

ADVISORY

Wordsworth Property Developments Ltd
Long Lane, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury
Construction Environmental Management Plan
(Biodiversity)

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1. INTRODUCTION

Background

- 1.1 This Construction Environmental Management Plan (Biodiversity) (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been produced on behalf of Wordsworth Property Developments Ltd (the 'Client') in respect of a planning application for the development of up to 26 new residential housing units (application number: 2024/62/91476/E).
- 1.2 This CEMP will detail information relating to ecology in order to discharge the following planning condition (Condition 15) of the approved planning (PLANNING REF 2024/62/91476/E):

"15. No development shall take place (including ground works and vegetation clearance) until a Construction Environmental Management Plan - Biodiversity (CEMP: Biodiversity) has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The CEMP: Biodiversity shall incorporate the recommendations within part 5 of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, and shall include the following:

- Risk assessment of potentially damaging construction activities.
- Identification of "biodiversity protection zones".
- Practical measures (both physical measures and sensitive working practices) to avoid or reduce impacts during construction (may be provided as a set of method statements).
- The location and timing of sensitive works to avoid harm to biodiversity features, including those associated with Chickenley Beck.
- A strategy for temporary lighting during construction (if required) that follows best practice guidelines outlined in Bats and Artificial Light at Night (2023) to maintain suitable foraging and commuting routes,
- An invasive species survey undertaken within the botanical growing season, to include all land within the red line as shown on the location plan, and blue line on the site plan, to determine if Schedule 9 invasive non-native species are present. If such species are present, then an Invasive Species Management Plan to be submitted as part of the CEMP: Biodiversity.
- The times during construction when specialist ecologists need to be present on site to oversee works.
- Responsible persons and lines of communication.
- The role and responsibilities on site of an ecological clerk of works (ECoW) or similarly competent person.
- Use of protective fences, exclusion barriers and warning signs.

The approved CEMP Biodiversity shall be adhered to and implemented throughout the construction period strictly in accordance with the approved details.

Reason: *To ensure avoidance of ecological and subsequent harm in accordance with Policy LP30 of the Kirklees Local Plan and Chapter 15 of the National Planning Policy Framework. This is a pre-commencement condition to ensure appropriate measures are designed and agreed prior to any potentially damaging operations associated to the construction phase and that invasive species, if found to be present, are safely eliminated from the site."*

The Project

- 1.3 The Project is understood to involve the construction of up to 26 new residential housing units at land east of Long Lane in Earlsheaton, Dewsbury (the 'Proposed Development'). The Site lies within the administrative area of Kirklees Council (KC).

Location

- 1.4 The Site is located at Long Lane, Dewsbury, WF12 8LL. The Site is approximately 0.65 hectares (ha) in extent and is centred on grid reference SE 25752 20426. The location of the Site is shown in **Figure 1.1**.



Figure 1.1: Site Location Plan

2. BASELINE INFORMATION AND ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS

- 2.1 This Section provides the baseline conditions for the biodiversity of the Site and a risk assessment of the potential impacts resulting from the proposed development.

Statutory Designated Sites

- 2.2 There are two statutory designated sites present within 2km of the Site boundary.
- Sparrow Wood Local Nature Reserve (LNR) is located approximately 1.2km west of the Site boundary. The LNR is an urban fringe site of approximately 3 hectares on the southern fringes of Dewsbury. Habitats include mixed deciduous woodland and a small pond which supports a range of woodland wildflowers, butterflies and common birds such as bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, tree sparrow *Passer montanus* and great spotted woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*.
 - Caulms Wood Quarry is located approximately 1.9km north-west of the Site boundary. Caulms Wood quarry has a 50m long face of Upper Carboniferous sandstone.
- 2.3 The South Pennine Moors (Phase 1) Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) occurs approximately 20km from the Site and is considered outside of the Zone of Influence for this Proposed Development. The Site is within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) risk zone; but the development type is not included within a risk category.

