

Land Off St Mary's Road, Hayling Island Preliminary Ecological Appraisal



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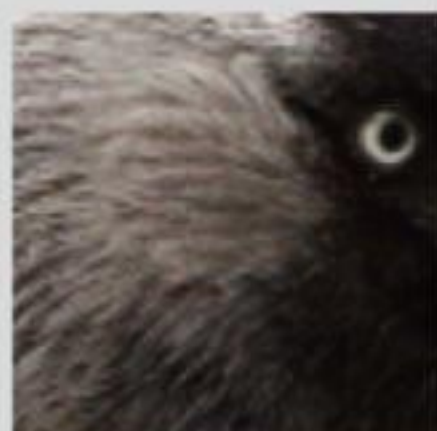
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I Key Issues

I.1 The Proposed Development

- 1.1.1 Gladman is promoting Land off St Mary's Road on Hayling Island for future residential development.
- 1.1.2 This report details the results of our ecological assessment of the site and describes features of ecological value found to be present. It also provides advice to help minimise any impacts, thereby enabling the development to comply with current nature conservation policy and legislation.

I.2 Ecological Receptors

- 1.2.1 The ecological assessment, set out in detail below, has found a low - moderate level of nature conservation interest on the site.
- 1.2.2 The key ecological receptors are nearby designated sites, including coastal SPAs and SACs within 2km.

I.3 Required Actions

- 1.3.1 Ecological impacts on features of interest will need to be avoided, or appropriate mitigation put in place to reduce the effects of development.
- 1.3.2 This report has informed survey work that has been undertaken over the summer of 2016. The results of this survey work have also informed appropriate mitigation where necessary.
- 1.3.3 Due to the proximity of the Chichester & Langstone Harbour SPA and Solent Maritime SAC, consultation with the Local Planning Authority (LPA) will be required as to the appropriate course of action with a view to mitigation of any potential impact on the integrity of these sites.

I.4 Conclusions

- 1.4.1 Overall, the conclusion of this report is that, with appropriate mitigation, negative impacts on biodiversity within the site can be avoided. Any impact on the designated sites cannot be predicted prior to additional consultation.

2 Methodology

2.1 Site Description

- 2.1.1 The proposed development site is located off St Mary's Road, near Gable Head, Hayling Island (see Figure 1).
- 2.1.2 The site is bordered to the north by recreational/ amenity grassland, to the west by the same amenity ground, including a tree-lined section to the southeast, and on all other sides by existing residential development.

Figure 1. Site Location with approximate boundary (Google Earth)



2.2 Study Scope

- 2.2.1 Baker Consultants was commissioned by the client to undertake the following works in relation to the Site:
 - 1. A desk-based study including searches of online databases to identify statutory and non-statutory designated sites of nature conservation importance and records of protected and/or notable species;

2. An Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey to record the nature and extent of vegetation and habitats within and adjacent to the site, with an appraisal of the suitability of the habitats present to support protected or notable species or assemblages.
3. An overall Ecological Appraisal of the site and potential impacts of the development based on the findings of the above studies and current understanding of the proposed development.

2.3 Desk Study

- 2.3.1 A data search was undertaken for records of protected and priority species in the UK, locally important species of conservation concern and statutory and non-statutory designated sites of nature conservation interest. Data was obtained via the sources listed in Table 1.
- 2.3.2 In addition, a specific data search was undertaken via the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) for records of dark-bellied brent goose *Branta bernicla bernicla* and other wildfowl and waders within the Hayling Island area and close vicinity. These records were primarily from the Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) Core Counts and Low Tide Counts, data obtained and managed exclusively by the BTO.

Table 1. Desk Study Data Sources.

Organisation/source	Data sought	Search area
Natural England (website) and Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (website)	Statutory designated sites of nature conservation importance.	2km from the site boundary
Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC)	Non-statutory designated sites of nature conservation and records of protected/notable species.	2km from the site boundary

2.4 Field Survey

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

- 2.4.1 A Phase 1 Habitat Survey was carried out by Senior Ecologist Diana Clark on 14 April 2016. The vegetation types and habitats present were described and mapped during a walkover of the site, using the standard published guidelines for Phase 1 Habitat survey (JNCC, 2010). Features of particular interest were recorded as Target Notes (TNs).
- 2.4.2 In addition, the habitats within the site and surrounding land were appraised for their suitability to support protected or notable species, or assemblages that could be sensitive to the development proposals, in accordance with 'Guidelines for Baseline Ecological Assessment' (IEA, 1995).

- 2.4.3 The protected and notable habitats and species referred to above include those listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010; and Species and Habitats of Principal Importance in England/Wales, listed under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.
 - 2.4.4 During the survey, consideration was given to features such as potential breeding bird habitat, bat roosting locations, badger sett locations, reptile habitat and the suitability of water features for amphibians and riparian mammals.
 - 2.4.5 Exotic and invasive species, such as Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, were noted by the surveyor if present. These species can have implications for development activity and human health respectively.
 - 2.4.6 Weather conditions during the survey were warm and sunny.
 - 2.4.7 The survey approach taken is designed to identify broad habitat types at a site and the potential of these habitats to support notable/protected species, and to assist in providing an overview of the ecological interest at a site. It is the most widely used and professionally recognised method for initial ecological site appraisal.
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3 Results

3.1 Study Limitations

- 3.1.1 It is important to note that, even where data is returned for a desk study, a lack of records for a defined geographical area does not necessarily mean that there is a lack of ecological interest since the area may simply be under-recorded. Equally, due to the level of recording, some species should be considered more frequent than indicated by the records provided within a desk study.
- 3.1.2 Whilst every effort was made in the field survey to provide a comprehensive description of the site, no investigation can ensure the complete characterisation and prediction of the natural environment. Also, natural and semi-natural habitats are subject to change, species may colonise the site after surveys have taken place and results included in this report may become less reliable over time.
- 3.1.3 There were no notable constraints to the survey. All parts of the site were visible and accessible, and conditions were favourable.

