1. Coldfall Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade I**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Metropolitan Grade SINC**

1.2. Site description

Coldfall Wood (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 27645 90292) is one of four areas of ancient oak-hornbeam woodland within Haringey. The wood is dominated by hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* with mature oak *Quercus robur.* The site gently slopes down to the north to a depression. Here, an area of young wet woodland and swamp is present fed by a stream that takes water from Creighton Avenue, and other local sources. This stream has been enhanced with a reedbed filtration area in the south to reduce pollutants from the road. An ancient earthbank boundary feature lies within the western part of the site. Coldfall Wood is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and is well used by local people for recreation and education. This use has, as indeed seen across many parts of the borough, spiked with the onset of Covid-19 restrictions. In 2021, there is evidence of severe recreational pressure, with dog walking and damage from unrestricted informal play-groups and 'forest schools' being primary causes of damage.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests (12 Scattered bracken; 136 Compacted substrate; 33 Ancient woodland site; 47 Native; 49 Veteran Trees; 52 Coppice with standards; 71 Earthbank; 86 Accessible natural greenspace; 99 Nature reserve)** **w1d - Wet woodland**
Description **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests:** The dominant oak-hornbeam woodland area is characterised, with the exception of two coppiced areas, by a high forest structure with mature trees, little scrub and understorey and generally dark conditions. Whilst these conditions were noted by Bevan (1992), the present lack of understorey from the low ambient light is exacerbated by the relatively sudden and recent increase in recreational pressure as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. In several places, particularly within proximity of main entrances and traditional pathways, the ground is totally devoid of plant life and there is heavy compaction. Compaction is also highly notable around the stream, particularly where bridge crossings provide concentrated areas for dog bathing. Areas of coppicing

in the north, centre and southern areas provide the contrast – ancient woodland indicators such as remote sedge *Carex remota,* pendulous sedge *C. pendula,* wild service-tree *Sorbus torminalis* and midland hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata* are all present in these areas, with wood melick *Melica uniflora* also dominant along the southern boundary bank. A more recent area of coppice was cut along the stream in 2006 (Bevan, 2011). The most recent record of pale sedge *Carex pallescens* a London rarity, dates from between 2007 and 2011. Rowan *Sorbus acuparia*, silver birch *Betula pendula* and yew *Taxus baccata a*re present, but rare.

w1d - Wet woodland: A small (0.12 hectare) area of wet woodland exists in the far north of the site and is associated with an area of f2f – other swamp (see below). It has formed as the result of coppicing, beginning at least in November 1991 (Bevan, 1992) and again in 2006 (Bevan, 2011) and is dominated by goat willow *Salix caprea.*

Condition

w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests: There is a stark contrast between coppiced (Good) and non-coppiced area (Moderate – see figure below). The primary factors that contribute to a lowering of condition in the great majority of the site are the Condition Assessment criteria 9 (a near absence of any ground flora), 10 (only a single storey of woodland), 12 (very little standing deadwood) and 13 (excessive disturbance). Invasive cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* is present, but at relatively low frequency. Whilst woodland regeneration also scored poorly, areas with high densities of oak seedlings were observed over several areas of the woodland floor, particularly in the south and away from the main areas of damage. It is likely this mass of seedlings is as a result of the so-called oak 'mast year' of 2020 (Woodland Trust, 2020). The coppiced areas are much less disturbed (in part due to the presence of dead-hedging and the natural barrier provided by bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.*) and are more diverse in their ground flora and structure.

w1d - Wet woodland: This is considered to be in Poor condition, largely on account of the relatively lack of maturity of the woodland (with concomitantly low structural and species diversity).

Wetland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

f2e - Reedbeds

f2f - Other swamps

r2b - Other rivers and streams (162 Temporary water bodies; 40 Freshwater - heavily modified)

Description

f2e - Reedbeds: A small reedbed has been created in the upstream part of the stream system with the express function of filtering pollutants. Common reed *Phragmites australis* is the dominant species.

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Condition **f2e - Reedbeds:** The reedbed is considered to be of Moderate condition, failing criterion 1 on account of its artificial nature (the bed is built upon a concrete filtration grid) and criterion 3 on poor water quality (this coming from Creighton Avenue). **f2f - Other swamps:** The swamp and wet woodland area is in Good condition, passing all Wetland condition criteria. **r2b - Other rivers and streams.** Using the Ditch condition assessment, all sections of the stream are in Poor condition. There is considerable damage, especially along the lower lying northern section and marginal vegetation is almost non-existent.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**
Description Paths, footbridges and small service buildings account for six percent of the total area.
Condition The default condition for these habitat types is 'N/A – other'

Priority habitats

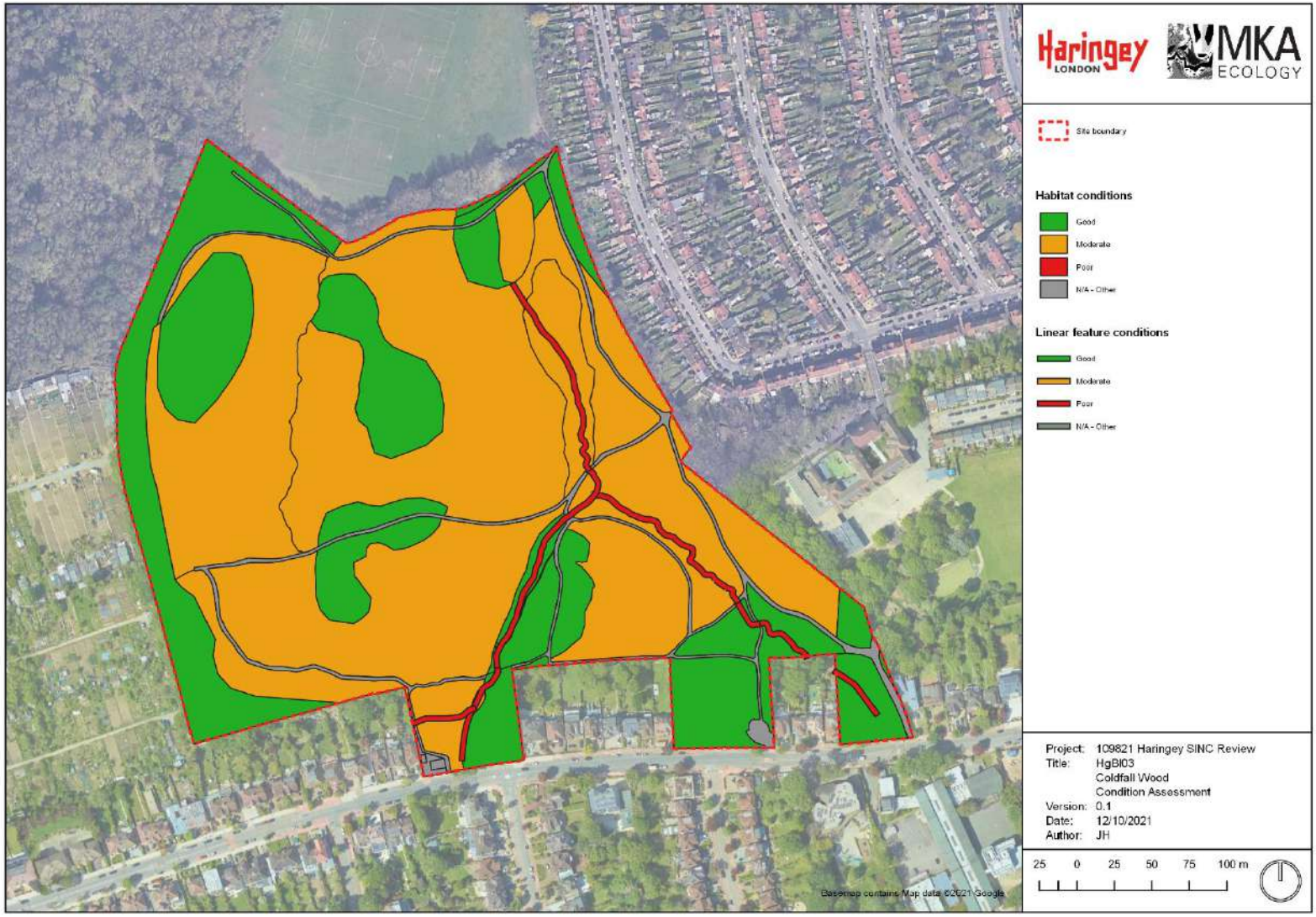
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Wet woodland

- Reedbeds
- Rivers (streams)

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
f2e - Reedbeds
f2f - Other swamp
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
w1d - Wet woodland
w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests
Other linear features
r2b - Other rivers and streams
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI03
Coldfall Woods
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 12/10/2021
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI03 Coldfall Wood Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 12/10/2021
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Deliberately stacked large volume wood.
2	Disregard for care of woodland – rubbish (baby wipes, nappies etc).
3	Area suitable for a wider fenced off area around stream.
4	Excessive poaching around bridge.
5	Water damage.
6	Wood melick locally dominant.
7	Standing deadwood example.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Virginia creeper	On wall along east boundary
B	Cherry Laurel	-
C	Cherry Laurel	-
D	Buddleia	Adjacent to southern boundary within reedbed area

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Together with Queen's Wood, Highgate Wood and Bluebell Wood, is part of a cluster of ancient oak-hornbeam woodlands. Like its larger neighbours (woodland cover is approximately half that seen in Queen's Wood and Highgate Wood), Coldfall Wood has suffered from significant recreational pressure in 2020 and 2021. Nevertheless, it is considered to qualify as a main variant of a listed 'best example' of London's Habitats (hornbeam woodland – GLA, 2018). It is also unique in the Borough in having a significant area of swamp and developing wet woodland habitat. As such it is recommended that Coldfall Wood be upgraded to a Site of Metropolitan Importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Coldfall Wood will be subject to a new Habitat Management Plan and detailed opportunities for restoration and enhancement will be included therein.

Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	• *Extension/re-introduction of coppicing regimes*. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • *Protection.* In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to protecting areas of woodland. The use of dead-hedging is preferrable in all instances and is seen to work (e.g. central coppice area) but in areas immediately adjacent to access points, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage. • *Coppicing & fencing, together with education.* Where areas of new coppice are adjacent to access points, this presents both a risk (increased damage) but also an opportunity to provide education to the role of coppicing and the reason for fencing certain areas. An area of coppice and protection is mostly likely to be needed and effective close to the Beech Drive entrance off Creighton Avenue. • *Limits to dog-walking:* Dog walking was evident as a major source of recreational pressure. Consider limiting dog walking (maximum number of dogs, leads only) and subsequent enforcement measures.

