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June 2015

Southam,
Stratford-upon-Avon

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Prepared by
CSa Environmental Planning

On behalf of
Hallam Land Management Ltd

Report No: CSa/2520/02

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Stratford-upon-Avon

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Residential development is proposed at Southam, Stratford-upon-Avon, for which outline planning permission will be sought.

CSa Environmental Planning was instructed by Hallam Land Management Ltd to undertake a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of the Site to identify ecological constraints to development, inform recommendations for design change, highlight opportunities for ecological enhancement and determine the need for any additional investigation / survey work necessary.

As part of this PEA, a desk study and extended Phase 1 Habitat survey of the Site were undertaken in May 2015. The Site comprises one arable field with associated semi-improved grassland margins, boundary hedgerows and a brick barn on the southern boundary of the site.

Confirmed ecological constraints to development at the Site are:

- Nesting birds

The following additional investigation / survey work is considered appropriate to inform an EclA for the proposed development:

- Badger survey
- Reptile surveys
- GCN survey (HSI)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report has been prepared by CSa Environmental Planning on behalf of Hallam Land Management Ltd. It sets out the findings of a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) of Southam, Stratford-upon-Avon (hereafter referred to as 'the Site').
- 1.2 The Site occupies an area of c. 23 ha and is located around central grid reference SP 428615, on the eastern edge of Southam. It comprises a single arable field with associated field margins and boundary hedgerows. There is one building on Site which comprises a breeze-block barn on the southern boundary (see Habitats Plan in Appendix A) surrounded by tall ruderal habitat.
- 1.3 Residential development is proposed at the Site, for which outline planning permission will be sought.
- 1.4 A desk study and extended Phase 1 Habitat survey were undertaken for the Site, the findings of which are presented herein.
- 1.5 This PEA aims to:
 - Identify any ecological constraints to the project.
 - Make recommendations for design changes.
 - Identify further ecological surveys necessary to inform a full 'Ecological Assessment' of the Site following Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA) methodology
 - Highlight opportunities for ecological enhancement.
- 1.6 The scope of this appraisal has been determined in line with best-practice guidance provided by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM) (2015)¹.

¹ CIEEM (2015) *Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing*

2.0 LEGISLATION, PLANNING POLICY & STANDING ADVICE

Legislation

2.1 Legislation relating to wildlife and biodiversity of particular relevance to this PEA includes:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006
- The Protection of Badgers Act 1992

2.2 This above legislation has been addressed, as appropriate, in the production of this report. Further information on the above legislation is provided in Appendix B.

National Planning Policy

2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (2012)² (NPPF) sets out the government planning policies for England and how they should be applied. Chapter 11: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment, is of particular relevance to this report as it relates to ecology and biodiversity. Further details are provided in Appendix B

2.4 The Government Circular 06/2005, which is referred to by the NPPF, provides further guidance in respect of statutory obligations for biodiversity and geological conservation and their impact within the planning system.

Local Planning Policy

2.5 A number of local planning policies relate to ecology, biodiversity and/or nature conservation. These are summarised in Table B.1 of Appendix B. These policies have been addressed, as appropriate, in the production of this report.

Standing Advice

2.6 Natural England Standing Advice³ regarding protected species aims to support local authorities and forms a material consideration in determining applications in the same way as any individual response received from Natural England following consultation. Standing advice is therefore been given due consideration, alongside other detailed guidance documents, in the production of this report.

² Department for Communities and Local Government (2012) National Planning Policy Framework

³ <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

3.0 METHODOLOGY

Desk Study

- 3.1 The Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)⁴ online database was interrogated in May 2015 to identify:
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves (NNR), Local Nature reserves (LNR) within 3 km of the Site.
 - Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Ramsar sites within 10 km of the Site.
 - Other relevant data e.g. Ancient Woodland Inventory.
- 3.2 Warwickshire Biological Records centre (WBRC) was contacted for details of any non-statutory designations and records of protected/ notable habitats and species. This information was requested for an area encompassing the Site and adjacent land within approximately 2km of the red line boundary.
- 3.3 All relevant desk study data are presented in Appendix C.

Field Survey

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

- 3.4 An extended Phase 1 habitat survey was carried out in fine and dry weather conditions on 8 May 2015 by Claire Dovey GradCIEEM, encompassing the Site and immediately adjacent habitats that could be viewed. Full survey methodology is provided in Appendix D.

Evaluation and Assessment

- 3.5 The evaluation and assessment of ecological features within the Site's 'zone of influence' is beyond the scope of this PEA and has therefore not been undertaken. Formal evaluation and assessment of any identified ecological receptors should be undertaken as part of a full Ecological Assessment following EcIA methodology.

⁴ <http://www.magic.gov.uk>

4.0 BASELINE ECOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Designations

Statutory

- 4.1 There are no statutory designations covering any part of the Site.
- 4.2 Two nationally important designations are present within 3km of the Site: Napton Hill Quarry SSSI (c.2.5km east of the Site) and Stockton Railway Cutting and Quarry SSSI (c.2.5km north-east of the Site).
- 4.3 Napton Hill Quarry SSSI is not considered further due to only being designated for geology. A description of Stockton Railway Cutting and Quarry SSSI is provided in Table 1 below.