3.2 Designated Sites

- 3.2.1 The desk study provided information on the designated sites listed below in Table 2. Full details are provided at Appendix 2.
- 3.2.2 In addition to those listed below, 32 Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINCs) are listed within 2km of the site. The majority of these SINCs are listed for the presence of dark-bellied brent goose, and the closest is around 200m northeast of the site. These are also shown at Appendix 2.

Table 2. Designated Sites

Name	Designation	Distance / direction
Solent Maritime	SAC	1.2km E
Chichester & Langstone Harbours	SPA	0.8km E
Chichester Harbour	SSSI	1.2km NE
Langstone Harbour	SSSI	1km NW
Sinah Common	SSSI	0.7km S
Hayling Billy	LNR	1.9km N

3.3 Habitats

- 3.3.1 Scientific names are given after the first mention of a species, thereafter, common names only are used. Nomenclature follows Stace (1997) for vascular plant species.

Trees & Hedgerow

- 3.3.2 There are only two recognisable stretches of species poor intact hedgerow within the site, one running alongside a dry ditch through the centre of the site for approximately 20m, and another bordering St Mary's Church. Blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* are heavily dominant as the structural species in these hedgerows.
- 3.3.3 There are some scattered trees running along part of the western boundary, many of which are mature but evidently in good condition with few features of note for bat roosts, for example. A single ash *Fraxinus excelsior* tree is present within the area around the pond at the centre of the site.

Scrub & Ruderal

- 3.3.4 Dense patches of scrub can be found around the pond and building in the centre of the site, as well as towards the southwest bordering existing houses, along with scattered scrub patches along the eastern boundary and just to the south of the building. These scrub patches consist of a mix of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. and *Salix* spp.
- 3.3.5 Patches of ruderal vegetation can be found around the building and pond areas in particular, with species such as nettle *Urtica dioica*, teasel *Dipsacus fullonum*, ragwort *Senecio jacobaea*, and broad leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*.

Grassland & Arable

- 3.3.6 There is a small amount of poor semi-improved grassland at the eastern edge of the site, dominated by perennial ryegrass *Lolium perenne*, with some patches of Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*. There are very few herbaceous species, with the rest of the site dominated by arable land.

Water

- 3.3.7 There is a single pond on the site, surrounded by scrub and heavily shaded. A ditch also runs from east to west but was dry at the time of the survey. There are no other ponds within 500m not separated by major barriers such as busy roads.

3.4 Species

Terrestrial Mammals

- 3.4.1 The data search returned no records for badger, otter or water vole within the 2km search radius, and no signs of any of these species were recorded on the site during the survey.
- 3.4.2 It is possible that badgers may use the site to forage but there were no current signs indicating the presence of an active sett. Otters, if present, may use the ditch to commute through the site but any more extensive use is considered highly unlikely.
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3.4.3 A single recent record of hedgehog was returned within the 2km search radius. The habitat on site is suitable for foraging hedgehogs and the scrub and denser vegetation may also be suitable as a resting place. No signs of the species or hedgehogs themselves were observed on the site.

3.4.4 Badgers, otters and water voles are not considered any further within this report.

Bats

3.4.5 The data search returned records for several bat species within a 2km search radius of the centre of site, including noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *P. pygmaeus*, brown long-eared *Plecotus auritus*, and various *Myotis* bat species. These records were of individual bats and none were recorded within the site itself.

3.4.6 The boundaries and scrub offer potential foraging habitat and a commuting corridor for bats.

3.4.7 There is no clearly evident roosting habitat on the site for bats. As previously stated all the trees appear in good condition and are, for the most part, on the boundary of the site and not scheduled for removal. It is possible that the building could be used as a transient/ night roost for very low numbers of bats but this is considered unlikely due to the general structure and limited visible opportunities for entry or exit.

Invertebrates

3.4.8 The desk study returned a number of recent records for invertebrates of conservation concern, including many listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006 such as stag beetle *Lucanus cervus*.

3.4.9 The vast majority of these records were from the heavily studied Sinah Common SSSI, and none were from the site itself or within close proximity. Habitat on the site is suitable for some species of invertebrates but there are limited features likely to play host to the species of highest conservation concern, such as deadwood, flower-rich margins, or contiguous dense scrub.

Plants

3.4.10 A number of records were returned for plant species of conservation concern within the 2km search radius.

3.4.11 No species of this nature were observed during the survey, and the habitats present are considered unlikely to host rare or notable species, being dominated by arable land with limited margins, and surrounded by well used amenity grassland.

3.4.12 Plants are not considered further in this report.

Amphibians

- 3.4.13 The data search did not return any records for amphibians. The single pond on site is potentially suitable for amphibians, including the great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*. However there is no other potential breeding habitat on the site or within 500m, not separated by a significant barrier.
- 3.4.14 The terrestrial habitat on site, such as the earth pile and scrub, represents a potentially suitable refuge for amphibian species, particularly common toad.

Reptiles

- 3.4.15 Recent records for slow worm *Anguis fragilis* and common lizard *Zootoca vivipara* were returned by HBIC for the 2km search radius.
- 3.4.16 No evidence of reptiles was found during the surveys, but potentially suitable habitat is present, especially along the edge of the ditch, around the pond and earth pile, as well as amongst the scrub around the site but most particularly close to the adjoining gardens and building.