Species	• *Invertebrates.* As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates.
	  ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
	  ▪ *Ring-barking*
	  ▪ *Branch breaks*
	  ▪ *'Horse – damage'*
	  ▪ *Pollarding*
	  ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016)

	○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. • *Birds/bats.* A range of artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree vet-eranisation (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

A regime for further monitoring work will be detailed in an accompanying management plan for Coldfall Wood. However, these are likely to include:

- Regular botanical surveys to record botanical species diversity against coppicing regimes.
- Invertebrate surveys, particularly focussing on the impact of measures to increase habitat for saproxylic invertebrates.
- Surveys to determine uptake of artificial nesting/roosting provisions.
- Water quality surveys: To monitor the continued effectiveness of newly created reedbed on downstream water quality.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Further introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

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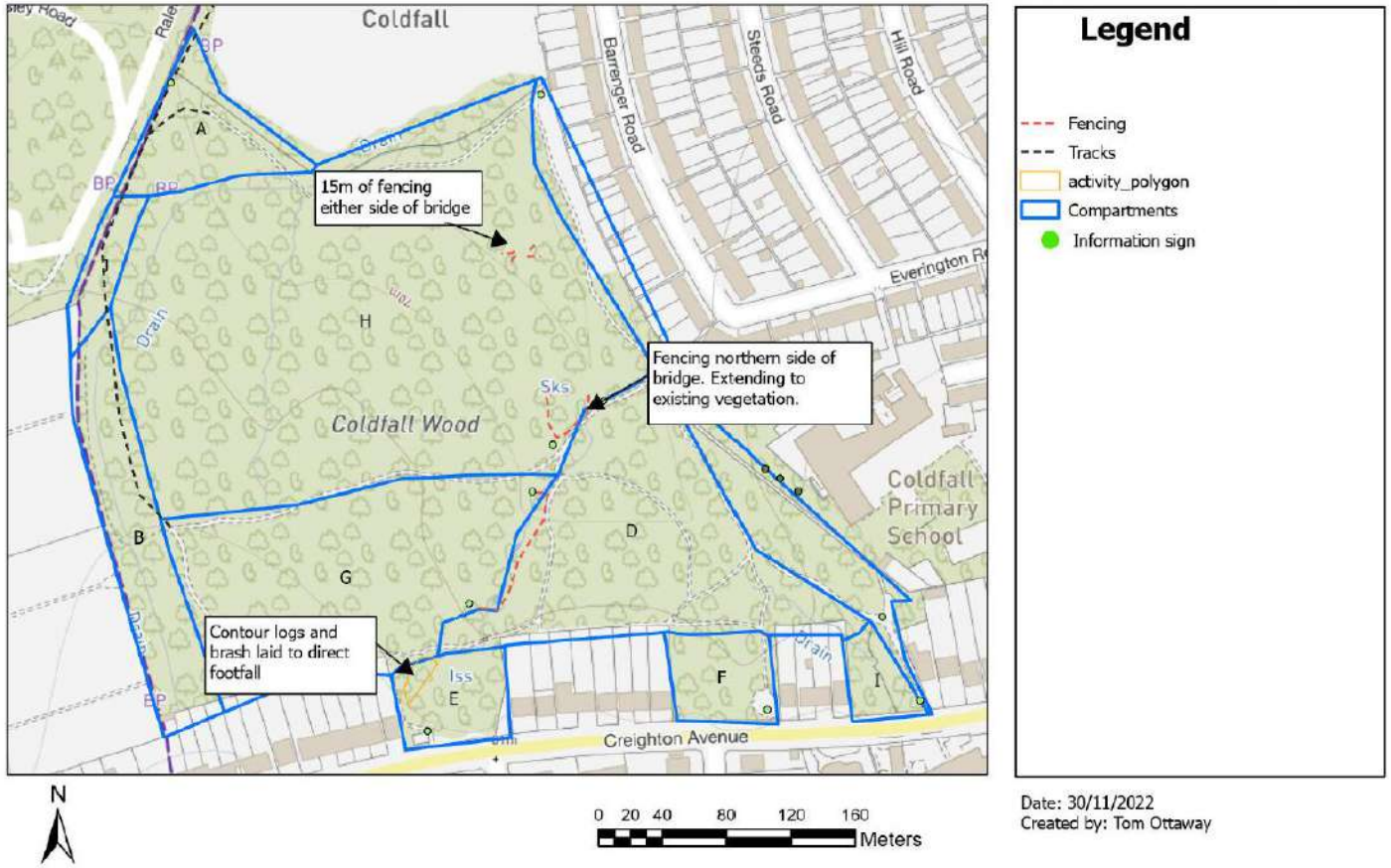
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3. APPENDIX

3.1. Compartment map of Coldfall Wood



1. Coldfall Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade I**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Metropolitan Grade SINC**

1.2. Site description

Coldfall Wood (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 27645 90292) is one of four areas of ancient oak-hornbeam woodland within Haringey. The wood is dominated by hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* with mature oak *Quercus robur.* The site gently slopes down to the north to a depression. Here, an area of young wet woodland and swamp is present fed by a stream that takes water from Creighton Avenue, and other local sources. This stream has been enhanced with a reedbed filtration area in the south to reduce pollutants from the road. An ancient earthbank boundary feature lies within the western part of the site. Coldfall Wood is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR) and is well used by local people for recreation and education. This use has, as indeed seen across many parts of the borough, spiked with the onset of Covid-19 restrictions. In 2021, there is evidence of severe recreational pressure, with dog walking and damage from unrestricted informal play-groups and 'forest schools' being primary causes of damage. The site is also designated as a Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS) (see Appendix 1 for citation).

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

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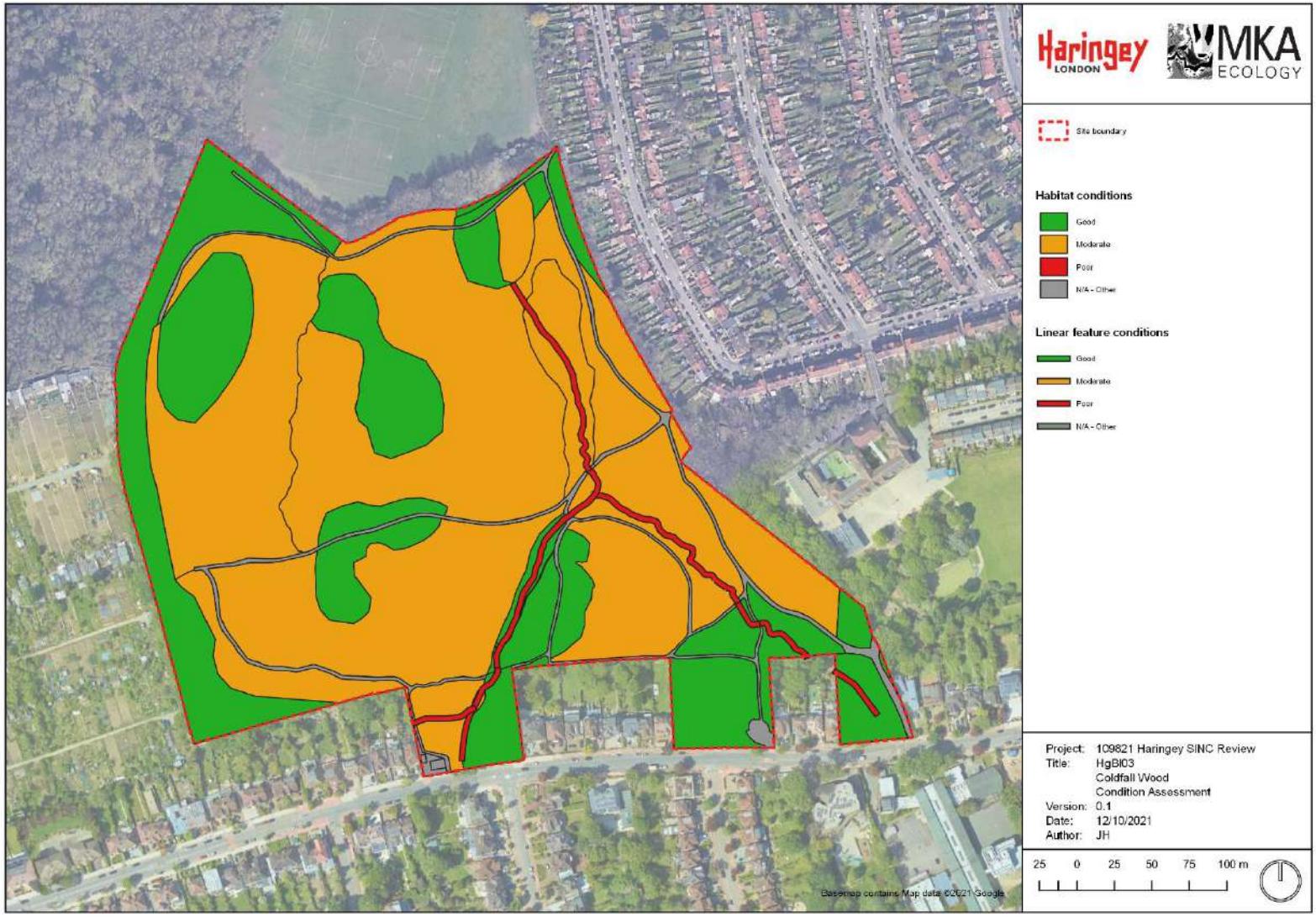
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Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI03
Coldfall Woods
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 12/10/2021
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
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Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions
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Poor
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Version: 0.1
Date: 12/10/2021
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Target Notes:

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1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
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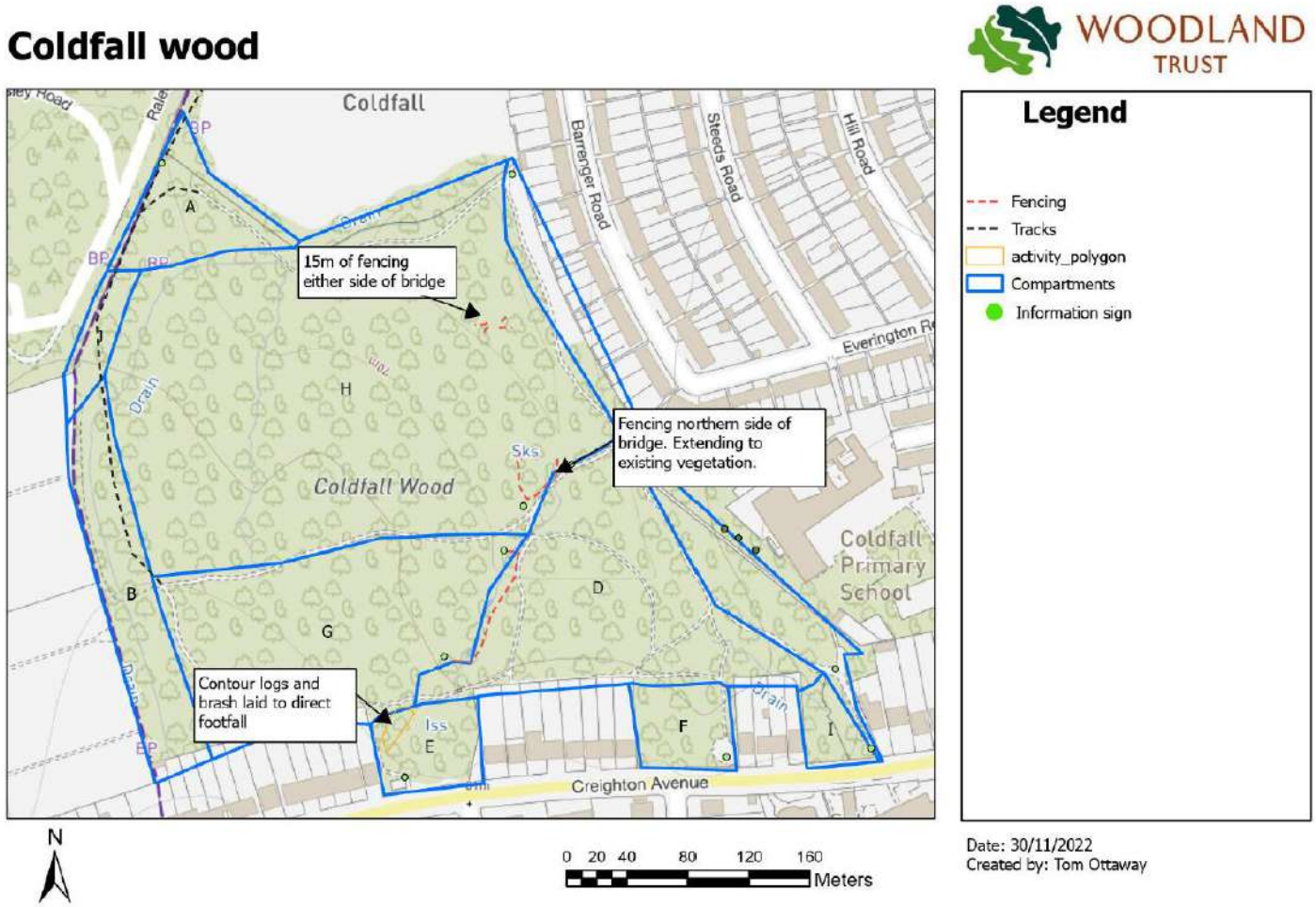
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3. APPENDICES

