

Ecosupport Ltd.
K4 Keppel
Daedalus Park
Daedalus Drive
Lee on the Solent
PO13 9FX

5th September 2025

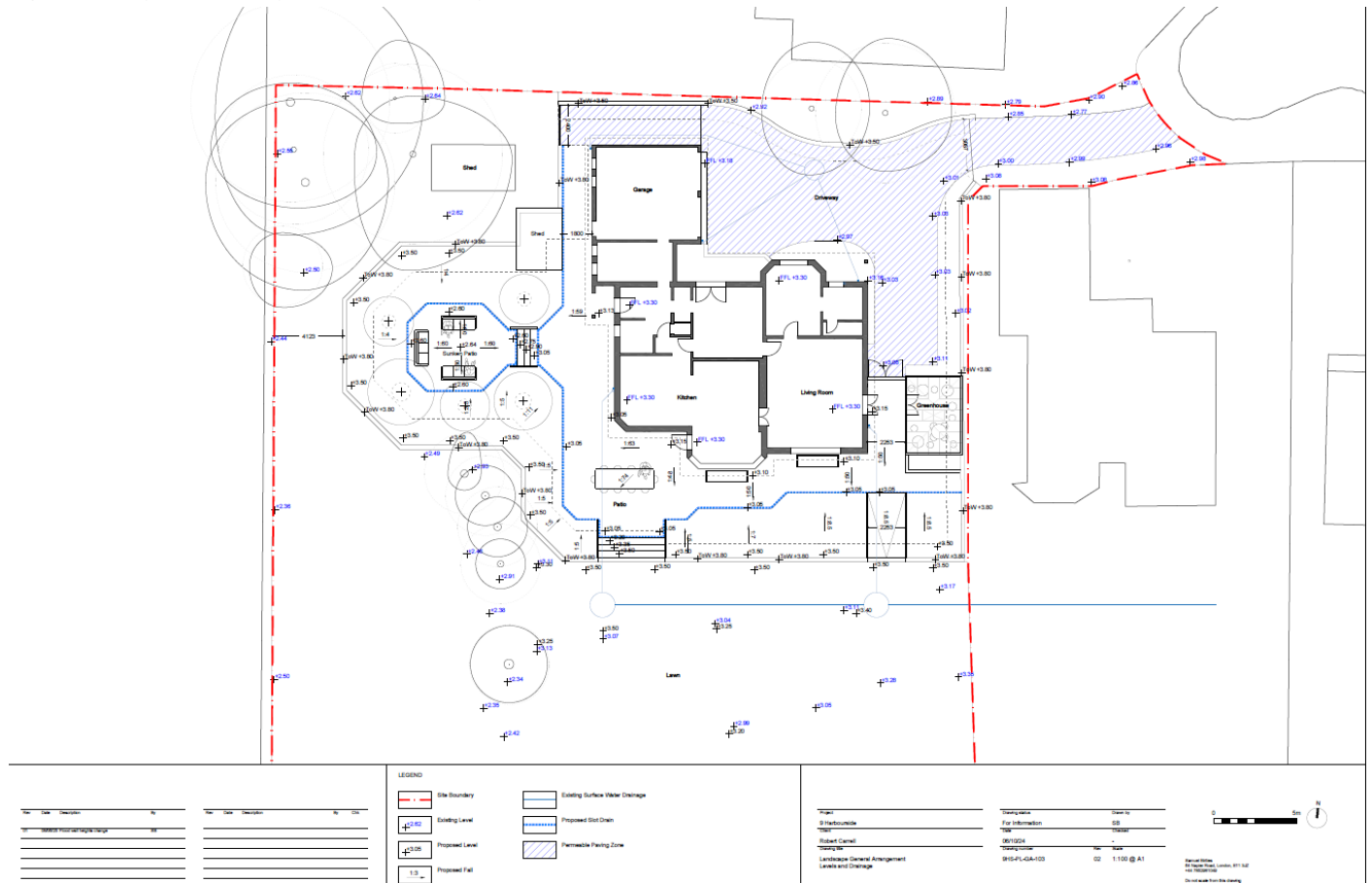
RE: Ecology Note to inform proposed landscaping at 9 Harbourside

Brief

This ecology note serves the purpose of providing ecological information to support the householder application for landscaping and flood protection works in the existing garden at 9 Harbourside, Langstone, PO9 1TJ (centred on OS grid reference SU 71537 04846).

The proposed works are for landscaping works to install a slot drain and flood wall and raise ground levels along with new landscaping works. This is to jointly provide new patio/landscaping for residential use and to protect the dwelling from flood events (**Fig 1**).

Figure 1. Proposed site layout for the development



Methodology

A site visit was carried out on the 4th September 2025 by Darla Brown BSc (Hons) ACIEEM, Project Ecologist with Ecosupport Ltd. and Laura Hardy BSc (Hons) AMRSB, Assistant Project Ecologist with Ecosupport Ltd. The purpose of the site visit was to assess the habitats and identify ecological constraints. The habitats have been classified under the UKHab Ltd (2023) habitat definitions.