Birds

- 3.4.17 The desk study returned records of a number of species of conservation concern or enhanced legal status, including skylark *Alauda arvensis*.
- 3.4.18 Although none of these records were from within or immediately adjacent to the site, there is suitable breeding and/ or foraging habitat for a number of species within the site boundaries.

Brent Geese and Waders

- 3.4.19 The site is identified as having uncertain potential to provide roosting and foraging habitat for Dark Bellied Brent Goose and Waders, in accordance with Policy DM23 of the Havant Local Plan Allocations document.
- 3.4.20 The dedicated BTO desk study for low tide/ core counts returned records for dark bellied brent goose from sites adjacent to Hayling Island, including both Chichester and Langstone Harbours, but very low to negligible numbers on Hayling Island itself. Indeed, dark-bellied brent geese are not recorded at all in two of the core count areas on Hayling Island: South Hayling and Gunner Point to Beachlands. Only at North Hayling Oyster Beds did the species appear in the records, with a peak winter count of 120 birds.
- 3.4.21 For the low tide counts in areas around Hayling Island, the peak count at Chichester Harbour was 7,184 birds, with 4,969 birds at Langstone Harbour. In combination, these records illustrate the importance of coastal sites to the species, and a relative lack of use of inland areas Hayling Island, particularly in the south. The full records obtained from the BTO are available on request.
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- 3.4.22 The document 'Status of Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy Sites in Havant Borough' (Havant Borough Council, July 2016) shows the fields of the proposed development site to be assigned as 'No Recorded Use'; this is also the case for fields immediately adjacent to the site. The relevant fields are referred to as H45, H46a and H46b in the document- the pertinent data can be seen at Appendix 1.
- 3.4.23 It is considered likely that, due to the current land use, the fact that the fields are bordered on two sides by existing housing, and the remaining bordering areas are heavily used for recreation, these fields are of low potential for geese or waders. In this regard it is noted that only two geese, and no waders, have ever been recording as visiting the site (Appendix 1).

Invasive Species

- 3.4.24 No records for invasive species were uncovered by the data search, and no signs of invasive non-native species were observed on the site.

4 Assessment

4.1 Legislation and Policy

- 4.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) is intended to help deliver sustainable development, with environmental issues being one of the three dimensions within this. It includes a range of statements and policies relating to biodiversity and nature conservation, with the aim of 'moving from a net loss of biodiversity to achieving net gains for nature' (Paragraph 9). Key sections of the NPPF are highlighted below:

- Paragraph 109 'The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by --- minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government' commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity'
- Paragraph 118 Local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity when determining planning applications by ensuring that: significant harm is avoided, mitigated or compensated (especially for irreplaceable habitats); impacts on designated sites are prevented and; biodiversity is incorporated in and around developments.
- Paragraph 165 To allow the appropriate consideration of ecological issues within applications, planning decisions, 'should be based on up-to-date information about the natural environment – this should include an assessment of existing and potential components of ecological networks'.

- 4.1.2 Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a duty on every public authority to have regard to conserving biodiversity. Section 41 of the same Act requires that the Secretary of State must publish a list of the living organisms and types of habitats that are of 'Principal Importance' for the purpose of conserving biodiversity in England. The Secretary of State must take steps, as appear reasonably practicable, to further the conservation of those living organisms and habitats in any list published under this section. The list of species and habitats of principal importance currently includes 943 species and 56 habitats.

4.2 Impacts on Designated Sites

- 4.2.1 The site does not lie within any Impact Risk Zones for nearby SSSIs, and as such no consultation will be required for this purpose, and no further mitigation measures for this are recommended.
- 4.2.2 There are a total of 32 SINCs (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation) listed within the HBIC desk study data. Although these are non-statutory designations, they must still be addressed under the terms of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as a material consideration within any planning application. Depending on the eventual scope of works, potential impacts could include
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additional seasonal pressures from recreation (e.g. walking/ dog walking/ cycling). This could cause disturbance to species such as nesting birds and damage to sensitive vegetation unless properly managed, but there is clear scope for appropriate mitigation and the size of the development will mean that such impacts are negligible.

- 4.2.3 Of these sites, 22 mention dark-bellied brent goose in the citation. These sites effectively line both east and west coasts of Hayling Island and, along with the data obtained as part of this study, suggest that brent goose movements are prevalent between these coastal sites and those on the adjacent mainland. Considering the relative lack of records in any sites in the centre of the island, including no recorded use for the proposed development site, and adverse impact as a result of the development is considered unlikely.
- 4.2.4 The Solent Maritime SAC is 1.2km to the east of the site at its closest point, with Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA 0.8km to the east. As Natura 2000 sites, it must be considered whether the development is likely to have a significant impact, either alone or in combination with other projects, on the integrity of the sites in terms of their structure and function to carry out their conservation objectives. Again, there is clear scope for appropriate mitigation and the size of the development will mean that such impacts are negligible.
- 4.2.5 The SAC is designated for its Annex I habitats of coastal plain estuaries, *Spartina* (cord grass) swards, and Atlantic salt meadows. The SPA is designated under Article 4.1 for breeding populations of little and sandwich tern, as well as little egrets on passage and in winter, and bar-tailed godwit in winter; under Article 4.2, it supports populations of European importance of migratory ringed plover, black-tailed godwit, dark-bellied brent goose, dunlin, grey plover, and redshank, as well as over 90,000 waterfowl in winter.
- 4.2.6 The competent authority (in this case the LPA) must provide a screening opinion as to whether the development requires the process of Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) to determine the scale of any impact.

