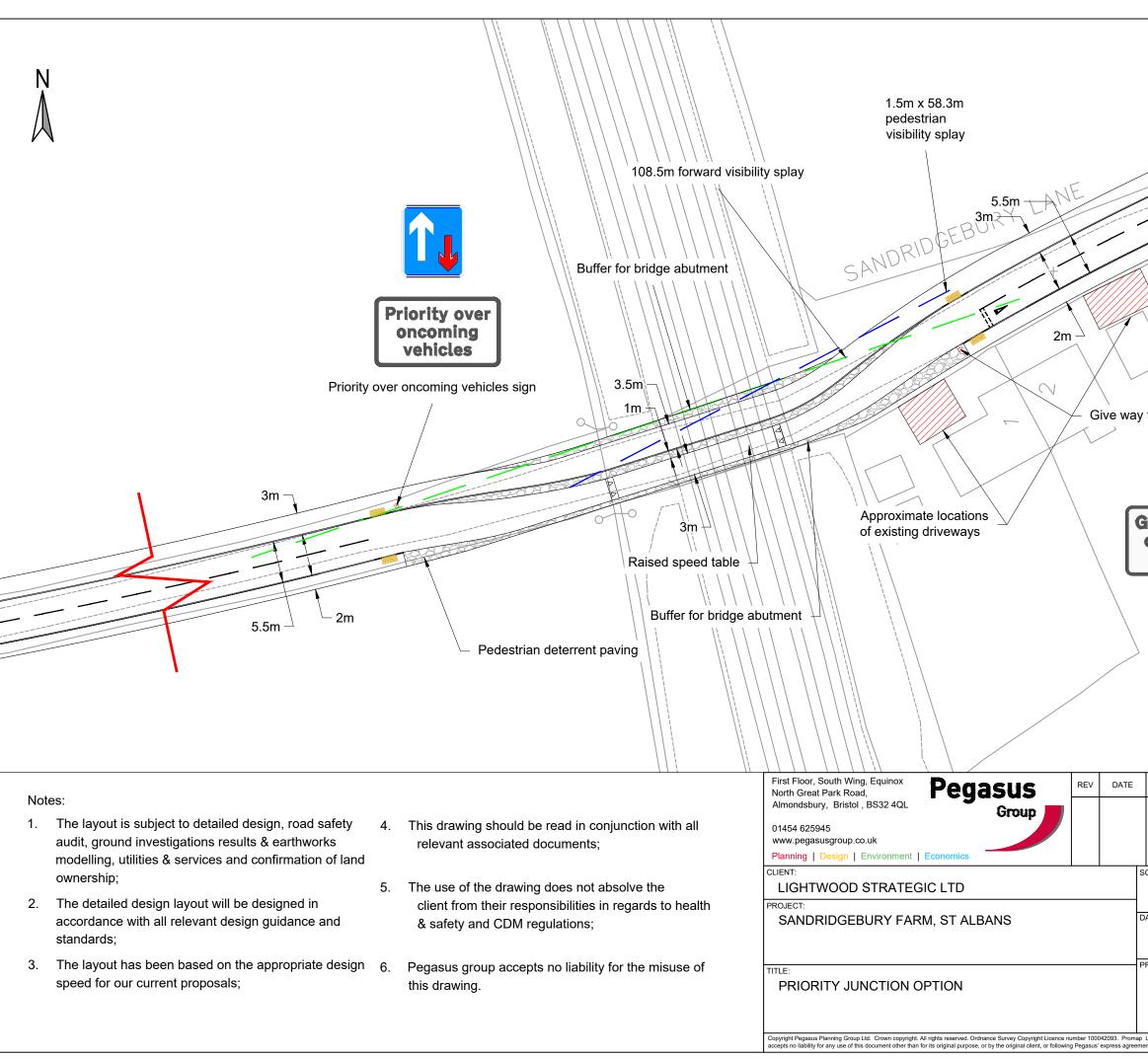




#### FIGURE 2

#### **PRIORITY JUNCTION OPTION**

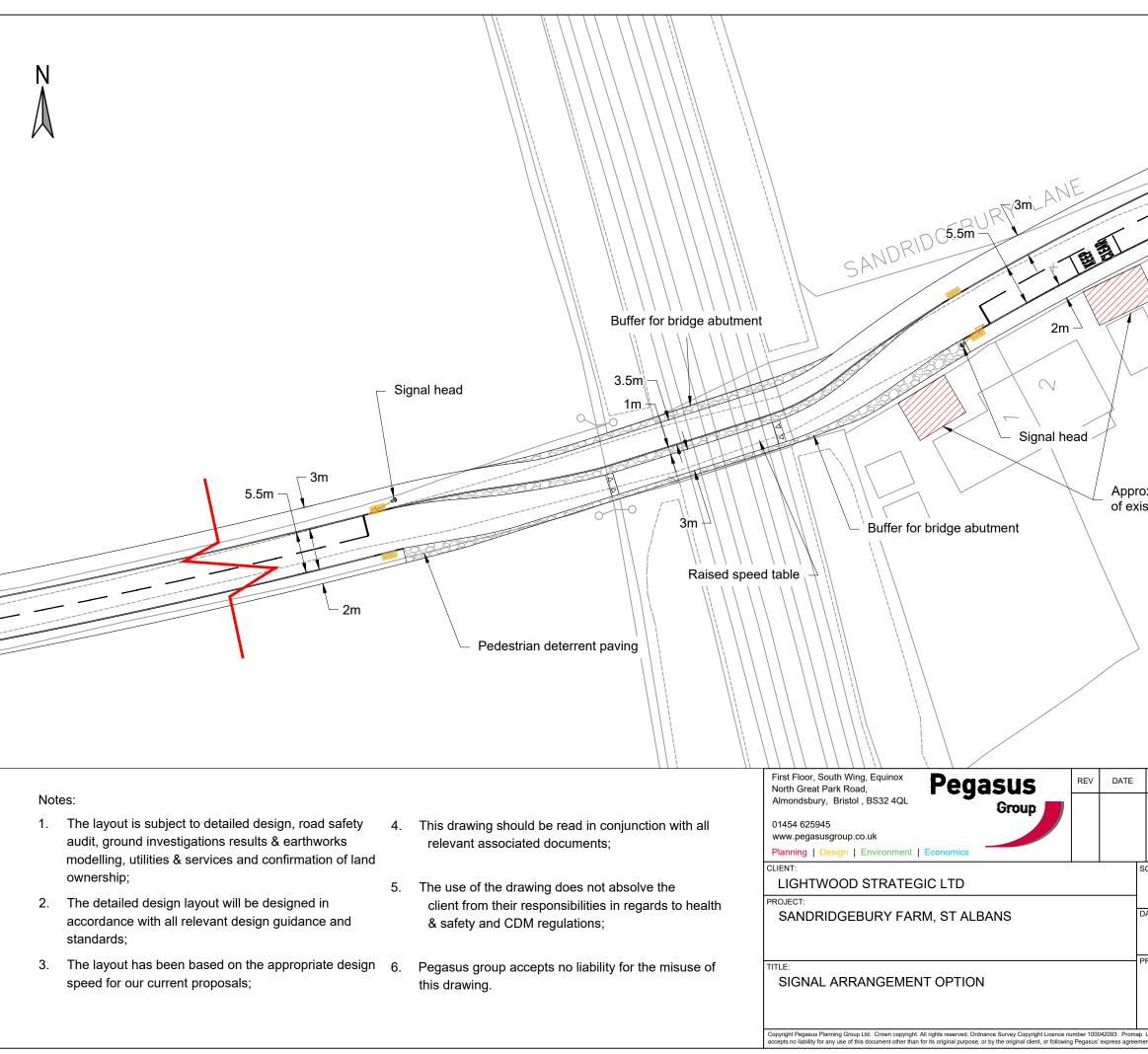


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BY		DESCRIPTION			СНК	APD
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1:500		ADS		S	۹J	
DATE:	DE	SIGN-DRAWN:	DRAWING	G-ST/	ATUS:	
DATE: 03/03/202		SIGN-DRAWN: JAN			atus: ATIVE	Ξ
					ATIVE	Ξ
03/03/202 PROJECT No:	21	JAN DRAWING No:		ICA	ATIVE	Ξ
03/03/20	21	JAN		ICA	ATIVE	Ξ