Non-Statutory Designated Sites

- 2.4 There are two locally designated sites within 2km of the Site boundary. The closest is Sparrow Wood Local Wildlife Site (LWS) which is a 3.0 ha urban site on the edge of Dewsbury, 1.2km west of the Site.
- 2.5 The nearest Priority Habitat was Deciduous Woodland located approximately 0.01km from the Site boundary and east of Chickenley Beck.

Existing Site - Habitats

- 2.6 The Site itself comprised predominantly of mixed scrub, with small areas of modified grassland and bramble scrub.

Existing Site - Species

Bats

- 2.7 No roosting features were recorded on-Site including man-made structures. The habitats on-Site were unlikely to attract a large abundance of insect prey due to the small size of the Site and the lack of a mixture of botanical species and habitat types.
- 2.8 The southern and eastern boundary habitats including Chickenley Beck watercourse offered the best opportunities for foraging and commuting bats.

Birds

- 2.9 The Site offered some opportunities for foraging and breeding birds. An important assemblage was considered unlikely due to the small size of the habitat parcels and overall size of the Site. The hedgerow and scrub habitats offered the best opportunities for breeding birds.

Reptiles

- 2.10 A full suite of seven reptile surveys was undertaken on the Site during May and June of 2026. During the surveys, no signs of reptiles were recorded. As such, reptiles are not considered to be a constraint to the development of the Site.

Badgers

- 2.11 No evidence of badgers *Meles meles* was found on-Site including hairs, latrines, footprints or setts. The habitats offered some suitable foraging habitat for badgers and the areas off-Site on the eastern boundary close to the watercourse offered some suitable habitat for sett creation and foraging. It is considered likely that badgers may cross the Site periodically.

Other Species

- 2.12 It cannot be ruled out that west European hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* and red fox *Vulpes vulpes*, may pass across the Site.

Risk Assessment of Impacts from Construction Activities

Designated Sites

- 2.13 The priority habitat and Chickenley Beck are adjacent to the Site boundary and as a result could be directly impacted during construction activities. It is anticipated that direct impacts from disturbance, vegetation removal, pollution, dust, noise and light spill will all have a detrimental effect on the habitats and any species they support without sufficient mitigation.

Habitats

- 2.14 The site is largely composed of mixed scrub and small areas of low-quality habitat of limited ecological value in the modified grassland and bramble scrub. The majority of which will be cleared to enable the proposed development. There is potential to damage any retained or off-Site habitats during the construction phase without mitigation in place, including direct and indirect damage from storage of materials, physical damage from tracking over retained habitats, in addition to pollution and dust from construction vehicles and activities.

Species

Bats

- 2.15 It is anticipated that without mitigation in place during the construction phase of works, there is the potential to disturb foraging and commuting bats at the Site from lighting to facilitate the works.

Nesting Birds

- 2.16 The scrub within the Site provides suitable nesting and foraging habitat for and assemblage of common urban fringe bird species. Without appropriate mitigation in place, these works have the potential to injure, kill or disturb nesting birds, if present, and will result in a loss of suitable nesting habitat. In addition, construction works being carried out within proximity to nesting birds may affect them indirectly, depending on the works being carried out, and the species of bird affected. Noise and vibration disturbance effects may result in birds being repeatedly flushed off nests, causing disruption to feeding activity, or even abandonment of nests. This is considered to be a temporary impact.

Hedgehog, Badger, and Other Mammals

- 2.17 Any potential excavation works throughout the development have potential to cause harm to terrestrial mammal species that may utilise the Site, as they may become trapped. Clearance of scrub habitat also has the potential to injure, kill, or disturb hedgehog if present.

3. REQUIRED ACTIONS, CONTROLS OR MITIGATION

- 3.1 The potential impacts of the proposed works on the ecological receptors identified above have been assessed and the following mitigation principles will be applied in order to avoid, reduce, mitigate or compensate for these impacts.