4.3 Impacts on Habitats

Habitats Overview

- 4.3.1 The sections below provide an evaluation, description of potential impacts and assessment of ecological effects for each habitat type relevant to the study area.

Trees & Hedgerow

- 4.3.2 It is considered unlikely that there will be a significant impact on trees or hedgerow as a result of the proposed development, with only two short stretches of species poor hedgerow and the vast majority of trees on the boundary of the site expected

to be retained. Any necessary loss of hedgerow is expected to be mitigated by new planting and so the impact is predicted to be negligible and at site level only.

Scrub & Ruderal

- 4.3.3 The loss of scrub is not considered to be a significant impact within the context of the wider area. However, consideration should be given to retaining as much of this habitat as possible, bearing in mind its importance for a variety of species such as nesting birds.

Grassland & Arable

- 4.3.4 The grassland is of very low ecological value and no negative impact on biodiversity is predicted. The habitat is not botanically diverse and tall ruderal species are encroaching in some areas. The arable land, with only limited margins, is not of significant ecological value and its loss is not predicted to result in a negative impact.

Water

- 4.3.5 The existing pond on site will be retained and enhanced by additional planting. The proposed drainage strategy includes two detention basins which will provide additional ecological benefits.

4.4 Impacts on Species

Species Overview

- 4.4.1 The sections below provide an evaluation, description of potential impacts and assessment of ecological effects for each species or species group relevant to the study area.

Terrestrial Mammals

- 4.4.2 Any loss of scrub may reduce the available habitat for foraging and resting hedgehogs, which are known to be in the wider area. Again, the fact that such a small area is due to be lost means that the overall impact will be limited to site level only, and no negative impact on hedgehog populations in the area is predicted.

Bats

- 4.4.3 Bats and their habitats are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000), and by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. In addition, seven bat species are listed as Species of Principal Importance under the provisions of the NERC Act 2006.
- 4.4.4 The development is unlikely to have an impact upon foraging and commuting bats as there is no requirement to remove any hedgerow.
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- 4.4.5 Light pollution during construction and after completion may also reduce the value of the habitat for foraging bats, and affect species diversity in that some species such as common pipistrelles *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* are much more tolerant of light pollution than others.
- 4.4.6 There is unlikely to be any impact upon bats as a result of removal of trees, as no such work is required. The majority of trees on site are in good condition and with no currently evident roosting opportunities. The removal of the building may have an impact and this will need to be determined by appropriate survey.

Invertebrates

- 4.4.7 The loss of habitat on site is unlikely to have a significant impact on invertebrates of conservation concern, or indeed the populations of invertebrates in the context of the wider area. However, there is scope for habitat enhancement which could attract invertebrates with relatively simple and inexpensive measures and lead to an increase in biodiversity value of the site.

Amphibians

- 4.4.8 Great crested newts and their habitats in water and on land are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000) and under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. In addition, great crested newt and common toad are listed as Species of Principal Importance under the provisions of the NERC Act 2006.
- 4.4.9 The modification of the pond, or any works in the vicinity such as vegetation clearance, could have an impact on breeding amphibians, and further survey will be needed to establish whether this is the case.
- 4.4.10 Overall, impacts upon other amphibians are likely to be negligible. The loss of a small area of suitable terrestrial refuge is not considered to have a permanent negative impact on any species and, as long as appropriate mitigation is applied, individual animals will not be at risk. Again, further survey will establish the extent of amphibian populations on site and enable appropriate mitigation to be implemented.

Reptiles

- 4.4.11 All British reptiles are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW Act 2000). Grass snake, slow worm, common lizard and adder are protected against intentional killing or injury and against sale. In addition, all British reptiles are listed as Species of Principal Importance under the provisions of the NERC Act 2006.
- 4.4.12 Impacts upon reptiles will need to be determined following additional survey to establish their presence/ absence at the site. The removal of certain valuable habitats could have an impact upon individuals or populations and appropriate

mitigation may need to be implemented, depending upon the results of further study.

Birds

- 4.4.13 All nesting birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy its nest whilst in use or being built, or take or destroy its eggs. In addition to this, for some rarer species (listed on Schedule 1 of the Act), it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb them while they are nest building or at or near a nest with eggs or young, or to disturb the dependent young of such a bird.
 - 4.4.14 The permanent loss of large areas of existing habitat could have negative impacts on the local populations of some species and further survey will be required to fully assess this.
 - 4.4.15 Site clearance or construction works, if undertaken during the bird breeding season, could potentially damage or disturb active nests and result in an offence under the legislation. Measures to avoid this will need to be implemented.
 - 4.4.16 In terms of wintering dark-bellied brent geese and waders, it is considered unlikely that the loss of open areas within this site will have a negative impact on the species.
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5 Recommendations

5.1 Designated Sites

- 5.1.1 Consultation with the LPA is recommended with respect to screening the need for an HRA in relation to the nearby SAC and SPA.

5.2 Habitats

- 5.2.1 It is recommended that loss of scrub and hedgerow be minimised as far as possible. Consideration should be given to replanting areas with native trees/ shrubs to replace any lost during development. Cleared trees should also be made available (where possible) as dead wood to enhance habitats for species such as invertebrates and amphibians.

5.3 Species

Terrestrial Mammals

- 5.3.1 Care should be taken when carrying out any scrub or hedgerow removal, particularly during autumn and winter months when species such as hedgehogs may be using such features as a refuge. Dense scrub should ideally be removed using hand tools only. If any animals are encountered they must be allowed to escape unharmed. If there is any doubt as to how to proceed, then a qualified ecologist should be contacted for advice.