Table 1. Statutory and non-statutory designations within data search radii

Site Name & Designation	Distance & Direction from Survey Area	Brief Description of Designated Site
Nationally Important Designations within 3km		
Stockton Railway Cutting and Quarry SSSI	c. 2.5km north-east	A nationally important site for butterflies with 29 species recorded including uncommon species such as wood white <i>Leptidia sinapis</i> and white-letter hairstreak <i>Strymonidia w-album</i> and a rare moth, the chalk carpet <i>Scotopteryx bipuntaria</i> only found in one other place in the county. The long-established spoil banks support rich and varied flora including several county rare species.
Non-statutory Designations within 1km		
Ecosite 08/46 River Stowe and tributaries	c. 0.1km north	The river habitat quality varies through Southam with some areas of high value including emergent vegetation and riverside flood meadows.
Ecosite 36/46 Pond south of Southam	c. 0.7km south-west	Nature conservation value not yet quantified. Further surveys required.
Ecosite 87/46 Roadverge at island connecting A425 & A423	c. 0.8km south-west	Nature conservation value not yet quantified. Roadside verge supports a number of common plant species.
Ecosite 85/46 Southam Meadow South LWS	c. 0.9km south-west	Largest remaining semi-improved grassland area in the vicinity, bounded by hedges on three sites. Provides opportunities for nesting birds including yellow hammer <i>Emberiza citrinella</i> and supports good populations of several butterfly and moth species.
Ecosite 60/46 Southam Council Office, including Churchyard	c. 1km north-west	Nature conservation value not yet quantified. Sites exhibit a number of notable plant and lichen species.

Non-Statutory

- 4.4 Five non-statutory sites are present within 1km of the Site, with varying levels of designation and conservation value. These non-statutory designations are described in Table 2 above.

Ancient Woodland

- 4.5 There are no Ancient Woodland sites covering any part of the Site or on adjacent land.

Habitats and Flora

- 4.6 The Site comprises a single arable field lined with species poor semi-improved grassland margins, boundary hedgerows, encroaching ruderal and scrub and one large barn with an associated hardstanding yard.

Notable Flora Records

- 4.7 WBRC have provided 18 records 14 notable plant species from within the search area. Those of potential relevance to the Site include the critically endangered corn buttercup *Ranunculus arvensis*, endangered corn gromwell *Lithospermum arvense* and county rare common broomrape *Orobancha minor*.
- 4.8 Although the grassland margins have the potential to support these species, the records are greater than 500m from the site and none were recorded during the site visit.

Arable field

- 4.9 The large arable field is currently seeded with a wheat crop. The margins of the field vary in width from 0.5m up to 3m with encroaching ruderal and scrub from the hedgerows.
- 4.10 The field margins comprise species poor semi-improved grassland dominated by grasses such as cocks foot *Dactylus glomerata* with red fescue *Festuca rubra* and black grass *Alopecurus myosuroides* also present. The margins have ruderal species encroaching from adjacent hedgerows including species such as white dead nettle *Lamium album*, nettle *Urtica dioica*, broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium*, teasel *Dipsacus* sp., groundsel *Senecio vulgaris* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris* as well as tufted vetch *Vicia cracca*, cut-leaved cranes bill *Geranium dissectum* and ladies bedstraw *Galium verum*. The northern and southern margins also have patches of hemlock *Conium maculatum*.

Ruderal and scrub

- 4.11 Small patches of bramble scrub *Rubus fruticosus* agg. are present in the south east, north west and south western corners of the Site. Scrub is encroaching on to grassland margins along the southern boundary where a public footpath runs adjacent to the arable field.

- 4.12 Ruderal species such as hogweed, nettle, cow parsley and dock also line the grassland margins. A large area of ruderal is adjacent to the hardstanding and barn dominated by dock with ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, yarrow *Achillea millefolium*, cow parsley, meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis* and cocks foot grasses.

Hedgerows

- 4.13 Hedgerows run along the eastern, western and northern boundaries and vary in height and management. H1 starts in the south east corner of the Site and runs the length of the eastern boundary of the arable field. This hedgerow is a species rich grown out double hedge c. 3m high, dominated by hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* with blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, elder *Aegopodium podagraria*, apple *Malus* sp., elm *Ulmus minor*, horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, Norway maple *Acer platanoides* and field maple *Acer campestre*. Ground flora within the hedge is dominated by hogweed, nettle, cleavers, white deadnettle and cow parsley.
- 4.14 Hedgerow 2 (H2) lines the northern boundary adjacent to Daventry road and is a well maintained highways hedge. H2 comprises similar species to H1, dominated by hawthorn with a few specimens of blackthorn, field maple, crab apple, elm and elder. Towards the western end of H2 the hawthorn is sparser with a small gap present in the hedge c. 2m in width. The western end of H2 is separated from H3 by a gateway. Ground flora along H2 includes violets, cleavers, lords and ladies, garlic mustard, cow parsley, cut-leaved cranes bill, speedwell sp., and red deadnettle.
- 4.15 Hedgerow 3 (H3) forms the east boundary of the Site and is adjacent to a residential estate with gardens backing on to the Site. The northern end of H3 is a mature grown out intact hedge c. 3m high and dominated by blackthorn with cherry, hawthorn, ash and elder. c.20m from H2, H3 becomes a more maintained garden hedge c. 1m in height with encroaching bramble scrub on to the grass margin. Towards the southern end of H3 the hedgerow becomes more grown out and also includes rose.