#### FIGURE 3

#### SIGNAL ARRANGEMENT OPTION

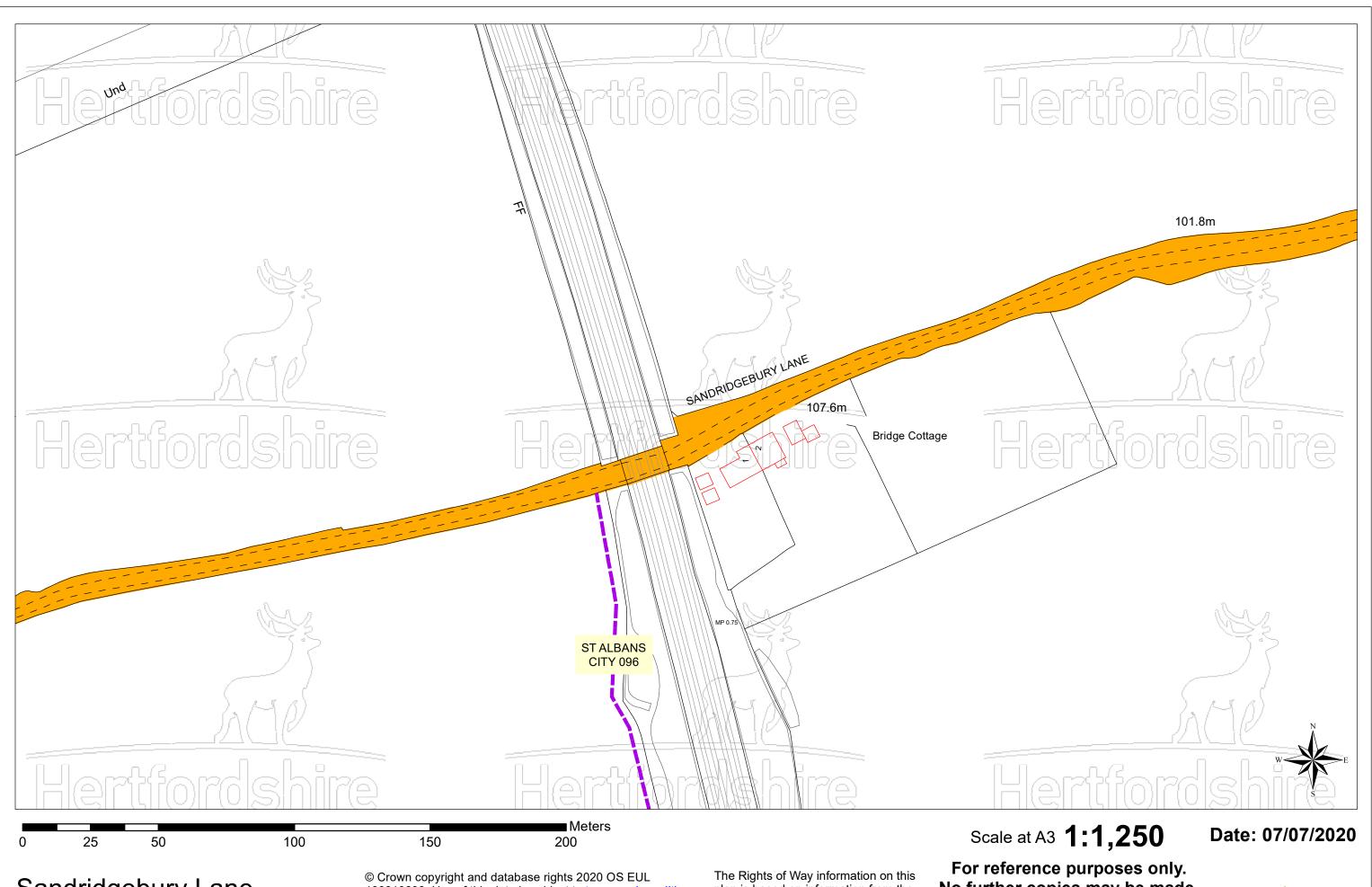


oximate locations isting driveways		Bridg		
BY	DESCRIPTION		СНК	APD
SCALE @ A3:	CHECKED:	APPROVED:		
1:500	ADS		AJ	
DATE: 03/03/2021 PROJECT No:		DRAWING-ST	DICAT	IVE
P20-0554	Licence number 0100031673 Standard OS			Pegasus