Bats

- 5.3.2 An assessment the building is recommended prior to development taking place. If any roosts are found, then a Natural England Protected Species Licence will be required.
- 5.3.3 The area is considered to be of relatively low value for foraging/ commuting bats, due to the lack of favourable features and largely open nature of the site. As such, three 'seasonal' visits to survey for bats will be required. Each visit will involve a walked transect using detection equipment, as well as the placement of automated detectors which will record bat calls for later analysis. This will enable the proper assessment of impacts towards bats as a result of the development.
- 5.3.4 Light pollution should be minimised during construction by not working outside of daylight hours and ensuring that any necessary night lighting for security purposes is minimised, or removed in favour of other measures. Lighting for the new development should be designed to reduce light spill and may involve the use of shields, louvres, and low level installations.

Amphibians

- 5.3.5 A survey of the pond for the presence of great crested newt (GCN) is recommended. This will take the form of a minimum of four visits, in which bottle traps will be placed in the pond overnight and retrieved the following morning to assess the presence/ absence of GCN. Torching and egg searches will also be used to assess this. If any GCN are found during these initial visits, an additional two visits will be carried out to establish the population size. This will advise the nature and scale of mitigation required.
- 5.3.6 Care should be taken to avoid harming individual animals during site clearance- any animals such as toads should be allowed to escape unharmed, and consideration should be given to replacing and enhancing habitats with features such as log piles.

Reptiles

- 5.3.7 A reptile survey at the site is recommended. This will involve the placement of artificial refugia (usually felt mats), followed by at least six survey visits during suitable conditions in April, May and September to check for the presence of reptiles. The results of the survey will determine the level of mitigation required.

Invertebrates

- 5.3.8 Consideration should be given to enhancing the site for the benefit of invertebrates. Features such as wildflower margins, log piles, 'bug boxes' and other such inexpensive and effective measures will enhance the site for biodiversity in general.

Birds

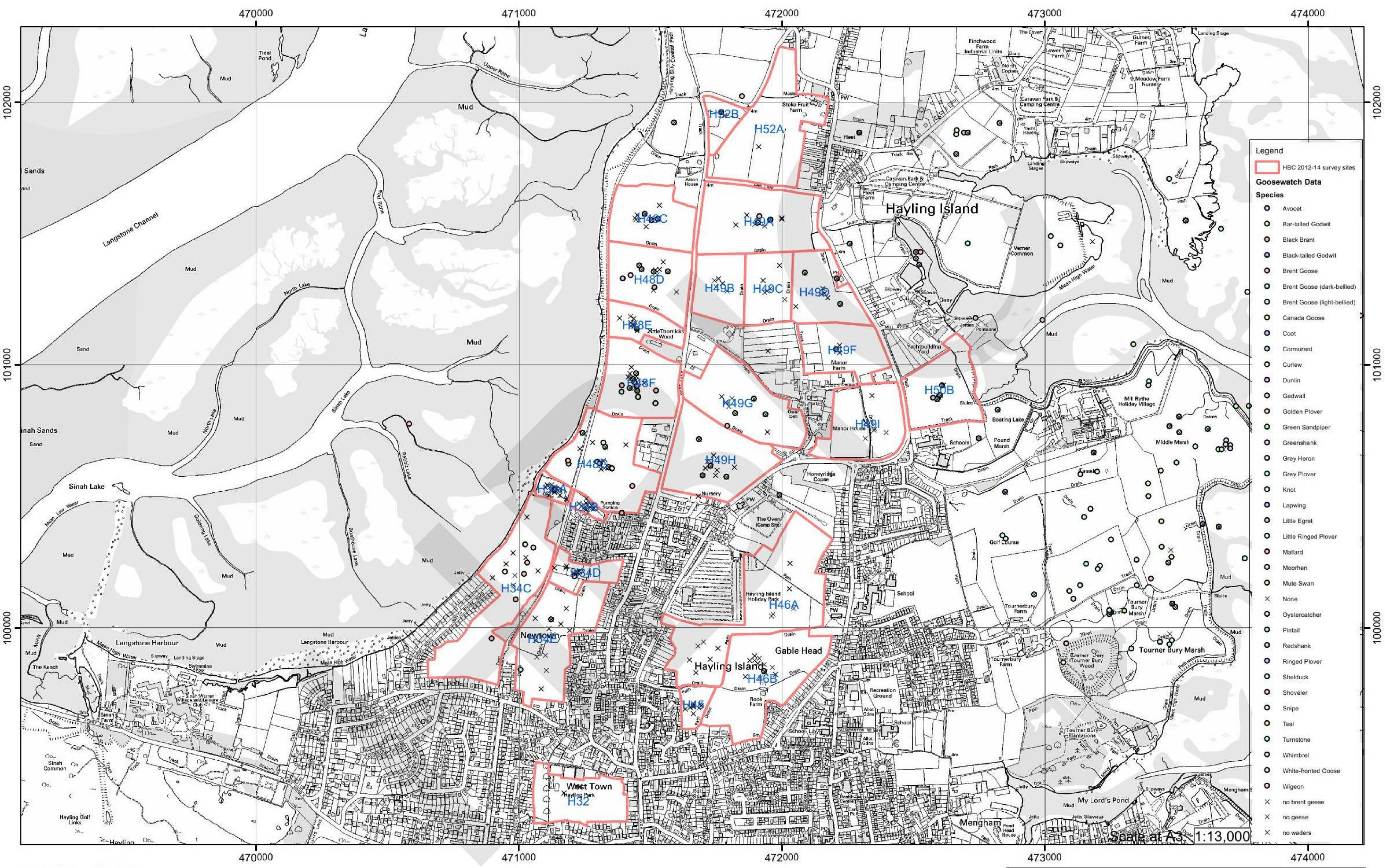
- 5.3.9 It is recommended that breeding bird surveys be undertaken, with three visits between April and June. This will ensure that potential impacts of habitat loss throughout the site can be properly assessed.
- 5.3.10 In addition, six visits are recommended to conduct wintering bird watches between November and February inclusive. This will allow an up-to-date evidence base for the status of the site in relation to its use by brent geese and waders.
- 5.3.11 All works involving vegetation or ground clearance, or demolition of buildings should be timed to avoid the main breeding season (March – August inclusive). If this is not feasible, then all works must be immediately preceded by a breeding bird survey and thorough search for active nests by a suitably qualified ecologist. If any active nests are found, then all work in the area must cease and a suitable buffer zone be established, until the nest is no longer occupied or visited by either adults or young.
- 5.3.12 Simple mitigation for any loss of woodland and scrub as a result of the development may include the establishment of bird feeding stations and artificial
-