Fauna

Bats

- 4.16 WBRC provided 35 bat records from within the search area dating from 1990 to 2013, including at least four bat roosts. Species records include common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, brown long-eared *Plecotus auritus*, Natterer's *Myotis nattereri* and an unidentified *Myotis* sp. None of the records are located within or adjacent to the Site and the two closest recorded roosts are of common pipistrelle and Natterer's bats, both of which are located c.0.7km west of the Site, within Southam. The majority of the remaining records are incidental reports of bats commuting and foraging within Southam c.1km to the west and Stockton c.2km north of the Site, with two further roosts of brown long-eared

and common pipistrelles recorded in Stockton at St Michael's Church and Church Street respectively.

- 4.17 The hedgerow boundaries on Site provide foraging and commuting corridors for bats. The boundaries also include semi mature trees however these appear to have negligible roosting potential. The Site itself has very few opportunities for bats apart from the boundaries which provide commuting routes to the wider landscape. The barn on Site also has negligible opportunities for roosting bats.

Badger

- 4.18 WBRC have provided four records of a badger *Meles meles* within a 1km radius of the Site. One record indicates that a badger sett within 30m of the north east corner of the Site, on an adjacent field boundary. The remaining records are badger casualties, two of which are located along the A425 adjacent to the eastern and western edges of the northern boundary of the Site. One further casualty is recorded c.0.6km further along the A425 to the east.
- 4.19 A single badger latrine was found on the eastern boundary of the Site providing evidence that badgers are using this boundary. No badger setts were identified on Site during the survey.

Other mammals

Otter

- 4.20 WBRC have provided two records of otter *Lutra lutra* spraint along the River Stowe where it passes through Southam (c.0.4km west of the Site) dating from 2007 to 2012. The river continues through Southam and runs through the field adjacent to the northern boundary of the site, parallel to Daventry Road.
- 4.21 Otters can use small water courses and ditches as dispersal corridors however none of these habitats are on or adjacent to the Site. As such otters are not considered further within this report.

Brown hare

- 4.22 WBRC have provided nine records of brown hare *Lepus europaeus* from within the search area dating from 1989 to 2013. The closest records are c.0.3km north and c.0.5km south from the Site, with the remaining records all c.2km from the Site boundary.
- 4.23 No evidence of brown hare was recorded on the day of the survey. The Site is currently sown with a tall wheat crop which and does not currently provide suitable foraging habitat for this species.

Hedgehog

- 4.24 WBRC have provided eight records of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* from within the search area dating from 1966 to 2006. The closest record is a road casualty on the A425, c.0.1km north-west of the Site.

- 4.25 The semi-improved grassland margins and hedgerows provide foraging habitat and dispersal corridors for hedgehogs. The western boundary runs adjacent to residential gardens that will also provide habitat for this species.

Birds

- 4.26 WBRC have returned records of 14 notable bird species from within the search area including those listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) Red or Amber lists, or listed as Schedule 1 on the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Details of notable species are summarised in Table 3 below:

Table 2. Summary of notable bird records within 2km search area

Common name	Latin name	Sch1, BOCC, S41	Date of closest record	Closest location
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Red, UKBAP	1997	0.4km west
Song thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Red	1997	0.4km west
Barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Sch1, Amber	2013	0.7km west
Red kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	Sch1, Amber	1999	0.9km west
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Amber	1978	2.0km west
Yellow wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Red	1978	2.0km west
Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Amber	2011	2.3km north-east
Grey partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	Red, UKBAP	2011	2.3km north-east
Lesser spotted woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	Red	2011	2.3km north-east
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Amber	2011	2.3km north-east
Marsh tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>	Red	2011	2.3km north-east
Tree sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	Red, UKBAP	2011	2.3km north-east

- 4.27 Several BoCC species were recorded on the day of the Site visit including skylark *Alauda arvensis*, yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*, house sparrow and starling *Sturnus vulgaris*. Habitat on Site including semi improved grassland margins, hedgerows and trees provide foraging and nesting opportunities for birds including some of those recorded nearby.

Reptiles

- 4.28 WBRC have provided 11 records of two common and widespread reptile species from within the search area: grass snake *Natrix natrix* and common lizard *Zootoca vivipara*. Ten of these records relate to grass snakes, most of

which were recorded within Southam c. 1.4km west of the Site, however one grass snake was recorded c. 0.1km west of the Site in 1996. The common lizard record is from c. 1.3km west, in a garden in Mill Crescent, Southam.

- 4.29 The grassland margins particularly along the western boundary adjacent to residential gardens provides suitable habitat for reptile species.

Amphibians

- 4.30 WBRC have provided 30 records of four amphibian species from within the search area: smooth newt *Lissotriton vulgaris*, great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*, common toad *Bufo bufo* and common frog *Rana temporaria*.

GCN

- 4.31 Of these amphibian records, 19 records of great crested newt were provided, dating from 1981 to 2014. Populations have been recorded in Southam Cement Quarry c. 2km north-west of the Site and Napton Quarry c. 2.3km east of the Site. One record from 1985 was provided north of the A425 Daventry road c. 0.1km north west of the Site.