#### APPENDIX A

#### SANDRIDGEBURY LANE ADOPTED HIGHWAY EXTENTS



Sandridgebury Lane, St Albans

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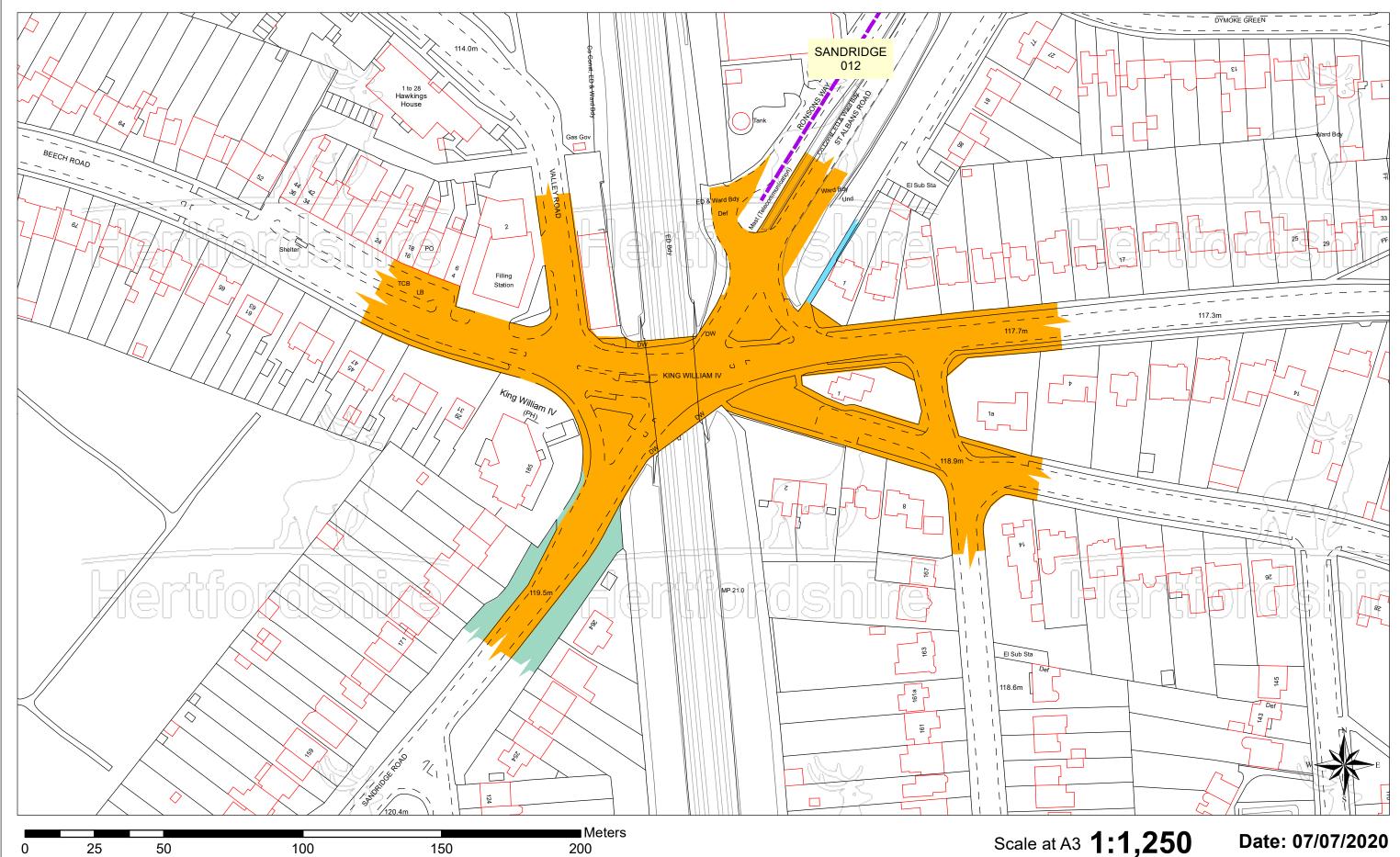
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#### **APPENDIX B**

