



DAC Power, Land off West Marsh Road,
Spalding
Biodiversity Net Gain
18th July 2025

Freedom Group – Environmental Land Management

Quality Assurance

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Document Control

Project details			
Site	West Marsh Road, Spalding, South Holland, Lincolnshire, PE11 3DQ		
Client	DAC Power		
Document	Biodiversity Net Gain		
Reference	DAC_03_25_Spalding		
Survey dates	25 th June 2025		
Surveyor/s	Ebonie Lambo-Hills MSc, BSc (Hons), Natural England licences (bat level 1 2022-10580-CL17-BAT, great crested newt level 1 2022-10255-CL08-GCN, barn owl Level 1 2023-11316-CL29-OWL)		
Document	Author	Checked by	Date
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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 In support of the planning application for the development of the site, Freedom Professional Services – Environmental Land Management (ELM), was commissioned to undertake a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) of the site to facilitate the creation of an access track at West Marsh Road, Spalding, PE11 3DQ. The report ensures no loss of habitat from the proposed development and provides recommendations, as appropriate, to enable compliance with planning policy and legislation.
- 1.1.2 The ‘site’ is defined as the proposed areas of works (Figure 1 & 2) and will be referred to as on-site throughout the report. Off-site is defined as where the proposed mitigation will be located (Figure 2) and the surveyed area refers to where was surveyed during the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Freedom Group, 2025) for the site (Figure 3).
- 1.1.3 DAC Power is seeking full planning permission for the creation of a new access track into an existing field. The proposed development will involve (Figure 1):
- The installation of a new bellmouth access track, which will be constructed using concrete grass reinforcement blocks. Please see measurements within Figure 1.



Figure 1. General site arrangement proposal

1.2 Site location

- 1.2.1 On-site and off-site were located within the survey area at west of West Marsh Road, Spalding, PE11 3DQ, grid reference TF 26128 24917. The survey area was approximately 0.5ha in area.
- 1.2.2 The survey area was enclosed by a sewage treatment plant to the north, the River Welland to the east, gas distribution to the south, and West Marsh Road and industrial buildings to the west. The surrounding landscape is comprised of industrial buildings, Vernatt’s Drain and arable fields lined with hedgerows and drains. On-site boundary sits within the town of Spalding (Figure 2).



Figure 2. The sites the on-site boundary highlighted in red and the off-site boundary highlighted in blue.

1.3 Survey objectives

1.3.1 The survey objectives were as follows:

- Identify all habitat types within the site in accordance with standard UK Habitat Classification (UKHabs) survey techniques.
- Use the Statutory Biodiversity Net Gain Metric to calculate the baseline metric of the site and the total loss of units from proposed works.
- Provide recommendations for further enhancement and mitigation to support towards achieving a minimum 10% net gain, as required by South Holland District Council.
- Advise of any ecological compensation requirements.

1.4 Legislative and Policy Context

1.4.1 Developers are required to deliver a BNG of at least 10%, under Schedule 7A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as inserted by Schedule 14 of the Environment Act 2021). The statutory biodiversity metric calculates the measure of biodiversity of all habitats onsite for the purposes of BNG, including:

- grassland
- hedgerows
- lakes
- woodland
- watercourses such as rivers and streams

2 Methodology

2.1 Site survey

- 2.1.1 The BNG was undertaken on the 25th June 2025 by Ebonie Lambo-Hills, Consultant Ecologist, MSc, BSc (Hons), Natural England licences (bat level 1, great crested newt level 1 & barn owl Level 1).
- 2.1.2 The survey was carried out between 9:30am and 11:00am under suitable weather conditions, including temperature of 21°C, 9mph wind with no precipitation.
- 2.1.3 The survey was completed in accordance with best practice methodologies:
- CIEEM, IEMA & CIRIA (2016) *Biodiversity Net Gain: Good Practice Principles for Development*.
 - UKHab Ltd (2023). *UK Habitat Classification Version 2*.
 - Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (2024). *The Statutory Biodiversity Metric*.
 - British Standard 8683 (2021) Process for designing and implementing Biodiversity Net Gain – Specification.
- 2.1.4 During the survey the following information was recorded:
- Habitat types classified in accordance with standard UKHabs categories.
 - Dominant, notable and invasive, non-native plant species.
- 2.1.5 Strategic significance was identified using the following approach:

Table 1, assessment method for strategic significance.