nesting sites such as bird boxes, as well as targeted planting regimes to favour birds. This can be incorporated into the design to enhance the area's value for birds.

6 References

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- Stace, C. (2012) *New Flora of the British Isles* (3rd edition). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.
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Appendix I: Brent Goose Study



Map 9. Havant Winter Bird Survey
Area C - GooseWatch Data



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Table 2 – Hayling Island								
SWBGS Site	SINC	2002 Strategy		2010 Strategy ⁵		Other Records	Status	
		Brent	Waders	Brent	Waders		Brent	Waders
H32		No records. 2 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 2 visits	4 visits 2012/13 No records.	NRU ⁶	Uncertain
H34A		No records. 31 visits	No records	9. 1 visit	No records. 1 visit	6 visits 2012/13 1 ET.	Uncertain	Uncertain
H34B		40. 32 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 1 visit	6 visits 2012/13 No records.	NRU	Uncertain
H34C	Yes	350. 54 visits	No records	66. 1 visit	No records. 1 visit	22 visits winter 2011/12. 500 Brent, 139 GP, 1 L. northern end of field. 6 visits 2012/13 No records.	Uncertain	Uncertain
H34D		No records. 59 visits	No records	No records. No visits	7 L. 2 visits	6 visits 2012/13 No records.	NRU	Uncertain
H34E	Yes	650. 51 visits	No records	70. 1 visit	No records. 1 visit	Additional data from local resident. Several tens of brent 2011/12 and 12/13. 6 visits 2012/13 1 ET.	Uncertain	Uncertain
H45		No records. 1 visit	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 1 visit	6 visits 2012/13 No records.	NRU	Uncertain
H46A		No records.	No records	No records.	No records.	6 visits 2012/13	NRU	Uncertain

⁵ Peak number recorded over all visits

⁶ No Record Use

Table 2 – Hayling Island

SWBGS Site	SINC	2002 Strategy		2010 Strategy ⁵		Other Records	Status	
		Brent	Waders	Brent	Waders		Brent	Waders
		15 visits		No visits	1 visit	No records.		
H46B		No records. 2 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 1 visit	6 visits 2012/13. 2 brent, no waders	NRU	Uncertain
H47		No records. 15 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 1 visit		NRU	Uncertain
H48A	Yes	41. 33 visits	7 OC	51. 1 visit	No records. 3 visits		Uncertain	Uncertain
H48B	Yes	No records. 36 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 4 visits		NRU	Uncertain
H48C	Yes	450. 53 visits	No records	1000. 5 visits	96 CU, 27L. 16 visits	2 visits 2012/13 No records.	Important	Uncertain
H48D	Yes	350. 54 visits	No records	375. 2 visits	45 CU. 14 visits	4 visits 2012/13 80 brent, 64 CU	NRU	Uncertain
H48E	Yes	250. 53 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 10 visits	6 visits 2012/13 80 brent, no waders	NRU	NRU
H48F	Yes	420. 52 visits	No records	No records. No visits	63 GP, 75 L. 11 visits	6 visits 2012/13 No records.	NRU	Uncertain
H48G	Yes	420. 51 visits	No records	150. 1 visit	14 GP, 49 L. 10 visits	6 visits 2012/13 50 brent on adj. water	Uncertain	Uncertain
H49A	Yes	600. 28 visits	88 CU, 44 L.	No records. No visits	70 CU, 80 GP, 100 L. 15 visits	3 visits 2012/13 60 brent	NRU	Uncertain
H49B		No records. 25 visits	No records	1. 1 visit	141 CU. 16 visits	1 visit 2012 No records	Uncertain	Uncertain
H49C	Yes	203. 28 visits	50 L, 13 GP	No records. No visits	No records. 4 visits	1 visit 2012 No records	NRU	Uncertain
H49D	Yes	500. 18 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 4 visits	2 visits 2012/13 No records	NRU	Uncertain
H49E		No records. 2 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 1 visit		NRU	Uncertain
H49F		150. 18 visits	No records	No records. No visits	No records. 1 visit	1 visit 2013 No records	NRU	Uncertain
H49G		No records. 26 visits	No records	No records. No visits	24 L. 3 CU. 9 visits	5 visits 2012/13 80 brent, 3 CU	NRU	Uncertain