Habitats and Biodiversity Protection Zones

- 3.2 All construction works will be carefully controlled in terms of their potential environmental impacts through implementation of best practice methodology. Adherence to these best practise methodologies will minimise the impact of dust and the risk of pollution events.
- 3.3 The following measures will be applied to prevent damage to the habitats and to minimise the temporary impacts to any faunal species that may occur within the Site or immediately surrounding habitats:
- Vegetation immediately adjacent to the Site will receive appropriate protection using fencing and signage, during the construction phase, including the use of tree root protection zones and barriers in accordance with BS5837: 2012, where appropriate. These habitats include any retained vegetation, boundary hedgerows, and the woodland to the east of the Site, surrounding Chickenley Beck;
 - Best practise methodologies will be applied in order to minimise the spread of dust onto adjacent habitats during excavations. Where necessary this will include regular damping down; and
 - All works will be undertaken to current Guidance for Pollution Prevention which will include:
 - o Develop Pollution Prevention Plan, including spillage response measures, prior to construction.
 - o Prepare appropriate method statements for working with and storing oils and chemicals in line with the requirements of the Control of Pollution (Oil Storage) Regulations 2001.
 - o Contractor to implement a Construction Environmental Management Plan.
 - o Design an Environmental Incident Control Plan (EICP) so protective measures are implemented to deal with both normal and emergency situations.
 - o Contractors to undertake construction work to best practice standards.
- 3.4 The biodiversity and habitat protection zones are illustrated in Appendix 2 and should be consulted alongside the produced arboricultural impact assessment and method statement.

Species Protection Measures

Bats

- 3.5 Anticipated construction working hours are 07:30 to 18:30 Monday to Friday, and between the hours of 8:30 and 14:30 on Saturdays. It is anticipated that during the main active bat season (April-October, inclusive), construction works will generally cease or be winding down before dusk when bats emerge and will not begin before dawn when bats return to roosts. Therefore, there is not anticipated to be any negative effects upon bat foraging and commuting behaviour from noise across the Site since construction works will not coincide with bat activity.
- 3.6 In certain circumstances, for example, in late autumn or early spring when daylight hours are limited but weather conditions may be suitable for bats to be active, there may be a brief overlap between bat activity and on-Site construction works. During this period lighting may be required to enable the construction works to progress. In these circumstances, lighting should be directional and avoid unnecessary light spill onto the adjacent habitats.

Birds

- 3.7 Suitable habitat to support nesting birds is to be lost as part of clearance works, including scrub. Areas to be retained will receive adequate protection during the construction phase of the development. The peak bird breeding season generally occurs from the beginning of March until late July. However, as a precaution a nesting bird check will be required of all areas of vegetation and the building demolition proposed for clearance from March - August (inclusive). The length of the nesting bird season is dependent on the species of bird and weather conditions.
- 3.8 Should clearance works be required during the bird nesting season (March – August, inclusive) a suitably experienced ecologist will undertake a nesting bird check within the period of up to 24 hours prior to works commencing.
- 3.9 The following characteristics help to define an active nest:
- A nest containing eggs;
 - A nest containing young; Bird incubating eggs;
 - Adult birds carry food items to a nest;
 - A nest that is under construction; and/or
 - Alarm calling or agitated adults associated with a nest.
- 3.10 If any active nests are found, then an appropriate buffer zone will be created around the nest location using brightly coloured tape. The extent of the buffer zone will depend on the species of bird, location of the nest and the density of the surrounding vegetation. The ecologist will estimate the time period until all chicks have fledged and will return to check the nest after this time has passed. The buffer zone will remain in situ until the ecologist is content that all chicks have fledged the nest.

- 3.11 Following the nesting bird check the ecologist will give a toolbox talk to all staff involved in clearance works before they commence.
- 3.12 If a nest is discovered during clearance works by a contractor all works should cease. The Site supervisor as well as the ecologist should be contacted immediately. The ecologist will check the nest and confirm whether or not it is active. If confirmed active, work will only continue once a buffer zone large enough to ensure that the nest will not be disturbed has been created around the nest site. The buffer zone will be marked out using bright coloured tape as previously stated and will be left in place until the ecologist confirms that all chicks have fledged the nest.

