2021	MBB-WCA-S9
	Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus reevesi</i>	1	1987	MBB-WCA-S9

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
MBB-WCA-S9	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Variation of Schedule 9) (England and Wales) Order 2010	Species on Schedule 9 (part 2) as revised 2010. Under section 14 of the Act it is illegal to release into the wild any animal or allow to grow in the wild any plant which is not ordinarily resident in GB or which is a known threat and is listed on Schedule 9 of the Act.

BAP priority habitats

In 2007 the Local Biodiversity Manager (responsible for the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan) undertook a review of the extent of UK BAP priority habitats in North Merseyside and produced GIS layers to show their extents. In most cases these inventories were derived from two main sources: the latest Phase 1 habitat surveys which were conducted for the four North Merseyside local authorities between 1996 and 2007; and an NVC survey of the Sefton Coast carried out between 2003 and 2004. A separate NVC survey of the Ribble estuary carried out in 2002 (which also included saltmarsh at the Alt) was also useful as were one or two other sources. Because of the diverse nature of habitat classifications, it was not always possible to produce inventories with a one-to-one correspondence with UK BAP priority habitats. The table below shows the BAP habitat inventories for North Merseyside and their correspondence with UK BAP priority habitats.

North Merseyside habitat inventory	Correspondence with UK BAP priority habitats
Lowland Acid Grassland	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
Lowland Heathland	Lowland Heathland
Lowland Raised Bog	Lowland Raised Bog
Neutral Grassland	Incorporates the UK BAP habitat Lowland Meadows but also, in North Merseyside, includes a lot of amenity grassland, road verges etc.
Calcareous Grassland	Calcareous Grassland
Ponds	Ponds
Lakes	Eutrophic lakes
Reedbeds	Reedbeds
Hedgerows	Hedgerows
Saltmarsh	Coast Saltmarsh
Sand Dune	Coastal Sand Dune
All Woodland	It was not possible, from the available data, to produce separate inventories for different woodland types in North Merseyside, so this inventory incorporates elements of several UK BAP priority habitats such as Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Wet Woodland and Wood Pasture & Parkland.

Note that the 'Ponds' BAP inventory was derived locally using water bodies less than two hectares in extent from Ordnance Survey data. The 'Lakes' BAP inventory is a nationally supplied inventory, but the lakes are only represented in this as points. Therefore any water body over two hectares in extent will only be represented on our habitat maps by a point and will not show the extent of the lake. However, ponds will be indicated by polygons showing their extent. Occasionally a large pond – though still less than two hectares in extent – will be represented in both the 'Lake' and 'Pond' inventories.

Habitat	Amount	Units
Ancient Woodland	1	count
Lakes	1	count
Hedgerows	30.6	kilometres
Lowland Acid Grassland	7.49	hectares
All Woodland	82.56	hectares
Neutral Grassland	20.18	hectares
Ponds	6.91	hectares
Ponds	149	count

The table above indicates the extent of each of the BAP habitat inventories (see previous table) occurring within your search area (see appendix 2 for maps).

Detailed habitat mapping

Merseyside BioBank collates and maintains detailed habitat mapping – normally Phase 1 or NVC – for the North Merseyside area. This includes both historic data and the most up-to-date habitat survey data available. Here we report on the detailed habitat mapping we hold for your search area.

Ref: EN-CBA-Geological		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Geological Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA Geological		
Ge2	Local Geological Site	0.86 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Grassland		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Grassland Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA Grassland		
Gr1	Grasslands	34.56 ha
Gr5	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	7.49 ha
Gr6	Lowland Meadow	18.15 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Mosaic		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Mosaic Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA General features		
Gen3	Local Wildlife Site	43.6 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Wetland		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Wetland Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA General features		
Gen3	Local Wildlife Site	6.26 ha
Gen4	Reedbeds	3.67 ha
CBA Wetland		
We4	Lowland Fens	0.73 ha
We7	Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pastures	1.27 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Woodland		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Woodland Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA General features		
Gen3	Local Wildlife Site	22.42 ha
CBA Woodland		
Wo3	Lowland Mixed Broad-leaf Woodland	227.1 ha
Wo4	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland	199.58 ha
Wo6	Lowland Wood-pasture and Parkland	4.09 ha
Wo8	Traditional Orchards	0.61 ha
Wo9	Wet Woodland	4.56 ha

Ref: EN-LinearFeatures		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Linear features. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
Linear feature		
Lin3	Dismantled Railway	0.66 km
Lin5	Hedgerow	30.6 km
Lin6	Major road corridor	18.35 km
Lin7	River	17.82 km

Ref: EN-SteppingStones		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Stepping Stone habitats. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
Stepping stone habitat		
SS1	Ponds	7.04 ha

Ref: Knowsley-1996-98		
Source: Complete phase 1 habitat survey for Knowsley 1996-98.		
Survey date: 1996 - 1998		
Notes: This is the 'default' baseline mapping used by the Council. It is the most recent complete coverage for the borough.		
Woodland and scrub		
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural	3.45 ha
A2.1	Scrub - dense/continuous	0.42 ha
A2.2	Scrub - scattered	0.05 ha
A3.1	Broadleaved Parkland/scattered trees	0.82 ha
		23 (count)
Grassland and marsh		
B5	Marsh/marshy grassland	0.06 ha
B6	Poor semi-improved grassland	1.8 ha
Tall herb and fern		
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal	0.08 ha
Open water		
G1	Standing water	0.13 ha
		1.15 km
G2	Running water	0.04 ha
Miscellaneous		
J1.1	Cultivated/disturbed land - arable	52.43 ha
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland	0.12 ha
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land - ephemeral/short perennial	0.41 ha
J2.1.2	Intact hedge - species-poor	2.08 km
J2.2.2	Defunct hedge - species-poor	0.04 km
J4	Bare ground	1.63 ha

Ref: Knowsley-2002		
Source: NVC habitat mapping for Knowsley sites in 2002, sourced from MEAS		
Survey date: 2002		
Mesotrophic grasslands		
MG1b	Arrhenatherum elatius grassland, Urtica dioica sub-community	0.16 ha
MG10c	Holcus lanatus-Juncus effusus rush-pasture, Iris pseudacorus sub-community	0.17 ha
Vegetation of open habitats		
OV26b	Epilobium hirsutum community, Phragmites australis-Iris pseudacorus sub-community	0.04 ha
Swamps and tall-herb fens		
S12a	Typha latifolia swamp, Typha latifolia sub-community	0.7 ha
S4c	Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds, Menyanthes trifoliata sub-community	0.04 ha
Woodlands and scrub		
W10a	Quercus robur-Pteridium aquilinum-Rubus fruticosus woodland, typical sub-community	0.91 ha

Ref: SJ473887-2007		
Source: Extended Phase 1 Habitat and Protected Species Survey. Cronton Quarry, Knowsley.		
Survey date: 05/2007		
Woodland and scrub		
A2.2	Scrub - scattered	0.01 ha
A3	Parkland/scattered trees	2 (count)
Grassland and marsh		
B6	Poor semi-improved grassland	0.12 ha
Miscellaneous		
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland	3.09 ha

Habitat maps themselves are produced at the end of the report. You can cross-reference the figures in the tables below to the maps by means of the reference which appears on each map. A map with the reference 'Composite' is a special map made on-the-fly at the time of this report production by merging data from all available sources and using the most up-to-date mapping available at any given point in your search area.

Designated Areas

There are a number of types of 'designated areas' in North Merseyside. These types are shown in the table below together with the total number of North Merseyside sites for each.

Type of area	No. of sites
Site of Special Scientific Interest	6
Special Protection Area (Natura 2000)	3
Marine Special Protection Area	1
Special Area of Conservation (Natura 2000)	1
RAMSAR (wetland of international importance)	3
National Nature Reserve	3
Local Nature Reserve	57
Knowsley Local Wildlife Site	65
Sefton Local Wildlife Site	55
St Helens Local Wildlife Site	117
Liverpool Local Wildlife Site	29
Merseyside Ancient Woodland Inventory	11
RSPB/LWT Windfarm Alert Map	1
Red Squirrel Protection Area	1

The following table indicates the results of the intersection between the search area and designated areas detailed above (see appendix 2 for maps).