Strategic significance	Method
Within an area formally identified in local strategy	A habitat will be assigned this category where the following criteria are met: • The habitat is located within an area formally identified as a statutory or non-statutory designated site. • Habitats or location formally identified within the local strategy. • Where relevant habitat information is not available, all habitats which sit within this location will be assigned this level.
Location ecologically desirable but not in location strategy	Professional judgement will be used to identify if the location is classified as ecological desirable for a particular habitat type. This decision will consider the wider landscape, ecological connectivity and the proximity of formally identified to the site.
Area not in a local strategy.	Habitats which do not fall into the categories above will be given this level of strategic significance

- 2.1.6 Default time to target condition for created habitats on and off-site were not changed within the post-Development plan proposed within the metric. BNG assessment assumes that any habitat enhancement and creation will occur straight away after habitat clearance and the construction of the Proposed Development.
- 2.1.7 The Metric has been used to calculate the baseline biodiversity value; a post-development biodiversity value; and a net change in biodiversity value associated with the Proposed Development.
- 2.1.8 The qualitative assessment was undertaken using the Good Practice Principles (CIEEM, 2016).

2.2 Data Sources

- 2.2.1 Publicly available Open-Source Natural England datasets used to inform the BNG included statutory designated sites for nature conservation (Natural England, 2021) (Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC, 2021)), Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI) and ancient woodland (classed as irreplaceable

habitat). Full details of the desk study methodology are provided within the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) (Freedom, 2025), with results of the desk study used to inform the strategic significance value.

- 2.2.2 The UKHab survey was undertaken in June 2025 by an appropriately experienced ecologist, which covered the surveyed area, as defined within 1.1.2. The survey followed UK Habitat classification system (UKHab) which classifies habitats in accordance with their vegetation structure and type, following a principal hierarchy of 'Primary Habitats'. These habitats are used within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric to calculate the quantitative baseline and further net gain or net loss for habitats on-site and off-site. The survey provides a baseline habitat database which details the habitats present on-site or off-site, their geographic distribution and their area (ha).
- 2.2.3 All lengths (km) and areas (ha) of habitats present have been measured using QGIS 3.40.4 with reference to the basemap.
- 2.2.4 A habitat condition assessment (HCA) was assessed during the walkover of the site on 25th June 2025, using the Biodiversity Metric Statutory Condition Assessment.

2.3 Irreplaceable Habitat and Statutory Designated Sites

- 2.3.1 In accordance with the Statutory Biodiversity Metric methodology, impacts on irreplaceable habitats and statutory designated sites should be excluded from the calculations. There were no irreplaceable habitats or statutory designated sites present within the on-site or off-site boundary.

2.4 Survey method constraints and limitations

- 2.4.1 The plant composition and structure of the grassland was of indicative of grassland which was frequently managed by mowing. Although the majority of species onsite were identified, due to the frequent management the identification characteristics of several species, including grasses, had been removed, and it is likely that several species may have been missed.
- 2.4.2 Schedule 14 of the Environment Act states that where land has been cleared or degraded on or after 30th January 2020 (with exceptions to where permission has been granted), the predevelopment biodiversity value of the onsite habitat is to be taken to be its biodiversity value immediately before the carrying out of the activities.
- 2.4.3 A section of the hedgerow had been removed prior to the site visit and is now bare ground and ruderal vegetation. In line with the above, the assessment was undertaken on the remaining sections of the hedgerow, and Google Earth Imagery.

3 Results

3.1 Baseline Habitats

- 3.1.1 On-site was comprised of modified grassland which was recently mown and a species-rich native hedgerow associated with ditch (H1) along the western periphery (Figure 3).
- 3.1.2 The off-site habitats are located directly adjacent to on-site and have a similar structure and plant composition to habitats on-site. On-site habitats have the same management plan and schedule to habitats offsite. The habitats include modified grassland and a species-rich native hedgerow associated with ditch (H2).
- 3.1.3 All habitats classified and mapped using UKHabs Classification during the BNG baseline assessment. Due to the subtle difference between UKHabs and the Statutory Biodiversity Metric, habitats present onsite have been outlined below.

Table 2. UKHabs conversion to BNG metric.

UKHabs Classification with secondary codes	BNG metric classification	Justification
g4 – Modified grassland	Modified grassland	N/A
h2a5 – Species-rich native hedgerow. 50 - ditch	Species-rich, native hedgerow – associated with bank or ditch	Within UKHabs, hedgerows with associated ditches cannot be classified as a UKHabs primary code and must be classified as secondary code ditch (50).
u1e – Built linear feature 612 - Fence	N/A	The fence has not been included within the BNG metric as this habitat is not assessed under the metric.

- 3.1.4 Tables 3-4 below provide the baseline habitats present on-site and tables 5-6 below provide the baseline of habitats off-site. Figure 3 provides a habitat map of on-site and off-site.

Table 3, baseline of habitats present on-site.

Broad habitat	Habitat type	Area (ha)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Habitat Unit
Grassland	Modified grassland	0.01	Low	Poor	Low	0.02

Table 4, baseline of hedgerows present on -site.

