



Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

Premier inn Huddersfield Central, St Andrew's Road, Aspley, Huddersfield HD1 6SB

Whitbread Group PLC

Status	Issue	Name	Date
Draft	1	Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB, Senior Consultant	12/06/2024
Final	2	Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB, Senior Consultant	12/06/2024

Arbtech Consultant's Contact Details:

Mel Reid BSc (Hons) MRes MRSB
Senior Consultant

Email: melreid@arbtech.co.uk

<https://arbtech.co.uk>

Limitations and Copyright

Arbtech Consulting Limited has prepared this report for the sole use of the above-named client or their agents in accordance with our General Terms and Conditions, under which our services are performed. It is expressly stated that no other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report or any other services provided by us. This report may not be relied upon by any other party without the prior and express written agreement of Arbtech Consulting Limited. The conclusions and recommendations contained in this report are based upon information provided by third parties. Information obtained from third parties has not been independently verified by Arbtech Consulting Limited.

© This report is the copyright of Arbtech Consulting Limited. Any unauthorised reproduction or usage by any person other than the addressee is strictly prohibited.

Industry Guidelines and Standards

This report has been written with due consideration to:

- British Standard 42020 (2013). Biodiversity – Code of Practice for Planning and Development.
- British Standard 8683:2021 (2021). Process for Designing and Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2017). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. 2nd edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2017). Guidelines on Ecological Report Writing. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2018). Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater, Coastal and Marine. Version 1.1. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2020). Guidelines for Accessing, Using and Sharing Biodiversity Data in the UK. 2nd Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Winchester.
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management, Construction Industry Research and Information Association & Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (2019). Biodiversity Net Gain – Good Practice Principles for Development.

Proportionality

The work involved in preparing and implementing all ecological surveys, impact assessments and measures for avoidance, mitigation, compensation and enhancement should be proportionate to the predicted degree of risk to biodiversity and to the nature and scale of the proposed development. Consequently, the decision-maker should only request supporting information and conservation measures that are relevant, necessary and material to the application in question. Similarly, the decision-maker and their consultees should ensure that any comments and advice made over an application are also proportionate.

The desk studies and field surveys undertaken to provide a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) might in some cases be all that is necessary.

(BS 42020, 2013)

Executive Summary

Arbtech Consulting Limited was instructed by Premier Inn/Allison Pike Architects to undertake a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment at Premier Inn Huddersfield Central, St Andrew's Road, Aspley, Huddersfield HD1 6SB (hereafter referred to as "the site"). The assessment was required to inform a planning application with the Rochford District Council for proposals to redevelop an existing restaurant into an additional hotel space (hereafter referred to as "the proposed development").

Area Based Habitat Units

The baseline habitat value of the site is 0.29 units, comprising 0.29 units of urban trees and 0.00 units of developed land.

The post development habitat value of the site is 0.32 units, comprising the:

- ❖ creation of buildings and hardstanding (no value), additional scattered trees (0.02 units) and introduced shrub (0.01 units).
- ❖ retention of scattered trees (0.29 units)

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 10.51% (i.e. a net gain).

Linear-Based Habitat Units

The baseline linear-based habitat value of the site is 0.03 units, comprised of non-native ornamental hedgerow.

The post development habitat value of the site is 0.13 units, comprising the:

- ❖ creation of 0.16 units new native hedgerow
- ❖ retention of existing non-native ornamental hedgerow (0.03 units)

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 588.96% (i.e. a net gain).

The proposed development is therefore anticipated to surpass the minimum target of 10% biodiversity net gain and thus is compliant with legislation (Environment Act 2021).

Contents	
1.0 Introduction and Context	6
1.1 Background	6
1.2 Site Location, Geology and Landscape Context	6
1.3 BNG Informative	6
2.0 Methodology	8
2.1 Baseline Biodiversity Value	8
2.2 Post Development Biodiversity Value	8
2.3 Limitations	9
3.0 Results	10
3.1 Baseline Habitats	10
3.2 Post Development Habitats	11
3.3 Change in Biodiversity Value of the Site	13
4.0 Recommendations to Deliver BNG	14
4.1 Discussion	14
5.0 Bibliography	15
Appendix 1: Proposed Development Plan	16
Appendix 2: Site Location Plan	17
Appendix 3: Baseline Habitat Plan	18
Appendix 4: Post Development Habitat Plan	19
Appendix 5a: Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets - Baseline	20
Appendix 5b: Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets - Proposed	21
Appendix 6: Headline BNG Results	25

1.0 Introduction and Context

1.1 Background

Arbtech Consulting Limited was instructed by Premier Inn–Allison Pike Architects to undertake a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment at Premier inn Huddersfield Central, St Andrew's Road, Aspley, Huddersfield HD1 6SB (hereafter referred to as “the site”). The assessment was required to inform a planning application with the Rochford District Council for proposals to redevelop an existing restaurant into an additional hotel space (hereafter referred to as “the proposed development”). A plan showing the proposed development is provided in Appendix 1.

