Brooks Ecological
An Origin Enterprises Company

Dum Wood, Chidswell

Baseline Woodland Survey to inform Woodland Management Plan

17/07/2026

Report Ref. ER-9043-01D

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Report reference	**ER-6441-01D – Woodland Survey**
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Date	17/07/2026
Report duration	In accordance with CIEEM (2019), unless otherwise stated the findings of this report remain valid for a period of 18 months. After this period advice should be sought on the scope of any updating work required.

smas WORKSAFE

CIEEM REGISTERED

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Introduction

1. Brooks Ecological Ltd was commissioned by the CC Projects to carry out a baseline assessment of Dum Wood (sometimes referred to as Dunn Wood), situated adjacent to the proposed Hey Beck Lane development Site (red line)

2. As part of the Hey Beck Lane application, all land within the red, blue and black line boundaries have been surveyed. However, this document refers only to Dum Wood, delineated by the black line boundary

Purpose of the Survey

3. Information collected during the survey will be used to support the Ancient Woodland Protection Plan (AWPP) - to include measures to protect Dum Wood during construction, and the Ancient Woodland Management Plan (AWMP) - to include measures to;

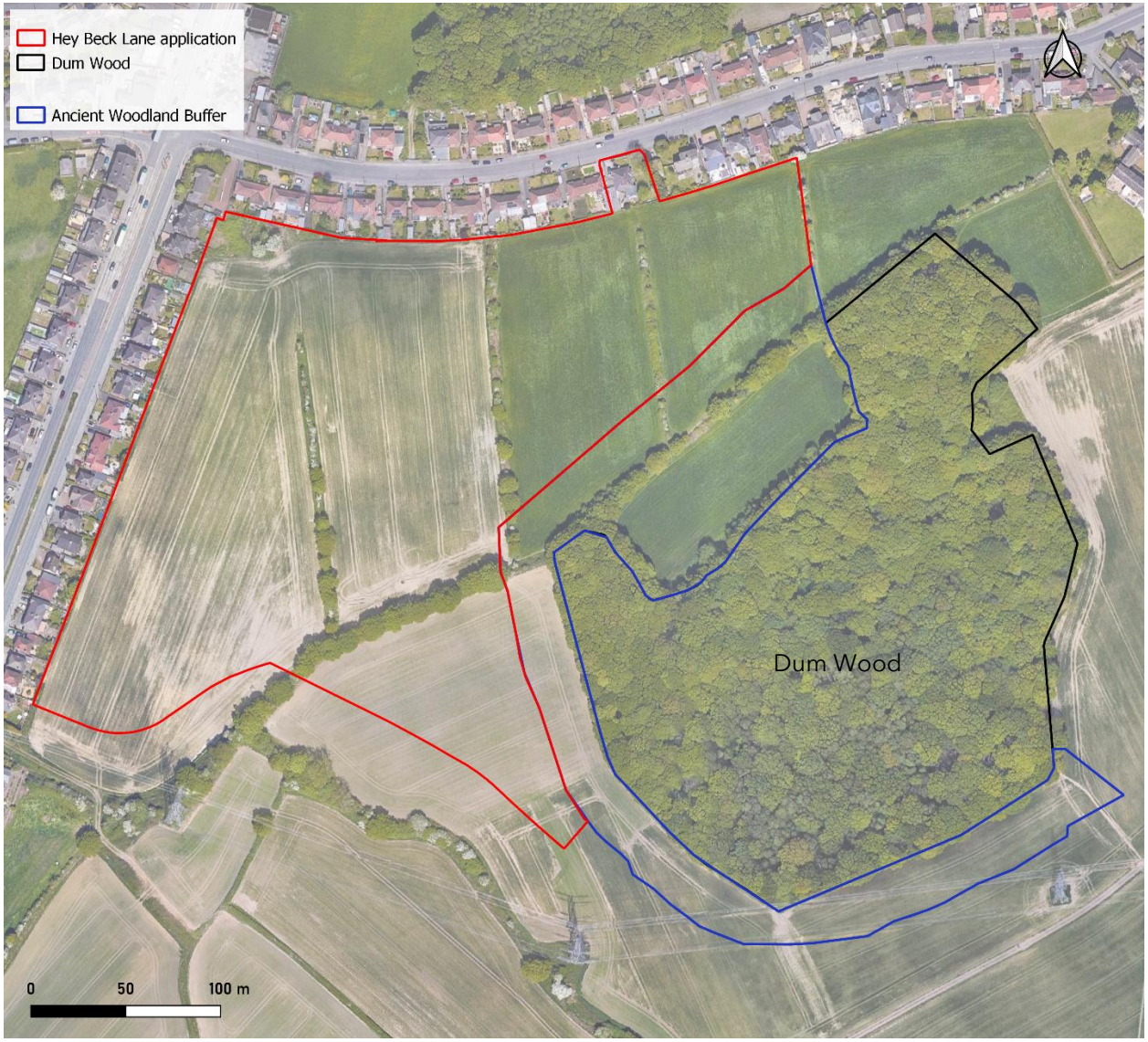
   (i) ensure no significant adverse effects arise because of increased recreational pressure on the woodland; and,

   (ii) enhance the structure and biodiversity value of Dum Wood.

Survey Details

4. An initial walkover survey was completed on the 25th April 2023, and updated in April 2026, by Christopher Shaw BSc (Hons), CEcol, MCIEEM.

Figure 1 Hey Beck Lane site (red line boundary) and extent of Dum Wood (black line boundary).



Desk Study

5. Information on any Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland and Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site (PAWS) in the locality has been gathered using the Multi-Agency Geographical Information Centre website (MAGiC) and the Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI).
6. This provides useful context of other ancient woodlands in the local area.

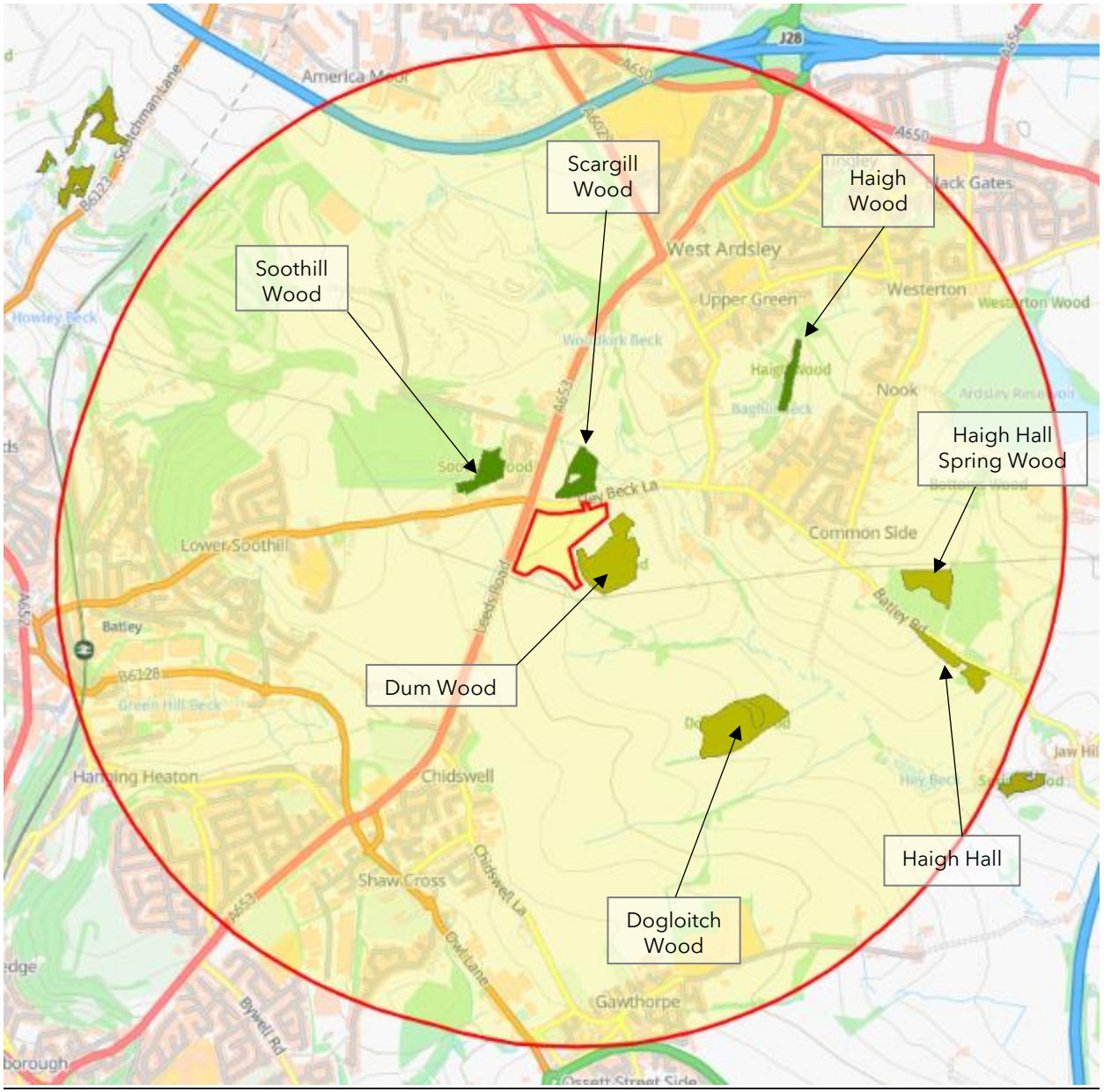
<u>Ancient & Semi Natural Woodland (ASNW)</u>

7. This is defined as any area that's been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD.
8. There are three Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodlands (shown as dark green on the figure opposite) within a 2km radius of the Hey Beck Lane proposed development site (shown edged red). These are known as:
    - Scargill Wood
    - Soothill Wood
    - Haigh Wood

<u>PAWS / Ancient Replanted Woodland</u>

9. As with ASNW, these are defined as any area that's been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD, but as some point the canopy/ understorey layer has been removed and replanted.
10. There are four PAWS / Ancient Replanted Woodlands (shown as light green on the figure opposite) within a 2km radius of the Hey Beck Lane site known as:
    - Dum Wood
    - Dogloitch Wood
    - Haigh Hall Spring Wood
    - Haigh Hall