Hedgehog, Badger and Other Mammals

- 3.13 All wild mammals are protected from unnecessary suffering and asphyxiation under the Wild Mammals (Protection) Act 1996.
- 3.14 Construction staff should be made aware of the potential presence of other species, including West European hedgehog, badger, and red fox within the Site, during the pre-start toolbox talk. Good working practices for other species should be adhered to in line with BS 42020:2013 Biodiversity: Code of Practice for Planning and Development. This would include any trenches dug as part of construction work being covered over at night, or left with a ramp or sloping end, to prevent mammals from falling in and becoming trapped. Similarly, any pipes over 200mm in diameter should be capped off at night.
- 3.15 Any hedgehogs found should be left in situ, all works should cease within the vicinity of the area and either a suitability qualified ecologist or the hedgehog preservation society should be contacted for further advice. In most cases the hedgehog can be moved by hand to a nearby off-Site place of safety. However, dependent on the time of year, i.e. if temperatures are low (below 5°C) and the hedgehog was found within the hedgehog hibernation season (from November to March) then it may be necessary to take the hedgehog to a wildlife sanctuary. Moving a pregnant hedgehog or hedgehog with young can also result in mortality and therefore the hedgehog should be left wherever possible.
- British Hedgehog Preservation Society Tel: 01584 890 801
- 3.16 During Site clearance works no brash or log piles should be allowed to develop or be left overnight. If a pile is left, then this should be cleared by hand and the base of the pile checked for hedgehogs.
- 3.17 During any ground works the creation of large spoil heaps should be avoided since they could be dug into overnight by burrowing mammals. Where unavoidable, any spoil heaps over 5 x 5 m left overnight must be inspected by a Site contractor for signs of fresh digging each morning. Should any significant digging be identified, the Ecologist will be contacted for advice.
- 3.18 An update walkover survey to search for evidence of badgers and their setts should be undertaken within the two months prior to any works commencing on the Site. Should an active badger sett be discovered during the survey, a Natural England issued licence

would be required for any further works to be undertaken within 30m of the sett entrances. Should a sett be discovered during Site clearance or the construction phase, all works in the area are to cease and an appropriately experienced ecologist contacted for further advice. Should the ecologist determine that the badger sett is active a Natural England issued licence would be required for any further works to be undertaken within 30m of the sett entrances.

Invasive Species

- 3.19 Prior to the commencement of any works on the Site, a specific invasive species survey is to be undertaken by a specialist during the botanical growing season across the entire Site, to identify the presence of any Schedule 9 invasive non-native species (INNS).
- 3.20 Should INNS be discovered within the Site, an invasive species management plan is to be created and submitted detailing suitable management procedures to be put in place to prevent the spread of these species and, if required, eradicate them from the Site.

4. ECOLOGICAL CLERK OF WORKS

Role Responsibilities

Table 4.1: Timing of Ecologist/ECoW Presence

Sensitive Feature	Ecologist Presence Required	Timing Restriction
Nesting Birds	If vegetation is removed during the active nesting season	March-August, inclusive
Hedgehog and other Mammals	If during clearance works, injured individuals are suspected	None

- 4.1 In addition to the Site attendance of a suitably qualified/licenced ecologist during construction activities identified above, an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) will be appointed to ensure ongoing communication and advice is available should unexpected constraints arise.

Lines of Communication

- 4.2 The ECoW will provide a point of contact for Site contractor staff, whilst in turn the ECoW will update the Site manager following each visit.