Hedgerow number	Hedgerow type	Length (km)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Hedgerow Unit
1	Species-rich, native hedgerow	0.015	High	Moderate	Low	0.18

	– associated with bank or ditch					
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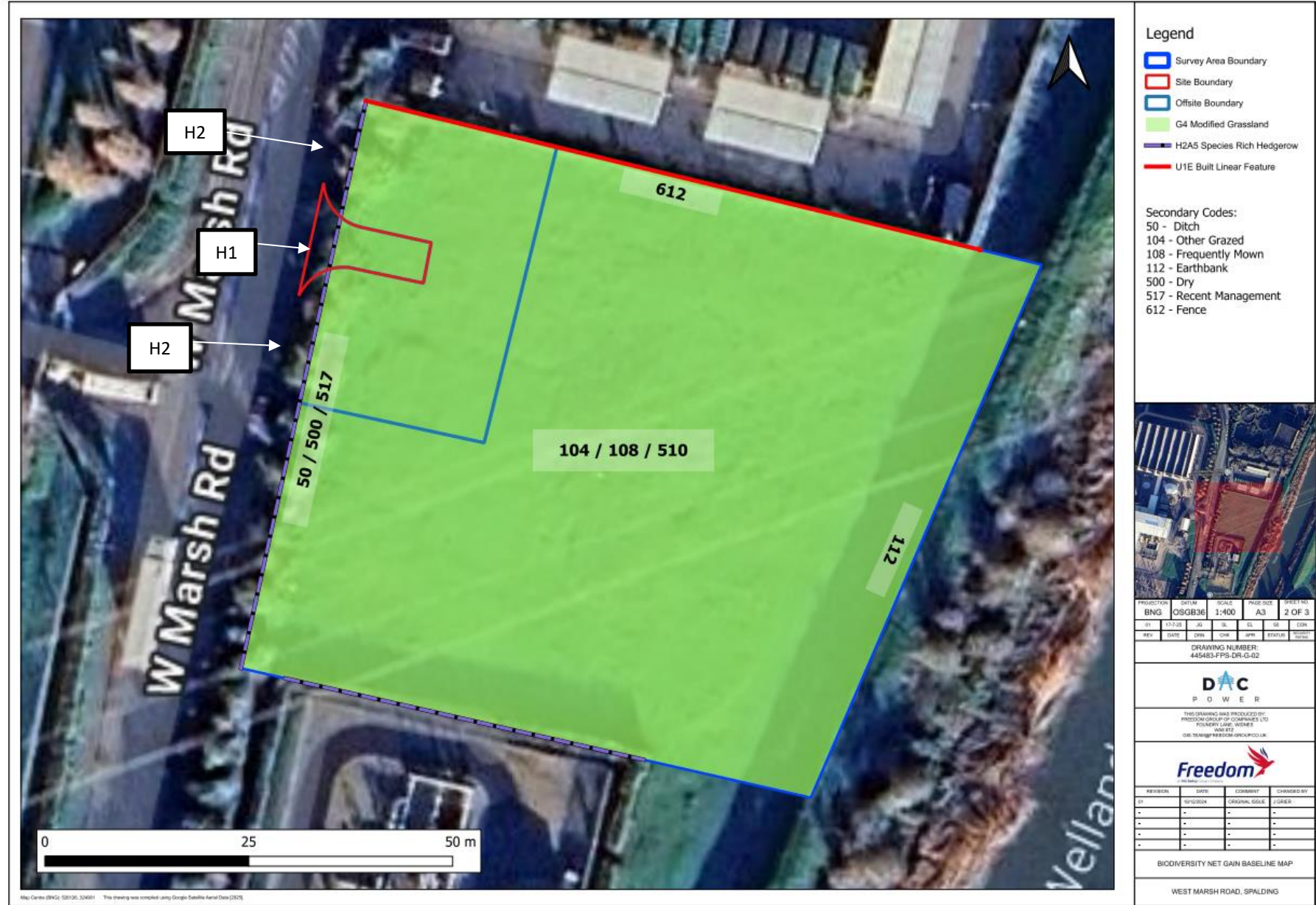
Table 5, baseline of habitats present off-site.

Broad habitat	Habitat type	Area (ha)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Habitat Unit
Grassland	Modified grassland	0.075	Low	Poor	Low	0.15

Table 6, baseline of hedgerows present off -site.

Hedgerow number	Hedgerow type	Length (km)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Hedgerow Unit
2	Species-rich, native hedgerow – associated with bank or ditch	0.025	High	Moderate	Low	0.30

Figure 3, habitats present on and off-site.



3.2 Intervention

On-site habitat units

3.2.1 The habitats on-site to be lost as part of the proposed works will include 0.01ha of modified grassland which has a low habitat distinctiveness.

3.2.2 Post development, the site will be converted to developed land; sealed surface for the creation of the new access track.