#### KING WILLIAM IV JUNCTION ADOPTED HIGHWAY EXTENTS



King William IV Roundabout, Sandridge Road, St Albans

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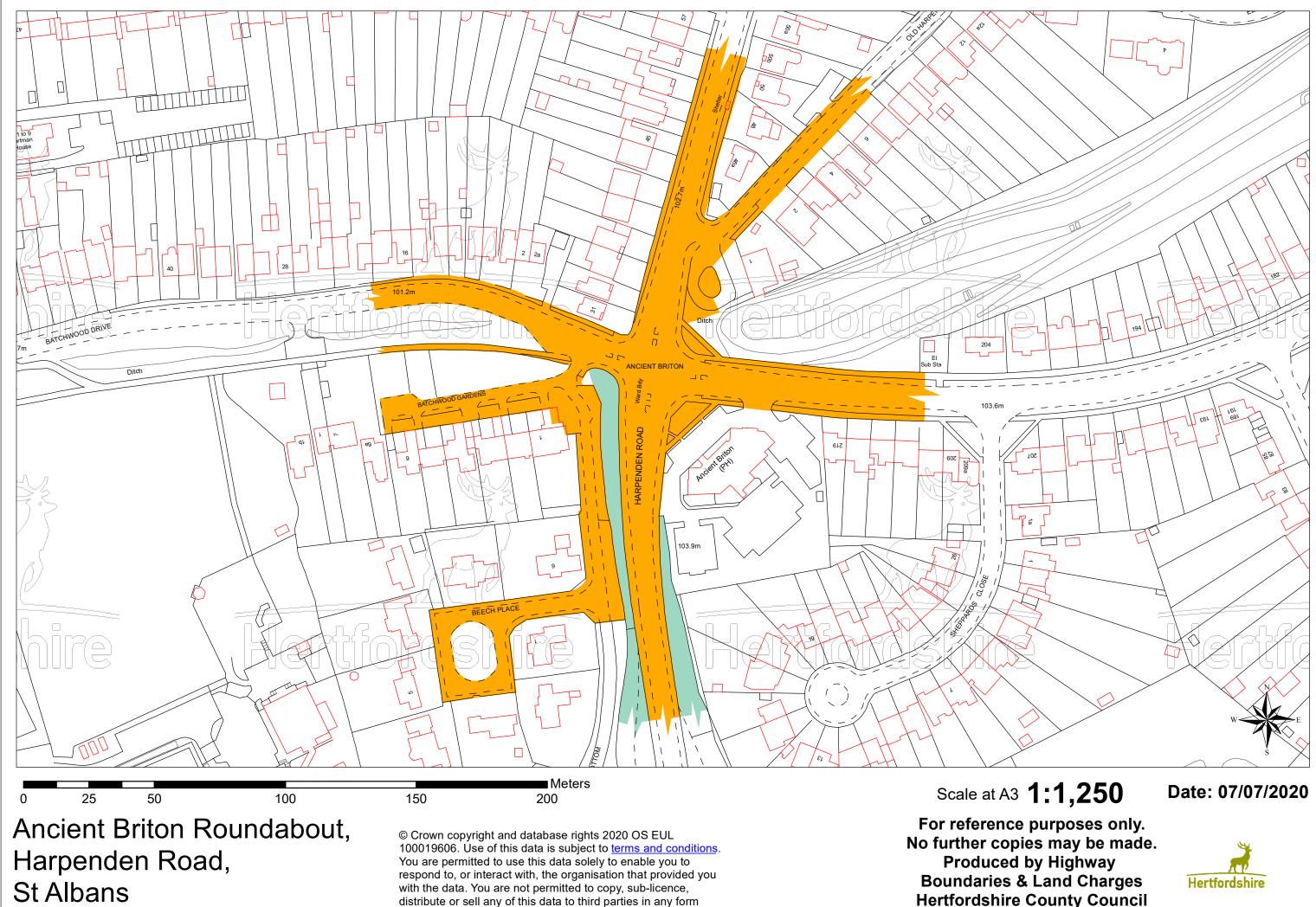
Date: 07/07/2020





#### APPENDIX C

#### ANCIENT BRITON JUNCTION ADOPTED HIGHWAY EXTENTS



Hertfordshire County Council



#### APPENDIX D

#### **TRICS REPORT**

TRICS 7.7. St Albans	1 250620 B19.43 Database right of TRICS Conso	ortium Limited, 2020. All rights reserved	Wednesday 01/07/20 Page 1
Pegasus PG	Great Park Road Bristol		Licence No: 563501
0			
			AUDIT-563501-200701-0756
TRI	P RATE CALCULATION SELECTION PARAMETER	RS:	
Land	d Use : 03 - RESIDENTIAL		
	egory : A - HOUSES PRIVATELY OWNED		
	HICLES		
Sele	ected regions and areas:		
02	SOUTH EAST		
	ES EAST SUSSEX	2 days	
	EX ESSEX	1 days	
	KC KENT	2 days	
0.0	SC SURREY	1 days	
03	SOUTH WEST	1	
	DV DEVON WL WILTSHIRE	1 days	
04	EAST ANGLIA	1 days	
04	CA CAMBRIDGESHIRE	1 days	
	NF NORFOLK	1 days	
	SF SUFFOLK	1 days	
05	EAST MIDLANDS		
	DS DERBYSHIRE	1 days	
	LN LINCOLNSHIRE	1 days	
06	WEST MIDLANDS	5	
	ST STAFFORDSHIRE	2 days	
	WK WARWICKSHIRE	2 days	
07	YORKSHIRE & NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE		
	NY NORTH YORKSHIRE	2 days	
00	SY SOUTH YORKSHIRE	1 days	
08	NORTH WEST CH CHESHIRE	2 days	
	LC LANCASHIRE	1 days	
	MS MERSEYSIDE	1 days	
09	NORTH	T days	
0,	DH DURHAM	2 days	
	TW TYNE & WEAR	1 days	
10	WALES	5	
	VG VALE OF GLAMORGAN	1 days	
11			

This section displays the number of survey days per TRICS® sub-region in the selected set

#### Primary Filtering selection:

FALKIRK

SCOTLAND

FA

11

This data displays the chosen trip rate parameter and its selected range. Only sites that fall within the parameter range are included in the trip rate calculation.