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

- BNG Metric - Premier Inn, Huddersfield, HD1 6SB - v1 - 31-05-24
- PEA-PRA - Premier Inn Huddersfield - Final

1.2 Site Location, Geology and Landscape Context

The survey site is centred on National Grid Reference SE 15038 16521 and has an area of approximately 0.72ha. The site comprises three large buildings, two of which are currently in use as hotels and the third as a restaurant. The restaurant includes an associated flat towards the north on the first floor. The wider site is comprised of hardstanding with a few scattered trees and a hedge. The wider landscape includes Aspley basin, an area of water leading into Huddersfield broad canal. The remaining local landscape is heavily urban, comprising Huddersfield city centre.

All habitats within the site are common and widespread and have low ecological value. The site also contains trees, which are of good quality and could be of value to local wildlife populations (as detailed in subsequent sections of this table). The remaining habitats are common and widespread and have low ecological value. No protected or notable plant species were recorded during the survey.

As the site neighbours the Huddersfield Broad Canal and Aspley Wharf, the site is within an area designated as a flood plain biodiversity opportunity zone and strategic green infrastructure network as designated by the Kirklees District Council in the Kirklees Local Plan. The water course is also noted as part of the wildlife habitat network, West Yorkshire Ecology has identified this as a link that connects designated sites of biodiversity and geological importance.

A site location plan is provided in Appendix 2.

1.3 BNG Informative

BNG is a specific, measurable outcome of project activities that deliver demonstrable and quantifiable benefits to biodiversity compared to the baseline situation. In order to achieve BNG, a project must be able to demonstrate that it has followed all 10 of the Principles of Biodiversity Net Gain (as outlined in the British Standard 8683:2021 Process for Designing and Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain).

The legalised Environment Act (2021) requires developments in England to demonstrate a measurable net gain in biodiversity and sets a target of a minimum of 10% BNG for all developments. It also stipulates that a management plan with a minimum 30-year term, should be adopted to ensure biodiversity net gain can be delivered. The Environment Act (2021) states biodiversity net gain is mandatory for sites over 0.5ha as of February 2024. The requirement for biodiversity net gain is also enshrined within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2021). The DEFRA Statutory Biodiversity Metric is the widely accepted tool used to calculate BNG. It enables the calculation of habitat value pre- and post-development in order to determine the overall change in biodiversity value as a result of the proposed development. The Biodiversity Metric has separate BNG assessments for areas of habitat, hedgerows and watercourses. The biodiversity value of a site should be maximised. However, it may not always be possible to achieve a 10% biodiversity net gain within a site and therefore the Statutory Biodiversity Metric can also account for offsite habitat creation, where land is available. Alternatively, developers can seek to provide an agreed financial contribution to an appropriate third party (such as the Local Authority, the UK Government or another landowner) to deliver the required biodiversity net gain elsewhere on their behalf.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Baseline Biodiversity Value

The baseline BNG Calculation was informed by Preliminary Ecological Appraisal for Premier Inn Huddersfield HD1 6SB (Arbtech, 2024). A baseline habitat plan is provided in Appendix 3.

Habitat Classification

The PEA classified the habitats on site according to The UK Habitat Classification Habitat Definitions Version 2.0 (The UK Habitat Classification Working Group, July 2023).

Habitat Area/Length

The area or length of each habitat was calculated using qGIS software. In calculating the area or length of each habitat, habitats which occur as two or more isolated parcels across the site were combined, where they were deemed to be of a similar composition and condition. Distinctions were made between habitats to be retained (i.e. left as found in baseline), enhanced (i.e. improved condition) or lost (i.e. destroyed by proposed development).

Areas of scattered trees were calculated using the Tree Helper tool within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. Class sizes for urban trees are set out in Table 8-1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023).

Habitat Condition

Habitat condition was assessed using the relevant condition assessment sheets found in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023).