Name	Type
The Old Wood	Merseyside Ancient Woodland Inventory
Netherley Brook and Ditton Brook Corridor	Nature Improvement Area
Cronton Mineral Line, Windy Arbor, Whiston	Knowsley Local Geological Site
Woodland, Sandfield Park	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Strettlles Bog, Tarbock	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Daggers Bridge Wood	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Mine Waste, Cronton	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Ox Lane Wood, Tarbock	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
George's Wood and adjacent land	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Brickwall Covert	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
The Old Wood, South	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
The Old Wood, North	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Big Water and Big Water Wood, Halsnead	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Rough Head Wood	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Ochre Brook, Tarbock	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Tarbock Green ditch	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Land, e of Fox's Bank Brook	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Alder Brook	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Dog Clog Brook, Tarbock	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Blundell Hills Golf Course	St Helens Local Wildlife Site

Citations¹ for Local Wildlife Sites are supplied separately.

¹ In Knowsley, some Local Wildlife Site citations do not include lists of species and habitats for which they are designated and where this is the case a separate list is supplied for the site. No citations for LNRs are available. Citations for national and internationally designated sites (SSSI, SPA etc) are publicly available.

Interpretation and caveats

Merseyside BioBank records included

All relevant non-confidential records managed by Merseyside BioBank which intersect the search area are included in this report, except where excluded by one or more of the conditions described in the rest of this section.

NBN Atlas records included

All relevant records available to Merseyside BioBank from the NBN Atlas are included in this report, except where excluded by one or more of the conditions described in the rest of this section. NBN Atlas records are accessed live *via* web-services at the time of report generation.

Merseyside BioBank often has access to NBN records at higher resolution than the standard 'public' access. These records have been downloaded and used with the permission of the data providers, but are subject to normal NBN Atlas terms and conditions. You must not use them beyond the specific purposes for which this report was provided to you and you must adhere, at all times, to the NBN Atlas terms and conditions.

Record location and dates

If a record can only be located to a relatively low precision (e.g. 1 km or 2 km square), then it is possible that the unrecorded precise location of the animal or plant might have been outside of the search area. Sometimes the location name column can be useful in deciding whether or not this was likely to have been the case. In records from our own database, we have replaced all digits with the '#' character in the location field to people's privacy where addresses have been used as location names.

Records which are only available to us at less than 2 km square (tetrad) precision are excluded from the report. We report dates at the highest precision available to us. Records for which no date is available are excluded from the report.

Sensitive taxa

For some sensitive taxa, the precision of grid references presented here may have been reduced. We do this for:

- all records of Badger; and
- records of breeding Otter.

In addition, we do not report on 'negative records' for Badger or Otter.

Absence of records and 'negative records'

The absence of biological records for an area, or the presence of 'negative records', is not proof that taxa are not present.

Duplicate records

Although we do our very best to avoid reporting the same record more than once ('duplicate records') this is sometimes unavoidable for records that have entered the biological records network via more than one route. In particular, there may be some record duplication between records from Merseyside BioBank's database and records from the NBN Atlas datasets (though, of course, we do not report on NBN Atlas records which originate from Merseyside BioBank).

Validity of records

Whilst Merseyside BioBank continually strives to verify the records that we manage, we accept no responsibility for any errors subsequently discovered. Merseyside BioBank accepts no responsibility for errors in data derived from the NBN Atlas.

Verification status of records

Records used in this report include those considered verified and those as yet unchecked. This approach is taken on balance to ensure that all potential risks that we are aware of have been flagged.

Bird records

Only bird records with a recorded status of proven, probable and possible breeding have been included in this data search. Bird records with other statuses are not included. The most recent bird records for North Merseyside included, e.g. those generated for the ongoing breeding and wintering atlas projects, since these data have yet to undergo verification by the County Bird Recorder. It is possible for you to contact the County Bird Recorder independently for his interpretation of the most recent data with respect to your search area. The contact details are:

Steve White
stevewhite102@btinternet.com

Please note that if this is a commercial data request you will be invoiced by **Sefton Borough Council**, which is the hosting authority for Merseyside BioBank.

Other Local Record Centres

A part of your search area is not covered by this LERC (see grey areas on attached image). This part of your search area falls within the Cheshire region which is covered by Cheshire rECOrd whose contact details are shown below:

Data Requests should be made to Cheshire RECORD via their online data request form:
<https://www.record-lrc.co.uk/c2.aspx?Mod=Enquiry&Do=EnquiryForm>

Cheshire rECOrd
Chester Zoological Garden,
Chester. CH2 1LH

Tel: 01244 383749

Appendix 1: Terms and conditions of use

Merseyside BioBank receives data from a variety of sources, from large organisations to amateur naturalists. With Merseyside BioBank operating as custodians, these individuals and groups, who provide their records free of charge, retain copyright on their data.

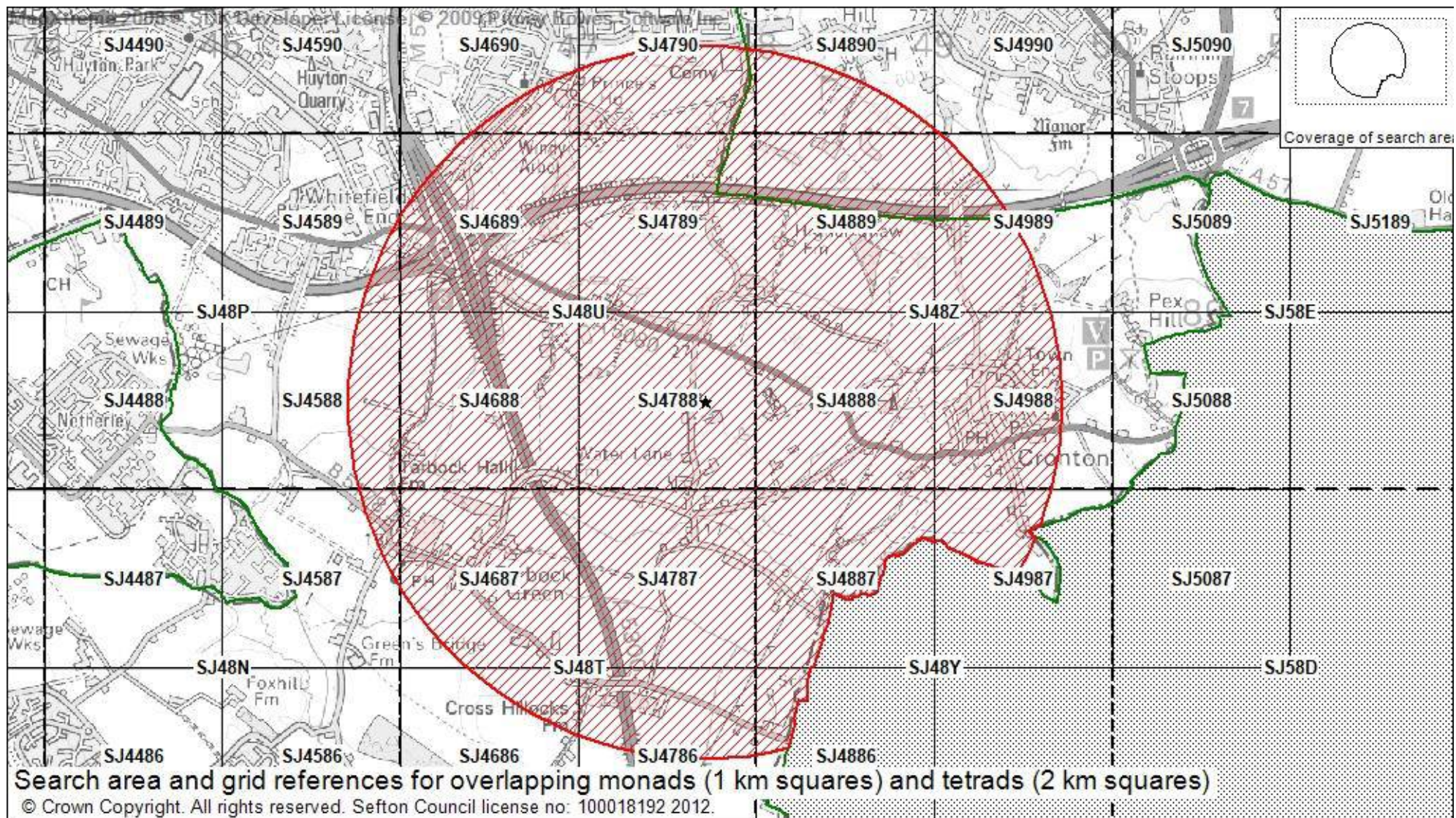
All data passed to a third party (users) by Merseyside BioBank are subject to these access terms and conditions. Non-adherence to these terms and conditions will be viewed as a breach of contract, which may result in legal redress being sought.