On-site habitat enhancement and retention

3.2.3 No habitats be enhanced or retained as part of the proposed works.

On-site habitat creation

3.2.4 The habitats to be created include developed land; sealed surface, which has a distinctiveness score of very low and does not deliver any habitat units.

Table 7, on-site habitat creation.

Broad habitat	Habitat type	Area (ha)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Habitat Unit
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	0.01	Very low	N/A	Low	0.00

Off-site habitat units

3.2.5 No habitats will be lost.

3.2.6 Post development, the site will feature the planting of two small urban trees along the northern periphery.

Off-site habitat enhancement and retention

3.2.7 No habitats will be enhanced or retained as part of the proposed works.

Off-site habitat creation

3.2.8 The two urban trees (0.0081ha) to be planted must achieve **moderate** condition, with the management to be designed to achieve a minimum of three of the following conditions, within a time target of 27 years. Please refer to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets for the condition assessment criteria (Appendix C).

Table 8, off-site habitat creation.

Broad habitat	Habitat type	Area (ha)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Spatial risk	Habitat Unit
Individual tree	Urban tree	0.0081	Medium	Moderate	Low	Low	0.00

On-site hedgerow units

- 3.2.9 The hedgerow to be lost on-site will include 0.015km of species-rich, native hedgerow with associated ditch along the western periphery, which has a high habitat distinctiveness.
- 3.2.10 Post development, no new hedgerows will be planted on site.

On-site hedgerow creation, enhancement and retention

- 3.2.11 No hedgerows will be created, enhanced or retained as part of the proposed works.

Off-site hedgerow units

- 3.2.12 No hedgerows will be lost off-site.
- 3.2.13 Post development, species-rich, native hedgerow with associated ditch will be enhanced to a species-rich, native hedgerow, with trees with associated ditch (Figure 4).

Off-site hedgerow creation and retention

- 3.2.14 No hedgerows will be created or retained as part of the proposed works.

Off-site habitat enhancement

- 3.2.15 The species-rich, native hedgerow with associated ditch will be enhanced to a species-rich, native
- 3.2.16 s, with associated ditch in **good** condition. The enhancement has a time target of 10 years, with management being designed to ensure no more than two failures and no more than one failure within any functioning group. Please refer to the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets for the condition assessment criteria (Appendix C).

Table 9, off-site hedgerow enhancement.

Hedgerow number	Hedgerow type	Length (km)	Habitat distinctiveness	Habitat condition	Strategic significance	Spatial risk	Habitat Unit
2	Species-rich, native hedgerow with trees, with associated ditch	0.025	Very high	Good	Low	Low	0.51

Figure 4, post intervention habitats on and off-site.



Table 10, combination of on-site and off-site baseline and change of broad habitat types.

Combined on-site and off-site by broad habitat type						
	Baseline		On-site and off-site post development		Combined change	
Habitat group	Combined existing area	Combined existing value	Combined proposed area	Combined proposed value	Combined area change	Combined unit change
Grassland	0.09	0.17	0.08	0.15	-0.01	-0.02
Individual trees	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02

Table 11, combination of on-site and off-site baseline and change of hedgerow types.

Combined on-site and off-site by hedgerow type						
	Baseline		On-site and off-site post development		Combined change	
Hedgerow type	Combined existing length	Combined existing value	Combined proposed length	Combined proposed value	Combined length change	Combined unit change
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.51	0.03	0.51
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.04	0.48	0.00	0.00	-0.04	-0.48

4 Conclusion

- 4.1.1 The results of the metric exceed the necessary 10% requirement for biodiversity net gain, habitats +23.82% (+0.00 habitat units) with all trading rules satisfied, and for hedgerows +16.71% (+0.03 hedgerow units), with all trading rules satisfied.
- 4.1.2 Once planning permission has been granted, a habitat management and monitoring plan and biodiversity net gain plan will be submitted to South Holland District Council as part of a condition application. The management plan will detail how the proposed habitats will be managed to achieve the target condition and be consistent with the relevant timescales.