3.1. Compartment map of Coldfall Wood



3.2. Regionally Important Geological Site Citation

GLA 58 Coldfall Wood

Grid Reference Park entrance TQ 277 901	Site Type: small public park
Site Area (hectares): 13.43	Current use: woodland paths with Nature Trail
Site ownership: London Borough of Haringey	Borough: London Borough of Haringey
Field surveyors: Diana Clements Revisited: Diana Clements	Date: 2009 Date: November 2018
Current geological designation: LIGS	Other designation: Borough Grade I SINC (Coldfall Wood)

Site Map

OS Topography © Crown Copyright



Stratigraphy and Rock Types

Time Unit: Quaternary	Rock unit: Lowestoft Formation, Albion Glacigenic Group
Rock Type:	Details: Chalky till, together with outwash sands and gravels, silts and clays. The till is characterised by its chalk and flint content
Time Unit: Quaternary	Rock unit: Dollis Hill Gravel Member, Sudbury Formation, Kesgrave Catchment Subgroup
Rock Type:	Details: Gravel, sandy and clayey in part, with some laminated silty beds. Sand and gravel, locally with lenses of silt, clay or peat and organic material. Predominantly flint but contains clasts of Lower Greensand Chert and vein quartz.
Time Unit: Eocene	Rock Unit: London Clay Formation, Thames Group
Rock Type: Clay, silt, sand	Details: Fine, sandy, silty clay/ clayey silt, clay.

Site Description

Coldfall Wood is a small area of ancient woodland still surviving in an area that is mostly built over. It slopes down to the north cutting a gully. The three rock types of glacial till, underlying pre-Anglian Dollis Hill Gravel and Eocene London Clay within the area are not easy to see but there is potential for geological interpretation, particularly in relation to the deep gullies cut as successive ice ages melted. The area was originally part of the Finchley depression that allowed the Anglian ice sheet to come close to London and it is the site of the discoveries which first led to the recognition that glaciation had once reached the south of England. Evidence of till can be seen more easily in the adjacent St. Pancras & Islington Cemetery.

Haringey publish a nature trail aimed at Primary school children. There is potential for identifying the different lithologies from clues in the landscape – spring lines, vegetation and small exposures, although they are not so obvious as elsewhere. London Clay is best seen in the eroded banks where the main bridge crosses the stream from the south. Clasts washed out of the Dollis Hill Gravel can be observed in the stream beds.

Assessment of Site Value

Geodiversity topic: lithostratigraphy, sedimentology; geomorphology.

Access and Safety		
Aspect	**Description**	
Safety of access	Access is from two entrances in Creighton Avenue and via the adjacent Muswell Hill Playing Fields	
Safety of exposure	There are rough footpaths through the wood but actual exposures are difficult to see under the vegetation.	
Permission to visit	Open access.	
Current condition	The park is maintained by the Friends of Coldfall Wood. There is a tendency for flooding at the base of the wood but a wooden walkway over the boggy area allows access.	
Current conflicting activities	none	
Restricting conditions	Vegetation, limiting exposure	
Nature of exposure	Woodland with a stream running through and a gully at the bottom of the hill.	
Culture, Heritage & Economic		
Aspect	**Description**	**Rating**
Historic, archaeological & literary associations	The Friends of Coldfall Wood has a website detailing the history of the wood and highlighting what biodiversity can be found there	6
Aesthetic landscape	Footpaths through the wood used by local community and as a teaching asset for Primary School Children. There is an interpretation board for the biodiversity at the entrance.	8
History of Earth Sciences	Site of the discoveries which first led to the recognition that glaciation had once reached the south of England.	8
Economic geology	None	0
GeoScientific Merit		
Geomorphology	The till-topped ridges were formerly the ‘Finchley depression’ through which the glacier forged its path. The gullies provide evidence of the ice ages, created as the ice melted and subsequently when permafrost melted during succeeding ice ages.	3
Sedimentology	Exposures are poor but Lowestoft Till and London Clay are easily distinguishable on newly-dug graves in the adjacent cemetery. Chalk fragments in clay provide a common and easy indicator of till.	3
Palaeontology	Jurassic fossils have been found in both the Finchley cemeteries, transported by the Anglian glacier	4
Igneous / mineral / metamorphic geology	Igneous rock fragments have been found in both cemeteries carried by the glacier and deposited as erratics	4
Structural Geology		2
Lithostratigraphy	Lowestoft Till, Dollis Hill Gravel, London Clay located mainly by spring lines and vegetation as exposure is poor.	3
Potential use	education; there is a potential to add information to the existing educational materials available for the wood	
Fragility	Well maintained by the Friends but the lithology is not normally exposed	
Current Site Value		
Community	Valuable woodland in an urban setting. The Friends of Coldfall Wood are very active and for several years have organised a geotrail around the Wood which has been well attended.	7
Education	Nature trail and interpretation boards for biodiversity already exist	6

	and a leaflet explaining the geology of Coldfall Wood is available at: www.londongeopartnership.org.uk/informationboardsandleaflets/#coldfall. It is also described in LGP Bus Pass Geology 1, *Round the southern limits of the Anglian Ice Sheet*, which may be seen at: www.londongeopartnership.org.uk/geotrails/#buspass	
Geodiversity value		
LIGS:	This is a good teaching location for explaining the extent of the Anglian glaciations particularly as it is the site of the discoveries which first led to the recognition that glaciation had once reached the south of England. Actual evidence is best seen in the newly-dug graves in the adjacent cemetery. The deep gullies emphasise the importance of successive ice ages in creating the landscape seen today.	4
GLA 58 Coldfall Wood		



Photo: Diana Clements

1. Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade I**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade I**

1.2. Site description

The site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 31722 88145) is on former railway land, and is notified as a statutory Local Nature Reserve. The Barking to Gospel Oak Railway Line follows its long southern edge and the New River forms its western boundary. Railway Fields is an educational nature reserve with a mosaic of habitats supporting a diverse flora, and includes an environmental education centre. The site is primarily woodland, with a good diversity of both upper and lower storey species, with understorey. There are small parcels of open grassland and scrub areas and a small fenced-off wildlife pond and two small seasonal ponds. This site has also been awarded a Green Flag Award.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (161 Tall or tussocky sward, 10 Scattered scrub)
Description Two small areas of grassland were present, the northern of which provides a glade within the woodland. This area had a slightly lower species diversity, with a dominance of grass species such as false-oat grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* with some encroaching bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. from the surrounding woodland. The southern grassland area, located between two footpaths, had a higher diversity of herbaceous species, with hairy tare *Vicia hirsute*, iris and a number of umbellifer species within the sward, with additional grasses such as barren brome *Bromuis sterilis*. This grassland was partially protected from recreational use with the presence of a fence around the majority of the perimeter, with no evidence of damage to the grassland.
Condition Both areas of grassland were assessed as being in moderate condition, with the bramble encroachment limiting the condition in the northern area and abundance of common nettle *Urtica dioica* and dock *Rumex* sp. limiting both areas.

Woodland

w1f – Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (37 Semi-natural woodland)
Description Priority woodland is the dominating habitat in the side. A combination of semi-mature and mature trees, there is no dominating species within the canopy, as the site has been specifically designed with diversity in mind (The Conservation Volunteers, 2014). The canopy includes wild service tree *Sorbus torminalis*, white poplar *Populus alba*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and beech *Fagus sylvatica* to list a few. Self-seeding and regeneration were evident, with saplings and seedlings abundant. Within the understorey, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* are seen regularly, with yew *Taxus baccata* rare. The ground flora supported a diverse range of species, including bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus* sp, sainfoin *Onobrychis viciifolia*, enchanters' nightshade *Circaea lutetiana* and common broomrape *Orobanche minor*. Bramble was also regularly seen within the ground flora.
Condition All areas of the woodland were in good condition, although there no veteran trees due to the woodland only being approximately 35 years old. There is also evidence of recreational pressure within the woodland, with small pathways of bare earth.

Scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub
Description Present in the eastern end of the site, the scrub had relatively low species diversity, with high abundances of common nettle, buddleja and bramble. Elder *Sambucus nigra* was noted within the scrub, although rarely. There was no grass habitat around this scrub, as it was situated between two areas of footpath.
Condition In poor condition, the scrub lacked species and structural diversity, with the presence of undesirable and non-native species.

Urban

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1b4 – Buildings** **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Brick pathing and hardstanding.

u1b4 – Buildings: A single building, used as an educational building and volunteer base. **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Areas of compacted earth, used as permanent footpaths
Condition Urban habitats default to a zero condition ('N/A – other').

Lakes

r1a – Eutrophic standing waters (362, Artificial lake or pond, 39 Freshwater – man-made)
Description A small artificial pond in the southern section of the site. This had 100% cover of duckweed *Lemna* sp., however a number of marginal plants were present, include marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* and yellow flag iris *Iris pseudacorus*. Historical records from 2010 suggest that common amphibians are present in the area, and it is understood that newts have been recorded annually in the pond.
Condition The pond was in moderate condition. The high amount of duckweed prevented good condition from being achieved.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location:

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI05
Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve
Version: 0.1
Date: 21/01/2022
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
g3c
w1f
r1a
u1b5
u1c
u1b
h1h
w2f
1
2
3
A


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI05
Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 21/01/2022
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Fox den
2	Loggeries
3	Bug tower

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-

It is understood that Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and Virginia creeper *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* have both been recorded onsite although not noted in the site visit.