Invertebrates

- 4.32 WBRC have provided 299 records of 100 invertebrate species from within the search area. A large number of records were provided from Southam Quarry c. 2km north-west, Napton Quarry c. 2.3km east and along Southam Bypass North c. 1.1km north-west of the Site. The closest records are of 18 nationally notable beetle species including Adonis' ladybird *Hippodamia (Adonia) variegata*, flax flea beetle *Longitarsus parvulus* and pear weevil *Magdalis (panus) barbicornis* and one record of the near threatened water beetle *Hydrochus elongatus* from a Southam garden c. 0.1km west of the Site.
- 4.33 Hedgerows and field margins at the Site provide opportunities for a range of invertebrate species. However it is unlikely that the Site supports a particularly diverse or notable invertebrate fauna.

5.0 ECOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Ecological Constraints

Confirmed Constraints

5.2 Avoidance, mitigation and/ or compensation measures will be required for the following ecological constraints, with recommendations provided for each constraint in turn:

- Trees and hedgerows
 - *These features on the north, east and west boundaries should be retained as part of the proposals wherever possible, given their intrinsic ecological value.*
- Nesting birds
 - *Based on their legal protection, any clearance of potential nesting habitat should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (March-August inclusive), or immediately following confirmation by a suitably qualified ecologist that no active nests are present.*

Potential Constraints

5.3 Avoidance, mitigation and/ or compensation measures may be required for the following potential ecological constraints, subject to further investigation and/ or surveys:

- Badgers
 - *One latrine was found along the eastern boundary of the Site. A record of a badger sett has been provided close to the north eastern corner. It is likely that badgers use the eastern boundary and possibly the other boundaries for dispersal and foraging. An appropriate buffer within the landscape proposals is recommended along the eastern boundary to retain this corridor.*
- Reptiles
 - *The grassland margins are suitable to support reptiles, records of grass snake have been provided close to the western boundary of the Site. Seven surveys are recommended in suitable areas to assess the presence or absence of reptiles on Site. Surveys to be completed (April – June, September)*
- Great crested newt
 - *Seven ponds have been identified within 500m of the Site. Due to limited surrounding habitat, barriers to dispersal and distance from the Site four ponds can be discounted from further consideration. Three ponds however are recommended to be assessed for suitability to support great crested newt.*

- 5.4 Based on the potential ecological constraints identified above, Table 3 sets out recommendations for further work necessary to determine the need for and scope of any avoidance, mitigation and/ or compensation measures. The outcome of this further investigation and/ or survey work will inform an Ecological Assessment of the final scheme.

Table 3. Recommendations for further inspection/ survey

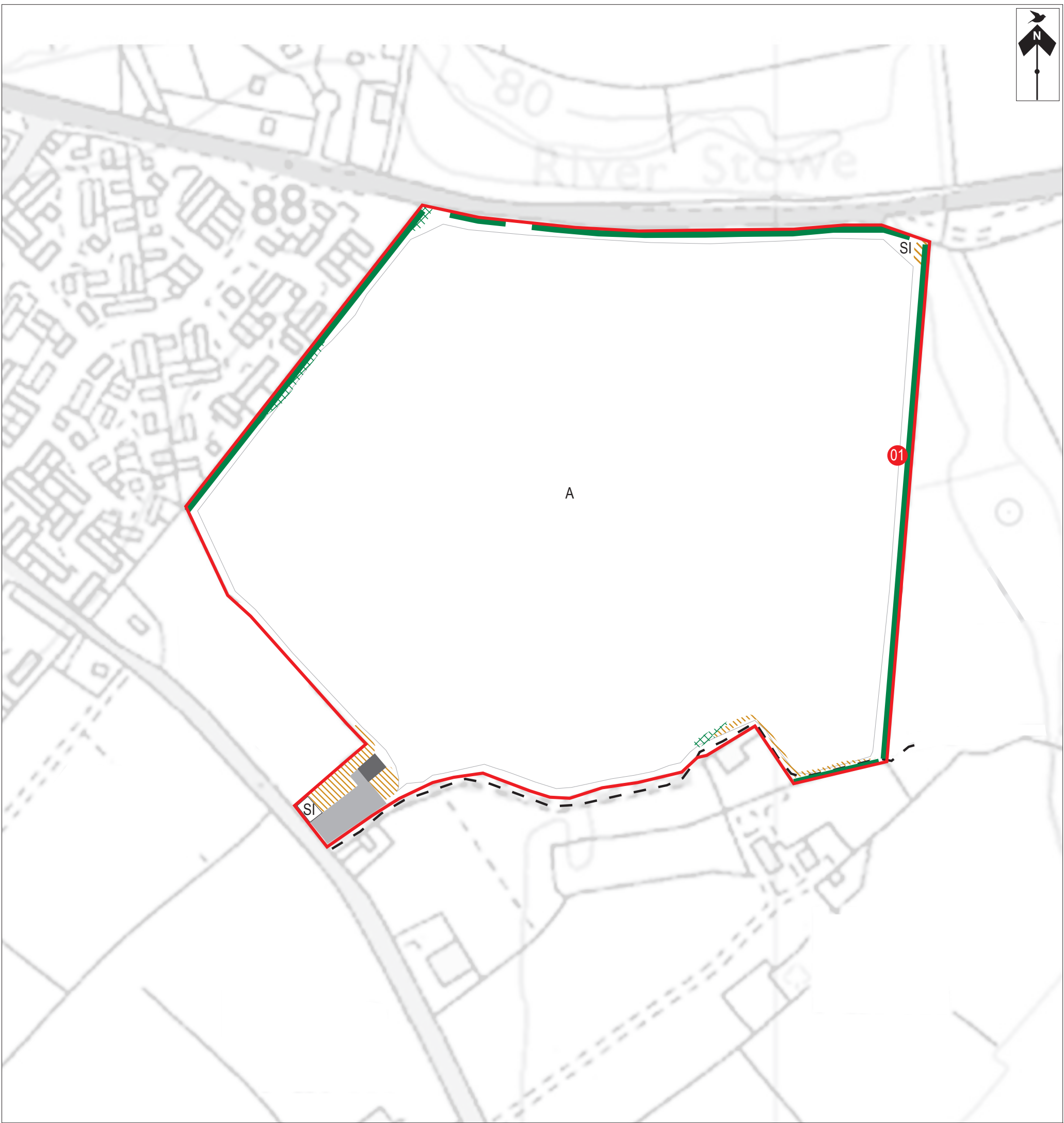
Inspection/ Survey	Timescales
Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index Assessment	Any time of year (ideally as soon as possible)
Reptile presence / absence	Seven surveys optimal time: April-June, September