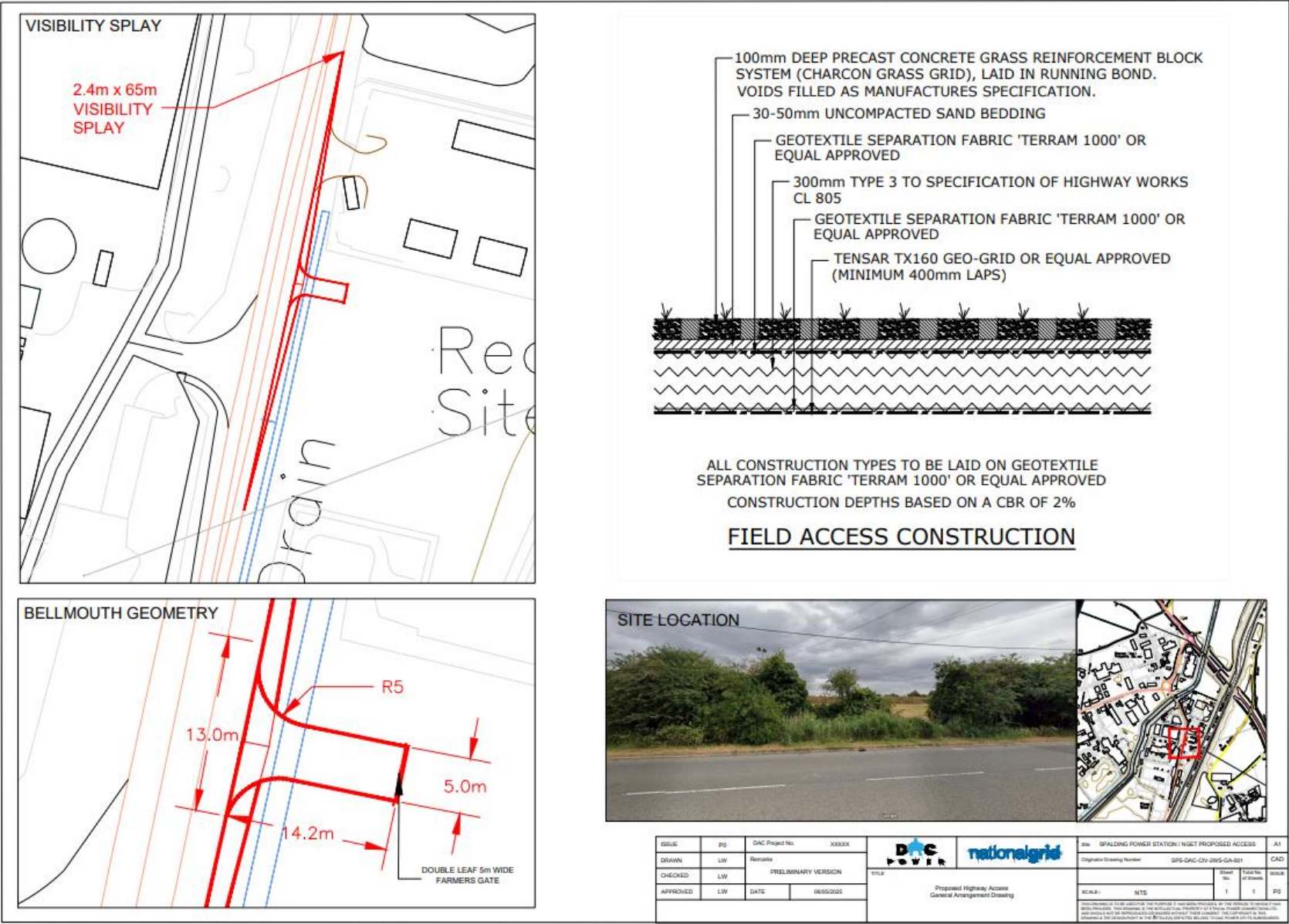
Figure 5, headline results from DEFRA Metric indicating a net gain of habitats (+23.82%) and a net gain of hedgerows (+16.71%).

West Marsh Road, Spalding		Return to results menu	
Headline Results		Scroll down for final results	
On-site baseline	Habitat units	0.02	
	Hedgerow units	0.18	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
On-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	-0.02	-100.00%
	Hedgerow units	-0.18	-100.00%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%
On-site net gain is less than target set On-site net gain is less than target set			
Off-site baseline	Habitat units	0.15	
	Hedgerow units	0.30	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Off-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.17	
	Hedgerow units	0.51	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Off-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.02	16.51%
	Hedgerow units	0.21	70.03%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%
Combined net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.03	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Spatial risk multiplier (SRM) deductions	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
FINAL RESULTS			
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.03	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	23.82%	
	Hedgerow units	16.71%	
	Watercourse units	0.00%	
Trading rules satisfied?	Yes ✓		

5 References

1. Bickmore, C.J. (2002). Hedgerow survey handbook: a standard procedure for local surveys in the UK. DEFRA, London.
2. British Standards Institution (2013). BS42020: Biodiversity Code of Practice for Planning and Development. British Standards Institution, London.
3. British Standards Institution (2012). BS5837: Guide for trees in relation to design, demolition and construction. British Standards Institution, London.
4. British Standard 8683 (2021)5 Process for designing and implementing Biodiversity Net Gain – Specification. British Standards Institution, London.
5. CIEEM (2016) Biodiversity Net Gain – Good Practice Principles for Development, CIEEM, Winchester
6. CIEEM (2017). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal.
7. DEFRA (2025) *MagicMaps.gov*. Available at: <http://www.magic.gov.uk>.
8. DEFRA (2024) The Statutory Biodiversity Metric.
9. Gent, A. H. and Gibson, S. D. (2003). Herpetofauna Workers' Manual, 2nd Edition. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.
10. Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2003). Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.
11. Strachan, R. Moorhouse, T. and Gelling, M. (2011). Water Vole Conservation Handbook – 3rd Edition. Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, Oxford.
12. UKHab Ltd (2023). UK Habitat Classification Version 2.