Strategic Significance

Strategic significance was assigned for each habitat based upon a review of the following:

- Ecological value
- Function within the landscape
- Any site or habitat allocations under the Kirklees Local Plan Strategies and Policies.

2.2 Post Development Biodiversity Value

The post development BNG Calculation was informed by Site Surveying Services Ltd Topographical Survey which is included in Appendix 1. A post development habitat plan is provided in Appendix 4.

Habitat Classification

Proposed habitats were translated to their equivalents in the UK Habitat Classification using The UK Habitat Classification Habitat Definitions Version 2.0 (The UK Habitat Classification Working Group, July 2023) and the information provided within the Topographical Survey by Site Surveying Services Ltd.

Habitat Area/Length

The area or length of each proposed habitat was calculated using qGIS software. In calculating the area or length of each habitat, habitats which occur as two or more isolated parcels across the site were combined, where they were deemed to be of similar composition and condition. Distinctions were made between habitats to be retained (i.e. left as found in baseline), enhanced (i.e. improved condition) or newly created.

Areas of scattered trees were calculated using the Tree Helper tool within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. Class sizes for urban trees are set out in Table 8-1 of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023).

Habitat Condition

Target habitat condition for each proposed habitat was determined assessed using the Temporal Multipliers Tool and the Enhancement Temporal Multipliers Tool included in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric spreadsheet as well as the relevant condition assessment sheets found in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (Natural England, 2023). This is based on the assumption that a 30-year management plan will be adopted for the site.

Strategic Significance

Strategic significance was assigned for each proposed habitat based upon a review of the following:

- Likely ecological value
- Function within the landscape
- Any site or habitat allocations under the Kirklees Local Plan Strategies and Policies.

2.3 Limitations

There were no specific limitations to the survey assessment.

3.0 Results

3.1 Baseline Habitats

Table 1 details the baseline habitats present within the site along with their area/length, condition and strategic significance. A full condition assessment for each habitat (where relevant) is provided in Appendix 5a.

Table 1: Baseline Biodiversity Value

Type	Habitat	Area / Length	Description	Condition Assessment	Strategic Significance
Area-Based	U1b5 - Buildings	0.15891ha	Three buildings are present onsite. These are described in more detail with regards to protected species.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
	U1b6 - Other developed land	0.11976ha	Car parking and amenity hardstanding is present surrounding the development site. These are of negligible ecological value.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
	32 - Scattered trees	0.0366ha	Three trees are present within the boundary of the site. T1- a field maple within the entrance of the site. A small/medium tree with. T2- A Platanus sp. Medium size tree with no cracks or external features. T3- A silver birch. Small tree with no visible features. These trees are of low- moderate value due to the urban nature of the surrounding landscape	Moderate: passes 3 of 6 criteria. Assessed using the 'Individual Trees' habitat type condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
Linear-Based	H2b - Non-native ornamental hedgerow	0.028km	A cherry laurel hedge is present along the southern boundary of the site. This is of low ecological value.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' Poor ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy

3.2 Post Development Habitats

Table 2 details the post development habitats present within the site along with their area/length, condition and strategic significance. An assessment of the anticipated condition for each habitat (where relevant) is provided in Appendix 5b, which is based on the assumption that a 30 year management plan will be implemented for the site.

Table 2: Post Development Biodiversity Value

Habitat		Area / Length	Description	Target Condition	Strategic Significance	
Created	Area-Based	u1b6 Other developed land; sealed surface	0.02918ha	New car parking areas will be created with the removal of the old restaurant building.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement..	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
		u1867 Introduced shrub	0.00312ha	Proposed shrub planting, native species will be used.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
		32 – Scattered trees	0.0081ha	Two new tree planting areas will be added to the site	The target condition is moderate: planning will pass 3 of 6 criteria. Assessed using the 'Individual Trees' habitat type condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
	Linear-Based	h2a Native hedgerow	0.4km	A linear structure of native shrubs will be planted behind the southern building.	Good: No more than 1 failure in any functional group. Assessed using the 'Individual Trees' habitat type condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
Retained	Area-Based	u1b5 - Buildings	0.11429ha	The majority of the buildings will be retained with the southern premier inn annex being reduced to the retained footprint.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement..	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy

		u1b6 - Other developed land	0.13208ha	Car parking will remain as is, with the addition of the area previously in the place of the restaurant building.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' N/A ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Condition Assessment Supplement..	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
		32 - Scattered trees	0.0366ha	No trees will be removed. No changes will be made so their condition will remain the same.	Moderate : passes 3 of 6 criteria. Assessed using the 'Individual Trees' habitat type condition sheet.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy
Linear-Based		h2b - Non-native ornamental hedgerow	0.028km	No hedgerow will be removed.	Habitat condition pre-determined as ' Poor ' as detailed within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessment Supplement.	Low Strategic Significance Area/compensation not in local strategy

3.3 Change in Biodiversity Value of the Site

Full details are provided in the Defra Statutory Biodiversity Metric. The headline results are presented in Appendix 6.