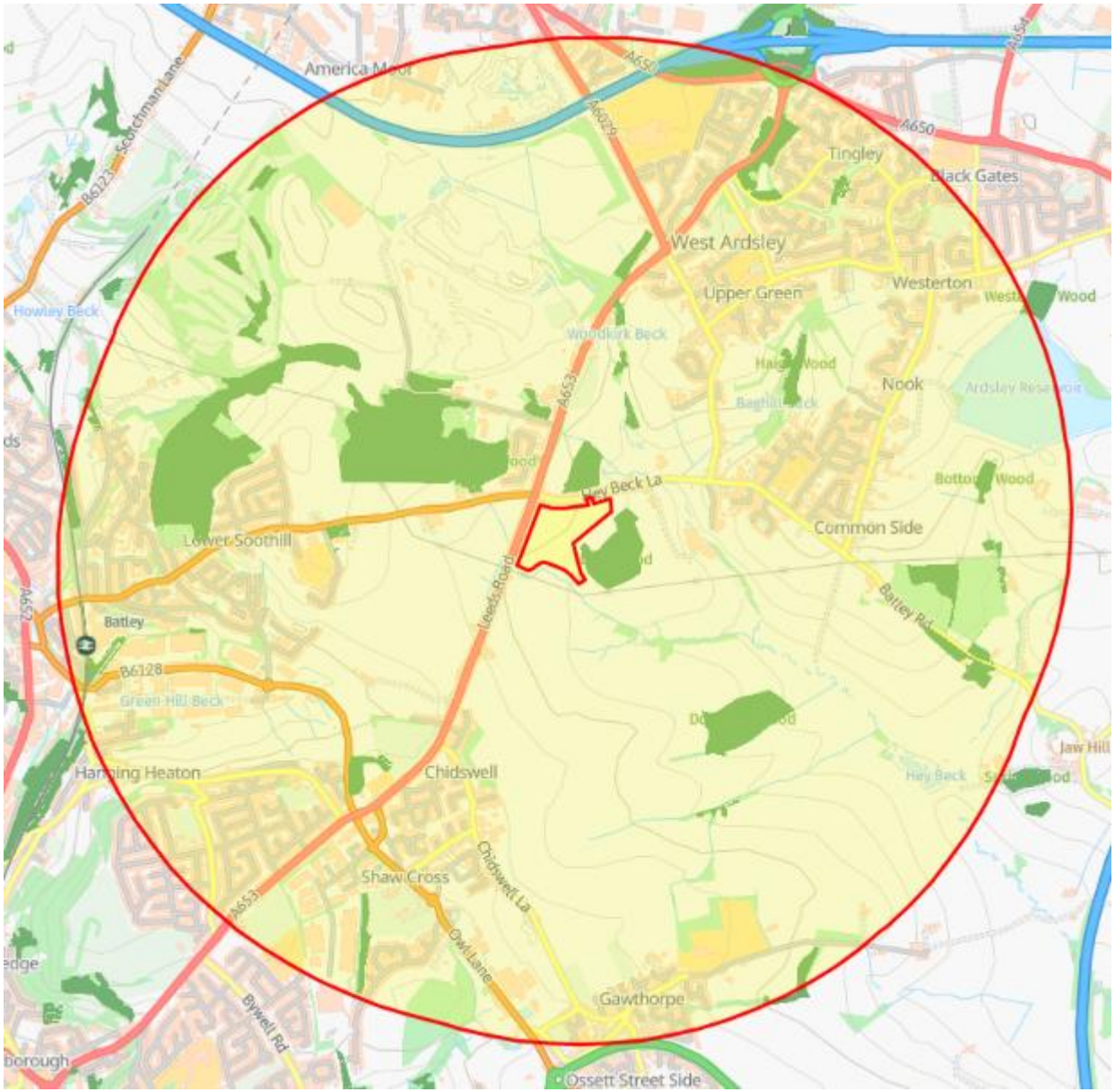
Figure 2 Ancient Woodland within a 2km radius of Hey Beck Lane (taken from MAGiC)



Priority Habitat Inventory

11. The plan opposite shows the distribution of Priority Woodland Habitat (Deciduous Woodland), within a 2km radius of Hey Beck Lane.
12. This encompasses all of the Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland and PAWS previously described, but also includes several other broadleaved woodlands in the locality.

Figure 3 Priority Woodland within a 2km radius of Hey Beck Lane (taken from MAGiC)



Designated Sites

13. Information on Statutory designated sites has been gathered using the Multi-Agency Geographical Information Centre website (MAGiC).

14. Information on Non-statutory designated Sites has been provided by West Yorkshire Ecology Data Search (Feb. 2026).

Statutory designation

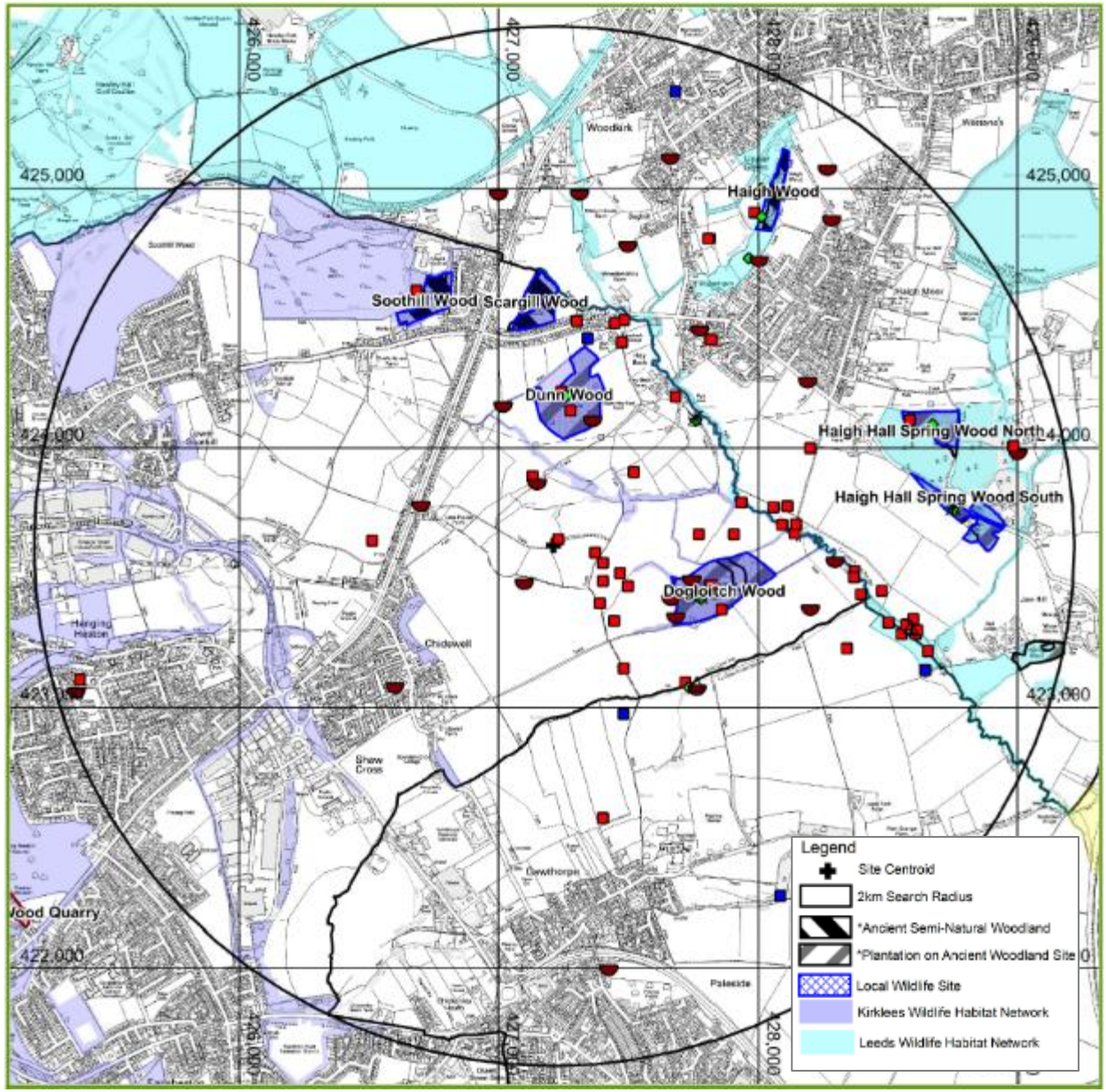
15. None of the woodlands within a 2km radius of Hey Beck Lane are designated as Local Nature Reserves (LNR), National Nature Reserves (NNR), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Areas (SPA).

Non-statutory designation

16. There are seven Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) within a 2km radius of Hey Beck Lane. All of these correspond with the Ancient & Semi-natural Woodlands and PAWS:

- Scargill Wood
- Soothill Wood
- Haigh Wood
- Dum Wood
- Dogloitch Wood
- Haigh Hall Spring Wood
- Haigh Hall

Figure 4 Local Wildlife Sites within a 2km radius of Hey Beck Lane (taken from WYE data search)



Dum Wood LWS citation

17. The following information is taken from the citation sheet for Dum Wood, provided as part of the West Yorkshire Ecology (WYE) data search.