Appendix 2: Designated Sites Plan



Hampshire Biodiversity
Information Centre

HBIC Ref: 6193
Statutory designated sites
and SINCs within 2 km of
site boundary centred on
approximately SZ 719 998:

Legend

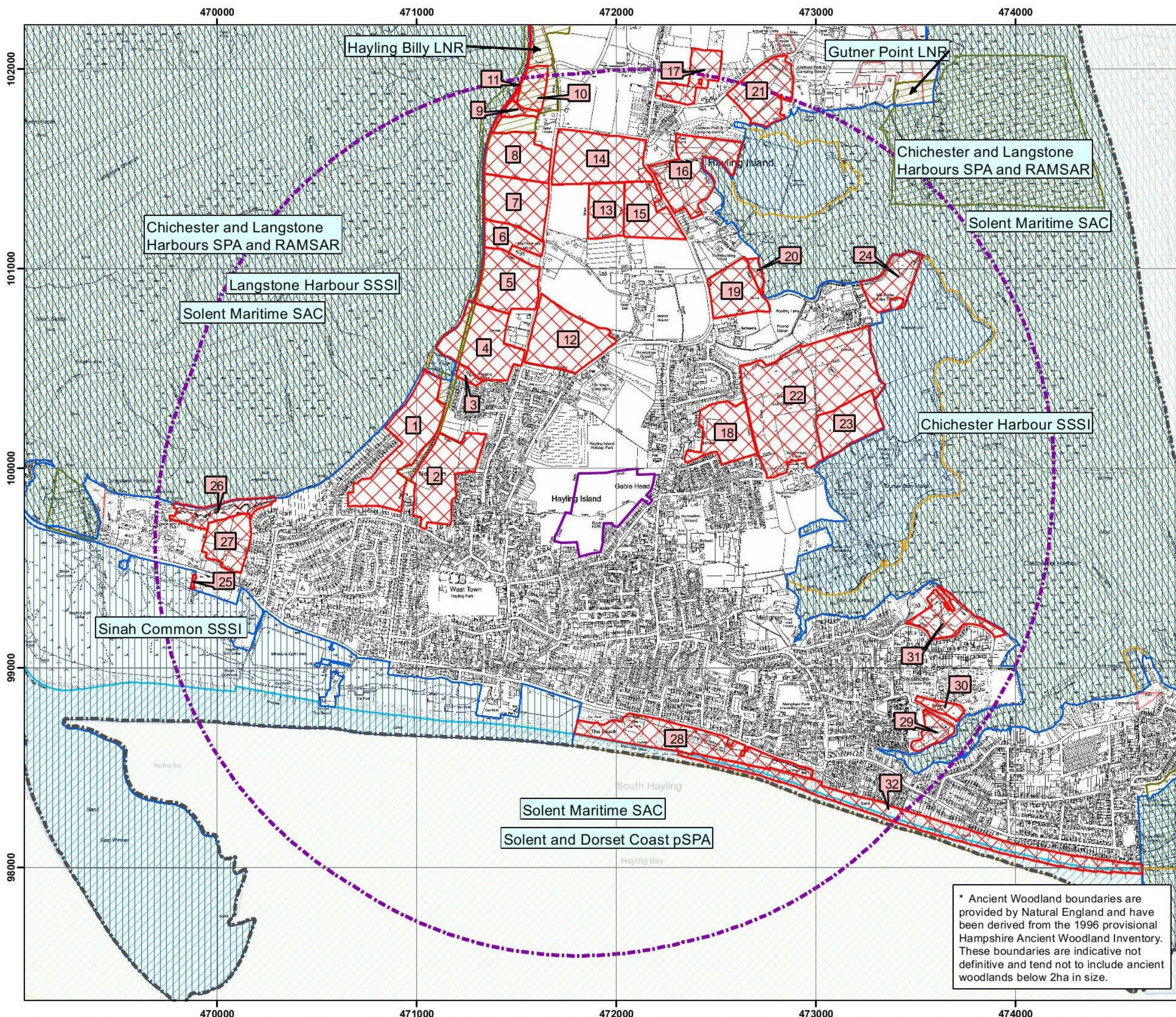
- Site_Boundary
- Search Area 2 km
- Hampshire County Boundary
- SINCs (Labelled)
- Surrounding SINCs
- SSSI
- SAC
- SPA
- pSPA
- LNR
- RAMSAR