2 days

Parameter: Actual Range: Range Selected by L	6 to 37	wellings 1 (units: ) 34 (units: )		
Parking Spaces Rang	ge: All Surv	eys Include	ed	
Parking Spaces per Dwelling Range: All Surveys Included				
Bedrooms per Dwell	ing Range:	All Survey	rs Included	
Percentage of dwelli	ngs privately ov	vned:	All Surveys Included	k
Public Transport Pro Selection by:	<u>vision:</u>		Include a	II
Date Range:	01/01/10 to 01	1/01/20		

This data displays the range of survey dates selected. Only surveys that were conducted within this date range are included in the trip rate calculation.

30 days

0 days

Include all surveys

<u>Selected survey days:</u>	
Monday	8 days
Tuesday	6 days
Wednesday	7 days
Thursday	4 days
Friday	5 days

This data displays the number of selected surveys by day of the week.

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St Albans			Page 2
Pegasus PG	Great Park Road	Bristol	Licence No: 563501

This data displays the number of manual classified surveys and the number of unclassified ATC surveys, the total adding up to the overall number of surveys in the selected set. Manual surveys are undertaken using staff, whilst ATC surveys are undertaking using machines.

<u>Selected Locations:</u>	
Suburban Area (PPS6 Out of Centre)	17
Edge of Town	13

This data displays the number of surveys per main location category within the selected set. The main location categories consist of Free Standing, Edge of Town, Suburban Area, Neighbourhood Centre, Edge of Town Centre, Town Centre and Not Known.

Selected Location Sub Categories:	
Residential Zone	29
No Sub Category	1

This data displays the number of surveys per location sub-category within the selected set. The location sub-categories consist of Commercial Zone, Industrial Zone, Development Zone, Residential Zone, Retail Zone, Built-Up Zone, Village, Out of Town, High Street and No Sub Category.

Secondary Filtering selection:

Use Class: C3

30 days

This data displays the number of surveys per Use Class classification within the selected set. The Use Classes Order 2005 has been used for this purpose, which can be found within the Library module of TRICS®.

Population within 1 mile:	
5,001 to 10,000	5 days
10,001 to 15,000	10 days
15,001 to 20,000	7 days
20,001 to 25,000	4 days
25,001 to 50,000	4 days

This data displays the number of selected surveys within stated 1-mile radii of population.

Population within 5 miles:	
75,001 to 100,000	9 days
100,001 to 125,000	3 days
125,001 to 250,000	13 days
250,001 to 500,000	5 days

This data displays the number of selected surveys within stated 5-mile radii of population.

<u>Car ownership within 5 miles:</u>	
0.6 to 1.0	14 days
1.1 to 1.5	16 days

This data displays the number of selected surveys within stated ranges of average cars owned per residential dwelling, within a radius of 5-miles of selected survey sites.

Travel Plan: No

30 days

This data displays the number of surveys within the selected set that were undertaken at sites with Travel Plans in place, and the number of surveys that were undertaken at sites without Travel Plans.

<u>PTAL_Rating:</u>	
No PTAL Present	29 days
2 Poor	1 days

This data displays the number of selected surveys with PTAL Ratings.

St Albans		Database right of TRICS Co	nsortium Limited, 2020.	All rights reserved	Wednesday 01/07/20 Page 3
Pegasus PG	Great Park Road	Bristol			Licence No: 563501
<u>LIST</u>	OF SITES relevant	to selection parameters			
1	CA-03-A-05 EASTFIELD ROAD PETERBOROUGH	DETACHED HOUSES		CAMBRI DGESHI RE	
2	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	<i>te: MONDAY</i> DETACHED	28 1 <i>7/10/16</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> CHESHIRE	42
3	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin <i>Survey dat</i>	PS6 Out of Centre)	11 <i>22/05/12</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> CHESHIRE	12
3	CH-03-A-09 GREYSTOKE ROAE MACCLESFIELD HURDSFIELD Edge of Town Residential Zone	)		CHESHIKE	
4	Total No of Dwellir Survey dat DH-03-A-01 GREENFIELDS RO BISHOP AUCKLAN	<i>te: MONDAY</i> SEMI DETACHED AD	24 <i>24/11/14</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> DURHAM	12
5	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	PS6 Out of Centre) ngs: <i>te: TUESDAY</i> SEMI -DETACHED & TE	50 <i>28/03/17</i> ERRACED	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> DURHAM	<i>1L</i>
6	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i> DS-03-A-02 RADBOURNE LANE DERBY	<i>te: FRIDAY</i> MIXED HOUSES	57 <i>19/10/18</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> DERBYSHIRE	<i>1L</i>
7	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i> DV-03-A-01 BRONSHILL ROAD TORQUAY	<i>te: TUESDAY</i> TERRACED HOUSES	371 <i>10/07/18</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> DEVON	<i>1L</i>
8	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	PS6 Out of Centre) ngs: <i>te: WEDNESDAY</i> MIXED HOUSES & FLA	37 <i>30/09/15</i> ATS	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> EAST SUSSEX	<i>11</i>
	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i>	ngs: <i>te: MONDAY</i>	212 <i>11/07/16</i>	Survey Type: MANUA	42