Date of Survey: 07/07/2013

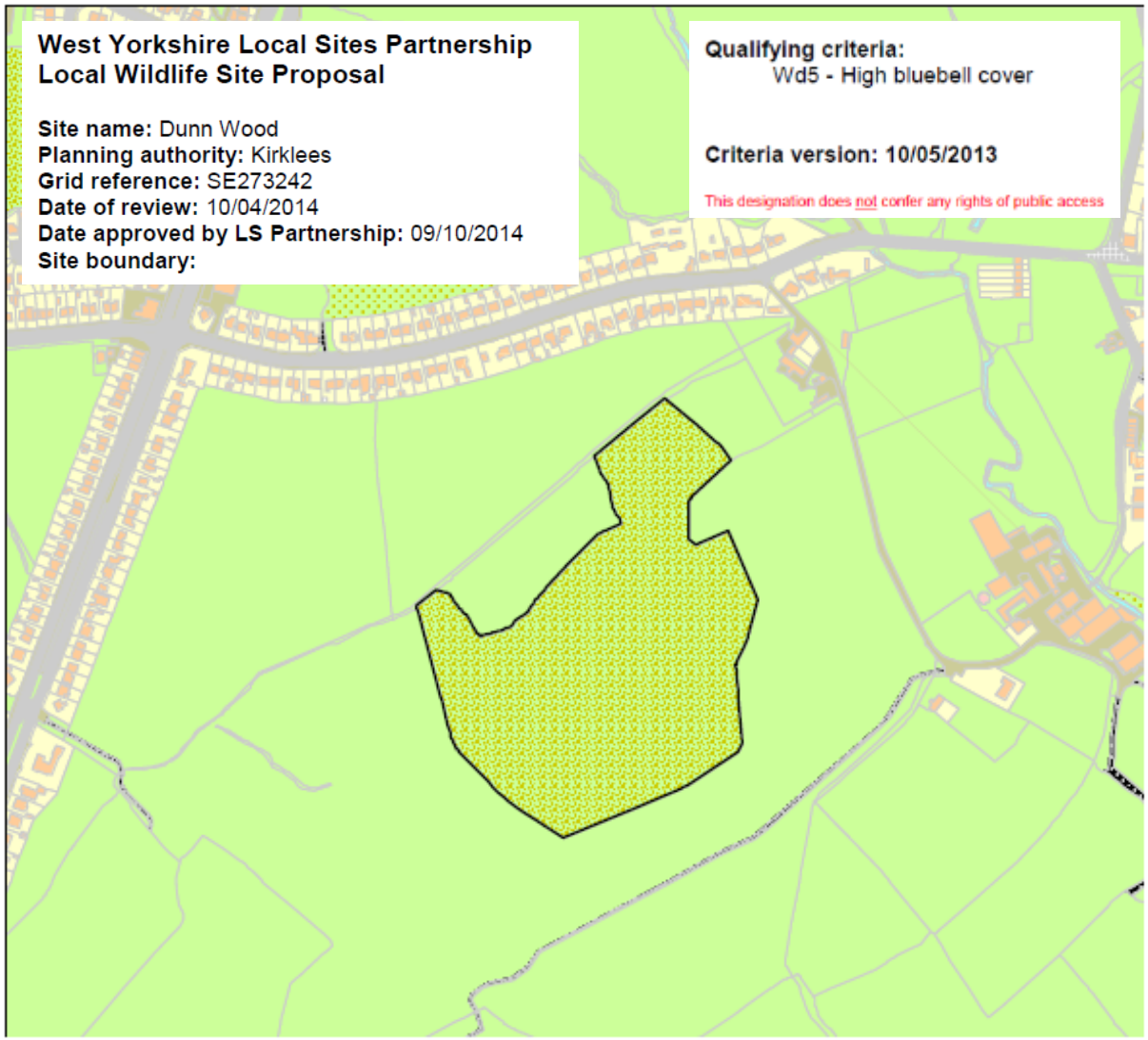
Site Description: Dunn Wood is an area of ancient replanted woodland about 1km south of Tingley. It is surrounded by cereal crop fields and improved grassland. A stone wall encircles the site.

The woodland is of the W10a classification and is host to species including: frequent Quercus x rosacea, Q. robur and Betula pubescens in the canopy, with occasional Ilex aquifolium and Sorbus aucuparia in the shrub layer, and frequent Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Rubus fruticosus and Pteridium aquilinum in the ground flora.

Fauna recorded during the site visit were: garden warbler (singing male), blackbird (singing male), wren (singing male), wood pigeon (singing male) and magpie (calling).

Ecological Evaluation: The site meets Criteria Wd5 as it contains a good cover of bluebell – about 15% of the ground floor of the woodland at a 40% or more DOMIN density.

Figure 5 Dum Wood Citation plan (taken from WYE data search)



Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network (KWHN)

18. The Kirklees Local Plan has the following text: *'West Yorkshire Ecology have identified the KWHN which connects designated sites of biodiversity and geological importance and notable habitat links within the district, such as woodlands, watercourses, natural and semi-natural areas. The identification of the WHN is intended to protect and strengthen ecological links within the district. The purpose of the network is to enable species populations to be sustained by protecting and enhancing the ecological corridors and linkages within the wider environment, including links to adjoining districts. Development within the WHN will not necessarily be prevented but the council will seek to ensure that development proposals maintain the integrity and continuity of the network and protect the nature conservation value of the land affected. The WHN forms the basis for increasing the robustness and inter-connectivity of ecological corridors. Development proposals within and adjacent to the WHN should be considered as opportunities to enhance and expand its functionality '*

19. Dum Wood along with all other Ancient and PAWS woodlands within the Kirklees Local Authority boundary are mapped under the KWHN. This network also encompasses some mature tree lines and watercourses.

20. This plan opposite shows the KWHN and illustrates of current wildlife connectivity between Dum Wood and the surrounding area.

Geology

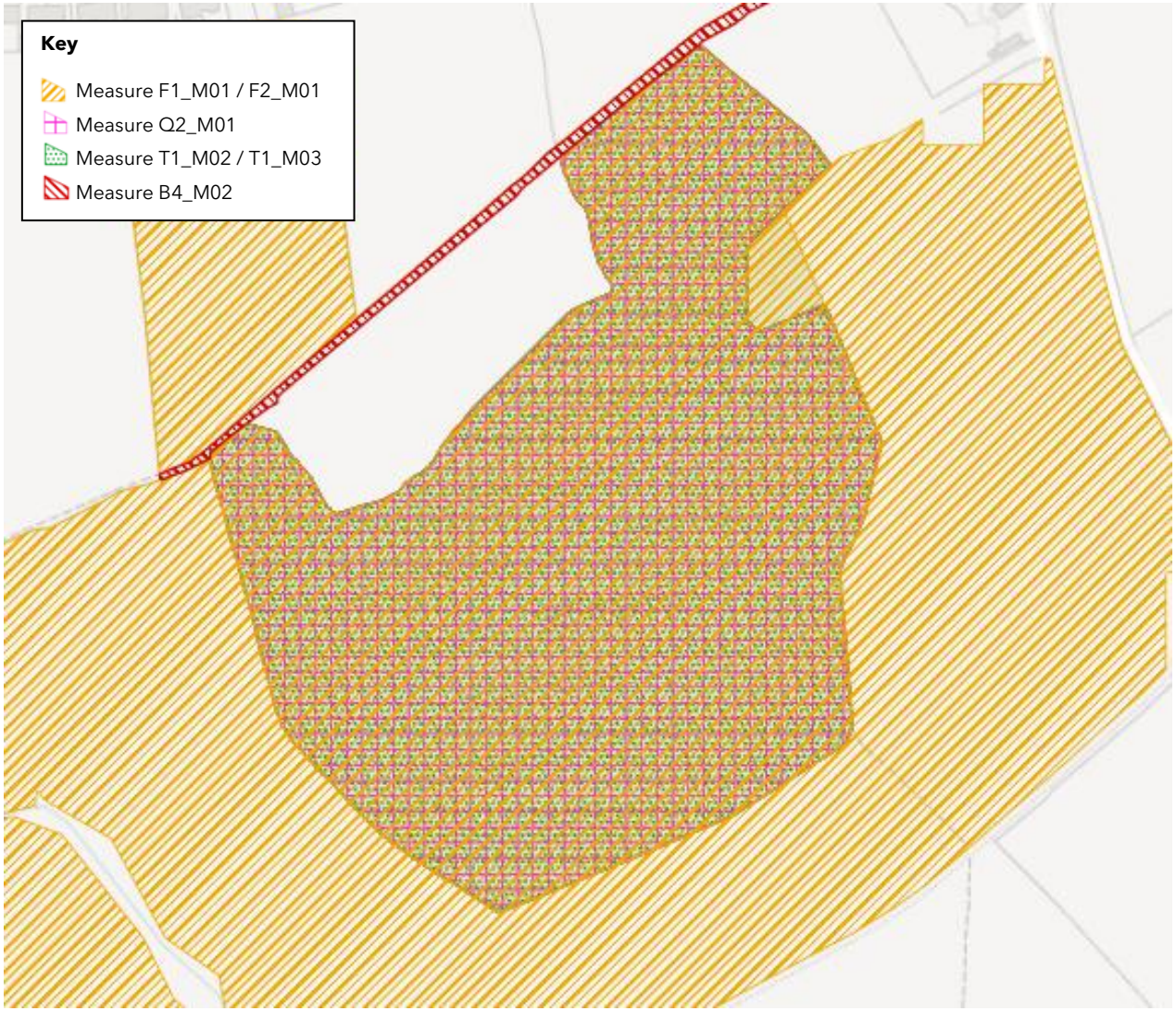
21. Both the Hey Beck Lane application site and Dum Wood sit over a bedrock geology of Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation (Mudstone, siltstone and sandstone). This could be expected to give rise to neutral to slightly acid soil conditions.

Figure 6 Kirklees Wildlife Habitat Network

Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRC)

22. The West Yorkshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) aims to restore biodiversity, connect habitats, and enhance environmental benefits across the region through targeted actions and community engagement.
23. The West Yorkshire LNRS: Local Habitat Map shows that Dum Wood is covered by four 'mapped measures', these being:
    - Measure F1_M01
    - Measure Q2_M01
    - Measure T1_M02
    - Measure T1_M03
24. Parts of the Ancient Woodland Buffer are covered by two 'mapped measures', these being:
    - Measure F2_M01
    - Measure B4_M02

Figure 7 Local Nature Recovery Strategy



Ancient Replanted Woodland

25. The following measures cover Dum Wood LWS.

Measure F1_M01: Expand and enhance existing mapped priority habitats or create new wetlands on farms and land, supporting biodiversity, water management, and climate resilience. for example, a crop irrigation reservoir, with marginal wetland planting and a dividing dam, will ensure that some water can always be retained in the wetland.

Measure Q2_M01: Significantly enhance the quality of the habitats in existing Local Wildlife Sites, supported by ongoing monitoring and maintenance.

Measure T1_M02: Significantly improve the biodiversity and structure within established ancient woodlands and of ancient/veteran trees, and the biodiversity of the habitats that already connect them. Undertake much more detailed surveys, including of invertebrates and fungi, as well as structure.

Measure T1_M03: Work with landowners to restore biodiversity in plantations on ancient woodland sites (PAWS) by gradually replacing non-native species with locally appropriate native trees. Where possible, use UK and Ireland Sourced and Grown (UKISG) stock. All restoration work should be in line with the UK Forestry Standard and forthcoming guidance about this habitat.

Ancient Woodland Buffer

26. The measures below cover parts of the Ancient Woodland Buffer.

Measure F2_M01: Create transitional areas where different habitats (grasslands and woodlands, for example) meet and that species from both ecological communities can use, as they have particularly high biodiversity. Extend existing transitional areas, shrubby hedges and edges in buffer areas such as around woods, wetlands and other strategic locations such as around playing fields.