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site remains a good environmental educational source for both schools and the local community, with information plaques and leaflets available. The variety of plant species are likely to be a locally important resource for pollinators. The site continues to match the previous descriptions, with priority habitat on site. As such, it is recommended that Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve retains its Borough Grade I status.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on trees).
- Presence of LISI species and potential presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) species.
- Potential presence of reptiles and amphibians.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’) *Birds:*

	• Provision of boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and on buildings. *Bats:* • Provision of bat roosting features on trees and or buildings.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora. • Dead-hedging to limit footfall to dedicated paths and reduce disturbance.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and/or LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

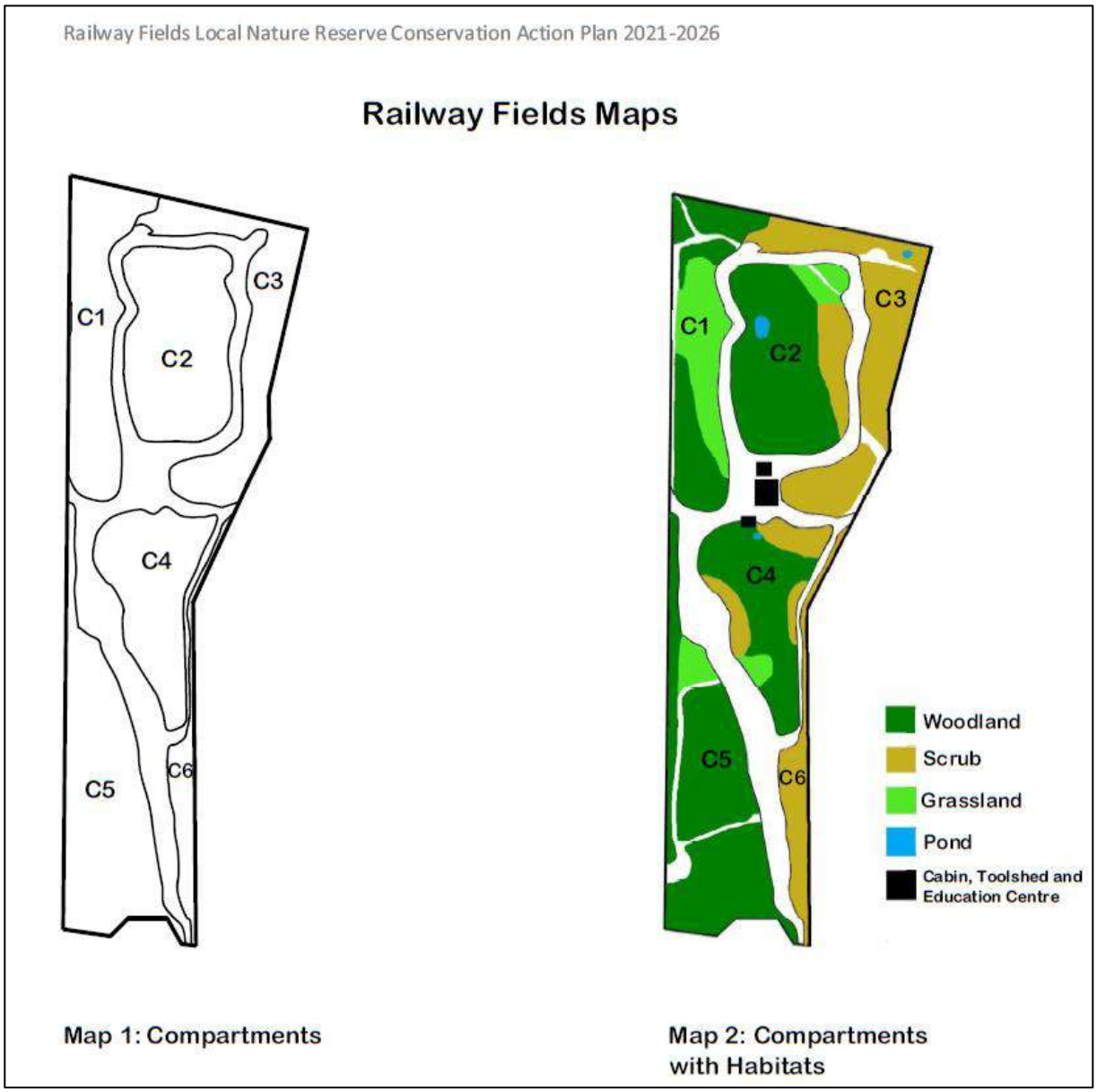
No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive non-native species, including Japanese knotweed and Virginia creeper from adjacent gardens.

2. APPENDIX

2.1. Compartment map of Railway Fields Local Nature Reserve



1. Alexandra Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 1
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 1**

1.2. Site description

Alexandra Park contains a wide diversity of habitats ranging across the grassland-woodland continuum from wet woodland, neutral grassland and the highly valuable wood-pasture/parkland habitat. The mosaic of veteran trees, acid and neutral grassland, and scrub either side of Alexandra Palace Way is a particularly valuable block of habitat, which, together with the central woodland belt, forms a significant east-west corridor with direct connectivity with a Metropolitan SINC (Parkland Walk) and sites of Borough (Grove Lodge) and Local (Alexandra Park Allotments) Importance.

The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29784 89930, and is relatively well studied ecologically, with the London Wildlife Trust conducting regular bat and butterfly surveys. The site is also a London Natural History Society (LNHS) bird site and, together with the neighbouring Wood Green Reservoirs, forms an important site for breeding and wintering birds. The mosaic of woodland, scrub and grassland, with rides and glades make many areas of the site attractive to a range of taxonomic groups. Automated recording from the London Bat Group in 2018 identified eight species of bat, including the rare and highly migratory Nathusius' pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii,* and Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leisleri.* Other notable species records are considered among the relevant habitat accounts.

People within the local community take part in bird, butterfly and moth monitoring at the Park. Local butterfly enthusiasts have undertaken transect surveys at the site since 2019 as part of the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme, with all records submitted to iRecord. Bird recording has been carried out in the park since the 1970s, with the records submitted to eBird. The park's two main water bodies, the Boating Lake and Wood Green Reservoir, have been surveyed for a number of years for the British Trust for Ornithology wetland bird survey. Additionally, there has been a twice-yearly programme of bird ringing in the park for the last 15 years. The Friends of Alexandra Park (FoAP) have collated the results of butterfly monitoring and bird surveys and produced reports for the park.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland (20 - Wood-pasture and parkland)

g3c - Other neutral grassland (140 - Anthills, 161 - Tall or tussocky sward, 20 - Wood-pasture and parkland)

g4 - Modified grassland (10- Scattered scrub, 140 – Anthills; 16 - Tall herb; 161 - Tall or tussocky sward, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral, 73 - Bare ground)

g4a - Amenity grassland (1160 - Introduced shrub, 20 - Wood-pasture and parkland, 73 - Bare ground)

Description

g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland: Two areas, both north of Alexandra Palace Way are characterised by a species poor acid grassland. Common bent *Agrostis capillaris* was the dominant species. Cat's ear *Hypochaeris radicata* was occasional with rarely occurring mouse-ear hawkweed *Pilosella* and common sorrel *Rumex acetosa.* In the western section, closest to Alexandra Palace, sward height was relatively short (ca 5-10cm), whereas sward height in the eastern section was considerably longer (ca 20-40cm). It is understood that this area is notable for the abundance and variety of solitary been species, such as nomad bees *Nomada* sp.

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Neutral grassland is concentrated within the central part of the site, mostly south of South Terrance and in areas flanked by mature tree lines. The perimeter of the cricket ground also supports a narrow band of this habitat. Over fifty species of plant were recorded in all areas of this habitat. No single species was dominant across all areas, though the more common, tussock forming grasses cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* were the most abundant. Common bent and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* were also present, perhaps belying the slightly acidic nature of the surrounds. The largest continuous block of this habitat (at the eastern end of the belt of woodland that runs south-west to north-east) was the most diverse, with herbaceous species such as wild carrot *Daucus carota,* meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris,* common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* and autumn Hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis* all occasional, with meadow fescue *Schedonorus pratensis,* musk mallow *Malva moschata* and tufted hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa* among the rare species. It is understood that imperforate St John's wort *Hypericum maculatum* has been found onsite in the past. This central area was also characterised by frequent anthills (created by yellow meadow ants *Lasius flavus)* and a tussocky structure, likely to be of considerable local value to invertebrates and their predators (e.g., green woodpecker *Picus viridis*). The grassland supports a number of butterflies, including small heath *Coenonympha pamphilus* (A Species of Principal Importance) and silver washed fritilliary *Argynnis paphia*. Additionally, marbled white *Melanargia galathea* has been recorded on the grassland, as well as silver-washed fritilliary *Argynnis paphia* on occasion, although the incidents of this species is increasing.

g4a - Amenity grassland/g4 - Modified grassland: Amenity grassland (i.e. modified grassland that has an obvious amenity or recreational purpose) and other modified grassland together make up 40%

of the area of the site. Those areas of non-amenity modified grassland tend to have a more relaxed management regime, though a similar species composition to those areas used for recreation; rye-grass *Lolium* still being the dominant grass species, with greater plantain *Plantago major* and white clover *Trifolium repens*. In the south-east corner of the park on 'the old race course', a 10-20m strip of uncut grass is left surrounding the main area of closely mown amenity grassland. Areas of closely mown amenity grassland are more widespread across the site and include the main areas south of South Front (including the pitch-and-putt course), and the cricket field.

20 Wood pasture and parkland (see additional figure): The very-high distinctiveness and Priority Habitat 'Wood pasture and parkland' habitat structure is also set within all grassland types, but predominantly within the areas of amenity space. These are characterised by the additional presence of veteran trees, usually pedunculate oak *Quercus robur.* Notable examples are the oaks 250m north-west of the Bedford Road entrance in the 'Blandford meadows', and the two oaks contained within the fenced enclosure on the South Front. To the north-east of the site, the grassland understorey is neutral in character and, as described above, less intensively managed, giving rise to a more tussocky nature. This area is also characterised by a greater diversity of tree species, though many are non-native, including non-native conifers and false-acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia.*

Condition

Grassland: Of all grassland habitats, only the central belt either side of the main pedestrian footpaths that lead through to Muswell Hill are in good condition (please refer to the condition assessment map in Section 1.4). These are species rich and diverse in structure and with few undesirable species. Elsewhere, all amenity grassland is constrained to Poor condition on the basis of management (a short, uniform species poor sward). The areas of lowland acid grassland not included within wood pasture and parkland condition assessments achieve a moderate condition, this being account of their lack of species richness. Whilst this habitat is usually less species rich than other grassland types, there is almost complete dominance of common bent and cat's-ear.

Wood pasture and parkland: With the exception of a one-hectare area to the north of Alexandra Palace Way (please refer to the condition assessment map in Section 1.4), all areas of Wood Pasture and Parkland are in Poor condition. For the most part, this is accounted for by the presence of an amenity of modified grassland understorey (i.e., not a semi-natural grassland that is subject to an appropriate management regime). In all cases, there is an absence of a sufficient volume (80% of trees) with standing dead wood.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3d- Bramble scrub (11 - Scattered trees, 1160 - Introduced shrub, 20 - Wood-pasture and parkland)

h3h - Mixed scrub (1160 - Introduced shrub, 16 - Tall herb, 20 - Wood-pasture and parkland)

Description

Scrub is restricted to relatively isolated pockets at the edges of woodland and/or surrounding the mature trees that make up the Wood Pasture and Parkland areas within the centre. These latter areas tend to be single stands of bramble *Rubus fruticosus.* Elsewhere, especially at the edges to woodland belts in the east of the site, cherry *Prunus* sp. is frequent, with dogwood *Cornus sanguinea,* hazel *Corylus avellana* and hawthown *Crataegus monogyna* are occasional and Guelder-rose *Viburnum opulus* is rare. These areas are also characterised by a well-developed edge of tall herbs including rosebay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium* (particularly in the wetter eastern area of the site), meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis* and common nettle *Urtica dioica*.

Condition

Scrub in the east and south-east of the site is in Good condition; these are biologically and structurally diverse. Elsewhere, single stands of bramble are generally in poor condition on account of their lack of diversity. Nevertheless, some stands are included within the Wood Pasture and Parkland condition assessments (those that surround the base of mature trees - see above) and serve to protect these mature trees from damage. As such, they are valuable features.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1d - Wet woodland

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees

w1g6ii – Line of trees (ecologically valuable)

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types (73 - Bare ground)

w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer

Description

w1d - Wet woodland: A narrow strip of woodland on the east boundary with Wood Green Reservoir is categorised as wet woodland. Willows *Salix* were the dominant tree species, along with rare alder *Alnus glutinosa* and white poplar *Populus alba.* The ground conditions were wet, with a linear water feature (see below) running north-south supporting pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* and willowherbs *Epilobium sp.* Wet ditches also run into the area, one of which supports a stand of Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera,* a species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended).