Area Based Habitat Units

The baseline habitat value of the site is 0.29 units, comprising 0.29 units of urban trees and 0.00 units of developed land.

The post development habitat value of the site is 0.32 units, comprising the:

- ❖ creation of buildings and hardstanding (no value), additional scattered trees (0.02 units) and introduced shrub (0.01 units).
- ❖ retention of scattered trees (0.29 units)

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 10.51% (i.e. a net gain).

Linear-Based Habitat Units

The baseline linear-based habitat value of the site is 0.03 units, comprised of non-native ornamental hedgerow.

The post development habitat value of the site is 0.13 units, comprising the:

- ❖ creation of 0.16 units new native hedgerow
- ❖ retention of existing non-native ornamental hedgerow (0.03 units)

This results in a net change in biodiversity of 588.96% (i.e. a net gain).

4.0 Recommendations to Deliver BNG

4.1 Discussion

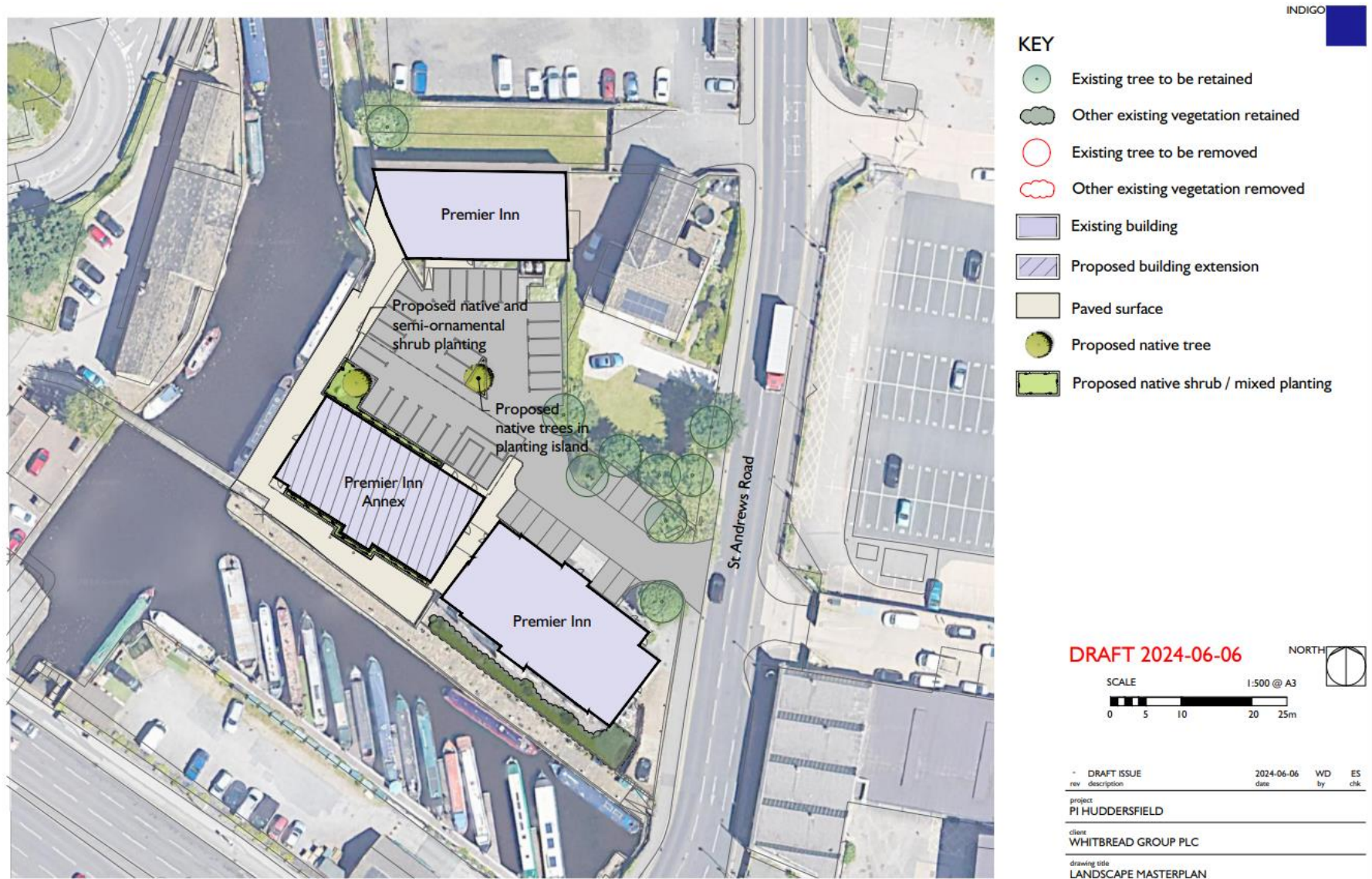
The current proposed plan results in a 10.51% net gain in habitat units and a 558.96% net gain in hedgerow units. This is more than the 10% target of biodiversity net gain.

A Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Management Plan must be produced for the site. This should include recommendations for the implementation, management and monitoring of the site for at least 30 years to ensure that biodiversity net gain is delivered.

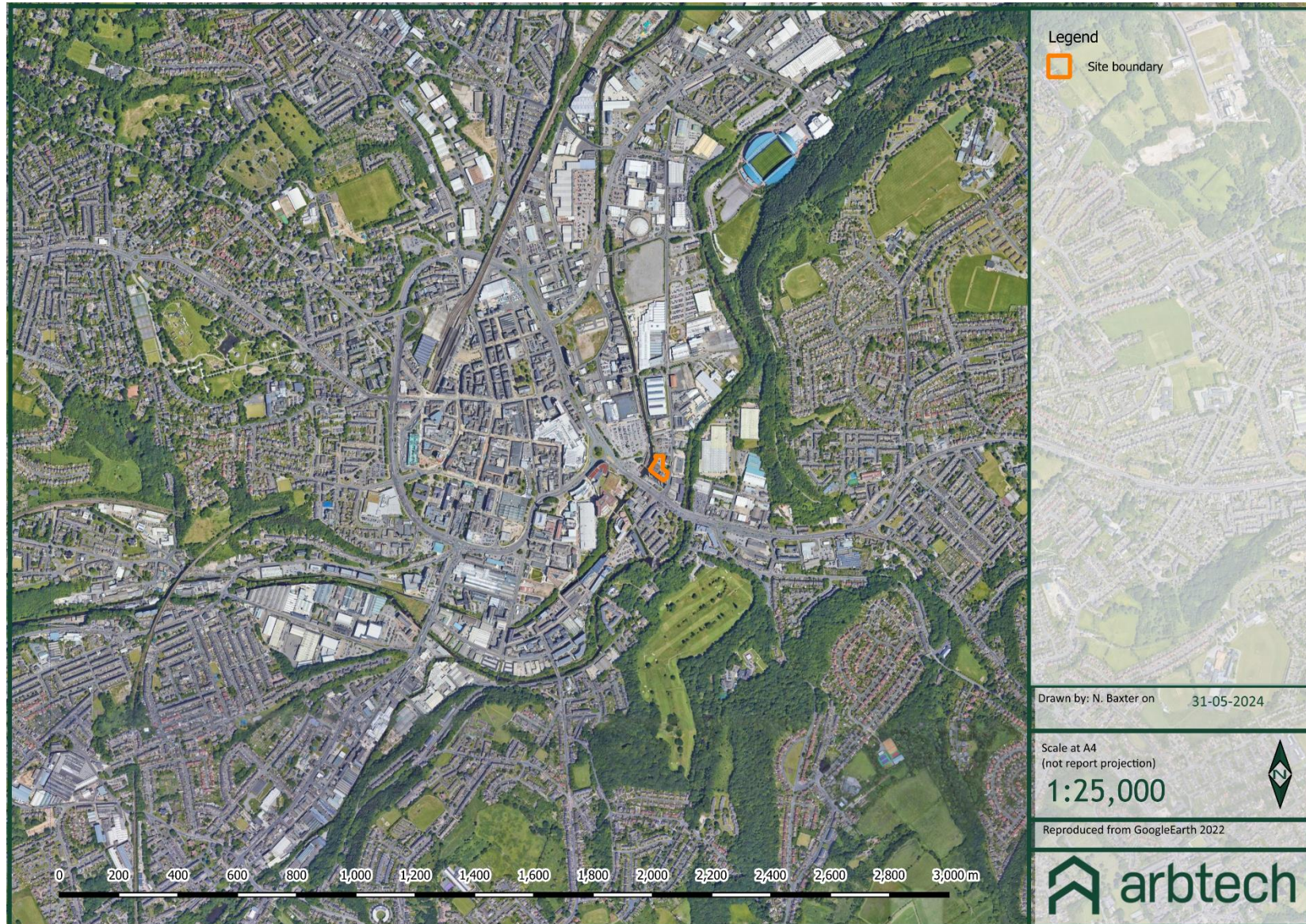
5.0 Bibliography

- British Standard 8683:2021 (2021). Process for Designing and Implementing Biodiversity Net Gain.
- CIEEM-CIRIA-IEMA (2019) Biodiversity Net Gain – Good Practice Principles for Development.
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (2010). Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey a technique for environmental audit. http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/PDF/pub10_handbookforphase1habitatsurvey.pdf
- Natural England (2023). The Statutory Biodiversity Metric (JP039).
- Natural England (2023). The Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide (JP039).
- Natural England (2023). The Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 1 - Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology (JP039).
- Natural England (2023). The Statutory Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 2 – Technical Information (JP039).
- The UK Habitat Classification Habitat Definitions Version 2.0 (The UK Habitat Classification Working Group, July 2023)
- Kirklees Council (2019). Kirklees Local Plan Strategy and Policies. <https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/planning-policy/pdf/local-plan-strategy-and-policies.pdf>