Measure B4_M02: Significantly boost biodiversity wherever possible where there are existing habitats alongside transport infrastructure.

Ancient / Veteran Trees

27. A search of the Woodland Trust's Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) has been completed for the Hey Beck Lane Site and Dum Wood.
28. No ancient, veteran or notable trees are present within the Hey Beck Lane application site.
29. No ancient trees are present within Dum Wood.
30. Two veteran trees and two notable trees are present within Dum Wood; see figure opposite.

Figure 8 Ancient, veteran and notable trees on the AWI

Tree Preservation Orders (TPO's)

31. A plan showing the approximate location of trees with TPO's is presented in the figure opposite.
32. A total of 13 trees within the Hey Beck Lane Site are covered by TPO's, with a further 12 TPO trees within close proximity of the southern boundary.
33. The entirety of Dum Wood is also covered by a TPO.
34. The table below cross references the tree numbering presented in Brooks Ecologicals Arboricultural report and the councils TPO register.

Table 1 TPO numbers cross referenced with tree numbers.

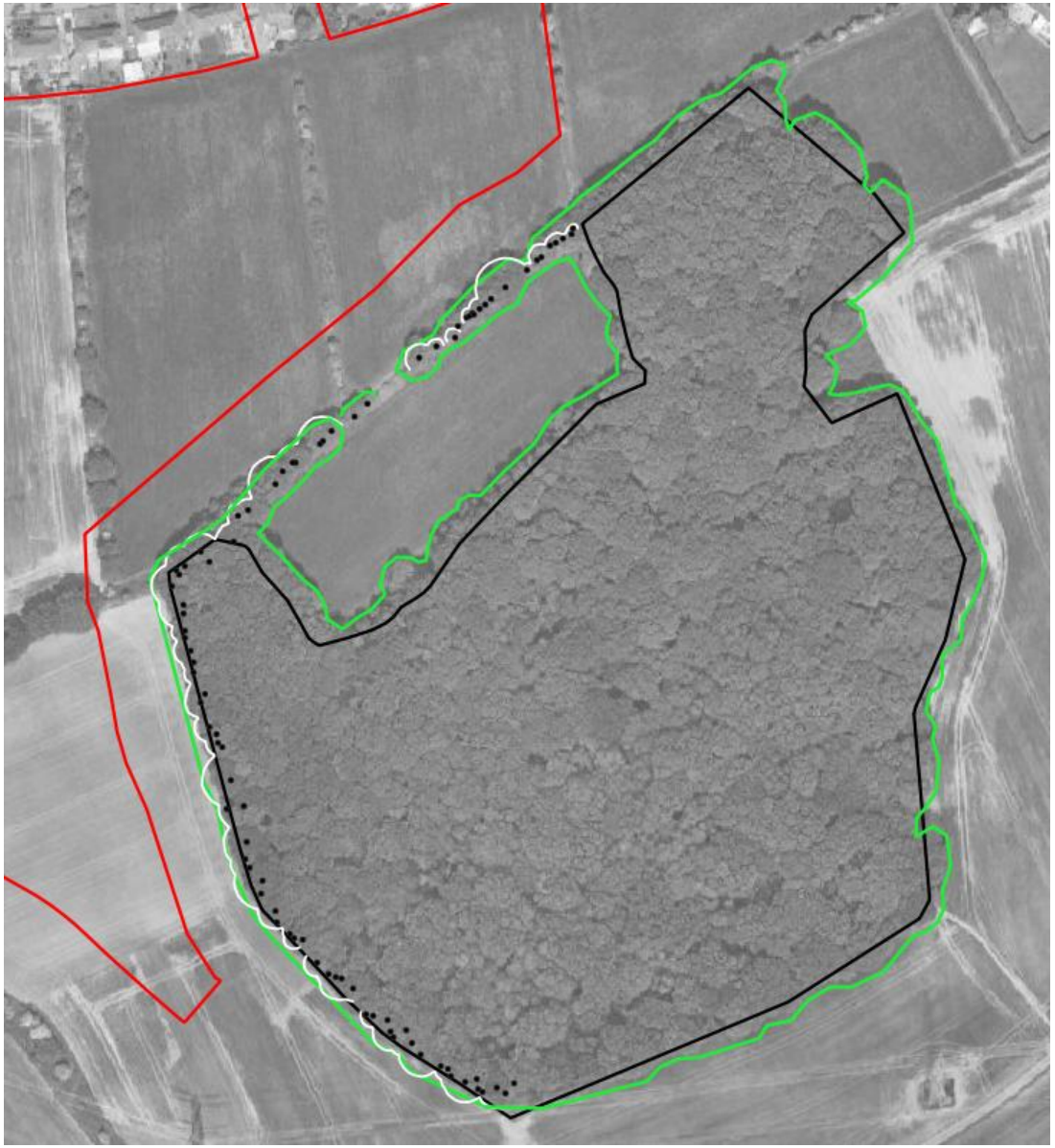
TPO numbers	Brook tree numbers
T1	Within G9
T2	Within G10
T4	T13
T5	T16
T6	T17
T7	T18
T9	T23
T10	T24
T11	T25
T12	T27
T13	T31
G1	T20, G12, T21
G8	T40, T41, T42, T43, T44, T45 & G15
-	W2 (Dum Wood)

Figure 9 Plan showing the location of TPO's within and adjacent to Hey Beck Lane. Numbering as per the TPO plan. All areas shaded green are covered by a TPO.

Woodland edge

35. An Arboricultural survey, encompassing all trees along the woodland edge fronting the Hey Beck Lane application, was undertaken in April 2026.
36. Survey was completed by Principal Arboricultural Consultant Victoria Black, Fdsc Arb.
37. Survey was completed in tandem with a topographical survey which plotted the trunks of all woodland edge trees fronting the proposed development.
38. The survey accurately mapped the canopy spread and root protection area of the woodland edge; the results of which are shown in the figure opposite.
39. No ancient or veteran trees were recorded along the woodland edge.
40. As can be seen in the figure opposite, the canopy and RPA of Dum Wood does not extend beyond the 20m ancient woodland buffer.

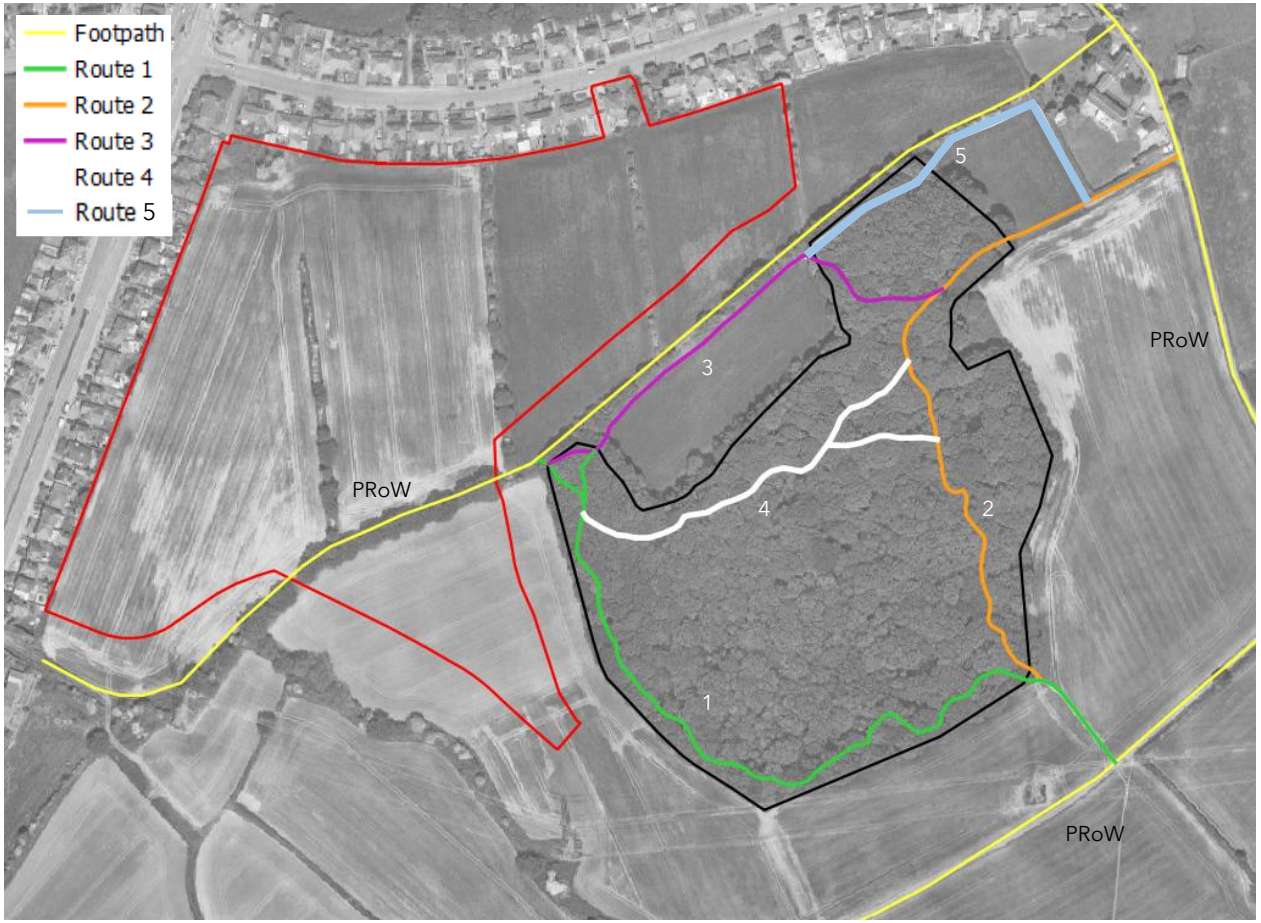
Figure 10 Plan showing the boundary of Dum Wood (Black line), woodland edge trees (black dots), tree canopy (green line) and root protection area (white line) in relation to the application site boundary (red line).



Access

41. The plan shown opposite illustrates public access to Dum Wood.
42. A Public Right of Way (PRoW) (public footpath) runs to the north of Dum Wood.
43. Dum Wood is a privately owned woodland with no public access rights. The wood is currently accessed informally by local residents, and apparent routes are denoted with various coloured lines (GPS logged).

Figure 11 Dum Wood access plan.