In addition, a desktop survey was carried out using freely available online resources for designated sites, priority habitats, and protected species within the vicinity of the site.

Results

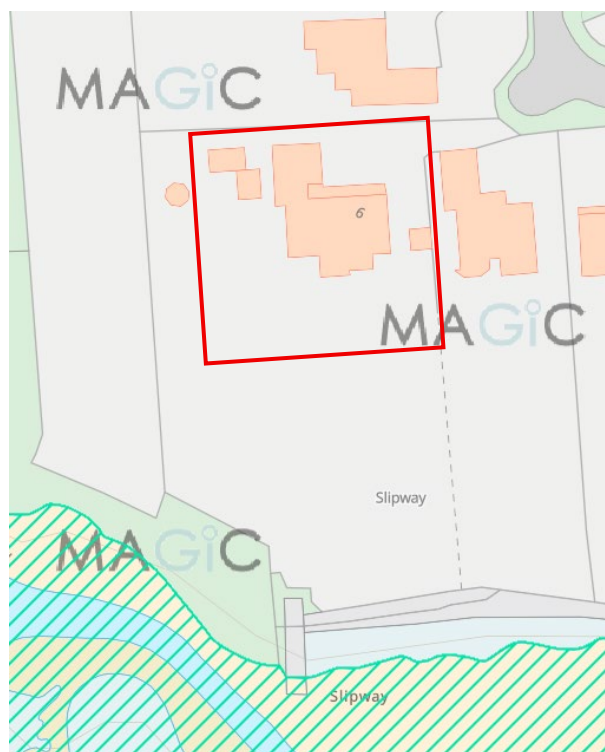
Desktop survey

The following designated sites were identified within the vicinity of the property:

- Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Chichester and Langstone Harbours Special Protection Area (SPA) & Ramsar
- Langstone Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

These sites are located approximately 45 metres at the closest point from the proposed zone of works.

Figure 2. Proximity of designated sites (shown in diagonal green) compared to rough area of works shown in red

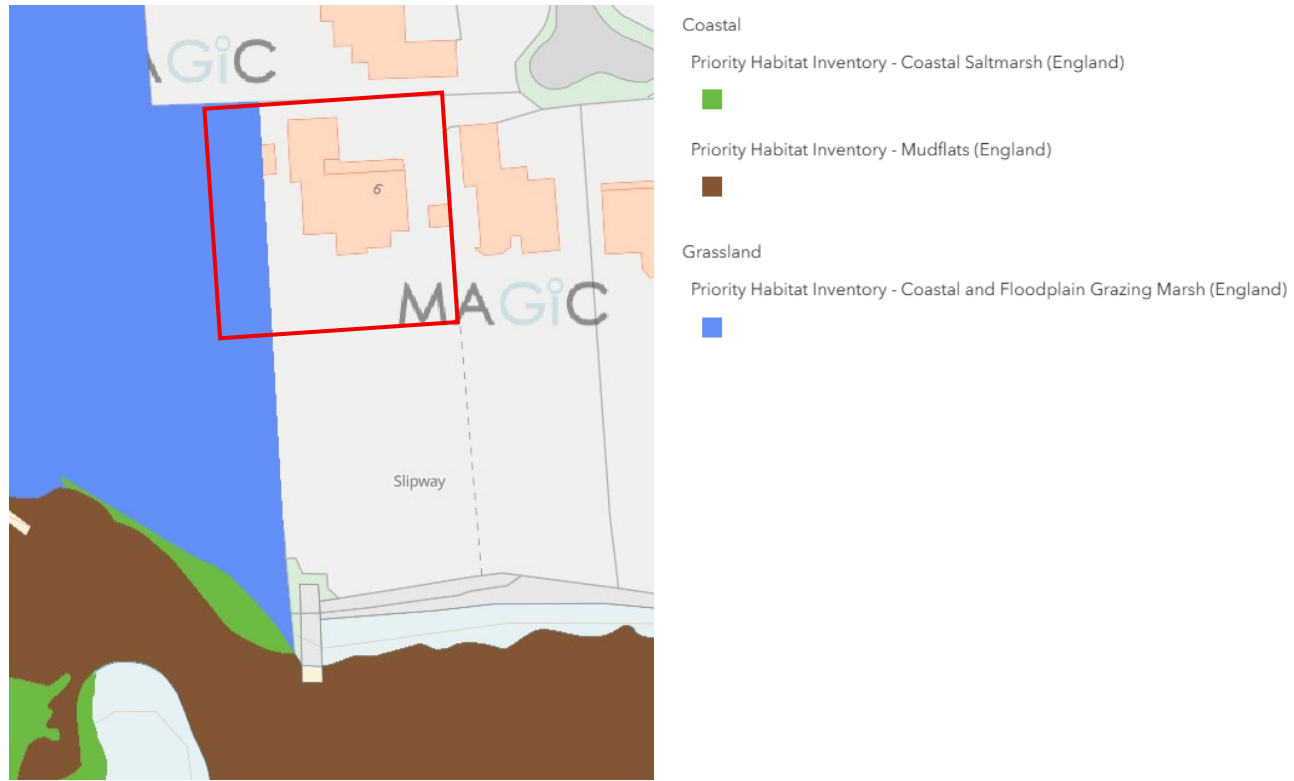


A search for Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) was carried out using the Havant Policy Map. There are no SINCs within the immediate vicinity of the site.