Albans	Croot Dank Daard	Drietal			Page
asus PG	Great Park Road	Bristol			Licence No: 56350
<u>LIST</u>	OF SITES relevant to	o selection parameters (Con	<u>nt.)</u>		
9	ES-03-A-05 RATTLE ROAD NEAR EASTBOURNE STONE CROSS Edge of Town Residential Zone	MI XED HOUSES & FLA	ΓS	EAST SUSSEX	
10	Total No of Dwelling	gs: <i>:: WEDNESDAY</i> DETACHED & SEMI -DE	99 <i>05/06/19</i> TACHED	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> ESSEX	
11	Residential Zone Total No of Dwelling <i>Survey date</i> FA-03-A-01 MANDELA AVENUE		97 <i>27/11/17</i> RACED	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> FALKIRK	
12	FA-03-A-02	-	37 <i>30/05/13</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> FALKIRK	
13	Suburban Area (PP: Residential Zone Total No of Dwelling <i>Survey date</i> KC-03-A-03 HYTHE ROAD ASHFORD WILLESBOROUGH		161 <i>29/05/13</i> TS	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> KENT	
14	Suburban Area (PP: Residential Zone Total No of Dwelling <i>Survey date</i> KC-03-A-04 KILN BARN ROAD AYLESFORD DITTON		51 <i>14/07/16</i> RRACED	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> KENT	
15	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwelling <i>Survey date</i> LC-03-A-31 GREENSIDE PRESTON COTTAM		110 <i>22/09/17</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> LANCASHI RE	
16	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwelling <i>Survey date</i> LN-03-A-03 ROOKERY LANE		32 <i>17/11/17</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> LINCOLNSHIRE	
17	MS-03-A-03		22 <i>18/09/12</i>	<i>Survey Type: MANUAL</i> MERSEYSI DE	
	BEMPTON ROAD LIVERPOOL OTTERSPOOL Suburban Area (PP Residential Zone Total No of Dwelling <i>Survey date</i>	gs:	15 <i>21/06/13</i>	Survey Type: MANUAL	

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	250620 B19.43	Database right of TRI	ICS Consortium Limited	, 2020. All rights reserved	Wednesday 01/07/20
St Albans Pegasus PG	Great Park Road	Bristol			Page 5 Licence No: 563501
LIST	OF SITES relevant	to selection paramete	ers (Cont.)		
18	NF-03-A-02 DEREHAM ROAD NORWICH	HOUSES & FLAT	S	NORFOLK	
19	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	<i>te: MONDAY</i> TERRACED HOUS	98 <i>22/10/12</i> SES	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> NORTH YORKSHIRE	41
20	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	<i>te: MONDAY</i> HOUSES AND FL	21 <i>16/09/13</i> LATS	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> NORTH YORKSHIRE	41
21	Edge of Town No Sub Category Total No of Dwellin <i>Survey dat</i> SC-03-A-04 HIGH ROAD BYFLEET	ngs: <i>te: TUESDAY</i> DETACHED & TE	71 <i>17/09/13</i> ERRACED	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> SURREY	41
22	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i> SF-03-A-04 NORMANSTON DR LOWESTOFT	<i>te: THURSDAY</i> DETACHED & BU	71 <i>23/01/14</i> JNGALOWS	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> SUFFOLK	41
23	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	PS6 Out of Centre) ngs: <i>te: TUESDAY</i> DETACHED & SE	7 <i>23/10/12</i> EMI - DETACHED	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> STAFFORDSHI RE	41
24	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin <i>Survey dat</i> ST-03-A-08 SILKMORE CRESC STAFFORD MEADOWCROFT P Edge of Town	<i>te: WEDNESDAY</i> DETACHED HOU ENT	248 <i>22/11/17</i> ISES	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> STAFFORDSHIRE	41
25	SY-03-A-01 A19 BENTLEY ROA DONCASTER BENTLEY RISE Suburban Area (PI	<i>te: WEDNESDAY</i> SEMI DETACHED	26 <i>22/11/17</i> D HOUSES	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> SOUTH YORKSHIRE	41
26	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i> TW-03-A-02 WEST PARK ROAD GATESHEAD	<i>te: WEDNESDAY</i> SEMI-DETACHEE	54 <i>18/09/13</i> D	<i>Survey Type: MANU</i> TYNE & WEAR	41
	Residential Zone Total No of Dwellin	PS6 Out of Centre) ngs: <i>te: MONDAY</i>	16 <i>07/10/13</i>	Survey Type: MANU	41

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Pegasus Pe	۶G	Great Park Road	Bristol					Licenc	e No: 563501
<u></u>	IST 0	F SITES relevant	to selection	n parameters (Co	o <u>nt.)</u>				
27	ļ	/G-03-A-01 ARTHUR STREET BARRY	SEMI -	DETACHED & TI	ERRACED	١	VALE OF GLAMORGAN		
28	۲ ۲ 8 \ 4	Edge of Town Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i> WK-03-A-01 ARLINGTON AVEN EAMINGTON SPA	<i>e: MONDA</i> TERRA UE	IV CED/SEMI/DE	12 <i>08/05/17</i> T.	١	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> WARWICKSHIRE	Z	
29	F	Suburban Area (PR Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i> NK-03-A-03	ngs: <i>te: FRIDAY</i>	·	6 <i>21/10/11</i>	Ň	<i>Survey Type: MANUA</i> WARWICKSHIRE	Z	
	E \ C F	BRESE AVENUE VARWICK GUYS CLIFFE Suburban Area (PF Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir Survey dat	PS6 Out of	Centre)	23 <i>25/09/19</i>		Survey Type: MANUA	/	
30	ŀ	SUIVEY UAL WL-03-A-02 HEADLANDS GROV SWINDON	SEMI I	DETACHED	23/07/17	١	WILTSHIRE	L	
	F	Suburban Area (PF Residential Zone Total No of Dwellir <i>Survey dat</i>	ngs:	·	27 <i>22/09/16</i>		Survey Type: MANUA	Z	

This section provides a list of all survey sites and days in the selected set. For each individual survey site, it displays a unique site reference code and site address, the selected trip rate calculation parameter and its value, the day of the week and date of each survey, and whether the survey was a manual classified count or an ATC count.