Habitat Baseline

44. Dum Wood encompasses a block of mature oak woodland, enclosed on all sides by intensive arable farmland. Ploughing extends right up to the base of the woodland edge, with no discernible buffer between the woodland and farmland.

45. Referencing the UK Habitat Classification system the woodland would most readily conform with the 'Lowland mixed deciduous woodland' habitat type.

46. The canopy is dominated by English oak (c. 90% cover), which is of uniform age class, with replanting likely to have occurred on a single event within the last 100 years.

47. Silver birch, sycamore and wild cherry are also noted within the canopy layer, with these likely to have arisen naturally, after planting. Deadwood, both standing and fallen, is well represented within the woodland.

48. The understorey is generally sparse, and comprises of rowan, holly, hawthorn, field rose, elder and raspberry. All of these species are noted along the woodland edge, most likely planted historically as a hedgerow around the woodland, with seed from this having populated the woodland understorey. Towards the southeastern edge, holly becomes frequent to locally abundant, casting high levels of shade.

49. The ground layer fluctuates between abundant to locally dominant pockets of bramble, creeping soft grass and bluebell, with bare unvegetated leaf litter in between. Bracken is frequent throughout and becomes a dominant feature during summer, once it has fully opened and vernal species have died back. Other species noted include ivy and male fern. In areas dominated by bramble, honeysuckle is also noted, along with cleavers, common nettle, lesser celandine and foxglove. Areas to the northeast and northwest, adjacent to entrance points, have a high cover of bramble, and low cover of bluebell. It is likely that these areas are subject to increased nutrient enrichment from dog fouling., which has promoted the growth of competitive species.

<u>Future baseline</u>

50. Historically, woodlands such as Dum Wood would have been subject to regular management, with canopy trees occasionally felled for timber and understorey species coppiced on rotation. This management would have emulated natural disturbance from large herbivores (wild boar, bison, beaver, elk); this would have had a beneficial effect on the woodland ground layer, creating temporary clearings, opening up the understorey and bringing light into the ground layer.

51. At present, there is no active management of Dum Wood and little in the way of natural disturbance / processes. As a result, the canopy is dense and closed, and the understorey becoming increasingly dominated by holly and bramble scrub, with dense bracken dominating across the summer. Overtime, scrub will continue to spread and mature, reducing the levels of light reaching the woodland floor and suppressing ground flora species such as bluebell. In time, with no intervention, woodland ground layer species like bluebell could be expected to reduce in extent and eventually be lost from Dum Wood altogether.

Figure 12 UK Habitat Classification assessment of Dum Wood

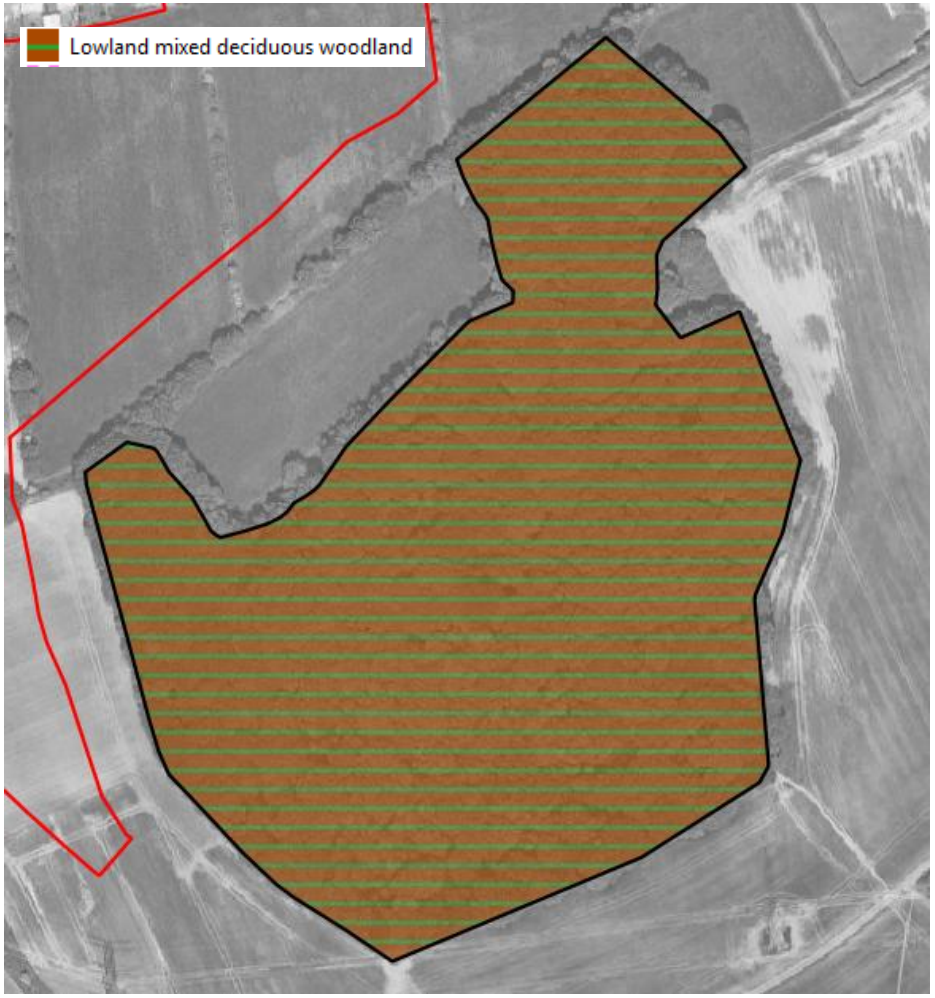


Figure 13 Woodland edge

Figure 14 Ground layer bluebell dominant

Figure 15 Soft grass/ bluebell understory.

Figure 16 Ground layer bramble dominant

Figure 17 Understorey holly dominant

Figure 18 Typical canopy layer

Ancient Woodland Indicators

52. Ancient woodland indicators (AWI's) are generally slow spreading vascular plants, including flowering plants, ferns, and some trees / shrubs, which are strongly associated with long-established woodlands. The list of AWI's varies across the country and even between counties and is influenced by the underlying geology and hydrology. Table 2 overleaf lists the AWI's for the North of England (Region column) as described by the Field Studies Council (FSC) and Locally as described by Barnsley Council[1] within their Biodiversity Action Plan.

Dum Wood

53. Only a single ancient woodland indicator (AWI) species is present within the ground layer; this being native bluebell.
54. The extent of bluebell cover within Dum Wood was surveyed and mapped by Brooks Ecological in May 2026.
55. The DAFOR scale[2] has been used to categorise relative cover of AWIs (native bluebell) within Dum Wood. This is shown on the figure opposite.
    - Dominant (D): > 75% cover,
    - Abundant (A): 51 - 75% cover,
    - Frequent (F): 26 - 50% cover,
    - Occasional (O): 11 - 25% cover,
    - Rare (R): 1 - 10% cover.
56. As can be seen in the figure opposite, bluebell cover is not constant across the woodland, with only a few relatively small areas where bluebell cover is dominant or abundant.
57. For much of the woodland, bluebell cover is only frequent to occasional, or rare. As such, there are significant opportunities to increase bluebell cover across Dum Wood and introduce other ancient woodland indicator species.
58. Photographs taken of Dum Wood during the April 2026 baseline survey are provided overleaf.

Figure 19 Approximate cover of AWI's (native bluebell) as mapped by Brooks Ecological

[1] As far as the Author can discern, a list of AWI's has not been produced for Kirklees, Wakefield or West Yorkshire, and thus Barnsley is considered the closest local authority to the site with a list of AWI.

[2] The DAFOR scale is a semi-quantitative method used by ecologists to quickly estimate the relative abundance or percentage cover of species, most commonly plants, within a habitat.

Figure 20 Woodland edge

Figure 21 Ground layer bluebell dominant

Figure 22 Soft grass/ bluebell understory.

Figure 23 Ground layer bramble dominant

Figure 24 Understorey holly dominant

Figure 25 Typical canopy layer

Other Local Woodlands

59. To inform future enhancement / management works within Dum Wood, and to provide context on local woodland ground flora assemblages, a walkover survey was completed in April 2026. This survey looked at the ground flora within each woodland, and specifically at the diversity and abundance of AWI's.

Table 1 Summary description of woodland ground flora. Ancient woodland indicators are underlined.

Status	Ancient Semi-Natural			Ancient Replanted / PAWS		
Name	Scargill Wood	Soothill Wood	Haigh Wood	Dogloitch Wood	Haigh Hall Spring Wood	Haigh Hall Wood
Ground layer species list	Bluebell Ramsons Bramble Bracken Himalayan Balsam	Bluebell Sweet Woodruff Honeysuckle Bramble Wood Avens Soft Rush Bracken Pendulous Sedge Rosebay Willowherb	Bluebell Dogs Mercury Foxglove Creeping soft grass Wood avens Male fern Lesser celandine Common Bistort Common Hogweed Himalayan balsam Wood horsetail Ivy	Bluebell Bramble Creeping soft grass Bracken Fox glove Remote sedge Male fern Wood avens Common nettle Perennial ryegrass Hedge Bindweed Cleavers Cow parsley Common hogweed Broadleaved dock Herb Roberts	Bluebell Bramble Male fern Bracken Soft Rush	Bluebell Yellow Archangel Wood Anemone Dog's Mercury Lords & Ladies Bramble Herb Roberts Garlic Mustard Ivy
No of ancient woodland indicators present within woodland.	2	4	3	2	1	4

Table 2 List of Ancient Woodland Indicators. Region is based on north of England list generated by the FSC and Local from Barnsley action plan.