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: The Priority Habitat areas of woodland are concentrated along a central belt that runs south-west to north-east through the Park. These areas vary in composition from areas with frequent ash *Fraxinus excelsior* in the south-west and north-east to those where willows *Salix* sp. and poplars *Populus* sp. are abundant in the centre. Along the south-

ern boundary is an area with frequent mature pedunculate oak and to the north exists an approximately circular area of silver birch *Betula pendula* dominated woodland. Elm *Ulmus* is also occasional throughout; white-letter hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* has been recorded within the north part of the site at regular intervals throughout the last two decades. Stag beetle *Lucanus cervus* has also been regularly recorded, the most recent of which comes from the London Wildlife Trust stag beetle survey of 2018. Ancient woodland indicators were observed in most of the woodland parcels and include wood meadow-grass *Poa nemoralis* and pendulous sedge, as well a single record of great wood-rush *Luzula sylvatica.* It is understood that ivy broomrape *Orobanche hederae* has been recorded in the woodland in the past.

w1g6/w1g6ii - Lines of trees: One of the primary ecological features of the Park are the lines of mature trees that flank the areas of amenity and neutral grassland. In some areas, these trees contribute to the volume of mature/veteran trees that give some areas the characteristics of Wood Pasture and Parkland. The species composition was dominated by lime *Tilia platyphyllos x cordata = T. x europaea,* sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* and London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*. Several of these tree lines are considered here as 'ecologically valuable', a specific qualifier under Biodiversity Net Gain methodology, due to their association with areas of species rich neutral grassland and/or presence of veteran trees or presence of standing deadwood. It is likely that these trees form important resources for invertebrates, nesting birds and bats.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: In addition to Priority woodland habitats, other areas of non-native (predominantly sycamore) woodland are found towards the western side of the Park, often associated with areas of introduced shrubs and developed areas of hardstanding and buildings. They were also usually the more heavily disturbed areas, being adjacent to or containing main access paths. Nevertheless, these non-native woodland areas are important refuges for a range of taxa, including hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus;* a Zoological Society of London (ZSL) camera trap survey in 2017 produced 25 separate records from five locations, all within 300m of the Muswell Hill Pedestrian Gate.

w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer: An area of approximately 2,500m^2 east of the playgroup areas to the west supports an area of mature ornamental conifers. This area is known as the Grove Pinetum.

Condition

w1d - Wet woodland: This was deemed to be in Moderate condition on account of the presence of Himalayan balsam, and the relative absence of veteran and/or mature trees and limited number of size classes.

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Nearly all areas of lowland mixed deciduous woodland are in good condition. Whilst these tend to score poorly from disturbance (nearly all are bound by main pedestrian routes through the Park), they score highly in all other respects. Native species are present >80% in nearly all cases and invasive species were not prevalent (with the exception of stands of Tree-of-heaven *Ailanthus altissima* and occasional cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus.* Caucasian wingnut *Ailanthus altissima* is also present. Stands that were of Moderate

condition in the far north of the Park, and between Alexandra Palace Way and the Paddock car parking areas suffer from excessive disturbance, the greater prevalence of invasive species and being of apparently younger age – there were fewer mature or veteran trees and fewer age size classes. Whilst ash was frequent in several areas and therefore potentially at risk of ash die-back, ash seedlings were seen in many places. The woodland supports a good diversity of generalist and woodland species, including spotted flycatcher (the most recent available records being from 2017).

w1g6 - Lines of trees: With one exception, all tree lines are in either Moderate or Poor condition. This is invariably due to the presence of non-native species (e.g. sycamore, London plane), the presence of which precludes Good condition. Where native species dominated, the absence of a strip of naturally vegetation at the base constrained these features to Moderate condition (these usually being close to tarmac paths). The single Good condition line of trees is found south of the pitch-and-putt area and contains a number of mature pedunculate oak. Poor condition tree lines were those that, as well as being non-native, also contained immature trees with large gaps.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types and w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer: The remaining areas of non-native woodland were mostly in moderate condition. Whilst constrained by the presence of invasive species (laurels being particularly prevalent in the north-west corner), these areas did support some veteran trees and variety in vertical structure. These areas were, however, at the lower end of the Moderate category.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (19 - Ponds (Priority Habitat), 39 – Freshwater (manmade))

r1e - Ditches

Description

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (19 - Ponds (Priority Habitat), 39 – Freshwater (manmade)): Five ponds and the boating lake make up the coverage of standing freshwater habitats. Three of these - including two highly linear ponds – are associated with the wet woodland on the east boundary. The remaining two are associated with other areas of woodland in the west and south. Both common frog *Rana temporaria* and common toad *Bufo bufo* have been recorded within the last 20 years, and a common frog (a froglet) was observed during the site visit close to the new pond in the Grove Spinney, west of the Palace buildings.

r1e – Ditches: A series of ditches are present around the cricket ground and within the wet woodland. Within the open areas surrounding the playing fields, these were largely dry and were floristically similar to the adjacent grassland. Colt's-foot *Tussilago farfara* is found in these areas. Within the woodland, these areas were predominantly unvegetated. Where vegetated, invasive species (see above) were observed.

Condition

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (19 - Ponds (Priority Habitat), 39 – Freshwater (manmade)): All ponds were in either Poor or Moderate condition. All had some or nearly total coverage of duckweed *Lemna*. These water bodies, particularly those to the east in the conservation area, are connected to ditches and pipework and therefore constrained to being in Moderate or Poor condition. The linear ponds do however support a moderate range of emergent species (e.g., water mint *Mentha aquatica,* purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria* and yellow iris *Iris pseudacorus*. The boating lake is also in Poor condition; a water body of this type with hard edges and frequent disturbance is unlikely score any higher.

r1e – Ditches: All ditches were in Poor condition. These contained little water and the presence of invasive species in some areas will constrain these features to Poor condition.

Hedgerows

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow

h2a8 - Native Hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native

Description

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees: This category of hedgerow was confined to the western Paddock car park. There was a range of woody species including dogwood, hazel, hawthorn and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa.* Whilst an unpromising location, the ground flora was unusually diverse, containing a range of herbaceous species including hairy St John's-wort *Hypericum hirsutum,* hairy sedge *Carex hirta,* lady's bedstraw *Galium verum,* betony *Stachys officinalis* and nettle-leaved bellflower *Campanula trachelium.* Bluebells *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* have been recorded in the ground flora in the past. Whilst both hedgerow and ground flora will have arisen via relatively recent planting, it is a demonstration of what can be achieved, even in relatively unpromising situations.

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: Species poor native hedgerows form the boundaries of the pitch-and-putt and ‘boating lake’ car park.

h2a8 - Native Hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch. This forms the eastern boundary of the cricket ground.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native: A laurel hedge on the south boundary of the pitch-and-putt course.

Condition

All native hedgerows are in Moderate condition. Those associated with the Paddock car park possessed some horizontal gaps and, whilst species rich, the hedge and ground flora was still subject to some damage and disturbance (e.g., litter) and was still relatively narrow. The hedgerow to the

east of the cricket ground is becoming tall and lacks density at its base ('vertical gapiness'), giving rise to a partially 'straggly' appearance in places.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u - Urban (1170- Tree (urban tree))

u1b5 - Buildings

u1b6 - Other developed land (16 - Tall herb, 73 - Bare ground)

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground)

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/natural surface (10 - Scattered scrub, 11 - Scattered trees, 1160 - Introduced shrub)

u1e - Built linear features

Description

u - Urban (1170- Tree (urban tree)): See above for references to Wood Pasture and Parkland trees. Whilst not directly observed, it is likely that ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria* are successfully nesting in many tree cavities and at the expense of native species.

u1b5 – Buildings: The buildings of Alexandra Palace make up nearly five percent of the site area. Noteworthy was the observation of a peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus* flying over the site and roosting on the aerial mast. Records from the data search and from local bird watching/natural history forums indicate this has been a regular occurrence since 2013. However, there is no indication of this species breeding at the Palace. Peregrine falcon is listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended) which affords it additional protection when nesting beyond that afforded for all nesting birds.

u1b6 - Other developed land and u1e - Built linear features: These together make up the roads, paths and other hardstanding throughout the Park

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: These refer to the gravel/un-tarmaced paths.

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/natural surface: This area accounts for the areas of introduced shrubs which are concentrated around the more ornamental areas of the Park to the west and north.

Condition

Urban habitats are given a condition score of zero ('N/A – other'), with the exception of areas of introduced shrubs which are always categorised as Poor.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

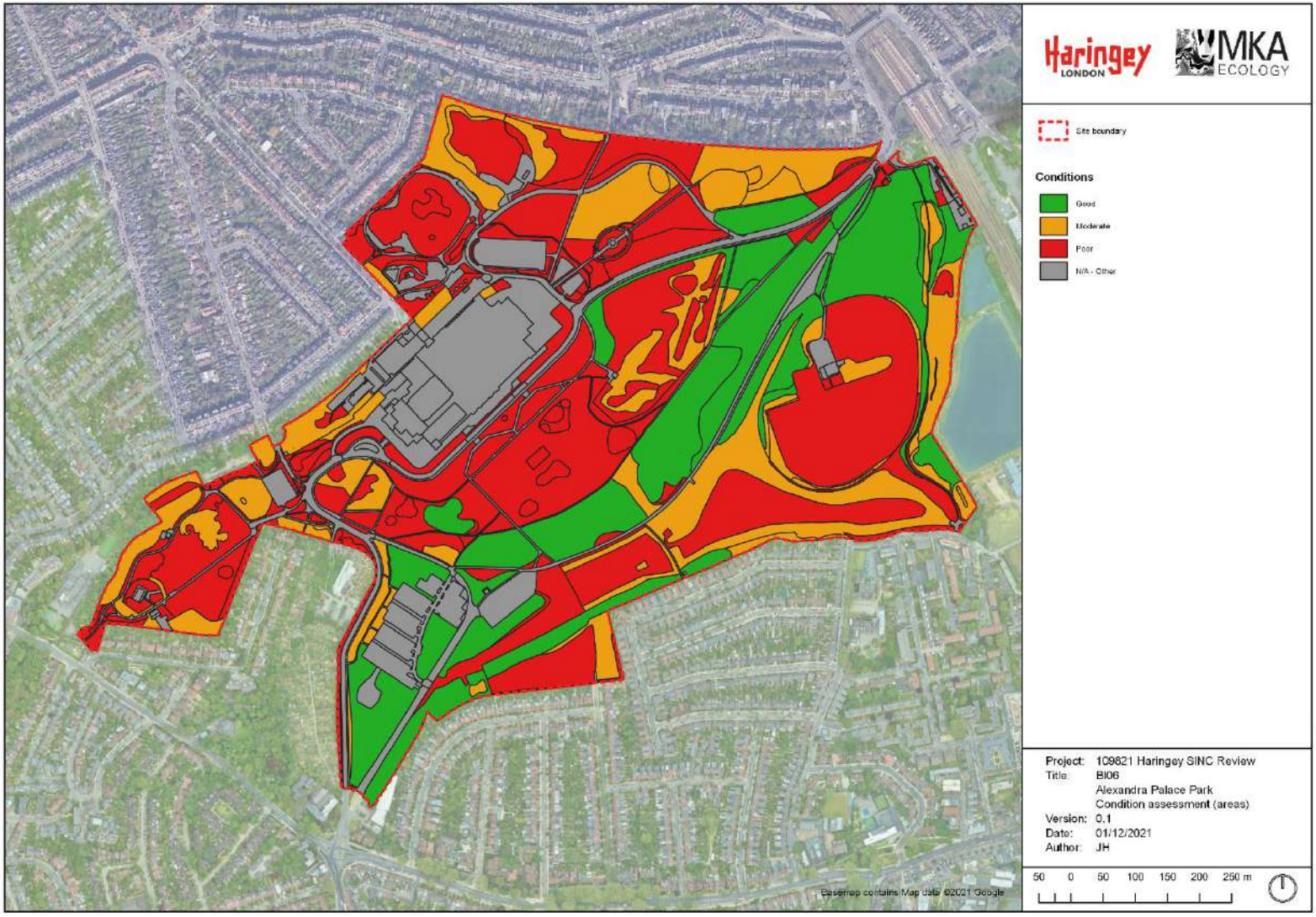
- Wet woodland
- Ponds
- Wood-pasture and parkland
- Traditional orchards
- Lowland dry acid grassland
- Rivers
- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1s - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
w1d - Wet woodland
w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI06
Alexandra Palace Park
Habitats (areas)
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Hedgerows
h2a11 - Native Sp. Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b8 - Native Hedgerow with trees - assoc. with bank or ditch
h2b6 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features
r1e - Canal or ditch
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6ii - Line of trees (ecol. val.)
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI06
Alexandra Palace Park
Habitats (linear features/points)
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Areas of Wood Pasture & Parkland (with habitat type labels)
g4
h3d
g3c
g4a
g1a
g4a
g4a
h3d
g4
g4a
h3d
h3d
g4a
g4a
g4a
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI06
Alexandra Palace Park
Wood pasture & parkland
Version: 0.1
Date: 05/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI06
Alexandra Palace Park
Condition assessment (areas)
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey
LONDON
MKA
ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Condition
Good
Moderate
Poor
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI06
Alexandra Palace Park
Condition assessment (linear)
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Standing dead beech with bird box.
2	Large dead conifer.
3	Common frog observed (juvenile).
4	Woodland regeneration at edge.
5	Waste from gardens.
6	Wetter area with ground elder frequent.
7	Substantial dead hedge.
8	'Stag beetle stumpery'.
9	Evidence of disturbance.
10	Grown out hedgerow. Considered to be functionally part of woodland.
11	Forest school site.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleia	-
B	Cherry laurel	Widespread across site.
C	Himalayan balsam	Along dry ditch
D	Portugal Laurel	-
E	Rhododendron	-
F	False acacia	-
G	Snowberry	-
H	Tree-of-heaven	Stand to south of central woodland belt
I	Virginia creeper	-
J	Wall cotoneaster	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst the woodland and wood-pasture/parkland habitats are extremely valuable, neither are considered to warrant an upgrade of the site (or parts thereof) to Metropolitan SINC status. The woodlands are not considered as a ‘best example’ of a London Habitat and there are insufficient numbers of large and over-mature/veteran trees with many veteran features for the areas of wood-pasture/parkland to be considered as such.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for nesting protected bird species (Schedule 1, Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended).
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Priority Species of invertebrates (e.g., small heath, white-letter hairstreak).
- Potential presence of protected and/or notable amphibians.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Nesting birds:* • Provision of peregrine nesting platform/space on Alexandra Palace. • Provision of swift colony/boxes in buildings/Alexandra Palace. • Provision of additional, more general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and buildings. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’)
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland/Wood pasture and Parkland.* • Relaxation of mowing regimes in additional areas, particularly centrally where habitats take on a wood pasture and parkland structure. • Additional seeding to widen the areas of neutral and/or acid grassland at the expense of amenity/modified grassland. • Additional and larger areas of fencing around individual and/or groups of veteran trees (as is already present, but encompassing a wider area). • Additional use of scrub/bramble stands to protect veteran trees. • Planting of additional native ‘parkland’ trees to ensure that a continuous supply of trees is available. *Woodland:*

	• Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (both fallen and standing) to leave within the woodland floor and/or create standing deadwood features. • Consider the fencing off of certain blocks of woodland to limit damage from recreation and dogs. • Removal/control of invasive laurels and other species. *Wetland:* • Identification of additional areas around the boating lake where the hard surrounds may be 'softened' to allow the planting of emergent species (e.g., through the use of planting shelves or rafts.
Species	*Birds/bats:* • A range of features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques. *Invertebrates:* • As well as the general benefits offered above from woodland enhancement, the following specific measures are recommended, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates (e.g., stag beetle): ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ Ring-barking ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). *Invasive species:* • Removal of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species (Himalayan balsam) • Generate baseline territory numbers of ring-necked parakeet.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- The Park is evidently a relatively well studied area. As such, continued monitoring by groups such as the London Wildlife Trust (LWT – e.g., butterfly transects and bat surveys) and LNHS are endorsed.

- Monitoring and control/eradication of Himalayan balsam (annual).
- Breeding bird surveys. Ring-necked parakeet is likely to nesting in many trees within the Park. Such a survey would be to ascertain the number of breeding pairs of all species, but primarily woodland species which are under direct competition for nesting sites from parakeets.
- Other monitoring efforts are only recommended in the event of interventions being made as recommended above, e.g.:
    - Monitoring of nesting uptake/success for swift and peregrine (annual).
    - Monitoring species composition of any new/enhanced grassland areas (bi-annually).

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Loss of veteran trees within wood pasture/parkland habitat without sufficient replacement or recruitment.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

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1. Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade 1**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 1, subject to updated surveys for invertebrates and reptiles**
- Re-name site: **Pinkham Way**

1.2. Site description

The Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works, locally known and referred to hereafter as Pinkham Way is situated in the north of the borough, cantered on National Grid Reference TQ 28892 91639. It is formed from two previous industrial and developments/events; the southern section is a former sewage works and landfill site, the northern section being shaped by the creation of the North Circular or Pinkham Way, from which the site takes it colloquial name. It is an example of a 'wasteland' or brownfield site and consists of woodland, scrub and grassland, and their ecotones, along with mosaics of vegetation characteristic of disturbance. It is understood a culverted stream is present under the park however, as this stream is not accessible, it is not included within this report.

The site was subject to a range of ecological surveys between 2010 and 2015, with several taxonomic groups surveyed in 2013. Pinkham Way was considered to have Local level value for commuting and foraging bats (ARUP, 2013a), with the south-east corner tree-line boundary considered to support a commuting route for common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (ARUP, 2013a). A small breeding population of slow-worm *Anguis fragilis* was recorded in 2013 (ARUP, 2013d). Invertebrate surveys conducted in 2013, with additional surveys conducted in 2014-15 covering a limited area of neutral grassland in the west of the site, considered the site to have a 'low or medium importance' for invertebrate conservation within Greater London (Telfer, 2013) and to have 'considerable conservation value' (Milner, 2015). Milner (2015) remarks that further, long-term and detailed invertebrate surveys should be conducted 'as an urgent matter' to establish the true worth of the site for this taxonomic group.

The site serves to highlight some of the challenging conflicts that are sometimes at play in conservation. Some of the features that are likely to provide important resources to specific taxonomic groups, for example, invasive plant species such as goat's-rue *Galega officinalis* as a resource for pollinators, are also those that contribute towards poorer conditions of habitats (in this example, grasslands). As well as highlighting a conflict of interest between habitat and species conservation, particularly in brownfield sites such as this, it also highlights the limitations behind Biodiversity Net Gain and its associated Condition Assessment methodology.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 140 – Anthills, 16 - Tall herb, 161 - Tall or tussocky sward).** **g4 - Modified grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 133 - Nutrient-enriched substrate, 16 Tall herb, 44 – Landfill)**
Description **g3c - Other neutral grassland:** A small area of neutral grassland is found extending from the northern access gate into the site, forming a short network of pathways that give way to scrub or woodland. This small area of valuable and relatively species rich grassland was noteworthy for a diversity of herbaceous species, including indicators of neutral and/or calcareous conditions such as wild carrot *Daucus carota* and perforate St. John's-wort *Hypericum perforatum*. Other species more typical of disturbed brownfield sites are also present and the frequent false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* gives rise to a tussocky structure which presents additional value for invertebrates and reptiles. Green woodpecker *Picus viridus* was also recorded, the grassland also supports ant hills on which this species depends. Milner (2015) identifies, in the context of invertebrates, that "*genuine mature undisturbed grassland is almost absent from the Borough as a whole".* Whilst likely to be of value to pollinators, the goat's rue (a level 4 LISI species of concern) and Michaelmas-daisy *Aster* were abundant and occasional within this area of grassland respectively. Both are considered as invasive species. Bee orchid has been recorded at the site and were again in 2021. **g4 - Modified grassland:** For the purposes of this survey, the areas that dominated the now capped landfill mound along the entire south of the site are recorded as modified grassland (with the secondary code of 16 for tall herb). These areas are nearly entirely dominated by comfrey Symphytum officinale x asperum x tuberosum, which is a typical dominating herb in rubbish tips.
Condition All areas of grassland are considered to be in Moderate condition. The small area of neutral grassland fails the conditions relating to scrub (encroachment of neighbouring bramble is >5%) and invasive species are present. The comfrey dominated areas fail criteria relating to species richness and the presence of undesirable species (comfrey is treated here in the same way as, common nettle *Urtica dioica* as an indicator of nutrient enrichment).

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3d - Bramble scrub** **h3h - Mixed scrub (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral, 44 – Landfill)**

Description

The western portion of the site is dominated by large stands of dense bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* In clearings within the main woodland area, scrub takes on a more diverse form with woody species such as hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* frequent and blacktorn *Prunus spinosa* and dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* occasional. *Buddliea* is also frequent as expected given the site's history.

Condition

Scrub was either in Poor or Moderate condition. Poor condition areas are those areas of dense bramble where other woody species were absent and where there was an absence of structural diversity. Other areas failed on account of the presence of undesirable species such as common nettle and or a lack of age range.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 - Line of trees

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

w1g6 - Line of trees

A tree line of hybrid black-poplar *Populus nigra x deltoides = P. x canadensis* forms the northern boundary, separating the site from the North Circular.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

The north, centre and west of the site is occupied by broadleaved woodland, accounting for nearly 50% of the total area of the site. The western-most section, a small 'tongue' of land surrounded by Hollickwood Park is a sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* dominated area with a dense understorey of common nettle. The larger central area, whilst still with frequent sycamore, is more diverse, with pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* and willows *Salix* also present. Ferns are also present in the understorey (male-fern *Dryopteris filix-mas* and hart's-tongue *Phyllitis scolo-pendrium*) along with pendulous sedge *Carex pendula.*

The woodland does continue to support two invasive non-native species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended): Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and giant hogweed *Heracleum mantegazzianum*. Measures have evidently been undertaken to eradicate these species, however, stands of both remain.