6 Plans



7 Appendices

Appendix A On-site Habitat Condition Assessment

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	West Marsh Road, Spalding (On-site)	Survey date and Surveyor name	25/06/2025 Ebonie Lambo-Hills
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	N/A
Grid reference	TF 26130 24916	Habitat parcel reference	N/A
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	No	Approximately 5 species per m ² .
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	Site is regularly mown and rabbit grazed featuring a short sward of <5cm.

C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	Yes	No scrub present
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	Yes	Site has areas of bare ground associated with rabbit grazing but <10% of site
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	No bracken present
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			No
Number of criteria passed			5
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)		
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)	x	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .			
Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.			
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.			
Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types						
Habitat Type						
Native hedgerow						
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch						
Native hedgerow with trees						
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch						
Species-rich native hedgerow						
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch						
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees						
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch						
Habitat Description						
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification						
On-site or off-site, site name and location	West Marsh Road, Spalding (onsite)		Survey date and Surveyor name	25/06/25 - Ebonie Lambo-Hills		
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	N/A		
Condition Assessment Details						
A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. Each attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional groups which pass or fail the ‘favourable condition’ criteria. This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook¹ and Favourable Conservation Status document². For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook. Best practice would be to record the species, age, spacing and other key information about all trees present along a hedgerow within the 'Habitat Description' box, as well as other key features of the hedgerow.						
Hedgerow favourable condition attributes						
Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D and E)		Criteria - the minimum requirements for ‘favourable condition’	Criteria description	Habitat parcel reference		
				H1	H3 – within survey area, outside of site.	
				Grid reference		
				TF 26093 24921	TF 26118 24874	
Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types				Criterion passed (Yes or No)		Notes (such as justification)
A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees. Newly laid or coppiced hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a	Yes	Yes	Both hedgerows have consistent growth above 1.5m

			maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice). A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m height).			
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	The average width of woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees. Outgrowths (such as blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> suckers) are only included in the width estimate when they are >0.5 m in height. Laid, coppiced, cut and newly planted hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).	Yes	No	H3 is <1m in width
B1.	Gap - hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	This is the vertical 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth. Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the Hedgerow Survey Handbook).	Yes	No	H3 features a consistent gap along base of hedgerow
B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m	This is the horizontal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow. Gaps are complete breaks in the woody canopy (no matter how small). Access points and gates contribute to the overall 'gappiness' but are not subject to the >5 m criterion (as this is the typical size of a gate).	No	Yes	H1 features several gaps along hedgerow
C1.	Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow. Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow. This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached ground etc. can limit available habitat niches.	Yes	Yes	H1 has one side of undisturbed hedgerow and H3 features both sides
C2.	Nutrient-enriched	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20%	The indicator species used are nettles <i>Urtica</i> spp., cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i> and docks <i>Rumex</i> spp. Their	No	Yes	H1 features nettles and

	perennial vegetation	cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.			broadleaved dock along boundary
D1.	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website ⁴ , as well as the BSBI website ⁵ where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora' ⁶ contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website ⁷ .	Yes	Yes	
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes. This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (for example, excessive hedgerow cutting).	No	Yes	H1 has recent has removal of section
Additional group - applicable to hedgerows with trees only						
E1.	Tree class	There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient ⁸), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.	N/A	N/A	
E2.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.	N/A	N/A	

The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, which is used within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The scores for each are set out in the tables below.

Condition categories for hedgerows without trees			
Category	Category Requirements	Metric Score	
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND	3	

	No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	
Moderate	No more than 4 failures in total; AND Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 4 attributes; OR Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
Score achieved:		
Condition categories for hedgerows with trees		
Category	Category Requirements	Metric score
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 5 failures in total; AND Does not fail both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR Fails both attributes in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
Score achieved:		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score		
Footnotes		
Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) <i>Hedgerow Survey Handbook. A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK.</i> [online] Available on: layout (hedgelink.org.uk)		
Footnote 2 – STALEY, J.T. ET AL. (2020) <i>Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows.</i> [online] Available on: Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows - RP2943 (naturalengland.org.uk)		
Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).		
Footnote 4 – CHEFFINGS, C. M. et al. (2005) <i>The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain.</i> Species Status 7: 1-116. [online] Available on: The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Species Status No. 7) JNCC Resource Hub		
Footnote 5 – BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND (BSBI). <i>Definitions: wild, native or alien?</i> [online] Available on: Definitions: wild, native or alien? – Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (bsbi.org)		
Footnote 6 – BSBI and Biological Records Centre (BRC) (2022) <i>Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora.</i> [online] Available on: Acknowledgements Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora (brc.ac.uk)		
Footnote 7 – GB NON-NATIVE SPECIES SECRETARIAT (GBNNSS) (2022) Available on: Home » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)		