Species	Region	Local
Alternative leaved Golden Saxifrage	X	-
Barren Strawberry	X	X
Bilberry	X	X
Bird Nest's Orchid	X	-
Bluebell	X	X
Broad leaved helleborine	X	X
Bugle	X	X
Bush vetch	X	X
Climbing Corydalis	X	X
Columbine	X	-
Common Cow-wheat	X	X
Common Figwort	-	X
Creeping ladies-tresses	X	-
Dog's Mercury	X	X
Early Dog-violet	X	X
Early Purple Orchid	X	X
Giant bellflower	X	-
Goldilocks Buttercup	X	-
Greater Butterfly Orchid	X	-
Greater Stitchwort	-	X
Green Hellebore	X	-
Hairy St. John's Wort	-	X
Herb-Paris	X	-
Lilly of the valley	X	-
Moschatel	X	X
Opposite leaved Golden Saxifrage	X	X
Perforated St. John's Wort	-	X
Pignut	-	X

Species	Region	Local
Primrose	X	X
Ransoms	X	X
Sanicle	X	X
Slender St. Johns-wort	X	X
Square stemmed St. John's Wort	-	X
Sweet Woodruff	-	X
Toothwort	X	X
Trailing St. John's Wort	-	X
Water avens	X	X
Wild Strawberry	-	X
Wood Anemone	X	X
Wood Forget me not	-	X
Wood Speedwell	X	X
Wood vetch	X	-
Wood-sorrel	X	X
Yellow Archangel	X	X
Yellow Pimpernel	X	X

Species	Region	Local
Bearded Couch	X	-
Beech Fern	X	-
Giant fescue	X	-
Great Wood-rush	X	X
Hairy brome	X	-
Hairy Wood-rush	X	X
Hard fern	X	-
Hard Shield-fern	X	-
Harts-tongue Fern	X	-
Lemon-scented Fern	X	-
Mountain Melick	X	-
Narrow Buckler Fern	X	-
Oak fern	X	-
Pale sedge	X	X
Pendulous sedge	X	X
Polypody Fern	X	-
Remote sedge	X	X
Scaly Male Fern	X	-
Smooth stacked sedge	X	-
Soft Shield-fern	X	-
Thin spiked wood sedge	X	-
Wood Barley	X	X
Wood fescue	X	-
Wood horsetail	X	X
Wood Meadow-grass	X	-
Wood Melick	X	X
Wood Millet	X	X
Wood sedge	X	X

Field Maple	Region	Local
Wood stitchwort	X	-
Wood-club rush	X	-

Field Maple	Region	Local
Crab apple	-	X
Guelder rose	X	X
Holly	-	X
Redcurrent	X	-
Small leaved lime	X	X
Spindle	X	-
Wild Cherry	-	X
Wild service tree	X	-

Condition Assessment

60. An assessment of the condition of Dum Wood was completed using the Technical Annex 1 – Condition Assessment Sheet (DEFRA template); a summary is provided below. This will help inform future management of Dum Wood.

Table 3 Condition Sheet: Woodland Habitat Type. Completed for Dum Wood.

Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
A	**Age distribution of trees**	Three age-classes[1] present.	Two age-classes[1] present.	One age-class[1] present.	2	Only two age classes; Young (0-20) and Intermediate (21-150).
B	**Wild, domestic and feral herbivore damage**	No significant browsing damage evident in woodland[2].	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or less of whole woodland[2].	Evidence of significant browsing pressure is present in 40% or more of whole woodland[2].	2	Some evidence of deer grazing through paucity of understorey/ canopy regeneration.
C	**Invasive plant species**	No invasive species[3] present in woodland.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel not present, other invasive species[3] <10% cover.	Rhododendron or cherry laurel present, or other invasive species[3] >10% cover.	3	No INNS present.
D	**Number of native tree species**	Five or more native tree or shrub species[4] found across woodland parcel.	Three to four native tree or shrub species[4] found across woodland parcel.	Two or less native tree or shrub species[4] across woodland parcel.	3	More than 5 native species, but oak dominant throughout.
E	**Cover of native tree and shrub species**	>80% of canopy trees and >80% of understory shrubs are native[5].	50 - 80% of canopy trees and 50 - 80% of understory shrubs are native[5].	<50% of canopy trees and <50% of understory shrubs are native[5].	3	Oak dominant
F	**Open space within woodland**	10 - 20% of woodland has areas of temporary open space[6]. Unless woodland is <10ha, in which case 0 - 20% temporary open space is permitted[7].	21 - 40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space[6].	<10% or >40% of woodland has areas of temporary open space[6]. But if woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space, please see Good category[7].	3	Woodland <10ha has <10% temporary open space
G	**Woodland regeneration**	All three classes present in woodland[8]; trees 4 - 7 cm Diameter at Breast Height (DBH), saplings and seedlings or advanced coppice regrowth.	One or two classes only present in woodland[8].	No classes or coppice regrowth present in woodland[8].	2	Little regeneration. Likely due to grazing by deer.
H	**Tree health**	Tree mortality less than 10%, no pests or diseases and no crown dieback[9].	11% to 25% mortality and/or crown dieback or low-risk pest or disease present[9].	Greater than 25% tree mortality and or any high-risk pest or disease present[9].	3	Tree mortality less than 10%
I	**Vegetation and ground flora**	Recognisable NVC plant community[10] at ground layer present, strongly characterised by ancient woodland flora specialists.	Recognisable woodland NVC plant community[10] at ground layer present.	No recognisable woodland NVC plant community[10] at ground layer present.	2	Bluebell, creeping soft grass, bramble and bracken dominant ground layer. Relatively sparse and species poor. Few ancient woodland indicators.
J	**Woodland vertical structure**	Three or more storeys across all survey plots or a complex woodland[11].	Two storeys across all survey plots[11].	One or less storey across all survey plots[11].	2	Canopy and understorey both uniform.

Indicator		Good (3 points)	Moderate (2 points)	Poor (1 point)	Score per indicator	Notes (such as justification)
K	**Veteran trees**	Two or more veteran trees[12] per hectare.	One veteran tree[12] per hectare.	No veteran trees[12] present in woodland.	2	Oak trees uniform age class. Only two veteran trees.
L	**Amount of deadwood**	50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, branch stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities[13].	Between 25% and 50% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities[13].	Less than 25% of all survey plots within the woodland parcel have deadwood, such as standing deadwood, large dead branches and or stems, stubs and stumps, or an abundance of small cavities[13].	3	More than 50% of woodland supports fallen deadwood. Other deadwood features could be increased.
M	**Woodland disturbance**	No nutrient enrichment or damaged ground evident[14].	Less than 1 hectare in total of nutrient enrichment across woodland area and or less than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground[14].	More than 1 hectare of nutrient enrichment and or more than 20% of woodland area has damaged ground[14].	2	Nutrient enrichment to northeast and north-west.

Condition Assessment Result	Condition Assessment Score	Result Achieved	
Total score >32 (33 to 39)	Good (3)	32 (Moderate)	N/A
Total score 26 to 32	Moderate (2)		
Total score <26 (13 to 25)	Poor (1)		

Faunal Baseline

General Fauna

61. A remote camera trap was deployed in the centre of Dum Wood on the 6th March 2026 and collected on the 21st May 2026. However, on the 5th – 24th April, the tree on which the camera trap was strapped fell over in strong winds, and thus no footage was recorded during this time. The camera was reinstated on the 25th April and recording continued.
62. A total of 854 video clips were logged over this period, with a total of 15 species (7 mammals & 8 birds) being recorded. A summary of the data collected is provided below.
63. Wood pigeon, Pheasant and Grey squirrel were by far the most recorded animals within Dum Wood, with all other species recorded at much lower frequency.

Table 4 Summary of camera trap footage

Group	*Spp.*	Total Sightings	Max. no. individuals
Mammals	Grey Squirrel	397	3
	Brown Hare	32	3
	Rabbit	9	2
	Roe Deer	8	1
	Brown Rat	7	1
	Domestic Dog	5	1
	Fox	3	1
	Domestic cat	1	1
Birds	Wood Pigeon	301	11
	Pheasant	68	2
	Blackbird	16	1
	Great tit	4	2
	Magpie	1	1
	Blue tit	1	1
	Robin	1	1
	Totals:	854	

Details on breeding bird assemblages within Dum Wood is summarised later in this document.

Mammals

Of the 8 mammal species recorded, three quarters (6) are non-native to the UK. Grey squirrel is also classified as invasive, with this species attributed to the significant decline of native red squirrels, and negative pressure on other native species and habitats. Control of this species is often recommended.

Of the two native species recorded, (Roe Deer & Fox) both are assessed by the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) as having a conservation status of 'Least Concern' in Great Britain (GB). This means the species is widespread, abundant, and currently at a low risk of extinction in the wild.

The European rabbit (non-native) is listed as Near Threatened on the IUCN Red List and in the UK Red List of Mammal Species because, while it is still widespread in introduced ranges like the UK, its native range in Spain, Portugal, and parts of North Africa has suffered severe declines due to a combination of human activity, disease, and habitat loss.

Although non-native, Brown Hare is listed as species of principle importance under the UK BAP. Its inclusion is not because the species is rare, but because it was once widespread and common, yet has declined sharply since WWII – estimated at ~75% loss in winter numbers.

Table 5 Status of mammal species recorded

Species	GB status	IUCN Red List category
Grey squirrel	Non-native	Not Assessed
Brown Hare	Non-native (Naturalised)	Least Concern
European Rabbit	Non-native (Naturalised)	Near Threatened
Roe Deer	Native	Least Concern
Brown rat	Non-native	Least Concern
Domestic Dog	Non-native	Not Assessed
Fox	Native	Least Concern
Domestic cat	Non-native	Not Assessed

Figure 26 Example camera trap footage; Grey squirrel, Roe deer, Brown Hare, Pheasant, Wood pigeon, Fox.

Breeding Birds

64. Breeding bird surveys were initially undertaken between April and June 2018, encompassing all land within the Hey Beck Lane application red line boundary, the Leeds Road application red line boundary and both ancient-replanted woodlands (Dum Wood & Dogloitch Wood).

65. Updating survey was completed in 2023 and 2026, so as to update the baseline information. Data collected in 2023 for Dum Wood are presented below, with 2026 data overleaf.

Data Collected in 2023

66. Six breeding bird survey visits were undertaken between March and July 2023 encompassing the Hey Beck Lane application site and Dum Wood; full results can be seen in Brooks report ref. ER-9043-04, Appended to this document.

67. The table opposite summarises the birds recorded within Dum Wood.

68. Across the six visits, 24 different species of bird were recorded in Dum Wood, many of which were considered likely to be breeding within or near to Dum Wood.

69. Species recorded included 1 red listed species (Starling) and 4 amber listed species (Wood pigeon, wren, stock dove and tawny owl). The rest were green listed species, with a single non-native unlisted species (pheasant).