Opportunities for Ecological Enhancement

- 5.5 The following opportunities for ecological enhancement have been identified:
- Aquatic habitat creation
 - Incorporation of native plants and those of wildlife value in to landscaping scheme
 - Improved connectivity of green infrastructure
 - Bat roosting opportunities
 - Bird nesting opportunities

Appendix A

Habitats Plan



- Red line boundary
- A Arable field
- SI Semi-improved grassland
- Scrub
- Hardstanding
- Ruderal

- Hedgerow
- Footpath
- Target note

Target note:
01. Badger latrine



Appendix B

Legislation and Planning Policy

The **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010** (as amended) enacts the Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds, into UK law. The Regulations allow for the designation of Statutory Nature Conservation sites (SACs and SPAs) and European Protected Species ('EPS' including all UK bat species, great crested newt, hazel dormouse and otter) which are assigned a greater level of protection than under national legislation.

The **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** (as amended) forms the primary piece of UK legislation relating to the protection of habitats and species (including nesting birds, reptiles and water vole). Additionally, badgers are protected under the **Protection of Badgers Act, 1992**.

Section 40(1) of the **Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006** states that each public authority "*must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity*". This legislation makes it clear that planning authorities should consider impacts to biodiversity when determining planning applications, with particular regard to the Section 41 list of 56 habitats and 943 species of principal importance, irrespective of whether they are covered by other legislation. The S41 list was taken forward for action under the UK BAP (first published in 1994). The UK BAP has now been superseded by the Biodiversity 2020 Strategy⁵, which continues to prioritise the S41 list, setting national targets for the period to 2020, and the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework⁶, which shows how these contribute to targets at the European level. Whilst BAPs are therefore no longer formally recognised, many of the tools and resources originally developed for the BAP remain in use, such as the background information which still forms the basis of work at national level.

National Planning Policy Framework (2012)⁷ (NPPF) sets out the government planning policies for England and how they should be applied. With regards to ecology and biodiversity, Chapter 11: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment, paragraph 109, states that the planning system and planning policies should:

- Minimise impacts on, and provide net gains in, biodiversity where possible, "*contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures*".
- Recognise the wider benefits of ecosystem services.

⁵ Defra (2011) *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services*. Defra, London

⁶ JNCC and Defra (2012) *UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework* (on behalf of the Four Countries' Biodiversity Group). July 2012.

⁷ Department for Communities and Local Government (2012) *National Planning Policy Framework*

Under these aims, paragraph 117 states the need to plan for biodiversity at a landscape scale, linked to national and local targets. Paragraph 118 sets out the principles that local planning authorities should apply when determining planning applications:

- Refuse planning permission if significant harm cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for
- Encourage opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments
- Permission should not normally be permitted where an adverse effect on a nationally designated Site of Special Scientific Interest is likely, either individually or in combination with other developments
- Refuse planning permission if development will result in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, such as ancient woodland and the aged or veteran trees, unless the need for, and benefits of, the development in that location clearly outweigh the loss

The **Government Circular 06/2005**, which is referred to within the NPPF, defines statutory nature conservation sites and protected species as a material consideration in the planning process.