Condition

The line boundary tree line is in Poor condition on account of being comprised of non-native species, having gaps and having no mature or veteran trees. The western block of woodland is considered to be in Poor condition: it is dominated by non-native species, is subject to disturbance from fly tipping from neighbouring Hollickwood Park (where fences have been damaged) and the understorey dominated by common nettle indicates significant nutrient enrichment. The larger central area, with

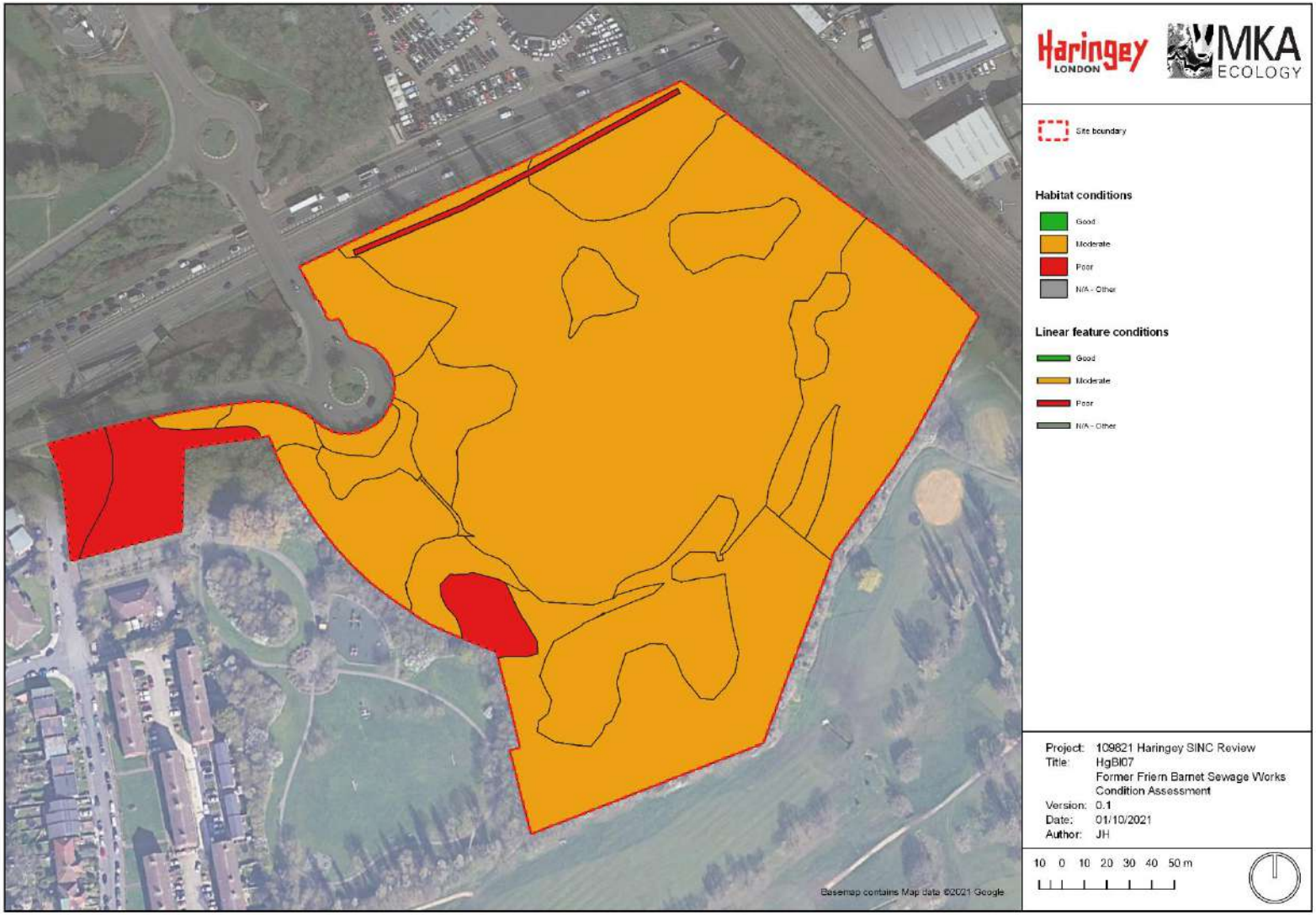
greater species diversity incorporating native species and little or no disturbance is Moderate. The presence of Schedule 9 invasive species does limit this condition.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location, although it is likely that Open Mosaic on Previously Developed Land (OMH) was previously widespread, particularly across the northern part of the site.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI07
Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/11/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI07
Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/10/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Illegal cannabis growing - 9 pots
2	Illegal cannabis growing - 3 pots
3	Area previously treated for hogweed.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Japanese knotweed	Stand on top of bank within woodland
B	Japanese knotweed	Smaller stand
C	Japanese knotweed	Smaller stand
D	Giant hogweed	Single plant away from main area to north
E	Japanese knotweed	Additional stand away from main area to south
F	Giant hogweed	'Cut track' indicates prior access for removal, but plants have re-grown,
G	Giant hogweed	As per F.
H	Giant hogweed	As per F.
I	Giant hogweed	As per F.
J	Giant hogweed	As per F.

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site is presently a valuable site for wildlife conservation and holds considerable potential for further enhancement; that of the current areas of single-species tall-herb to a grass/scrubland mosaic is considered to be a realistic and valuable option. The site therefore deserves at least Borough Grade I SINC status.

However, given that the site is a good example of an 'urban-wasteland' or 'brownfield' site with significant potential to accommodate significant populations of a range of taxa, particularly invertebrates, there is clear opportunity for the site to be upgraded to Metropolitan status. This should be reviewed following updated surveys for invertebrates and reptiles.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Confirmed (2013) presence of breeding slow-worm.
- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (mature woodland, though none confirmed in surveys in 2013).

- Confirmed presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Open mosaic habitats:* • Whilst not present at the site at present, it was likely to have been in the recent past and can be easily created by actively disturbing suitable areas such as landscape bunds (north boundary). Removal of tall herb vegetation via a shallow soil scrape will create areas of south-facing bare earth and rubble that characterise this habitat type, as well as providing opportunities for puddling and the presence of small pools of water. Disturbance on a rotational basis will see a gradient of plant succession. The presence of open areas within the north of the site and grassland (Area A in previous reports; Milner, 2015) was cited as an important characteristic for supporting a diverse invertebrate assemblage. *Ponds:* • Creation of a simple pond(s) will add further diversity to the site.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Neutral grassland***:** • Increase extent of neutral grassland near gateway entrance by removal of scrub, especially those uniform blocks of Poor condition bramble. • Control of goat's-rue. While it is recognised it is unlikely to be eradicated and that it likely provides an important resource for pollinating invertebrates, some control is necessary to prevent complete dominance. *Modified grassland/tall herb:* • Active cutting of comfrey and other nitrophiles and removal of arisings to remove nitrogen and allow growth of other species. • Active sowing of grassland species to increase the extent of neutral grassland and create a mosaic of grassland and scrub toward the western end of the landfill mound where hawthorn/elder already exists. *Scrub:* • Where not removed due to above grassland management, reduce in extent and creation of more structural diversity (e.g., glades, small rides etc). *Woodland:* • Selectively thin sycamore to provide additional glades and promote native species.

	• Where deadwood is created from felling work, the creation of:
	  ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016).
	  ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
	• Reinstating of boundary fencing to limit fly-tipping and additional damage.
	• Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

Species	*Birds:* • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees. Other measures as above will also favour invertebrates, reptiles and plants.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Reptile surveys – to update findings from 2013.
- Invertebrate surveys – following findings and recommendations from Telfer (2013) and Milner (2015), a full, detailed suite of invertebrate surveys is recommended.
- Continued monitoring and control/eradication of Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Potentially increased levels of pressure from illegal access and associated damage.
- Continued succession of valuable grassland areas to dense scrub.
- Continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Degradation of any part of the site that relates to the landfilling operation and potential for harmful or biologically dangerous substances being released**.**

2. REFERENCES

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1. Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill Golf Course

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade 1**
- Recommended status: **Splitting of the site into separate SINCS:**
    - **Bluebell Wood - upgrade to Metropolitan Importance**
    - **Muswell Hill Golf Course – downgrade to Borough Grade II SINC.**

1.2. Site description

Bluebell woods

As for the ancient woodland sites further south, Bluebell Woods – another oak-hornbeam woodland - has suffered within the last 18 months due to excessive visitor pressure. The site, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29198 91311, has records from at least 1990 to the present day of ancient woodland plants including midland hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata*, wood anemone *Anemonoides nemorosa* and wood melick *Melica uniflora*. Those remaining relict populations/specimens of these ancient woodland indicators are largely confined and marginalised to the north-west corner. It is understood that ancient woodland indicator species recorded in the woodland include wood anemone and ransoms *Allium ursinum* in the north-west corner, wood melic in the eastern end of the wood, with wild-service tree *Sorbus torminalis* and midland hawthorn located in several parts of the wood. Whilst not large (1.5 hectares), nor in good condition, Bluebell Wood is still considered to be a 'best example of a London Habitat' (oak-hornbeam woodland) and contains a number of species rare to London.

Muswell Hill Golf Course

The golf course, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28934 91168, is comprised of a range of habitats, including mature trees, woodland, ditches and scrub, although closely mown amenity grassland naturally dominates. The section to the north of the golf course boundary, associated with the railway line possesses woodland and tall herbs, the latter of which is likely to be a locally important resource for pollinators. Areas of acid and neutral grassland are not extensive, as described in the citation and opportunities exist to reinstate and increase these areas.

The mature boundary woodlands and trees, along with tree lines that divide the fairways are the course's greatest ecological assets. These were similarly identified as important for foraging and commuting bats in 2013 surveys (ARUP, 2013).

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Bluebell Wood

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam woodland**
Description Of the oak-hornbeam woodlands within the borough, this is most dominated by oaks, with both pedunculate *Quercus robur* and sessile oak *Q. petrea* both recorded. The woodland does accommodate a number of ancient woodland indicators, including wood melick and pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* within the field layer, as well as wild service-tree and midland hawthorn. It is understood that ancient woodland indicators including wood anemone and ransoms have been recorded onsite in the past, as well as a population of wild daffodils *Narcissus pseudonarcissus* located in the east and south-east part of the wood however, these species were not recorded during the survey. In the past (e.g., Bevan, 1992), native bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* was considered to be very uncommon, instead the non-native Spanish bluebell *H. hispanica* and their hybrid are the only species now recorded within Bluebell Wood. Wood millet *Milium effusum* has also been recorded at the site (the single known location in Haringey, Bevan, 1992), but not in recent years. The woodland has been subject to a great deal of disturbance, particularly since spring 2019, although Bevan (1992) comments that very little understorey existed even 30 years ago and little or no evidence of coppicing was apparent. Nevertheless, the damage caused by dog-walking, water run-off from Winton Avenue is considerable. Several of the oaks appear to be in poor health and recent tree felling in the eastern corner was observed. It is understood that several non-native species have been recorded in the woodland including Italian Lords-and-ladies *Arum italicum*, sorrel *Oxalis* sp., tulips *Tulipa gesneriana*, as well as non-native trees and shrubs including single individuals of walnut *Juglans regia*, fig *Ficus carica* and viburnum *Viburnum* sp.
Condition The woodland is considered to be in moderate condition. The woodland suffers from excessive damage, trees in poor health and the presence of non-native species (montbretia *Crocosmia* and cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*).

* The author gratefully acknowledges the 2021 plant records of Sheila Holloway of The Friends of Bluebell Wood

Muswell Hill Golf Course

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb)
g4a - Amenity grassland (540 - Golf course)

Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Four areas, either found between fairways or on the edges of woodland blocks are categorised as a neutral grassland. These were dominated by rank grass species such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* as well as Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus* and meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis.* Herbs include red clover *Trifolium pratensis,* meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis* as well as others perhaps indicative of the high nitrogen input associated with the course (e.g., cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris* and creeping thistle *Cirsium arvensis*).

g4 – Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland: The fairways, greens and light rough of the golf course make up nearly 75% of the total area of the SINC. Ecologically, this is relatively low value habitat; an intensively mown sward of a small number of species (e.g., rye-grass *Lolium*) and with high nutrient inputs.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: All areas are considered to be Moderate on account of a relative lack of herbaceous species diversity and the near absence of sedges. All other criteria were generally passed, with little scrub encroachment.

g4 – Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland: Categorised as Poor condition. These are species poor grasslands with high inputs and (ecologically) damaged from high intensity mowing regimes.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g6 - Lines of trees (ecologically valuable and/or associated with a bank or ditch)
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Whilst the main area of Priority woodland within the SINC is confined to Bluebell Wood, this also extended along the eastern boundary of the golf course, associated with a largely dry ditch. Tree species composition was mostly as described for Bluebell Wood, although hornbeam was less frequent and instead replaced by ash *Fraxinus excelsior.*

w1g6 - Lines of trees (ecologically valuable and/or associated with a bank or ditch): Perhaps one of the greatest ecological features of the golf course are the lines of trees that separate fairways and form boundaries to the course. Some of these are associated with banks or ditches, with those

closest to Bluebell Wood containing some veteran hornbeam and oaks, with evidence of former management perhaps indicating an ancient hedge bank. Where bat activity surveys (ARUP, 2013) had found tree lines to support bat commuting or foraging routes, these were also considered to be 'ecologically valuable' as recognised by BNG methodology. Elsewhere, sliver birch *Betula pendula* and hybrid black poplar *Populus nigra x deltoides = P. x canadensis* and Lombardy poplar *Populus nigra 'Italica'* were the dominant species, with planted Scot's pine *Pinus sylvestris* less frequent.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: The majority of the woodland within the golf course are planted areas dividing fairways. In many cases, the understorey is identical to that of the adjoining rough/fairway and comprised of single age trees. Pedunculate oak is frequent, with several mature trees present. Ash was also frequent along with sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus.* Where present. rowan *sorbus acuparia* and hazel *Corylus avellana* were rarer shrub layer species, with holly *Ilex aquifolium* more common.