Footnote 8 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:

[Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/publications/keepers-of-time-ancient-and-native-woodland-and-trees-policy-in-england)

and

[Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ancient-woodland-ancient-trees-and-veteran-trees-advice-for-making-planning-decisions)

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Appendix B Off-site habitat condition assessment

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	West Marsh Road, Spalding (Off-site)	Survey date and Surveyor name	25/06/2025 Ebonie Lambo-Hills
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	N/A
Grid reference	TF 26113 24942	Habitat parcel reference	N/A
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m ² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	No	Approximately 5 species per m ² .
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	Site is regularly mown and rabbit grazed featuring a short sward of <5cm.
C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	Yes	No scrub present

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D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	Yes	Site has areas of bare ground associated with rabbit grazing but <10% of site
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	No bracken present
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			No
Number of criteria passed			5
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√	
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)		
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)	x	
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .			
Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.			
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.			
Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			

Appendix C Condition assessments

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Habitat Description			
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.		
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.		
C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present).		

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	Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.			
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.			
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .			
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.			
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).			
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)				
Number of criteria passed				
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√		
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)			
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)			
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)			
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score				
Footnotes				
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .				
Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.				
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.				
Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).				

Habitat Types			
Individual trees – Urban trees Individual trees – Rural trees Complete a condition sheet for each tree or block of trees. <i>Please see the separate Line of trees condition sheet for a line of <u>rural</u> trees. You should only use the Line of trees condition assessment and record that habitat type in rural locations.</i>			
Habitat Description			
Individual trees (description applied to the urban or rural environment): Young trees over 7.5 cm in diameter at breast height whose canopies are not touching.			
Urban Perimeter / Linear Blocks and Groups (description applied to the urban environment only): Groups or stands of trees (size requirement as defined above) within and around the perimeter of urban land. This includes those along urban streets, highways, railways and canals, and also former field boundary trees incorporated into developments. Canopies should predominantly overlap continuously. Groups of urban trees that don't match the descriptions for woodland may be assessed within this category.			
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name	
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	The tree is a native species (or at least 70% within the block are native species).		
B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).		
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature) ¹ .		
D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.		
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.		
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.		
Number of criteria passed			
Condition Assessment Result (out of 6 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	

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Near Bank, Wet Sam			
Passes 5 or 6 criteria	Good (3)		
Passes 3 or 4 criteria	Moderate (2)		
Passes 2 or fewer criteria	Poor (1)		
Note that 'Fairly Good and Fairly Poor' condition categories are not available for this broad habitat type.			
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score ²			

Footnotes

Footnote 1 - See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from:

[Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/612212/Keepers_of_time_-_ancient_and_native_woodland_and_trees_policy_in_England.pdf)

and:

[Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/612212/Ancient_woodland,_ancient_trees_and_veteran_trees_advice_for_making_planning_decisions.pdf)

Footnote 2 - Enhancement of this habitat type is only possible by improving the habitat so that it meets all Criteria B, D and F. It is not possible or appropriate to enhance individual tree/s through meeting just one or two of those Criteria, nor by meeting Criteria A, C or E.

Condition sheet: HEDGEROW Habitat Types				
Habitat Type				
Native hedgerow				
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch				
Native hedgerow with trees				
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch				
Species-rich native hedgerow				
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch				
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees				
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch				
Habitat Description				
ukhab – UK Habitat Classification				
On-site or off-site, site name and location		Survey date and Surveyor name		
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference		
Condition Assessment Details				
A series of ten attributes, representing key physical characteristics are used for this assessment. Each attribute is assigned to one of five functional groups (A – E) and the condition of a hedgerow is assessed according to the number of attributes from these functional groups which pass or fail the 'favourable condition' criteria.				
This assessment is based on the Hedgerow Survey Handbook ¹ and Favourable Conservation Status document ² . For further clarification please refer to the Hedgerow Survey Handbook.				
Best practice would be to record the species, age, spacing and other key information about all trees present along a hedgerow within the 'Habitat Description' box, as well as other key features of the hedgerow.				
Hedgerow favourable condition attributes				
Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D and E)	Criteria - the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition'	Criteria description	Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types				

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A1.	Height	>1.5 m average along length	The average height of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of the shoots, excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees. Newly laid or coppiced hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice). A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is >1.5 m height).		
A2.	Width	>1.5 m average along length	The average width of woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees. Outgrowths (such as blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i> suckers) are only included in the width estimate when they are >0.5 m in height. Laid, coppiced, cut and newly planted hedgerows are indicative of good management and pass this criterion for up to a maximum of four years (if undertaken according to good practice).		
B1.	Gap - hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	This is the vertical 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth. Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the Hedgerow Survey Handbook).		
B2.	Gap - hedge canopy continuity	Gaps make up <10% of total length; and No canopy gaps >5 m	This is the horizontal 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow. Gaps are complete breaks in the woody canopy (no matter how small). Access points and gates contribute to the overall 'gappiness' but are not subject to the >5 m criterion (as this is the typical size of a gate).		