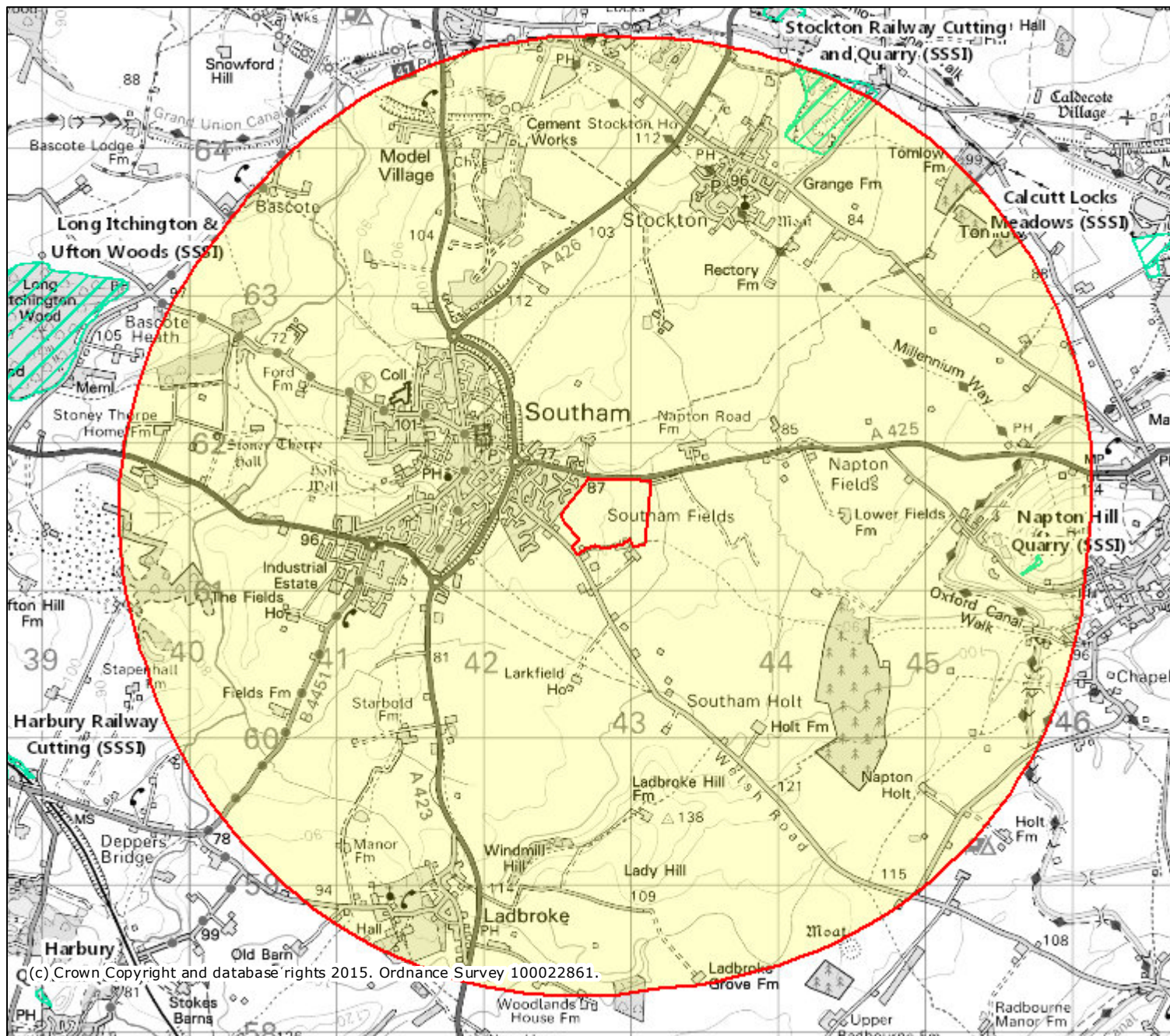
Local planning policies are of relevance to ecology, biodiversity and/or nature conservation have been set out in Table B.1 below. Warwick District Council are currently reviewing their Local Plan, therefore the saved policies below are taken from the Local Plan 1996 – 2011.

Table B.1. Summary of regional and local planning policy relating to ecology


Policy	Summary
Warwick District council Local Plan 1996 - 2011	
Policy DAP 3: Protecting Nature conservation, Geology and Geomorphology	<p>Development will not be permitted which will destroy or adversely affect the following sites of national importance:- a) designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). Currently designated sites are shown on the Proposals Map; Development will be strongly resisted that will destroy or adversely affect the following locally important sites/features:- b) designated Ancient Woodlands. Currently designated sites are shown on the Proposals Map; c) designated Local Nature Reserves (LNRs). Currently designated sites are shown on the Proposals Map; d) any other sites subject to a local ecological or geological/geomorphological designation unless the applicant can demonstrate that the benefits of the proposal significantly outweigh the ecological/geological/geomorphological importance of the area; e) protected, rare, endangered or other wildlife species of conservation importance. In assessing the effect of development on a nature conservation or geological/geomorphological site in relation to b), c), d) and e), proposals will not be permitted unless the applicant can demonstrate that consideration has been given to any mitigation and compensatory measures proposed that take account of the importance of the site/species, the extent to which ecological, geological or geomorphological impact is minimised, the nature of the measures proposed, and proposed long term management of features/sites/habitats of ecological/ geological/ geomorphological importance.</p>

Appendix C

Desk Study Information



Legend

-  Local Nature Reserves (England)
-  National Nature Reserves (England)
-  Sites of Special Scientific Interest (England)

Projection = OSGB36

xmin = 436100

ymin = 256700

xmax = 449400

ymax = 266200

Map produced by MAGIC on 5 May, 2015.