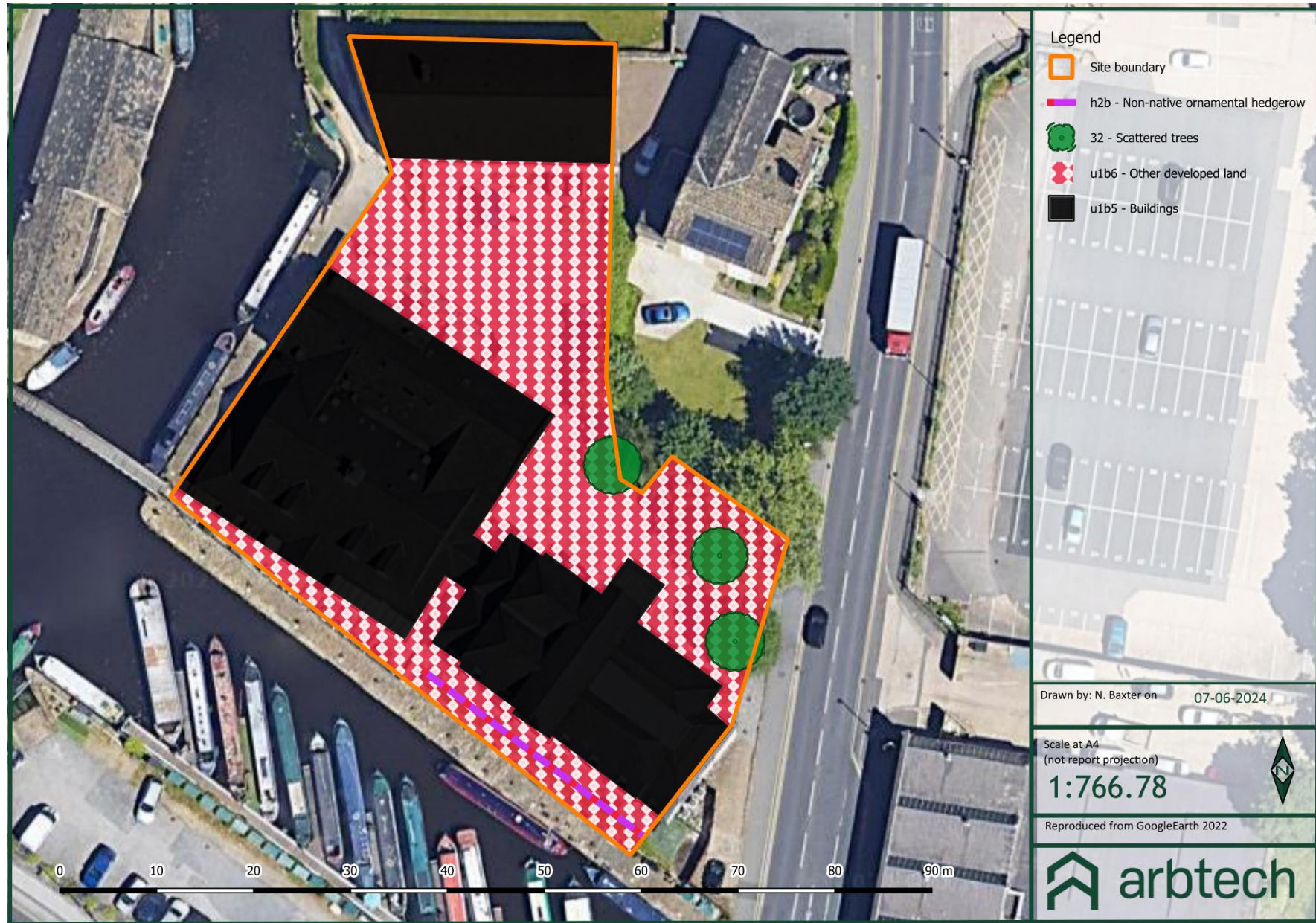
Appendix 1: Proposed Development Plan



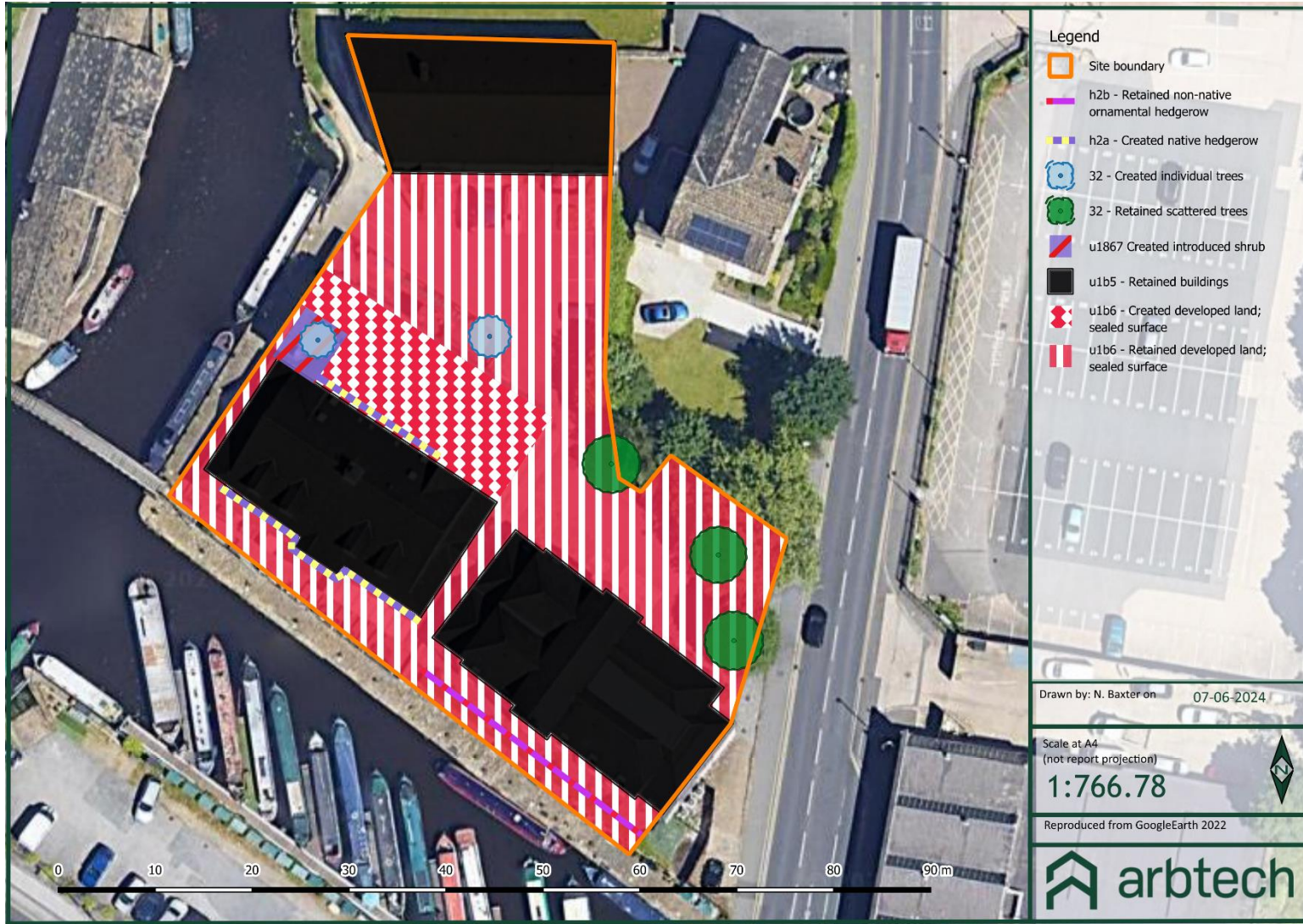
Appendix 2: Site Location Plan



Appendix 3: Baseline Habitat Plan



Appendix 4: Post Development Habitat Plan



Appendix 5a: Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets - Baseline

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

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

Appendix 5b: Habitat Condition Assessment Sheets - Proposed

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

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

Native, Species-Rich Hedgerow with Trees; assessed using 'Hedgerow' habitat type condition sheet:

Hedgerow favourable condition attributes				
Attributes and functional groupings (A, B, C, D & E)	Criteria (the minimum requirements for 'favourable condition')	Description	Condition Achieved (Y/N)	Notes/Justification
Core groups - applicable to all hedgerow types				
A1. Height	>1.5 m average along length	<p>The average height of woody growth estimated from base of stem to the top of shoots, excluding any bank beneath the hedgerow, any gaps or isolated trees.</p> <p>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).</p> <p>A newly planted hedgerow does not pass this criterion (unless it is > 1.5 m height).</p>	Y	The hedge will be newly planted according to good practice so will pass this criteria