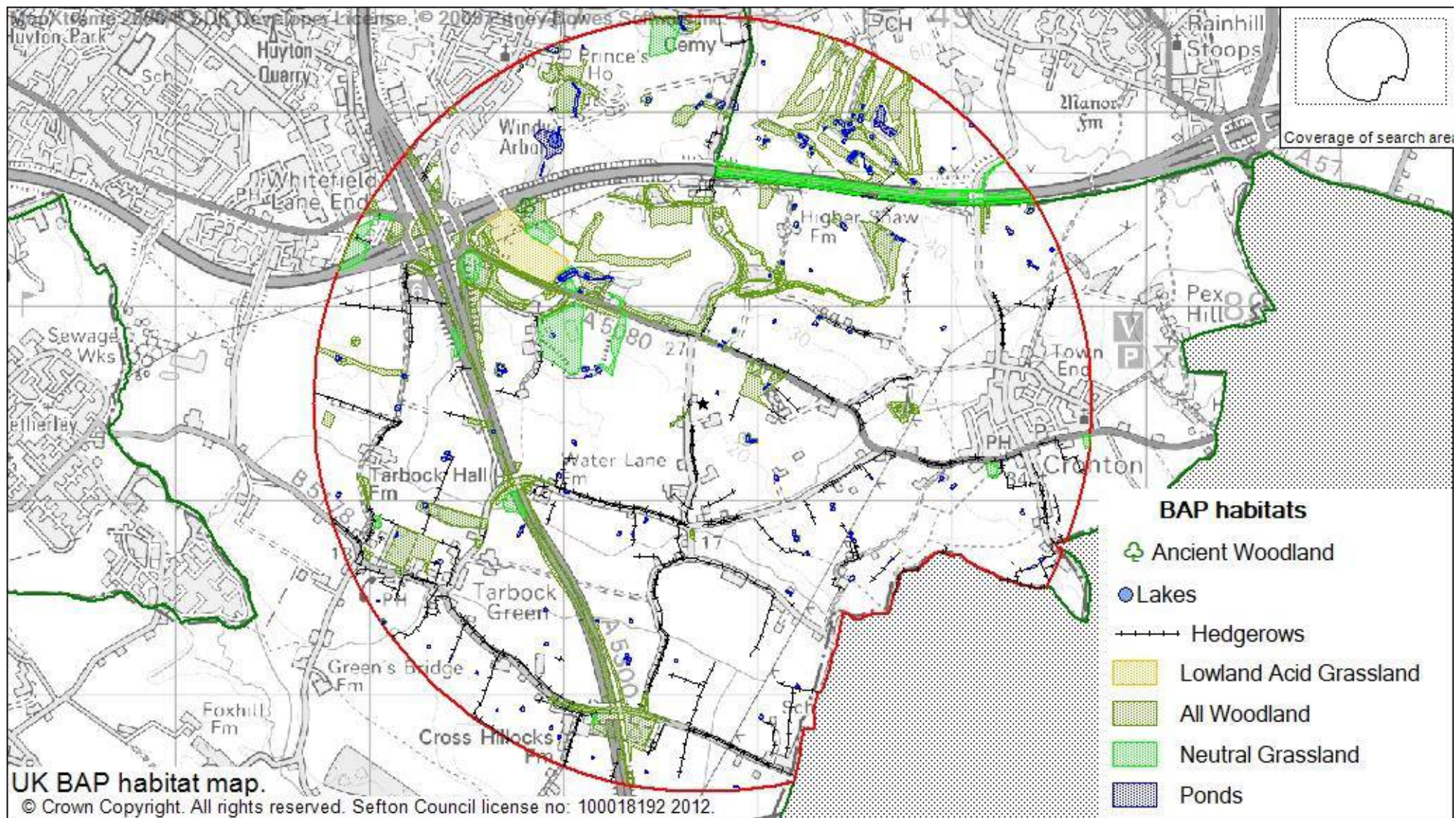
1. Users agree that data released by Merseyside BioBank, in any format and on any media, will only be used for the purpose for which it was originally requested and for any time period originally agreed upon (See note 3 below).
2. Users agree that data released by Merseyside BioBank will not be added to any permanent database system (electronic or paper based) unless by written agreement with Merseyside BioBank.
3. Users understand that following the end of the agreed time period, or 12 months from the enquiry date, the received data must be deleted from any electronic system (See note 2 above). Use of the data beyond this period must be preceded by a further request to Merseyside BioBank.
4. Users agree that data retrieved from Merseyside BioBank will not be passed on to or communicated with third parties except as aggregated data within reports, or as anonymised data in the form of maps etc., which constitute a part of the agreed reason for the original enquiry.
5. Merseyside BioBank disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy of the information within its reports and accepts no liability for any result of using these data.
6. Any biological record is specific to the date of the recording and does not necessarily imply the continuance of the species at that site.
7. The lack of species and/or habitat information for a geographically defined area does not necessarily imply a low biodiversity value for that area. It may simply be unrecorded.
8. While the information from Merseyside BioBank in itself will remain free, Merseyside BioBank reserves the right to charge a reasonable fee to cover administration and a proportion of overheads as detailed in our charging policy.
9. A copy of any report, or other product, produced using the data from Merseyside BioBank would be gratefully received if provided without cost.
10. Merseyside BioBank must be acknowledged within any report, or other product produced, using data provided by Merseyside BioBank.