Table 4.2: Contact Details Ecological

Ecological Specialist		
Overall Scheme Ecologist (Main office contact for general ecology enquiries and staffing)	BWB	Craig Dickson 07502 764 059

5. REFERENCES

- Bat Conservation Trust and Institute of Lighting Professionals (2023) Bats and Artificial Lighting at Night – Guidance Note 08/23.
- British Standards Institution (2013) BS42020:2013 Biodiversity – code of practice for planning and development. BSI Standards Ltd, London.
- BWB Consulting Ltd (2025) Ecological Impact Assessment CRB-BWB-ZZ-XX-T-EE-0001_Ecological Impact Assessment S2 P02
- Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2017) Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing. CIEEM, Winchester.
- CIEEM (2020) Guidelines for accessing, using and sharing biodiversity data in the UK. CIEEM, Winchester.
- Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (2024) National Planning policy Framework. Found at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf. Last accessed: 20.11.25.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Relevant Legislation

The following text provides information on the key legislation, which is applicable to this survey.

The main wildlife legislation relevant in the UK is as follows:

European Legislation

The relevant sections of the EC Directives and international conventions are summarised below:

- EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitat Directive 1992) as amended (92/43/EEC)

The Directive requires Member States to introduce a range of measures including the protection of species listed in the Annexes. The 189 habitats listed in Annex I of the Directive and the 788 species listed in Annex II, are to be protected by means of a network of sites. Once adopted, these are designated by Member States as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and along with Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified under the EC Birds Directive. The Habitats Directive introduces the precautionary principle; that disturbance to the designated sites can only be permitted having ascertained no adverse effect on the integrity of the Site.

- EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive 1979) as amended (79/409/EEC)

The main provisions of the Directive includes; the maintenance of the favourable conservation status of all wild bird species across their distributional range.

- Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)

The Convention imposes legal obligations on contracting parties, protecting over 500 wild plant species and more than 1000 wild animal species.

UK Legislation

The sections of UK legislation considered to be of relevance include:

- The Environment Act 2021

This legislation was revised in response to the Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill: reforms to national planning policy consultation on 19 December 2023 and sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The Act mandates the requirement of 10% net gains for biodiversity and as such should be the aim of all new developments.

- The Conservation (Natural Habitats, and c.) Regulations 2017 (as amended)

This transposes the Habitats Directive into national law. The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', and the protection of 'European protected species'.

- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WCA)

This consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW)

This act strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation.

- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act)

This act formed Natural England which places a duty on all public authorities, including local planning authorities to consider biodiversity. This Act also requires a list of species of habitats composed by the Secretary of State to help provide specific conservation targets. These species are known as Priority Species or Species of Principal Importance (SPI). These habitats are known as Priority habitats or Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI). Both SPI and HPI are listed under Section 41 of this Act. The NPPF also affords protection to these HPI's and SPI's.

- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992

This act affords protection to badgers and their setts including the destruction or obstructing access to a sett.

- Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996

This act provides protection to all wild species of mammal in the UK and is more related to mammal welfare but is directly applicable during any site clearance or other works to a site which could harm mammals.

- The Hedgerow Regulations 1997

The regulations require landowners to notify local planning authorities if they want to remove a hedgerow that is over 20 metres long or that joins another hedgerow. The authorities can prohibit the removal of a hedgerow if it is important from archaeological, historical, landscape or wildlife perspectives.

Species-Specific Legislation

Species specific legislation is provided in the following Table:

Species Groups	Legislation	Restrictions
Amphibians, including Great Crested Newt (GCN)	Sch. 5 and Sch. 9 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.	It is an offence to: • Sell; • Transport; • Advertise for sale. For GCN, as above but includes: • Kill; • Injure; • Disturb; • Destroy or obstruct access to any place used for rest or shelter.