A2. Width	>1.5 m average along length	<p>The average width of woody growth estimated at the widest point of the canopy, excluding gaps and isolated trees.</p> <p>Outgrowths (e.g. blackthorn suckers) are only included in the width estimate when they >0.5 m in height.</p> <p>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).</p>	Y	The hedge will be newly planted according to good practice so will pass this criterion.
B1. Gap – hedge base	Gap between ground and base of canopy <0.5 m for >90% of length	<p>This is the vertical 'gappiness' of the woody component of the hedgerow, and its distance from the ground to the lowest leafy growth.</p> <p>Certain exceptions to this criterion are acceptable (see page 65 of the Hedgerow Survey Handbook).</p>	Y	Gap between ground and base of canopy is expected to be less than 0.5m for more than 10% of length.
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).	Y	No canopy gaps expected in any segment of hedgerow.

		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).		
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 hedge (at least)	<p>This is the level of disturbance (excluding wildlife disturbance) at the base of the hedge.</p> <p>Undisturbed ground should be present for at least 90% of the hedgerow length, greater than 1m in width and must be present along at least one side of the hedge.</p> <p>This criterion recognises the value of the hedge 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.</p>	N	The hedgerow will be bordered by developed land on one side and have a building to the other.
C2. Undesirable 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, should not exceed the 20% cover threshold.	Y	No cleavers are part of the management plan, the hedge will be newly planted so passes this criterion.