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5/5/2015

Site Check Report Report generated on Tue May 05 2015
You selected the location: Centroid Grid Ref: SP428615
The following features have been found in your search area:

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (England)

Name	NAPTON HILL QUARRY
Reference	1002278
Natural England Contact	MIKE ROBINSON
Natural England Phone Number	0845 600 3078
Hectares	0.36
Citation	1002121
Hyperlink	http://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=s1002121

Name	STOCKTON RAILWAY CUTTING AND QUARRY
Reference	1002283
Natural England Contact	MIKE ROBINSON
Natural England Phone Number	0845 600 3078
Hectares	24.14
Citation	1002324
Hyperlink	http://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteDetail.aspx?SiteCode=s1002324

Local Nature Reserves (England)
No Features found

National Nature Reserves (England)
No Features found

5/5/2015

Site Check Report Report generated on Tue May 05 2015

You selected the location: Centroid Grid Ref: SP428615

The following features have been found in your search area:

Ramsar Sites (England)

No Features found

Special Areas of Conservation (England)

No Features found

Special Protection Areas (England)

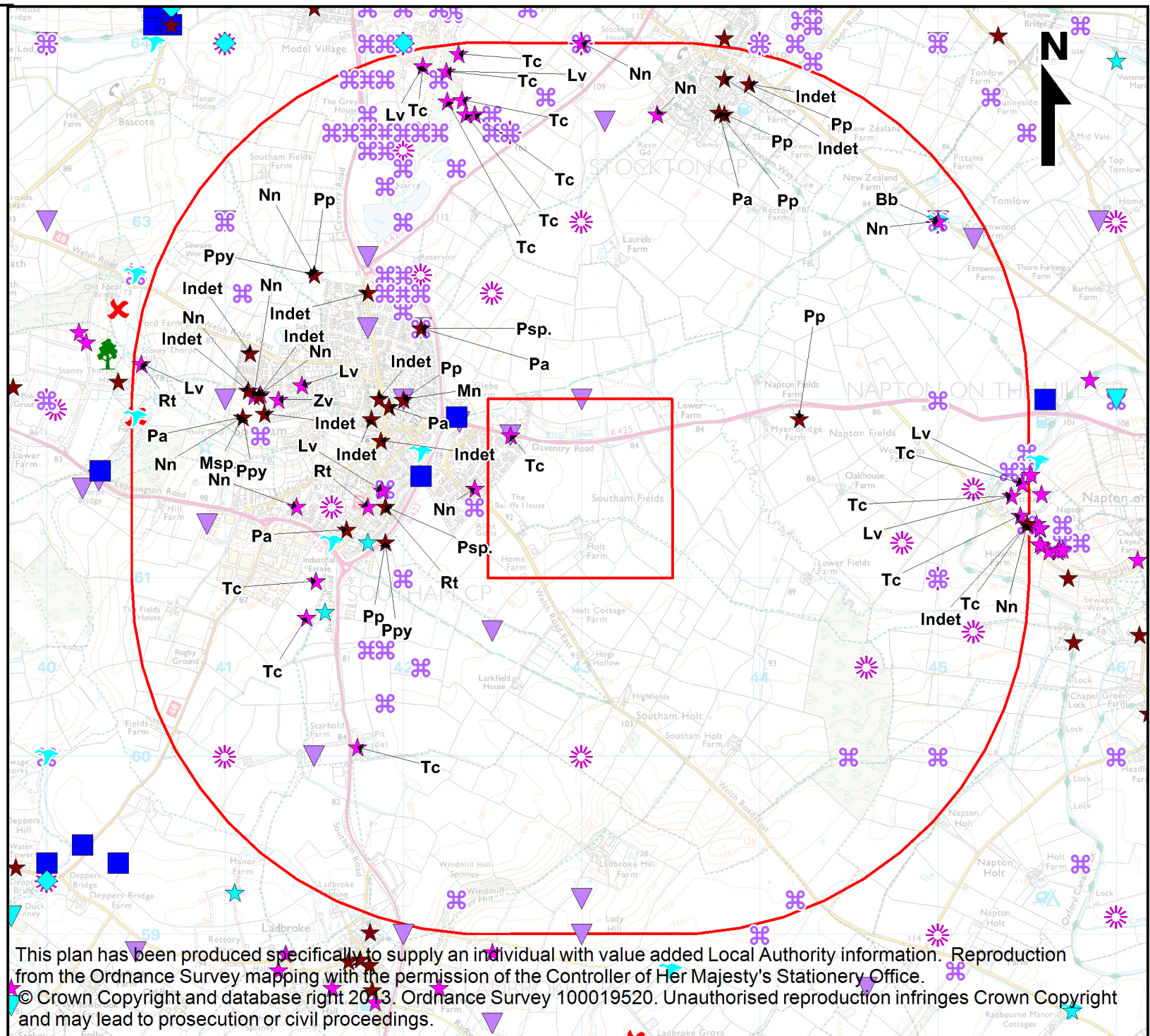
No Features found

WARWICKSHIRE BIOLOGICAL RECORDS CENTRE



Ecological Data Search: Southam SP428615 Species 2km search

- ★ Bat
- ★ Amphibian / Reptile
- ★ Barn Owl
- ★ White Clawed Crayfish
- ★ Otter
- ★ Water Vole
- ★ Dormouse
- ★ Notable Mammal
- ★ Notable Bird
- ★ Notable Invertebrate
- ★ County Rare Plant
- ★ Native Black Poplar
- ★ Veteran Tree
- ★ W&C Act Schedule 9 (Invasive)













Warwickshire Biological Records Centre
Warwickshire County Council
PO Box 43, Warwick
CV34 4SX
Tel: (01926) 418060