A search for priority habitats was carried out using freely available resources. This identified the western portion of the gardens of the property as priority coastal and floodplain grazing marsh (**Fig 3**). In addition, parts of the designated sites to the south are identified as priority saltmarsh habitat and priority mudflat off the coast.

Using freely available online resources, the only nearby waterbody within 250m is a small garden pond located at 7 Harbourside just east of site. However, it appears to be a small ornamental pond surrounded by brick edging and unlikely suitable for GCN.

Figure 3. Priority habitats shown surrounding the rough area of works shown in red (Defra, 2025).



Field survey

All habitats in the area of impact form part of the residential house and garden. It is not considered that any of the habitats in the property would be considered coastal and floodplain grazing marsh as it is maintained as a residential lawn and appeared to be dry.

The site comprised of the residential building (u1b5), the modified grassland (g4) lawn with scattered trees (32) and shrubs/garden beds forming part of the vegetated garden (828). A gravel driveway (u1c) is present to the north of the dwelling and there is hard standing landscaping (u1b) surrounding the south and west aspects of the building. There are also two small wood sheds (u1b5) to the west of the house. Photos of the site visit can be seen in **Figs 4-7** below.

Fig 4. South aspect of dwelling with manicured lawn and hardstanding

Fig 5. Sheds and scattered scrub/tree and hard standing to west of dwelling



Fig 6. Scattered shrubs and lawn to the west of the dwelling



Fig 7. Gravel driveway and scattered trees and shrubs to the north of the building



Potential for protected species

An assessment was carried out of the property for protected species.

The residential building will not be impacted and was not assessed in detail for bats. The two sheds are small and intact and not considered to have any potential roosting features (PRFs) or suitability that would be used by roosting bats. Further, all trees expected to be removed are relatively immature. These were assessed for PRFs and all are considered to have negligible potential for roosting bats.

The scattered trees and shrubs offer **low potential** for nesting birds but are very limited. The lawn itself is species-poor amenity grassland and unlikely offers foraging opportunities for wintering birds that may be within the nearby designated sites.

The garden offers **low potential** for foraging and commuting Badgers and other terrestrial mammals such as Hedgehog but no evidence of mammal holes on site was identified.

There is no suitable habitat for reptile or Great Crested Newt (GCN) on site as the grassland lacks structure or heterogeneity preferred by these species and further as noted above, there are no suitable waterbodies for GCN in the vicinity.

The shrubs are isolated from the wider area and there is *negligible potential* for dormice. There is no suitability for riparian or aquatic species within the site as the habitats on site do not offer any suitable habitat and the site is separated from the coast by a seawall.

Evaluation & Recommendations

Designated Sites

The designated sites approximately 45 metres to the south of the site are of value at the national/international level. Based on the limited scale of works involving landscaping and ground works for a single residential home, it is unlikely there will be any significant impacts. There is an existing reinforced seawall on the south boundary of the garden that would prevent spillage or surface drainage into the marine environment. Machinery will be very limited for the works and it is considered that with the provision of standard good construction pollution measures such as dust suppression and machine maintenance that it is unlikely there would be any significant impacts on the nearby designated sites.

In addition, the SPA is designated for overwintering birds. However, it has been noted the site is not suitable and they would unlikely be present immediately south of the site as there is a concrete skirt and littoral sediments. As the proposed works are for landscaping and installation of a wall, it is unlikely there will be any works of a highly disturbing nature that would cause disturbance to species within the nearby designated sites.

Habitats

The habitats on site are only considered to be of value at the site level. The trees to be removed are generally immature and not considered to be of high ecological value. There are larger trees on site but these will be retained. A tree protection plan has been produced by Technical Arboriculture (2025) and will ensure the protection of the more mature specimens on site. Therefore, it is not considered there will be any significant impacts.

Protected Species

The only potential for protected species within the site is for nesting birds and Badgers. The works on site are unlikely to result in any risk of entrapment to Badgers as no deep excavations will be present and therefore will have negligible impact.

It is recommended that removal of the trees and shrubs is undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (March – August, dependent on weather). If this is not possible, sections to be cleared will be thoroughly checked immediately prior to clearance. If any active nests are found, they will be left undisturbed with a suitable buffer of vegetation (5m), until the nestlings have fledged.

Conclusion

This ecology note concludes that the site is of poor ecological quality and ecological constraints are limited to potential for nesting birds in the scattered trees and shrubs on site and this can be mitigated with avoidance measures. The

assessment also identified designated sites of up to international importance approximately 45m to the south of the works but based on the limited scale of works, with standard pollution prevention measures employed it is considered that it is unlikely these will be significantly impacted by the landscaping works. A tree protection plan has already been produced to ensure the retained trees within the site will be protected during the works.

As such, it is considered that with appropriate mitigation noted above, there will be no residual ecological impacts as a result of the works.