MANUALLY DESELECTED SITES

Site Ref	Reason for Deselection
DC-03-A-08	Non-comparable
SH-03-A-06	Non-comparable
WK-03-A-02	Non-comparable

Licence No: 563501

Pegasus PG Great Park Road Bristol

## TRIP RATE for Land Use 03 - RESIDENTIAL/A - HOUSES PRIVATELY OWNED VEHICLES Calculation factor: 1 DWELLS

BOLD print indicates peak (busiest) period

	ARRIVALS		[	DEPARTURES			TOTALS		
	No.	Ave.	Trip	No.	Ave.	Trip	No.	Ave.	Trip
Time Range	Days	DWELLS	Rate	Days	DWELLS	Rate	Days	DWELLS	Rate
00:00 - 01:00									
01:00 - 02:00									
02:00 - 03:00									
03:00 - 04:00									
04:00 - 05:00									
05:00 - 06:00									
06:00 - 07:00									
07:00 - 08:00	30	70	0.078	30	70	0.314	30	70	0.392
08:00 - 09:00	30	70	0.125	30	70	0.394	30	70	0.519
09:00 - 10:00	30	70	0.126	30	70	0.166	30	70	0.292
10:00 - 11:00	30	70	0.116	30	70	0.141	30	70	0.257
11:00 - 12:00	30	70	0.142	30	70	0.142	30	70	0.284
12:00 - 13:00	30	70	0.155	30	70	0.149	30	70	0.304
13:00 - 14:00	30	70	0.160	30	70	0.170	30	70	0.330
14:00 - 15:00	30	70	0.152	30	70	0.167	30	70	0.319
15:00 - 16:00	30	70	0.233	30	70	0.170	30	70	0.403
16:00 - 17:00	30	70	0.268	30	70	0.170	30	70	0.438
17:00 - 18:00	30	70	0.344	30	70	0.141	30	70	0.485
18:00 - 19:00	30	70	0.270	30	70	0.136	30	70	0.406
19:00 - 20:00	1	97	0.062	1	97	0.052	1	97	0.114
20:00 - 21:00	1	97	0.031	1	97	0.021	1	97	0.052
21:00 - 22:00									
22:00 - 23:00									
23:00 - 24:00									
Total Rates:			2.262			2.333			4.595

This section displays the trip rate results based on the selected set of surveys and the selected count type (shown just above the table). It is split by three main columns, representing arrivals trips, departures trips, and total trips (arrivals plus departures). Within each of these main columns are three sub-columns. These display the number of survey days where count data is included (per time period), the average value of the selected trip rate calculation parameter (per time period), and the trip rate result (per time period). Total trip rates (the sum of the column) are also displayed at the foot of the table.

To obtain a trip rate, the average (mean) trip rate parameter value (TRP) is first calculated for all selected survey days that have count data available for the stated time period. The average (mean) number of arrivals, departures or totals (whichever applies) is also calculated (COUNT) for all selected survey days that have count data available for the stated time period. Then, the average count is divided by the average trip rate parameter value, and multiplied by the stated calculation factor (shown just above the table and abbreviated here as FACT). So, the method is: COUNT/TRP\*FACT. Trip rates are then rounded to 3 decimal places.

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#### Parameter summary

Trip rate parameter range selected:	6 - 371 (units: )
Survey date date range:	01/01/10 - 01/01/20
Number of weekdays (Monday-Friday):	30
Number of Saturdays:	0
Number of Sundays:	0
Surveys automatically removed from selection:	0
Surveys manually removed from selection:	3

This section displays a quick summary of some of the data filtering selections made by the TRICS® user. The trip rate calculation parameter range of all selected surveys is displayed first, followed by the range of minimum and maximum survey dates selected by the user. Then, the total number of selected weekdays and weekend days in the selected set of surveys are show. Finally, the number of survey days that have been manually removed from the selected set outside of the standard filtering procedure are displayed.



# Ecological Constraints Report Sandridgebury Farm, St Albans



#### November 2019

Ecology | Green Space | Arboiculture | GIS

Unit 2 The Old Estate Yard | North Stoke Lane Upton Cheyney | Bristol | BS30 6ND

info@ethosep.co.uk | 01179328203 www.ethosep.co.uk

11. 11. 1



## **Report Produced for Lightwood Strategic**

## Written by: Stephanie Green, Ecologist

#### **Checked by:** Jim Phillips, Principal Ecologist

Issue: V1

**Date: November 2019** 

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Introduction	The site is leasted at Canduidesham, Fame Challers (Canduide Cid
Introduction	• The site is located at Sandridgebury Farm, St Albans (Central Grid
	Reference TL 16196 10327.
	This ecological constraints report has been produced to detail the
	habitats present on the site, their potential to support protected
	species, potential ecological constraints and the need for further
	ecological surveys.
Surveys	• An ecological walkover survey was undertaken on 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2019,
undertaken	which included a phase 1 survey and assessment for protected species.
Ecological	• The key habitats on site were assessed as the areas of broadleaved
constraints	plantation woodland and the hedgerows intersecting the fields.
	• Langley Wood is an area of ancient semi-natural woodland adjacent to
	the northern boundary of the site.
	• Four badger setts were identified on and adjacent to the site.
	• There is the potential for the site to support bats and hazel dormouse.
Recommendations	• Further hedgerow assessment surveys and targeted protected species
	surveys for hazel dormouse and bats are recommended.
	• Suitable habitat buffers should be maintained around the badger setts.
	If this is not possible, a mitigation licence may be required from Natural
	England to close the badger setts and an artificial sett may be required.
	<ul> <li>Ecological enhancement features have been recommended for the site.</li> </ul>

## CONTENTS



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3	METHODOLOGY	8
4	PHASE 1 HABITAT SURVEY	13
5	ASSESSMENT FOR PROTECTED SPECIES	18
6	RECOMMENDATIONS	23
A1.1	LEGISLATION - SPECIES	29



#### **1** INTRODUCTION

Ethos Environmental Planning (Ethos) have undertaken an extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey of land at Sandridge, St Albans (Central Grid Reference TL 16196 10327), hereafter referred to as the 'site' and shown in Figure 1. The total area surveyed was 122.5 hectares and included several improved grassland fields and arable fields intersected by hedgerows and areas of broadleaved woodland.