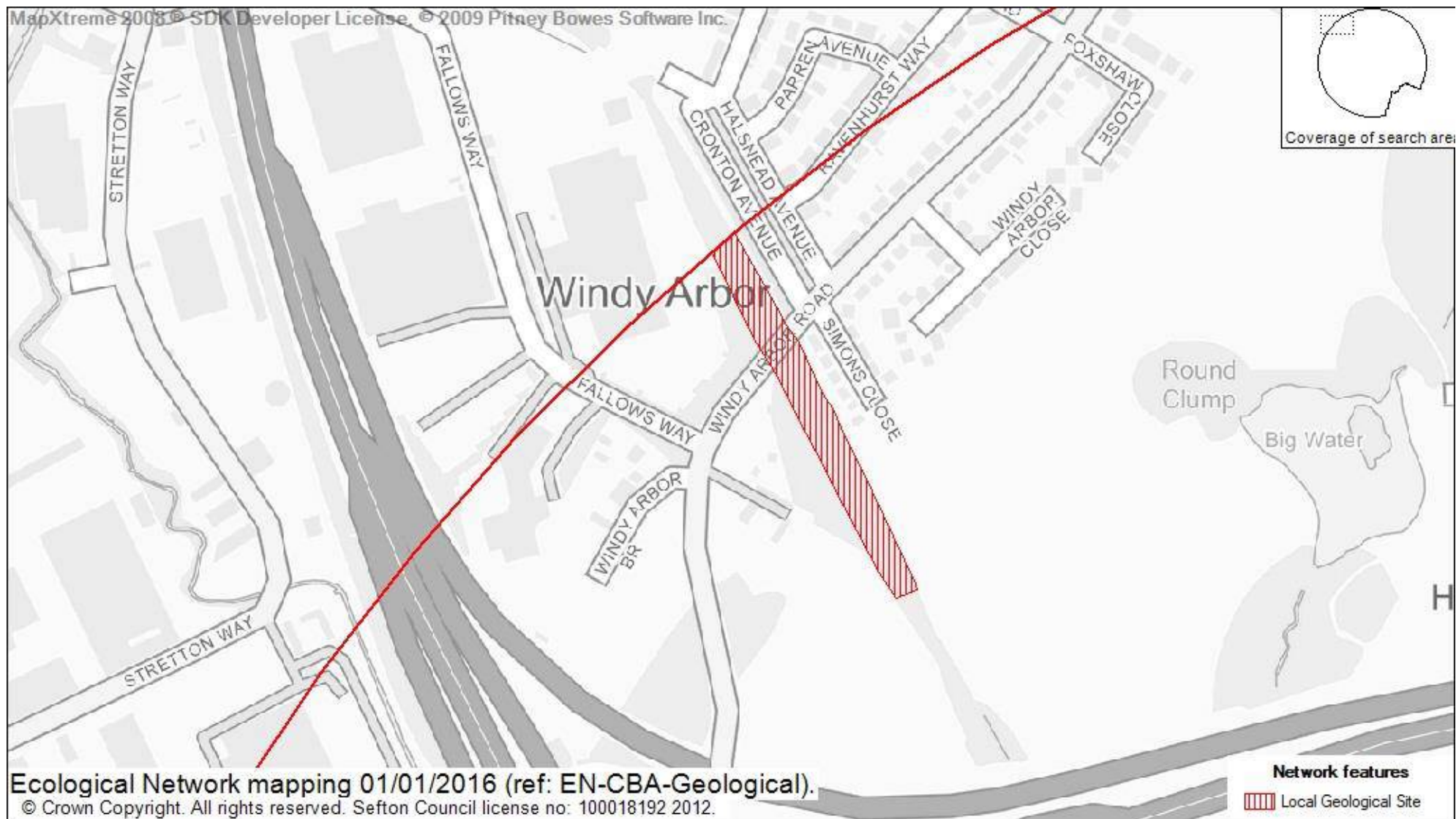
Appendix 2: Maps

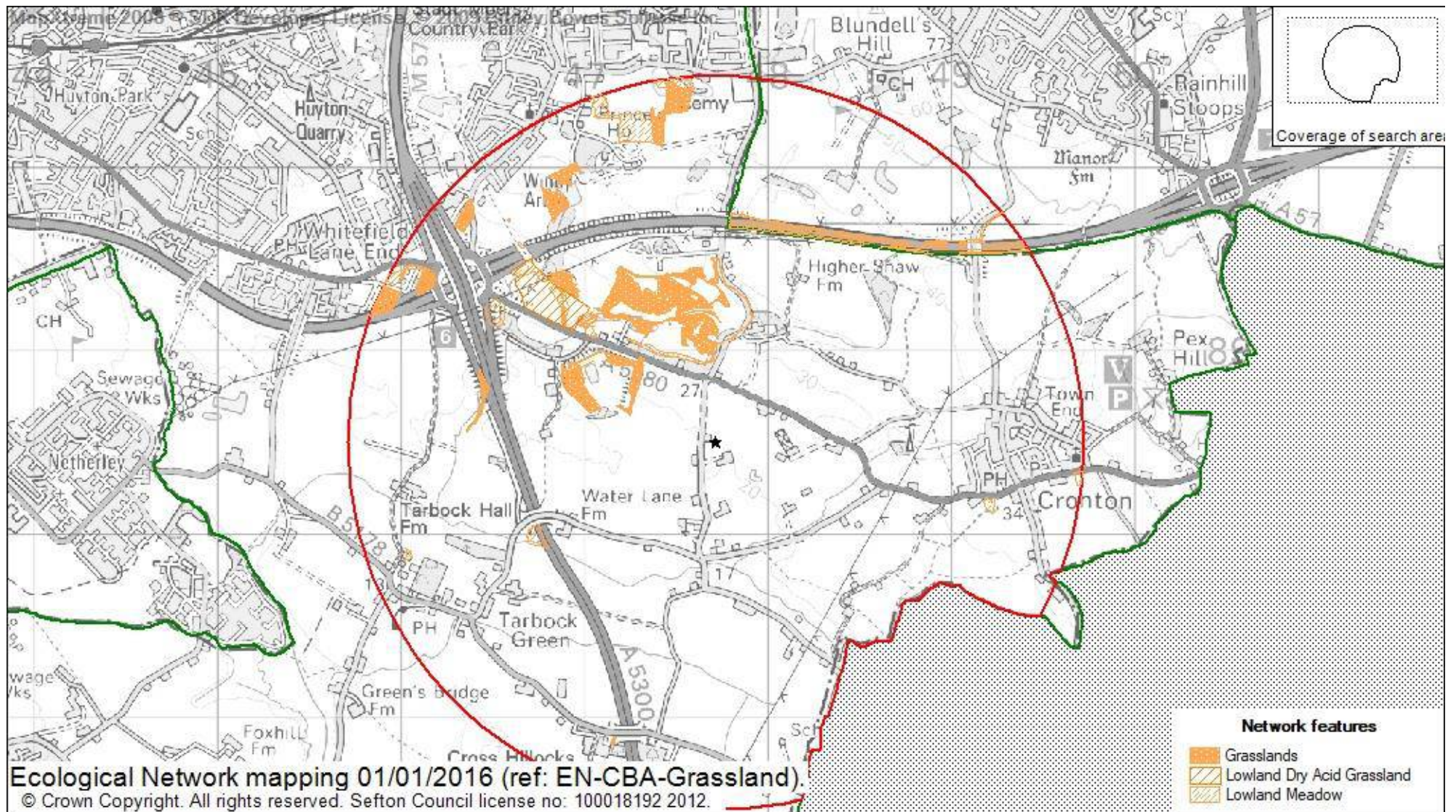
The following page(s) include maps to illustrate some of the results of your data request. They should be viewed in the context of the results supplied in the main body of the report.

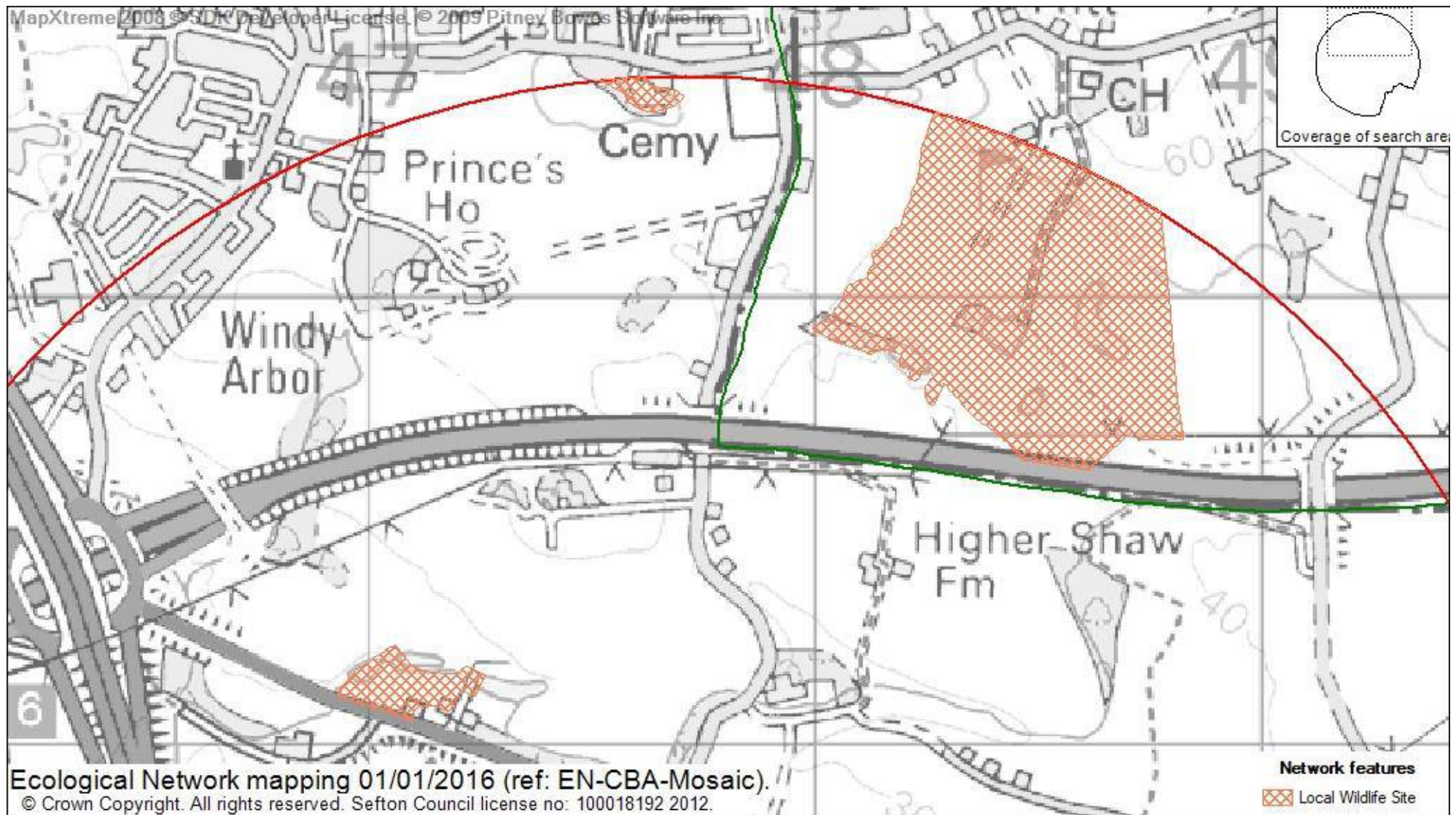
The Ordnance Survey mapping included in the maps provided by Merseyside BioBank under Sefton Council's licence from Ordnance Survey. These maps are provided to assist decision-makers in the effective and sustainable management of land, species and habitats. Ordnance Survey should be contacted directly if any of these maps are to be used in another document.