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C1.	Undisturbed ground and perennial vegetation	>1 m width of undisturbed ground with perennial herbaceous vegetation for >90% of length: · Measured from outer edge of hedgerow; and · Is present on one side of the hedgerow (at least).	This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedgerow. Undisturbed ground is present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1 m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedgerow. This criterion recognises the value of the hedgerow base as a boundary habitat with the capacity to support a wide range of species. Cultivation, heavily trodden footpaths, poached ground etc. can limit available habitat niches.		
C2.	Nutrient-enriched perennial vegetation	Plant species indicative of nutrient enrichment of soils dominate <20% cover of the area of undisturbed ground.	The indicator species used are nettles <i>Urtica</i> spp., cleavers <i>Galium aparine</i> and docks <i>Rumex</i> spp. Their presence, either singly or together, does not exceed the 20% cover threshold.		
D1.	Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native plant species (including those listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ³) and recently introduced species.	Recently introduced species refer to plants that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives. For information on archaeophytes and neophytes see the JNCC website ⁴ , as well as the BSBI website ⁵ where the 'Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora' ⁶ contains an up-to-date list of the status of species. For information on invasive non-native species see the GB Non-Native Secretariat website ⁷ .		
D2.	Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities.	This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes. This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (for example, excessive hedgerow cutting).		
Additional group - applicable to hedgerows with trees only					
E1.	Tree class	There is more than one age-class (or morphology) of tree present (for example: young, mature, veteran and or ancient ⁸), and there is on average at least one mature, ancient or veteran tree present per 20 - 50m of hedgerow.	This criterion addresses if there are a range of age-classes or morphologies which allow for replacement of trees and provide opportunities for different species.		

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E2.	Tree health	At least 95% of hedgerow trees are in a healthy condition (excluding veteran features valuable for wildlife). There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by damage from livestock or wild animals, pests or diseases, or human activity.	This criterion identifies if the trees are subject to damage which compromises the survival and health of the individual specimens.		
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The hedgerow condition assessment generates a weighting (score) ranging from 1 - 3, which is used within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The scores for each are set out in the tables below.

the tables below

Condition categories for hedgerows without trees		
Category	Category Requirements	Metric Score
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3
Moderate	No more than 4 failures in total; AND <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and C2 = Moderate condition).	2
Poor	Fails a total of more than 4 attributes; OR <u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1
Score achieved:		

Condition categories for hedgerows with trees		
Category	Category Requirements	Metric score
Good	No more than 2 failures in total; AND No more than 1 failure in any functional group.	3

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Moderate	No more than 5 failures in total; AND <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1, C2 and E1 = Moderate condition).	2	
Poor	Fails a total of more than 5 attributes; OR <u>Fails both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (for example, fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1	
Score achieved:			
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – DEFRA (2007) <i>Hedgerow Survey Handbook. A standard procedure for local surveys in the UK.</i> [online] Available on: layout (hedgelink.org.uk)			
Footnote 2 – STALEY, J.T. ET AL. (2020) <i>Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows.</i> [online] Available on: Definition of Favourable Conservation Status for Hedgerows - RP2943 (naturalengland.org.uk)			
Footnote 3 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			
Footnote 4 – CHEFFINGS, C. M. et al. (2005) <i>The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain.</i> Species Status 7: 1-116. [online] Available on: The Vascular Plant Red Data List for Great Britain (Species Status No. 7) JNCC Resource Hub			
Footnote 5 – BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND (BSBI). <i>Definitions: wild, native or alien?</i> [online] Available on: Definitions: wild, native or alien? – Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland (bsbi.org)			
Footnote 6 – BSBI and Biological Records Centre (BRC) (2022) <i>Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora.</i> [online] Available on: Acknowledgements Online Atlas of the British and Irish Flora (brc.ac.uk)			
Footnote 7 – GB NON-NATIVE SPECIES SECRETARIAT (GBNNS) (2022) Available on: Home » NNSS (nonnativespecies.org)			
Footnote 8 – See gov.uk standing advice on ancient and veteran trees. Available from: Keepers of time: ancient and native woodland and trees policy in England (publishing.service.gov.uk)			
and Ancient woodland, ancient trees and veteran trees: advice for making planning decisions - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)			

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