#### **1.1** Aims and Objectives

The overall assessment has been informed by guidelines provided in the *CIEEM guidelines for ecological report writing 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition,* 2017'. Further guidance in relation to surveys for protected species is detailed in the relevant sections within this report. The primary aims of the ecological constraints report are to provide a robust evaluation of the ecological features present or likely present on the site and the measures likely to be needed to safeguard the ecological features from potential development projects; with due regard to relevant local planning policy and legislation.

The ecological constraints report has the following objectives:

- to identify the existing habitats on site;
- to identify the potential for protected species;
- to establish baseline ecological conditions and determine the importance of ecological features present within the specified area;
- to establish any requirements for further surveys or licensing;
- to identify key ecological constraints and make recommendations for design options to avoid significant effects on important ecological features/resources;
- to identify suitable mitigation measures to ensure there is no negative impact on habitats and protected species as a results of potential development; and
- to identify ecological enhancement opportunities to seek a net gain in biodiversity.

#### **1.2** Site Location

The site was located at Sandridge, St Albans (Central Grid Reference TL 16196 10327), as shown in Figure 1. The site consisted of 122.5 hectares of improved grassland fields and arable fields intersected by hedgerows, with two areas of deciduous woodland and small areas of ruderal herbs, bare ground and hard standing.

Langley Wood was located immediately adjacent to the northern boundary of the site. The eastern boundary of the site was bordered by the village of Sandridge, the southern boundary bordered St Albans and the western boundary was bordered by a railway line.

The wider environment consisted of rural areas of grassland and woodland to the north and west and urban areas of St Albans to the south.



Figure 1 Site location



#### **1.3** Structure of the Report

The following sections are included within this report:

- Legislative and planning context;
- Methodology;
- Phase 1 habitat survey;
- Protected species assessment;
- Recommendations.



#### 2 LEGISLATION AND POLICY CONTEXT

This section provides a summary of the legislative and planning context which has been used to inform the ecological constraints report and subsequent recommendations made in this report. Appendix 1 sets out further details in relation to the most relevant legislation and policy.

#### 2.1 Summary of Legislation

**The Habitats Directive** (together with the Birds Directive) forms the cornerstone of Europe's nature conservation policy. It is built around two pillars: the Natura 2000 network of protected sites and the strict system of species protection. All in all, the directive protects over 1,000 animals and plant species and over 200 "habitat types" (e.g. special types of forests, meadows, wetlands, etc.), which are of European importance. The habitats Directive and parts of the Birds Directive are transposed into legislation by the **Conservation of Habitat and Species Regulations 2017**. Further detail on legislation and designated sites is provided in appendix A1.2; with reference to the protection of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA).

**The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** (as amended) is a key piece of national legislation which implements the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and implements the species protection obligations of Council Directive 2009/147/EC (formerly 79/409/EEC) on the Conservation of Wild Birds (EC Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

Badgers and their setts are protected under the **Protection of Badgers Act 1992** as amended by the Hunting Act 2004.

The **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006** (the NERC act) places a duty on all public authorities, including local planning authorities, to consider biodiversity in their work. Local planning authorities are to ensure that there is no net loss of biodiversity on a site, no net loss in habitat connectivity and aims to enhance biodiversity.

The **Hedgerows Regulations 1997** protect 'important hedgerows' from being removed (uprooted or destroyed). Hedgerows are protected if they are at least 30 years old and meet at least one of the criteria listed in part II of schedule 1.

Specific legislation related to different species such as bats, birds and reptiles is outlined in Appendix 1, A1.1.



#### 2.2 Policy

The **National Planning Policy Framework NPPF (July 2018)** aims to minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including the establishment of coherent ecological networks more resilient to current and future pressures.

The **UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP)** sets out a programme for conserving the UK's biodiversity. It led to the production of 436 action plans between 1995 and 1999 to help many of the UK's most threatened species and habitats to recover. A review of the UK BAP priority list in 2007 led to the identification of 1,150 species and 65 habitats that meet the BAP criteria at UK level.

#### 2.2.1 Local policy

The site falls under the jurisdiction of St Albans City and District Council. The Council is currently developing a new Local Plan which will help guide development in the district up to 2036. Until the new Local Plan is adopted, saved policies from The District Local Plan Review 1994 are the current operational policies. The policy below is relevant to nature conservation and development:

#### Policy 106 Nature Conservation

The Council will take account of ecological factors when considering planning applications and will refuge proposals which could adversely affect:

- i) Sites of Special Scientific Interest;
- ii) Nature Reserves;
- iii) Other sites of wildlife, geological or geomorphological importance;
- iv) Any site supporting species protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981;

If planning permission is granted for development which could affect a site of conservation interest, it will normally be subject to conditions aimed at protected the special features of the site. The Council will also seek a Section 106 Agreement to ensure the appropriate management of the site.

12.26 When determining planning applications on or near sites of ecological importance consideration will be given to the likely ecological impact of proposals.

12.27 Fortunately, the natural heritage is not limited to the natural or semi-natural areas. Even where man has destroyed or radically altered the natural environment, animals and plants, including species protected by law, may move in and colonise new habitats. This means that consideration must be given to ecological matters when determining planning applications regardless of their location. Environmental assessments may be required for certain development proposals in accordance with the UK regulations relating to the European Directive.



#### Habitat Creation and Management

12.30 The District Council recognises the value of nature conservation particularly for education and community benefits. The majority of the County's semi-natural habitats have been lost this century. It is important to create new habitats for wildlife and with forethought this can be achieved as an integral part of modern development and land use. Creation of new habitats and protection of those existing will achieve little unless sites are properly maintained through appropriate management. The Council will, therefore, encourage habitat creation whenever the opportunity arises and will promote sympathetic management of wildlife habitats.