D1. Invasive and neophyte species	>90% of the hedgerow and undisturbed ground is free of invasive non-native and recently introduced species	Recently introduced species refer to plant that have naturalised in the UK since AD 1500 (neophytes). Archaeophytes count as natives.	Y	No invasives observed.
D2. Current damage	>90% of the hedgerow or undisturbed ground is free of damage caused by human activities	<p>This criterion addresses damaging activities that may have led to or lead to deterioration in other attributes.</p> <p>This could include evidence of pollution, piles of manure or rubble, or inappropriate management practices (e.g. excessive hedge cutting).</p>	Y	No damage anticipated.
Condition categories for hedgerows with trees				
Category	Maximum number of attributes that can fail to meet 'favourable condition' criteria in Table TS1-2	Weighting (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 <u>Does not fail both attributes</u> in more than one functional group (e.g., 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 (e.g. fails attributes A1, A2, B1 and B2 = Poor condition).	1	
Score achieved:	Good		

Appendix 6: Headline BNG Results

The Defra Statutory Biodiversity Metric is provided as a separate excel spreadsheet.

FINAL RESULTS		
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	<i>Habitat units</i>	0.03
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>	0.16
	<i>Watercourse units</i>	0.00
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	<i>Habitat units</i>	10.51%
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>	558.96%
	<i>Watercourse units</i>	0.00%
Trading rules satisfied?	Yes ✓	