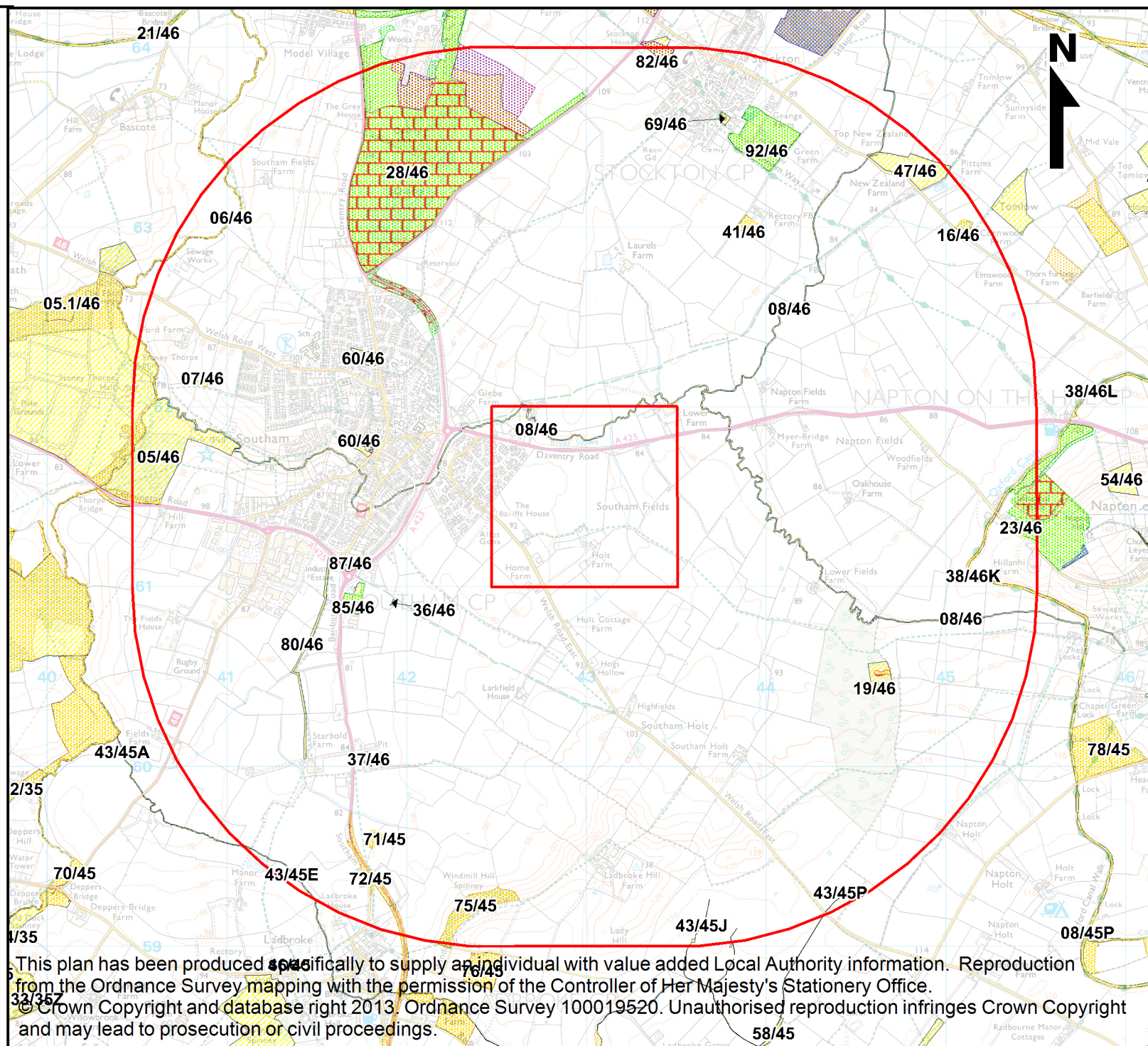
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Ecological Data Search: Southam SP428615 Sites 2km search

-  SAC
-  SSSI
-  LNR
-  LGS
-  Ecosite
-  LWS
-  potential site
-  deferred
-  rejected
-  destroyed



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Appendix D

Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Methodology

Phase 1 Habitat survey- a technique for environmental audit⁸ is a method of classification and mapping wildlife habitats in Great Britain. It was originally intended to provide "...relatively rapidly, a record of semi-natural vegetation and wildlife habitat over large areas of the countryside". Phase 1 Habitat Survey methodology has been widely 'extended' beyond its original purpose to allow the capture of information at an intermediate level between Phase 1 and Phase 2 Habitat surveys. For clarity, Standard Phase 1 Habitat Survey methodology has been 'extended' in this report to include the following:

- More detailed floral species lists for each identified habitat;
- Descriptions of habitat structure, the evidence of management and a broad assessment of habitat condition;
- Mapping of additional habitat types (e.g. hardstanding);
- Identification of Priority Habitats under Section 41 of the NERC Act;
- Identification of Habitats Directive Annex I habitat types;
- Evidence of, or potential for, the presence of the following species / groups:
 - *European Protected Species (including bats, great crested newt, dormice and otter)*
 - *Birds*
 - *Reptiles*
 - *Water vole*
 - *Badger*
 - *Other mammals (including S41 Priority Species: hedgehog, harvest mouse and brown hare)*
 - *Other amphibians (including S41 Priority Species: common toad)*
 - *Notable, rare or protected plants*
 - *Notable, rare or protected invertebrates*

Results of the Extended Phase 1 Habitat survey are presented on the Habitat Plan in Appendix A with floral species lists in Table D.1 below.

⁸ JNCC (2010)