Table 6 Breeding bird summary – 2023 data

Column1	Visit 1	Visit 2	Visit 3	Visit 4	Visit 5	Visit 6
Blue Tit	7	3	6	2	4	-
Robin	6	6	2	3	1	1
Blackbird	4	4	-	1	2	1
Pheasant	1	2	1	2	1	-
Starling	1	-	2	-	-	-
Wood Pigeon	6	5	1	-	-	-
Great tit	4	2	2	1	1	-
Long tailed tit	3	-	1	-	-	-
Wren	2	3	4	5	2	-
Jackdaw	1	1	5	2	1	-
Goldcrest	1	1	-	-	2	-
Chiffchaff	2	1	2	1	1	-
Carrion Crow	2	1	1	4	-	-
Blackcap	-	1	-	2	-	-
Tree creeper	-	2	-	2	1	-
Jay	-	1	2	-	1	-
Nuthatch	-	1	1	-	1	-
Magpie	-	2	-	-	-	-
Chaffinch	-	2	2	2	1	-
Great spotted woodpecker	-	1	-	-	-	-
Stock dove	-	-	1	-	2	-
Garden warbler	-	-	-	1	-	-
Coal Tit	-	-	-	-	1	-
Tawny Owl	-	-	-	-	-	1

Breeding Birds

70. Six breeding bird surveys have been undertaken at Dum Wood across March to June 2026, with 5 of these visits being at dawn and 1 (visit 5) at dusk.

2026 Data

71. 25 species have been recorded within or immediately adjacent to Dum Wood; see table opposite.

72. It is likely that all, apart from redpoll, are breeding within or very close to the woodland.

73. Redpoll is the only red-listed species recorded within the woodland, with a transitory flock of birds recorded along the southern edge during the third survey visit only.

74. Seven amber-listed species have been recorded, nesting in the mature trees (stock dove, woodpigeon, tawny owl) and scrub and lower growing plant cover (willow warbler, wren, song thrush and dunnock).

75. The majority of the birds recorded are green-listed species (15 in total), nesting throughout the woodland.

76. One non-native species, pheasant was also recorded.

Table 7 Breeding bird summary – 2026 data

Column1	Visit 1	Visit 2	Visit 3	Visit 4	Visit 5	Visit 6
Redpoll	-	-	16	-	-	-
Stove dove	2	2	-	-	-	-
Wood Pigeon	6	12	9	6	7	-
Tawny Owl	-	-	-	-	1	-
Willow Warbler	-	2	-	1	-	-
Wren	4	4	8	10	2	7
Song Thrush	1	1	1	2	1	1
Dunnock	-	-	-	-	-	1
Buzzard	-	-	-	-	-	1
Great spotted woodpecker	-	1	-	1	-	1
Jay	-	1	2	1	-	2
Magpie	-	3	-	1	-	-
Carrion Crow	-	1	-	1	-	1
Blue tit	9	24	6	12+	-	4
Great tit	5	10	1	5	-	-
Long tailed tit	5	12	-	4	-	2+
Chiffchaff	3	1	2	5	-	-
Blackcap	-	-	4	3	-	1
Nuthatch	-	2	1	1	-	1
Treecreeper	1	-	-	1	-	1+
Blackbird	3	1	6	8	2	5
Robin	5	3	5	2	3	4
Chaffinch	-	-	3	4	-	-
Goldfinch	-	-	-	2	-	-
Pheasant	1	-	-	-	2	-

Bats

Night-time Bat Walkover (NBW) survey

77. A Spring and Summer NBW was completed in April and June 2026; the approximate route is shown on the plan opposite. This encompassed the central footpaths within Dum Wood, as well as the northern and western woodland edges.

78. Bat activity was low-level, but consistent, with foraging largely limited to solitary common pipistrelle, and very occasional noctule bats. Foraging activity was focused along the woodland edges and adjacent hedgerow and mature tree lines. The figure opposite shows a heat map of bat activity. No bat activity was noted within the centre of the woodland.

Static Detectors

79. Monitoring has been completed in April, May and June 2026. Detectors were positioned along the woodland edge (Location 2) and the woodland centre (Location 3).

80. Activity was low in April, with only common pipistrelle recorded in both locations.

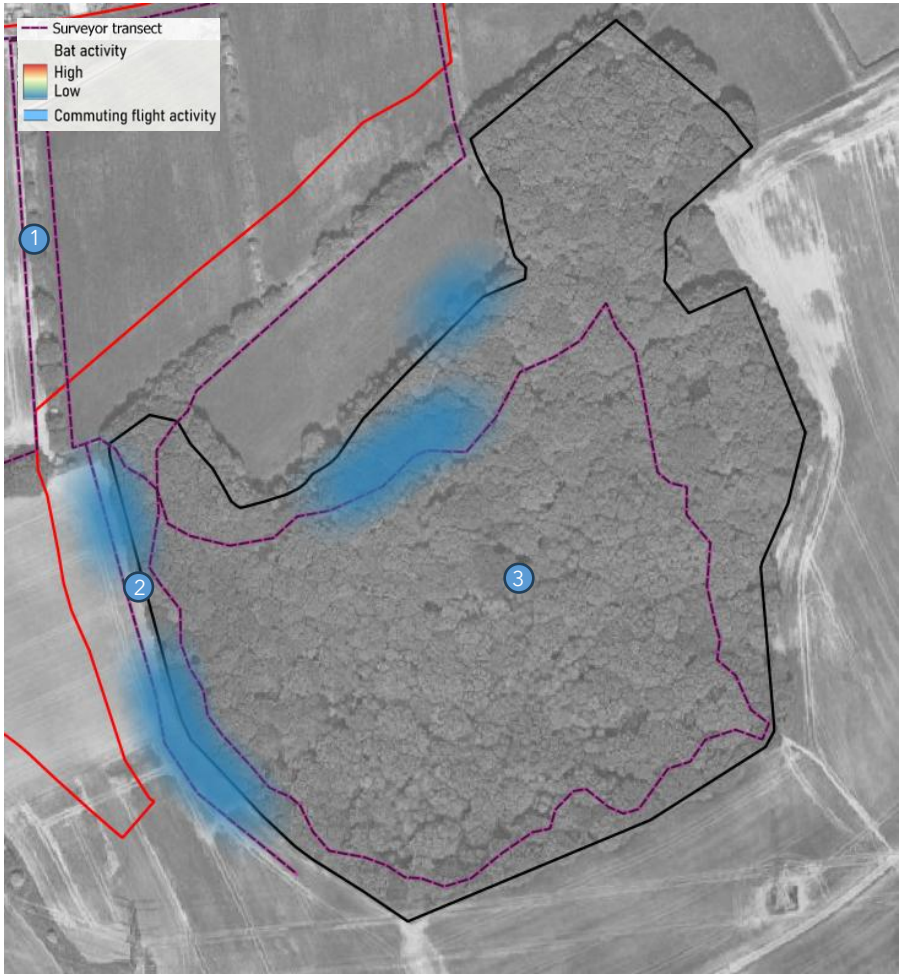
81. In May and June, activity levels were slightly greater, but still considered low overall. Common pipistrelle were the most active species across both months in both monitoring locations, with very low numbers of noctule, Leisler's and a myotid species recorded along the woodland edge in May, and very low numbers of brown long eared (BLE) and Leisler's bat recorded in the woodland centre in June.

82. The myotid registrations were not of a sufficient quality to confidently identify this to species level. However, given its location, it is most likely to be Whiskered / Brandt's.

Summary

83. Data collected thus far shows that Dum Wood attracts only low levels of bat activity, with the vast majority attributed to Common Pipistrelle, a common and widespread species of bat that is not sensitive to light pollution.

Figure 27 Summary of bat activity



Badgers

84. A walkover survey was completed in April 2026, covering all suitable habitat within the Hey Beck Lane application site boundary, as well as all accessible land within a 30m radius and the full extent of Dum Wood.

85. While some mammal activity (footpaths and scrapes) was noted in the survey area, no evidence directly attributable to badger was identified within the survey area.

86. Previous badger surveys were undertaken in 2018 and 2023, covering Dum Wood and land within the Hey Beck Lane and Leeds Road application sites. No evidence of badger activity was identified within Dum Wood during either of these previous surveys.

87. The likely absence of badger setts within Dum Wood can therefore be reasonably assumed.

Figure 28 Extent of April 2026 badger survey.

Appendix 1 Local Wildlife Site Citation sheets

West Yorkshire Local Sites Partnership
Local Wildlife Site Proposal

Site name: Dunn Wood
Planning authority: Kirklees
Grid reference: SE273242
Date of review: 10/04/2014
Date approved by LS Partnership: 09/10/2014
Site boundary:

Qualifying criteria:
Wd5 - High bluebell cover

Criteria version: 10/05/2013

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West Yorkshire Local Wildlife Site

Site Name/ Code: Dunn Wood SWS	Location: Tingley, Kirklees
Date of Survey: 07/07/2013	Surveyor: E. Skinner, West Yorkshire Ecology
Grid Reference: SE273242	Site Area (Ha): 5.33
Natural Area: Coal Measures	Public Access: no
NVC Communities: W10	

Site Description

Dunn Wood is an area of ancient replanted woodland about 1km south of Tingley. It is surrounded by cereal crop fields and improved grassland. A stone wall encircles the site.

The woodland is of the W10a classification and is host to species including: frequent Quercus x rosacea, Q. robur and Betula pubescens in the canopy, with occasional Ilex aquifolium and Sorbus aucuparia in the shrub layer, and frequent Hyacinthoides non-scripta, Rubus fruticosus and Pteridium aquilinum in the ground flora.

Fauna recorded during the site visit were: garden warbler (singing male), blackbird (singing male), wren (singing male), wood pigeon (singing male) and magpie (calling).

Ecological Evaluation

The site meets Criteria Wd5 as it contains a good cover of bluebell – about 15% of the ground floor of the woodland at a 40% or more DOMIN density.

Appendix 2- Field Studies Council (FSC) Ancient Woodland Indicator Plants list

Ancient woodland indicator plants commonly used in different parts of the UK

Regions: SW = South-west England; SE = South-east England; M = Midlands; W = Wales; N = North England, S = Scotland; NI = Northern Ireland.
(R) = Included as indicator, but a rarer plant in this region; (◑) = Warning, often planted or garden escape; • = exception from the >10/37 lists rule.