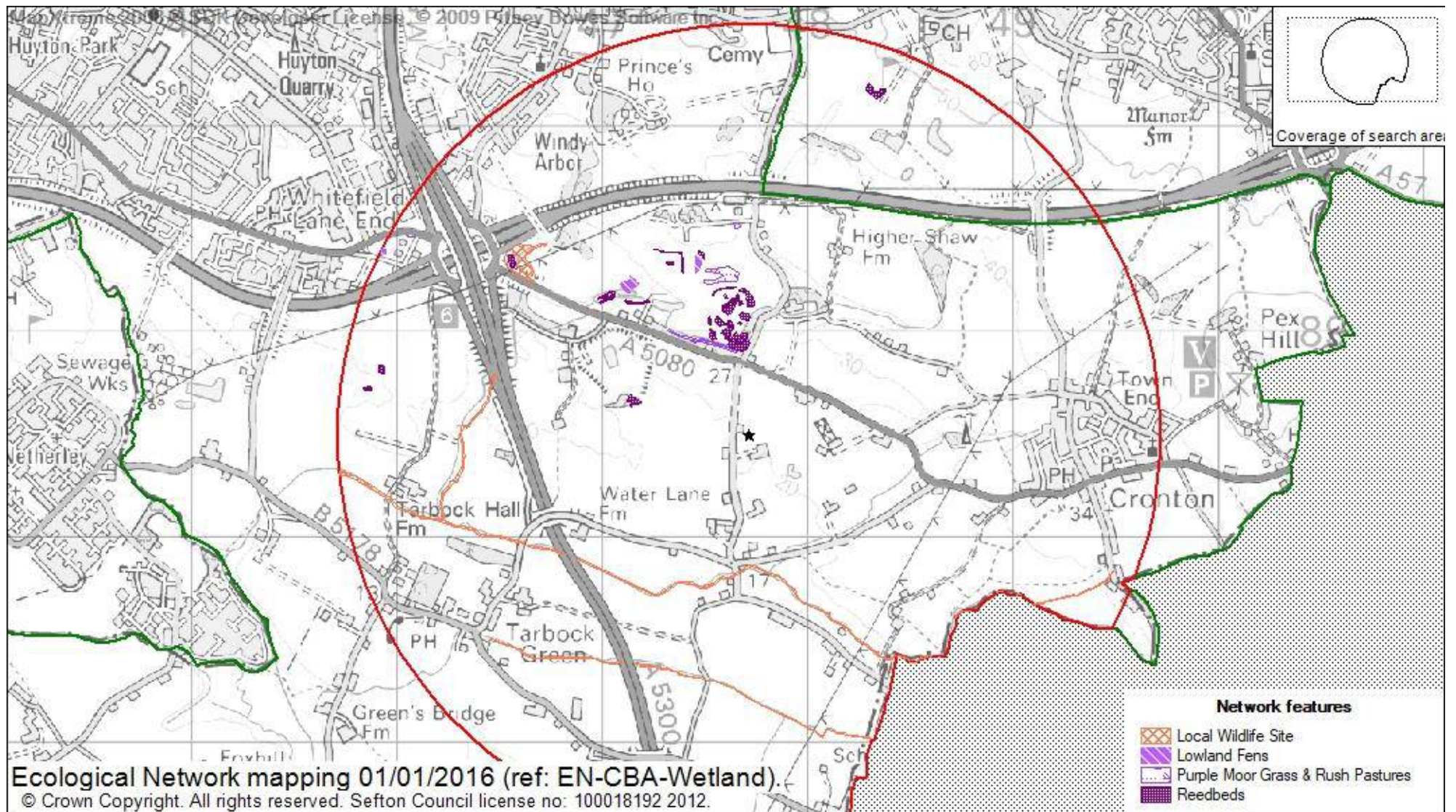


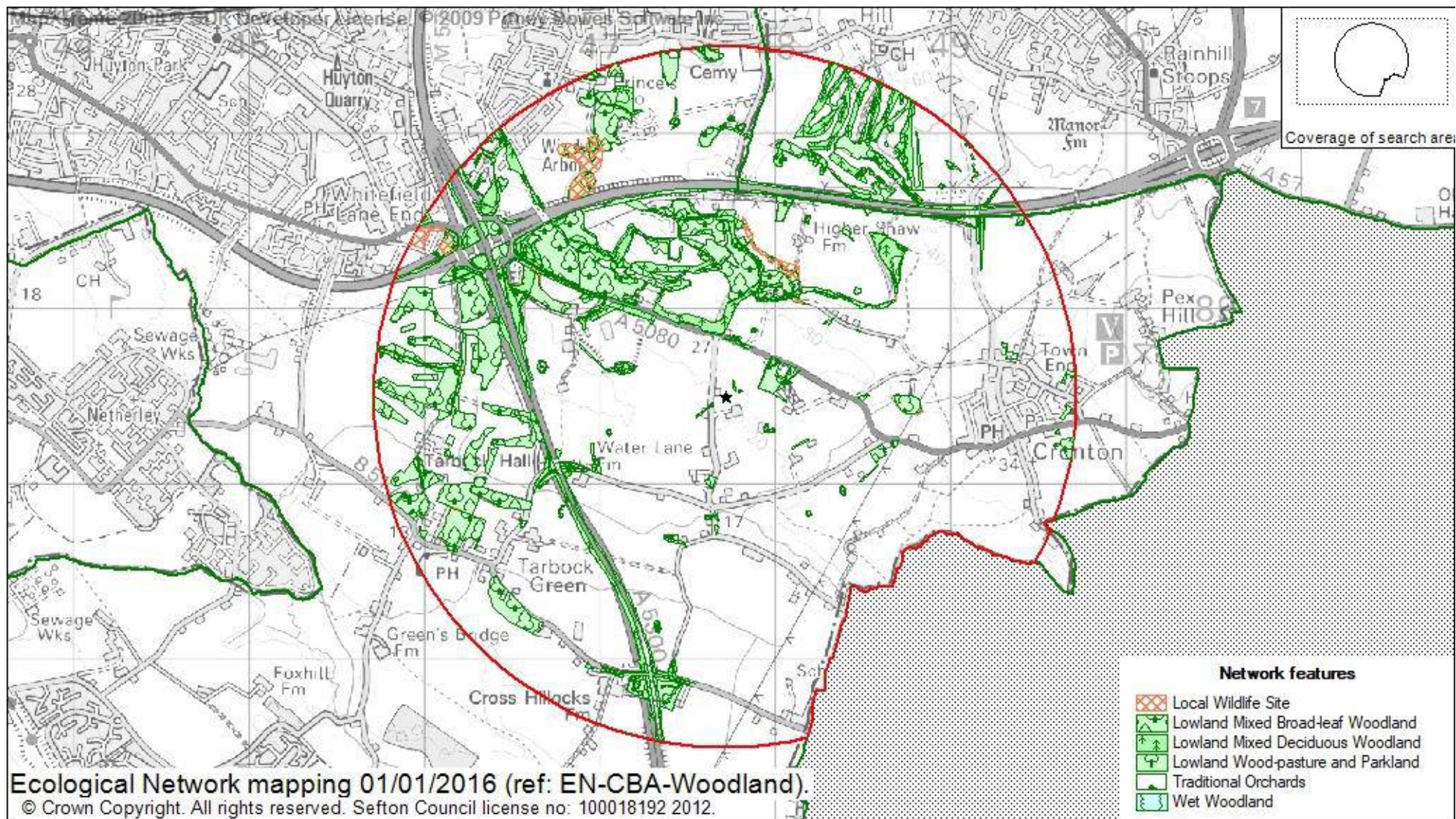


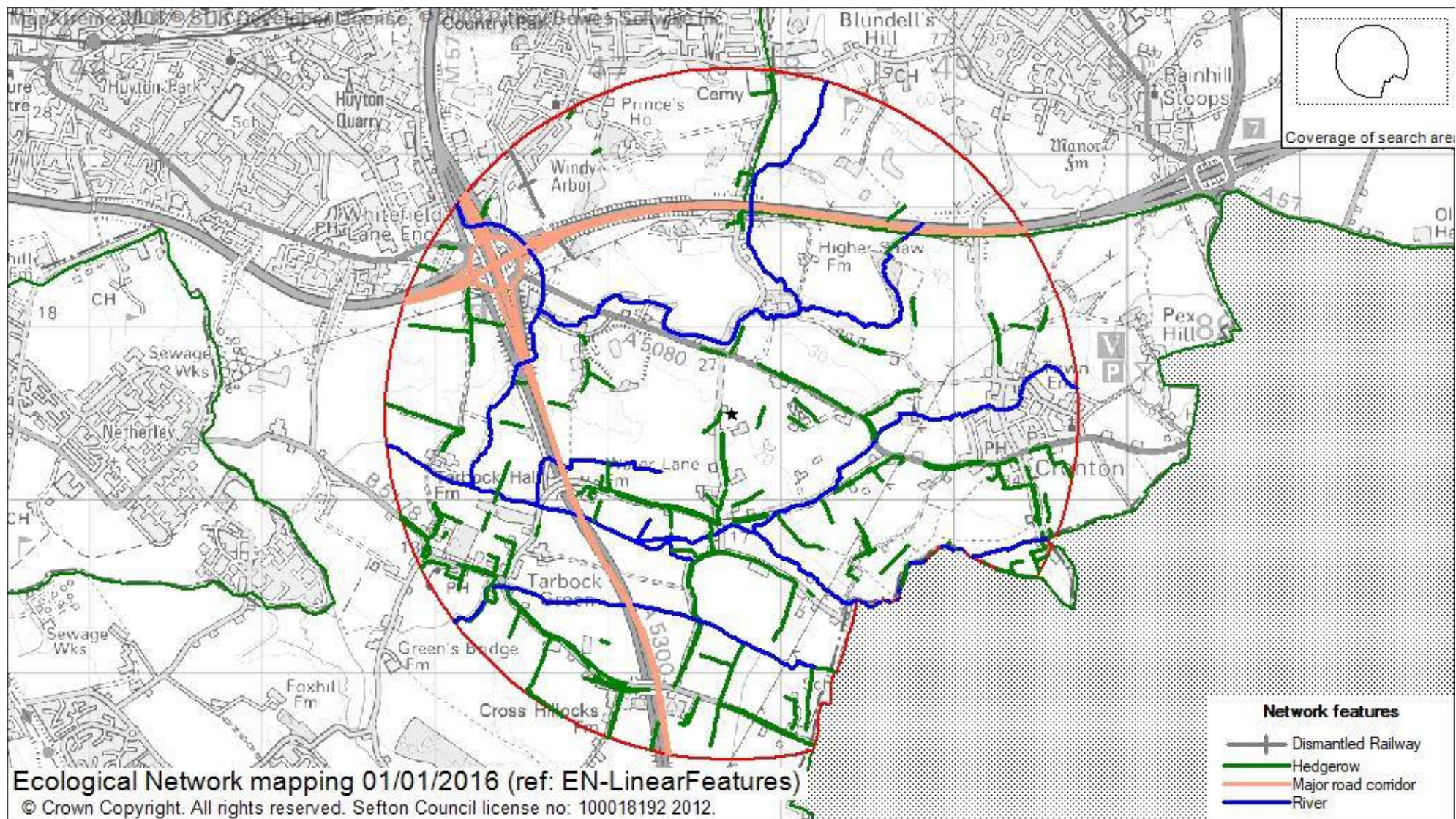