Created: 15/ 04/ 2016
Scale at A3: 1:18,000



0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Meters

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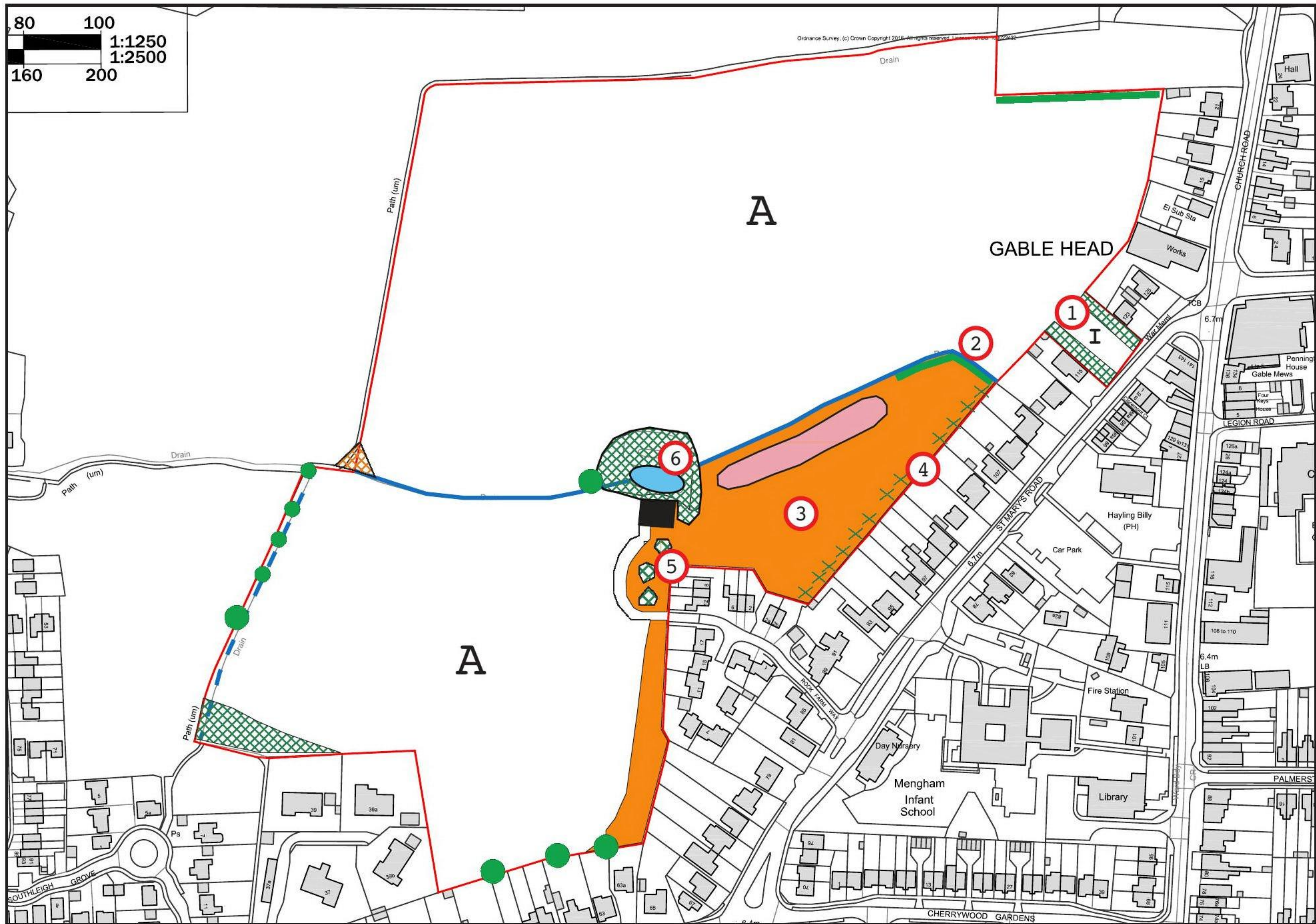
* Ancient Woodland boundaries are provided by Natural England and have been derived from the 1996 provisional Hampshire Ancient Woodland Inventory. These boundaries are indicative not definitive and tend not to include ancient woodlands below 2ha in size.

Please note: The boundaries for statutory sites have been provided as digital data from Natural England (NE); this digital data is indicative not definitive. Paper maps produced by NE at the time the sites were designated show the official site boundaries.

Appendix 3: Phase I Habitat Plan

Target Notes

1. Entrance to site. Dense bramble scrub, as well as willow, hawthorn scrub. Improved grassland down middle.
2. Curved hedge with associated dry ditch.
3. Grassland behind hedgerow – semi improved with more herbaceous species including ragwort, rough hawksbit, dandelion, creeping buttercup.
4. Narrow strip of scrub along back of adjoining residential gardens. Includes domestic garden plants.
5. Various patches of bramble/ willow scrub associated with rough grassland- ideal for reptiles.
6. Pond surrounded by scrub/ ruderal habitat. Birds using the pond include mallard and grey heron. Potential breeding habitat for GCN, if suboptimal.



Legend

- Approximate site boundary
- A Arable
- I Improved grassland
- Semi-improved grassland
- Bracken
- Dense scrub
- Scattered scrub
- Hedge
- Pond
- Running water (ditch)
- Dry ditch
- Earth mound
- Scattered trees
- Building
- Target note

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ECOLOGYPDESIGNINNOVATION

Project Name & No.
829 Hayling Island

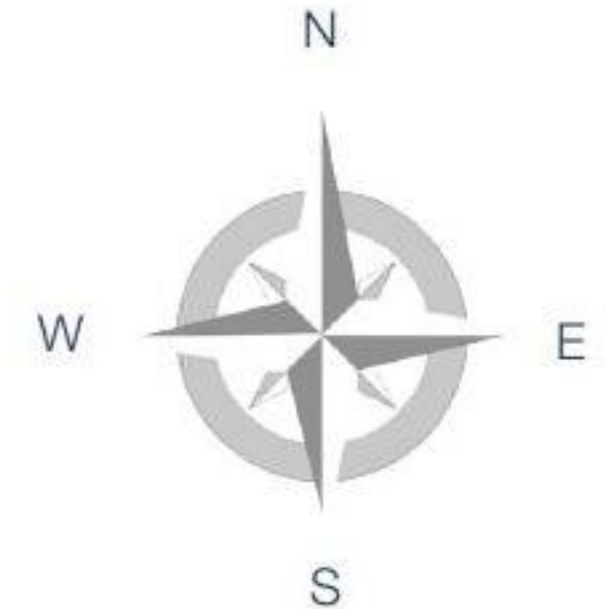
Production Date
01 September 2016

Project Owner
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Figure Creator
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Hayling Island - Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Plan



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