Indicator plant	Region
Acer campestre Field Maple	SW, SE, M, W, N
Adoxa moschatellina Moschatel (39)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Ajuga reptans Bugle •	M, N, S, NI
Allium ursinum Ramsons (38)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Anemone nemorosa Wood Anemone (26)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Aquilegia vulgaris Columbine ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N
Asplenium scolopendrium Hart's-tongue Fern	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Blechnum spicant Hard Fern (30)	SW, SE(R), M, W, N, S, NI
Betonica officinalis Betony •	SW, SE, M, W
Bromopsis ramosa Hairy Brome (10)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Campanula latifolia Giant Bellflower ◑	SE(R), M, W(R), N, S
Campanula trachelium Nettle-leaved Bellflower	SW(R), SE, M, W(R)
Carex laevigata Smooth-stalked Sedge	SW, SE(R), M(R), W, N, S, NI
Carex pallescens Pale Sedge	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Carex pendula Pendulous Sedge (36) ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N, S(R)
Carex remota Remote Sedge (32)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Carex strigosa Thin-spiked Wood Sedge	SW, SE, M(R), W(R), N(R)
Carex sylvatica Wood Sedge (12)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Ceratocapnos claviculata Climbing Corydalis	SW, SE, M, W, N
Chrysosplenium alternifolium Alternate-leaved Golden-saxifrage	SW, SE(R), M, W, N, S
Chrysosplenium oppositifolium Opposite-leaved Golden-saxifrage (34)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Circaea lutetiana Enchanter's-nightshade •	SE, W, S, NI
Conopodium majus Pignut	SW, M, W, NI
Convallaria majalis Lily-of-the-valley (15) ◑	SW(R), SE(R), M(R), W(R), N(R), S(R)
Daphne laureola Spurge-laurel ◑	SW, SE, M, W(R), N(R)
Deschampsia flexuosa Wavy Hair-grass •	W
Dipsacus pilosus Small Teasel	SW, SE, M, W(R)
Dryopteris aemula Hay-scented Buckler-fern	SW, SE(R), W(R), S
Dryopteris affinis agg. Scaly Male-fern (29)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Dryopteris carthusiana Narrow Buckler-fern	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Elymus caninus Bearded Couch	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Epipactis helleborine Broad-leaved Helleborine	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Epipactis purpurata Violet Helleborine •	SW(R), SE, M(R)
Equisetum sylvaticum Wood Horsetail (37)	SW(R), SE(R), M, W, N, S
Euonymus europaeus Spindle (13)	SW, SE, M, W, N(R)
Euphorbia amygdaloides Wood Spurge (5) ◑	SW, SE, M, W(R)
Festuca altissima Wood Fescue	M(R), W(R), N(R), S(R)
Fragaria vesca Wild Strawberry •	SE, M, S
Frangula alnus Alder Buckthorn	SW, SE, M, W(R), N(R)
Gagea lutea Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem	SE(R), M(R), N, S(R)
Galium odoratum Woodruff (1) ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Geum rivale Water Avens (35)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Goodyera repens Creeping Ladies-tresses	N(R), S
Gymnocarpium dryopteris Oak Fern	M(R), W, N, S
Helleborus viridis Green Hellebore	SW, SE, M(R), W(R), N(R)
Hordelymus europaeus Wood Barley	SE(R), M(R), W(R), N(R)
Hyacinthoides non-scripta Bluebell (25) ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Hymenophyllum wilsonii Wilson's Filmy-fern •	W, S
Hymenophyllum tunbrigensis Tunbridge Filmy-fern •	SW(R), W(R)
Hypericum androsaemum Tutsan ◑	SW, SE, M(R), W, S
Hypericum pulchrum Slender St. John's-wort (22)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Ilex aquifolium Holly ◑	SW, M, W, S
Iris foetidissima Stinking Iris ◑	SW, SE, M, W(R)
Lamiastrum galeobdolon Yellow Archangel (3)	SW, SE, M, W, N(R)
Lathraea squamaria Toothwort (16)	SW, SE(R), M, W, N, S(R)
Lathyrus linifolius Bitter-vetch (27)	SW, M, W
Lathyrus sylvestris Narrow-leaved Everlasting-pea ◑	SW, SE(R), M, W(R)
Linnaea borealis Twinflower	S(R)
Luzula forsteri Southern Wood-rush	SW, SE, M(R), W(R)
Luzula pilosa Hairy Wood-rush (24)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Luzula sylvatica Great Wood-rush (33)	SW, SE(R), M, W, N, S, NI
Lysimachia nemorum Yellow Pimpernel (31)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Malus sylvestris Crab Apple	SW, M, W
Melampyrum cristatum Crested Cow-wheat	SE(R), M(R), W(R)
Melampyrum pratense Common Cow-wheat (23)	SW, SE, M(R), W, N, S
Melica nutans Mountain Melick	M(R), W(R), N, S
Melica uniflora Wood Melick (2)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Melittis melissophyllum Bastard Balm •	SW, W(R)
Mercurialis perennis Dog's Mercury (6)	SE, M, W, N, S
Milium effusum Wood Millet (11)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Moehringia trinervia Three-nerved Sandwort	SW, M, W, S
Moneses uniflora One-flowered Wintergreen	S(R)
Myosotis sylvatica Wood Forget-me-not	SE, M, W, S
Narcissus pseudonarcissus Wild Daffodil ◑	SW, SE(R), M, W
Neottia nidus-avis Bird's-nest Orchid	SW, SE, M, W(R), N(R), S(R)
Orchis mascula Early-purple Orchid	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Oreopteris limbosperma Lemon-scented Fern	SW, SE(R), M(R), W, N
Oxalis acetosella Wood-sorrel (21)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Paris quadrifolia Herb-Paris (9)	SW, SE, M, W(R), N(R), S(R)
Phegopteris connectilis Beech Fern	SW(R), W, N, S
Platanthera chlorantha Greater Butterfly-orchid	SW, SE, M, W, N
Poa nemoralis Wood Meadow-grass	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Polygonatum multiflorum Solomon's-seal	SW, SE, M(R), W(R)
Polygonatum verticillatum Whorled Solomon's-seal •	S(R)
Polypodium vulgare Polypody Fern	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Polystichum aculeatum Hard Shield-fern	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Polystichum setiferum Soft Shield-fern	SW, SE, M, W, N(R), S(R)
Populus tremula Aspen	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Potentilla sterilis Barren Strawberry	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Primula elatior Oxlip •	SE(R), M(R)
Primula vulgaris Primrose •	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Prunus avium Wild Cherry •	SW, M, W, S
Pulmonaria longifolia Narrow-leaved Lungwort •	SW(R)
Quercus petraea Sessile Oak ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Ranunculus auricomus Goldilocks Buttercup (17)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Ribes rubrum Red Currant (40) ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Sanicula europaea Sanicle (8)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Schedonorus giganteus Giant Fescue (20)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Scirpus sylvaticus Wood Club-rush	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Scrophularia nodosa Common Figwort	M, W, S
Solidago virgaurea Goldenrod	SW, M, W, S
Sorbus torminalis Wild Service-tree (18) ◑	SW, SE, M, W, N(R)
Stellaria holostea Greater Stitchwort	SE, M, W, S
Stellaria nemorum Wood Stitchwort	M(R), W(R), N, S
Tilia cordata Small-leaved Lime (7)	SW, SE, M, W, N
Ulmus glabra Wych Elm (4)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Vaccinium myrtillus Bilberry (28) •	SW, SE(R), M, W, N
Veronica montana Wood Speedwell (14)	SW, SE, M, W, N, S, NI
Viburnum opulus Guelder-rose	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Vicia sepium Bush Vetch	SW, SE, M, W, N, S
Vicia sylvatica Wood Vetch	SW, SE(R), M, W(R), N(R), S
Viola reichenbachiana Early Dog-violet (19)	SW, SE, M, W, N

Appendix 3- Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan Ancient Woodland Indicators

Barnsley Biodiversity Trust

Biodiversity Action Plan

Biodiversity Action Plan | Habitats | Woodland | Ancient Woodland | Ancient Woodland Indicators

Ancient woodland indicators

One of the most striking features of Ancient Woodlands, distinguishing them from recently established woods and plantations, is their rich and varied ground flora. Certain plants -Ancient Woodland Indicators- are mainly restricted to ancient woodlands. A g[illegible]h plants therefore may indicate an Ancient Woodland.

These plants are found because Ancient Woodland, known to have been in existence since 1600, has developed distinctive soils, fungi, and plant communities over the centuries.

The most often seen Ancient Woodland Indicator plants include Bluebell, Dog's Mercury, Greater Stitchwort, Wood Sorrel and Yellow Archangel. Wood Anemone, Ransoms (Wild Garlic) and Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage are found in damper areas, often alongside streams. Sessile Oak is strongly associated with Ancient Woodland as is Holly.

Although not ancient woodland indicators, Lesser Celandine and Honeysuckle are welcome features of these and other woodlands.

A list of plants characteristic of Ancient Woodlands in South Yorkshire has been produced by Professor Melvyn Jones. The presence of these plants as well as other notable plants is used in Barnsley for the identification of woodland Local Wildlife Sites.

By themselves the presence of a good number of Ancient Woodland Indicators in a woodland - although a welcome indication of biodiversity value - is not conclusive evidence that the woodland is ancient. This requires historical evidence from maps and archival material.

The presence of Ancient Woodland Indicator species in a hedge-bank may be evidence that the hedge was created from ancient woodland

Ancient Woodland Indicator Plants in Barnsley, South Yorkshire

Barren Strawberry
Bluebell
Bilberry
Broad-leaved Helleborine
Bugle
Bush Vetch
Climbing Corydalis
Common Cow-wheat
Common Figwort
Dog's Mercury
Early-purple Orchid
Greater Stitchwort
Hairy St John's Wort
Pale Wood Violet/Early Dod Violet
Opposite-leaved Golden Saxifrage
Perforate St John's Wort
Pignut
Primrose
Ramsons
Sanicle
Slender St John's Wort
Square-stalked St John's Wort
Sweet Woodruff
Townhall Clock/Moschatel
Toothwort
Trailing St John's Wort
Water Avens
Wild Strawberry
Wood Anemone
Wood Forget Me Not
Wood Horsetail
Wood Sorrel
Wood Speedwell
Yellow Archangel
Yellow Pimpernell

Grasses, Sedges and Woodrushes

Great Woodrush
Hairy Woodrush
Pale Sedge
Pendulous Sedge
Remote Sedge
Wood Sedge
Wood barley
Wood Melick
Wood Millet

Trees and Shrubs

Aspen
Crab Apple
Guelder Rose
Holly
Sessile Oak
Small-leaved Lime
Wild Cherry

Based on AWI list compiled by Mel Jones.

Ancient Woodland

Barnsley Biodiversity Action Plan. Post-15 BAP. Updated to 2023

Appendix 4- Photos of Offsite Woodlands

Scargill Wood

Soothill Wood

Haigh Wood

Haigh Hall Spring Wood

Dogloitch Wood		