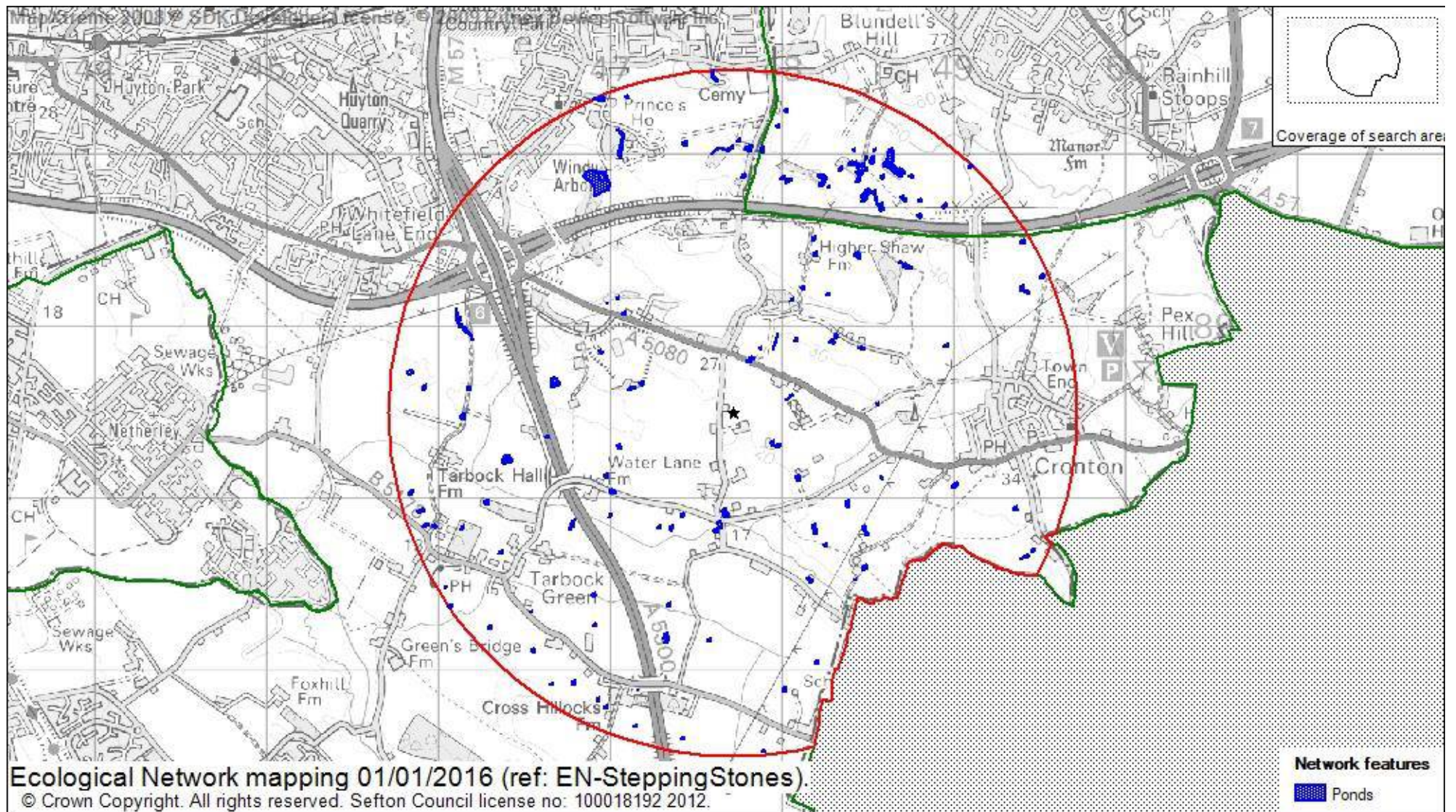


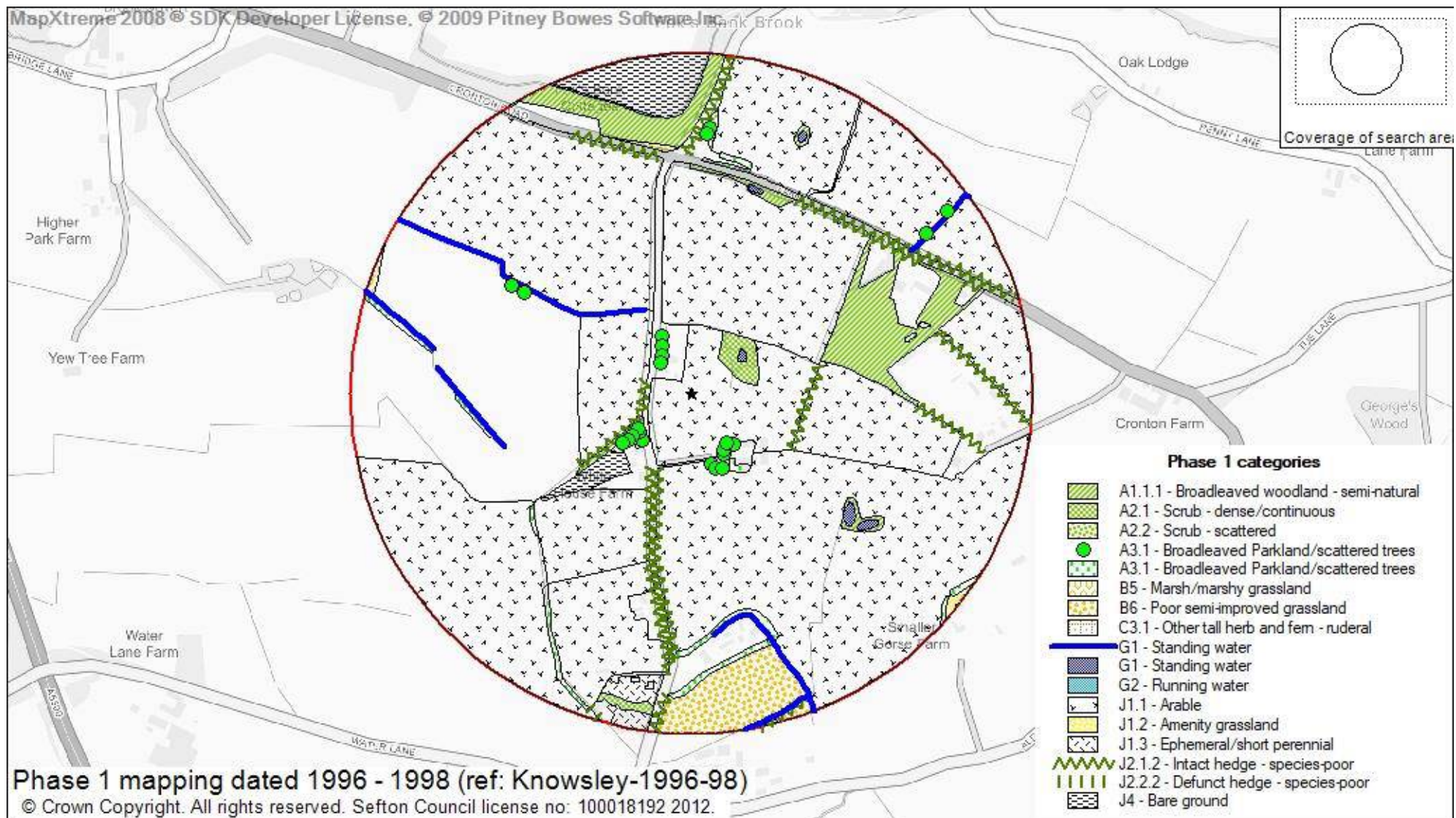