Badgers	The Protection of Badgers Act 1992.	It is an offence to: • Wilfully kill, injure, take, or cruelly ill-treat a badger, or attempt to do so; • Possess any dead badger or any part of, or anything derived from, a dead badger; • Intentionally interfere with a sett by disturbing badgers whilst they are occupying a sett, damaging or destroying a sett, causing a dog to enter a sett, or obstructing access to it. A badger sett is defined in the legislation as "any structure or place, which displays signs indicating current use by a badger".
Bats	Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).	It is an offence to: • Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture (or take) bats; • Deliberately disturb bats (whether in a roost or not); • Disturb roosting bats or obstruct access to their roosts; • Damage or destroy bat roosts.
Birds	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Sch. 1 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).	It is an offence to: • Kill; • Injure; • Take any wild bird, their eggs or nest (with the exception of those on Sch. 2). As above but includes: • Disturbing birds at their nest, or their dependent young.
Reptiles	Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.	It is an offence to: • Kill; • Injure; • Sell. For Smooth Snake and Sand Lizard, as above but includes: • Disturb; • Damage; • Destroy or obstruct access to any place used for rest or shelter.
Hedgehogs and Other Mammals	SPI – Section 41 NERC Act. Wild Mammals Protection Act 1996.	Protection from harm, injury intent to harm.

Otter	Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).	It is an offence to: • Intentionally or deliberately kill, injure or capture (or take); • Deliberately disturb; • Disturb or obstruct access to their place of rest or shelter; • Damage or destroy place of rest or shelter; • Possess, control or transport alive or dead.
Water Vole	Sch. 5 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).	It is an offence to: • Kill; • Injure; • Take; • Possess or control alive or dead; • Disturb or obstruct access to their place of rest or shelter; • Damage or destroy place of rest or shelter.
Plants	Sch. 8 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Some species are SPI - Section 41 NERC Act.	It is an offence to: • Pick; • Uproot; • Trade; • Possess (for trade) any wild plant listed.
Invasive Species (Animal and Plant)	Sch. 9 Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).	It is an offence to: • Release of any animal, plant or microorganism not native to the UK; • Sell; • Cause or allow to spread.

Protected Sites

A network of protected sites, at varying levels, have been put in place across the UK. Further details are provided below;

International Importance

- Natura 2000

Natura 2000 is the name of the European Union-wide network of nature conservation-sites established under the EC Habitats and Birds Directives. This network will comprise Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SACs are designated under the EC Habitats Directive. The Directive applies to the UK and the overseas territory of Gibraltar. SACs are areas which have been identified as best representing the range and variety within the European Union of habitats and (non-bird) species listed on Annexes I and II to the Directive. SACs in terrestrial areas and territorial marine waters out to 12 nautical miles are designated under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended).

New and/or amended Habitats Regulations are shortly to be introduced to provide a mechanism for the designation of SACs and SPAs in UK offshore waters (from 12-200 nm).

National Importance

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

The SSSI series has developed since 1949 as the national suite of sites providing statutory protection for the best examples of the UK's flora, fauna, or geological or physiographical features. Most SSSIs are privately-owned or managed; others are owned or managed by public bodies or non-government organisations. The SSSIs designation may extend into intertidal areas out to the jurisdictional limit of local authorities, generally Mean Low Water in England and Northern Ireland; Mean Low Water of Spring tides in Scotland. In Wales, the limit is Mean Low Water for SSSIs notified before 2002, and, for more recent notifications, the limit of Lowest Astronomical Tides, where the features of interest extend down to LAT. There is no provision for marine SSSIs beyond low water mark. Originally notified under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, SSSIs have been renotified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Improved provisions for the protection and management of SSSIs were introduced by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (in England and Wales) and the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004.

Regional/Local Importance

- Wildlife Sites

Local authorities for any given area may designate certain areas as being of local conservation interest. The criteria for inclusion, and the level of protection provided, if any, may vary between areas. Most individual counties have a similar scheme, although they do vary.

These sites, which may be given various titles such as 'Listed Wildlife Sites' (LWS), 'County Wildlife Sites' (CWS), 'Local Nature Conservation-sites' (LNCS), 'Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation' (SINCs), or 'Sites of Nature Conservation Importance' (SNCIs), together with statutory designations, are defined in local and structure plans under the Town and Country Planning system and are a material consideration when planning applications are being determined.

Appendix 2: Biodiversity and Habitat Protection Zones