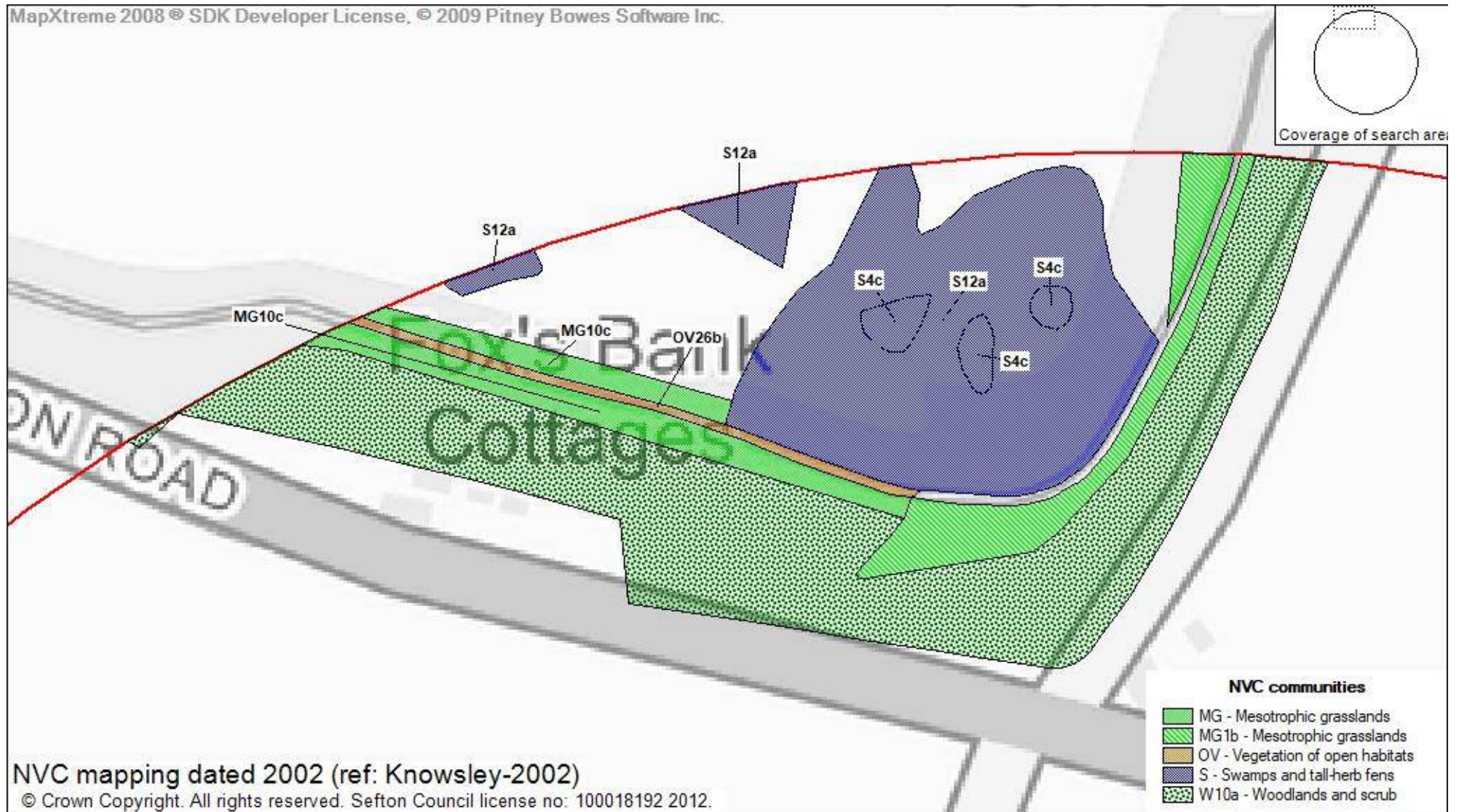


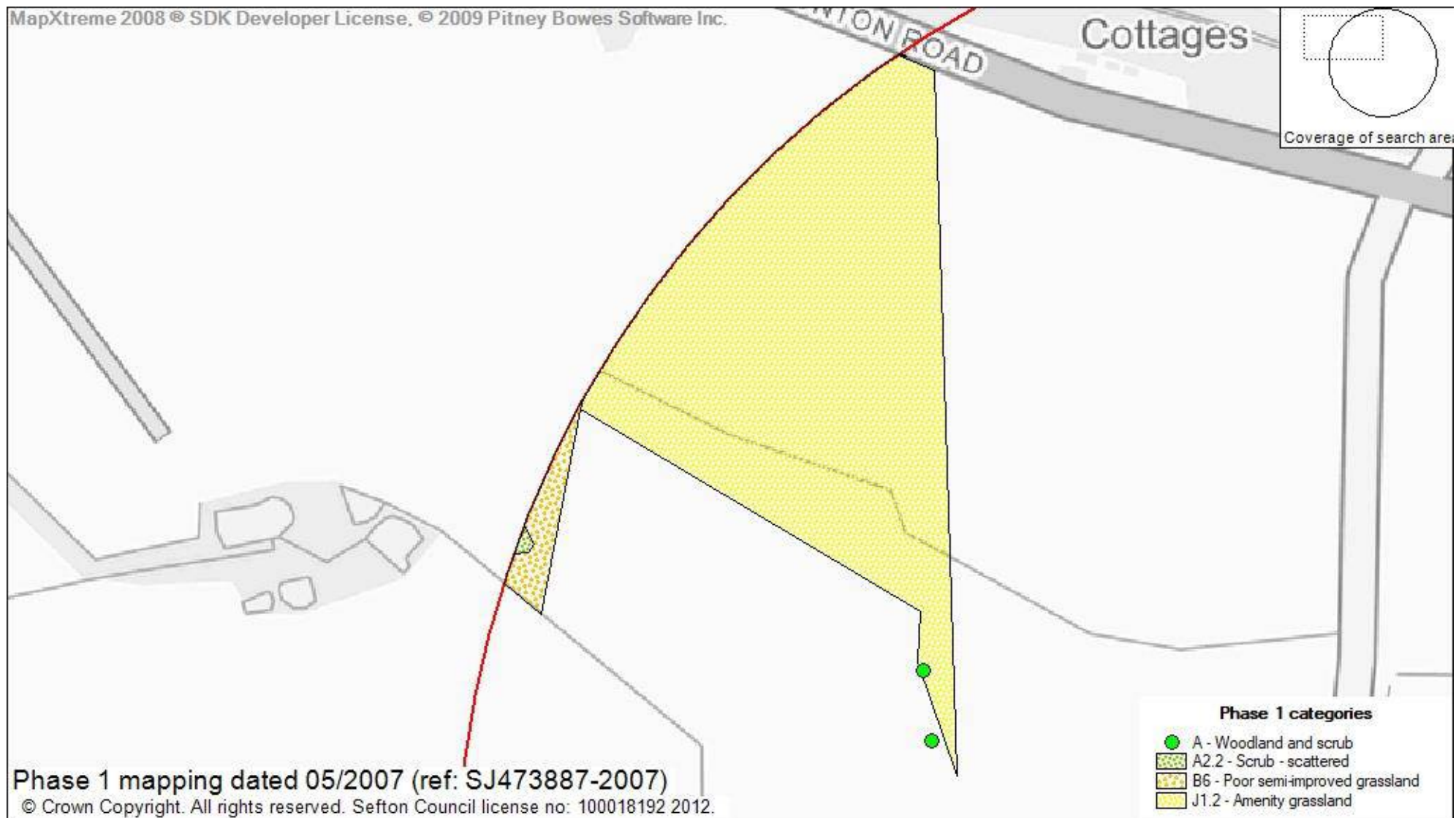


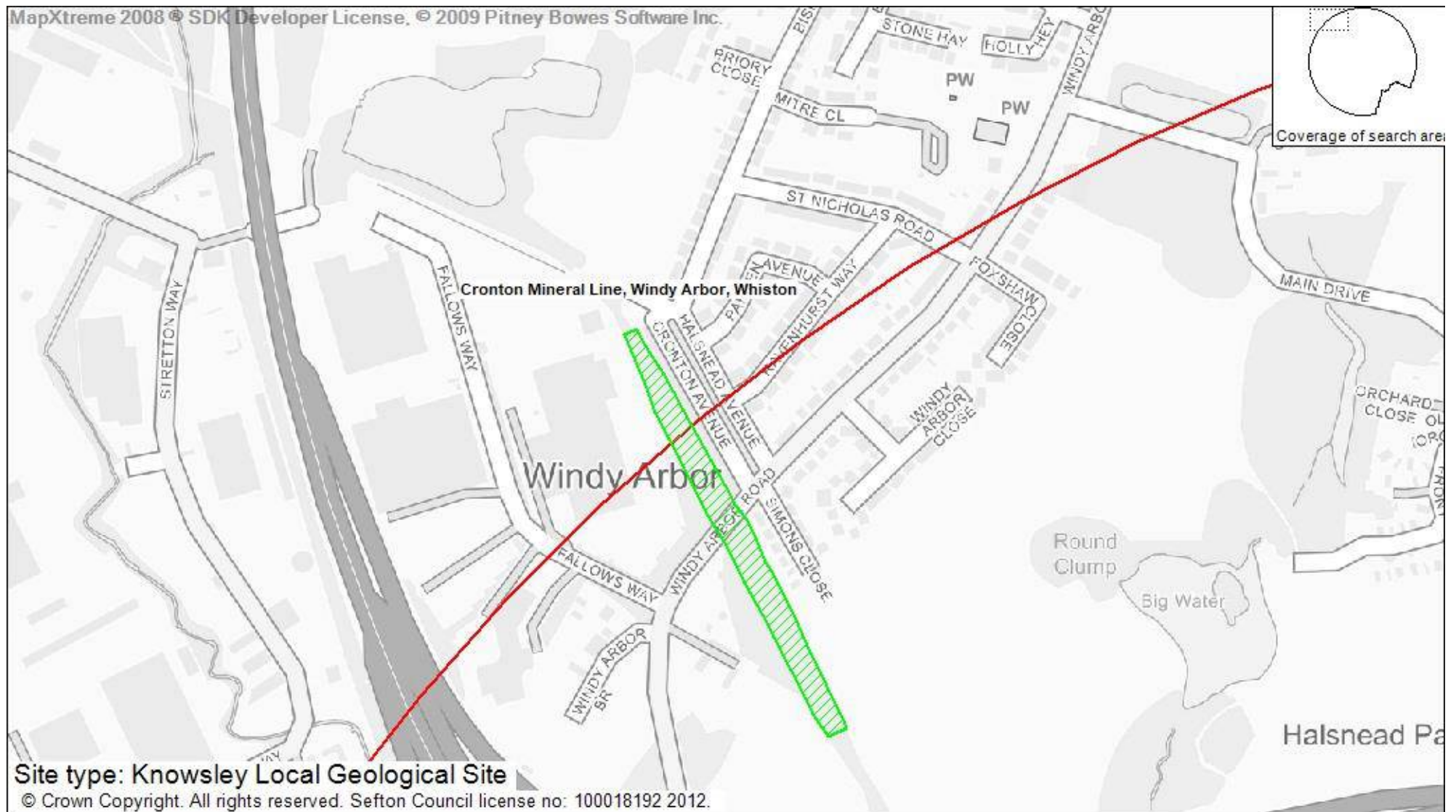


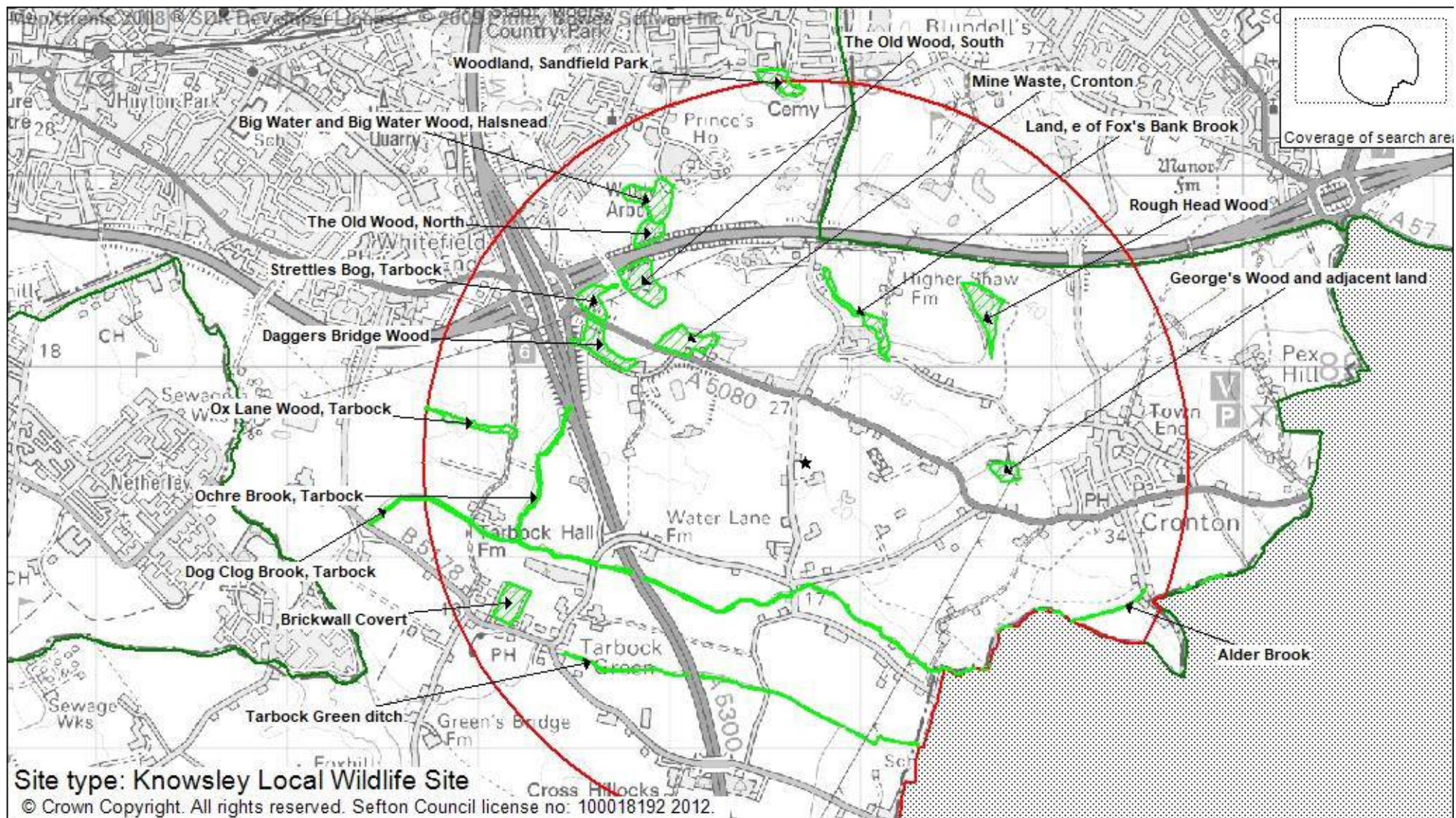












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