Condition

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Good condition. Whilst physical disturbance is a lesser issues within the golf course, nettle dominated understoreys indicate a high nutrient loading. The structure of these areas of woodland included all size classes and there was evidence of regeneration. The presence of mature trees brings deadwood.

w1g6 - Lines of trees (ecologically valuable and/or associated with a bank or ditch): No single tree line is considered to be in Good condition on account of the absence of semi-natural vegetation. Moderate condition tree lines were those comprised of native species and with relatively few gaps. Those deemed to be in Poor condition were relatively immature trees and or with substantial gaps.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Other woodland types are either in Moderate or Poor condition. In part, the dominance of non-native sycamore and associated lack of cover and diversity of native species gives rise to a Poor rating, whereas elsewhere, the relatively young age and associated lack of structural diversity gives rise to a Moderate condition. In nearly all areas, invasive non-native cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* is present.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3a - Blackthorn scrub

h3d - Bramble scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub (10 - Scattered scrub, 11 - Scattered trees,16 - Tall herb)

Description

Areas of scrub were relatively rare. The largest area falls in an area outside of the golf course boundary, instead associated with the railway. This represents the most ecologically valuable area, with tall herbs, albeit of non-native species (e.g., Canadian goldenrod *Solidago canadensis*) providing a resource to pollinators. Elsewhere, scrub was limited to stands of bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.*

Condition

The majority of scrub was in Moderate condition. Good condition was not achieved either due to the presence of non-native species, or to a relative lack of structural or species diversity. In the rare occasion where these factors were absent, Good condition was observed.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow

h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees

Description

The SINC contains relatively few hedgerows. The majority are on the northern boundary, with other smaller stretches acting as breaks around tee boxes. Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* is the most common shrub species, with sycamore being a frequent tree species where standards are present.

Condition

All hedgerows are either in Moderate or Poor condition. In the majority of cases, the vertical structure has lead to the absence of any woody material at the base (often a symptom of tree guards having been left), whereas in all cases the ground flora was either dominated by nettles and other nitrophiles, and levels of damage from day-to-day golf course management were high.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1e - Ditches

Description

A number of ditches traverse the course, as well as forming the eastern boundary. The majority of these are dry. Where wet, 12 emergent or floating species were recorded, including remote sedge *Carex remota,* brooklime *Veronica beccabunga* and water mint *Mentha aquatica*. Floating sweet-grass *Glyceria fluitans* was also present in locally dominant mats, particularly in the deepest channel in the north of the course.

Condition

All dry or nearly dry ditches are in Poor condition. Those with water were in Moderate condition, though water levels were rarely sufficient (50cm or more) and duckweeds also covered >10%.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

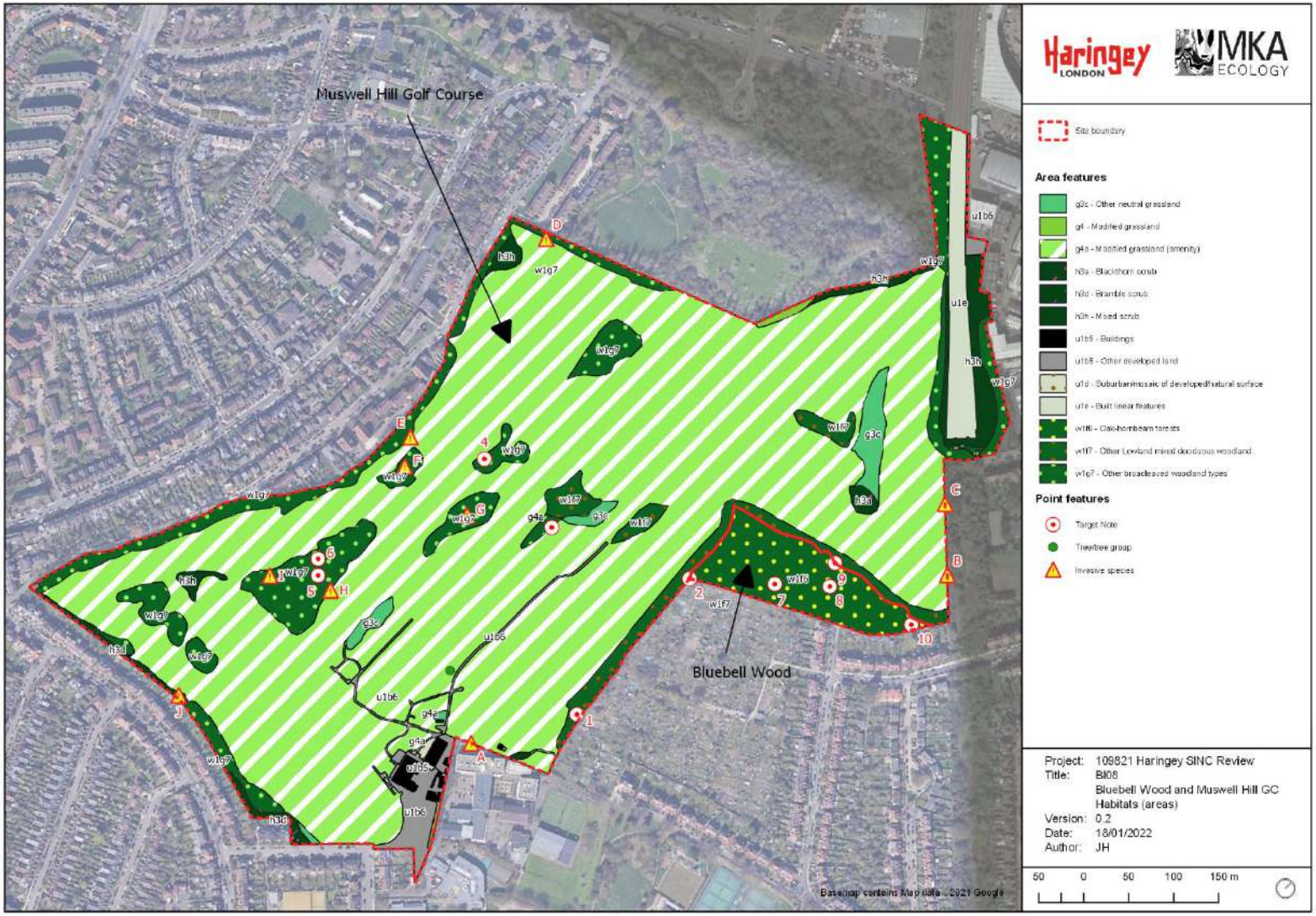
u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree)) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub)** **u1e - Built linear features**
Description The buildings and associated developed structures are represented by the golf course club house and teaching areas, or the railway line. Introduced shrubs are found as ornamental planting around the club house.
Condition All urban habitats default to a zero (N/A – other) condition score, or Poor.

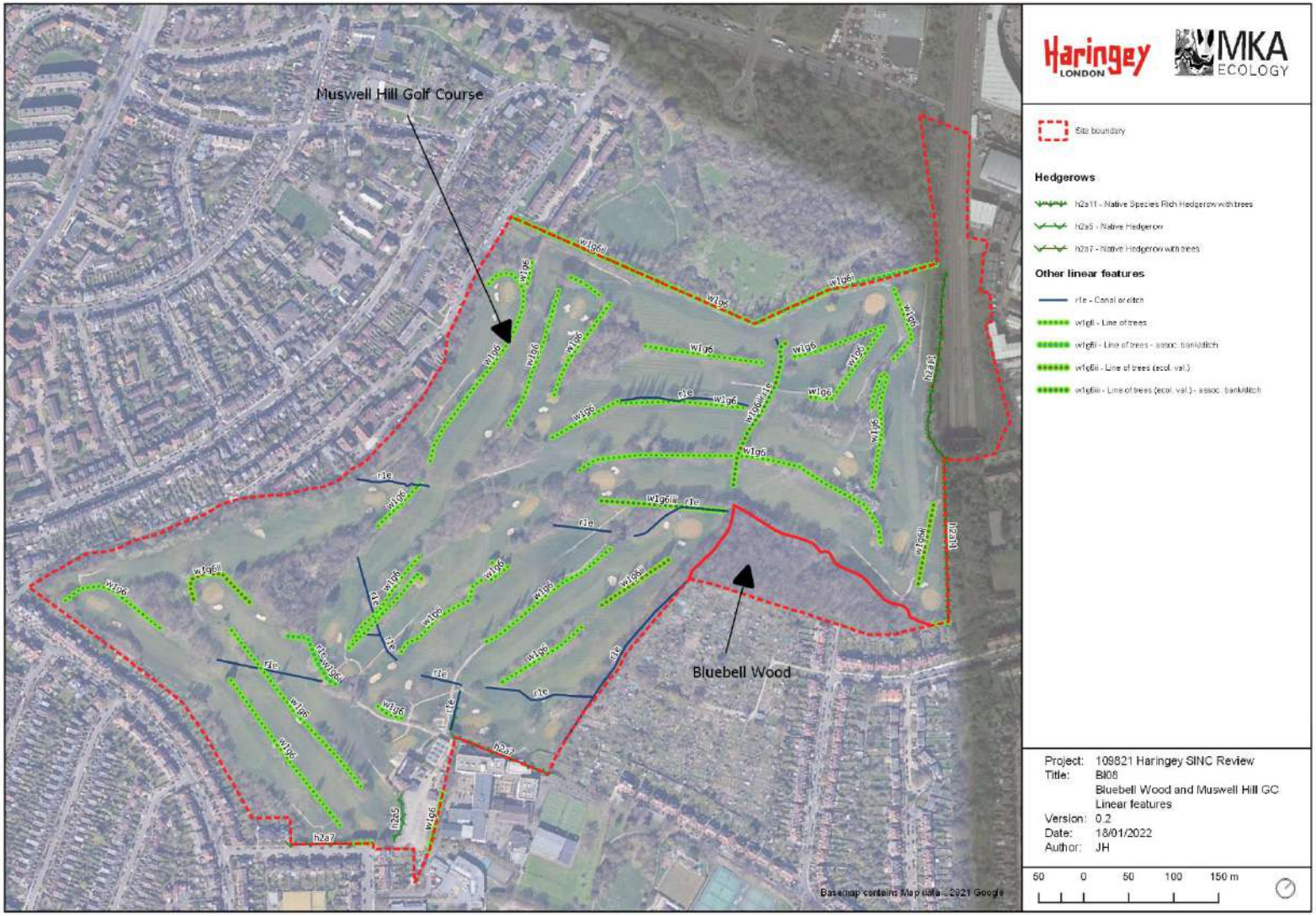
Priority habitats

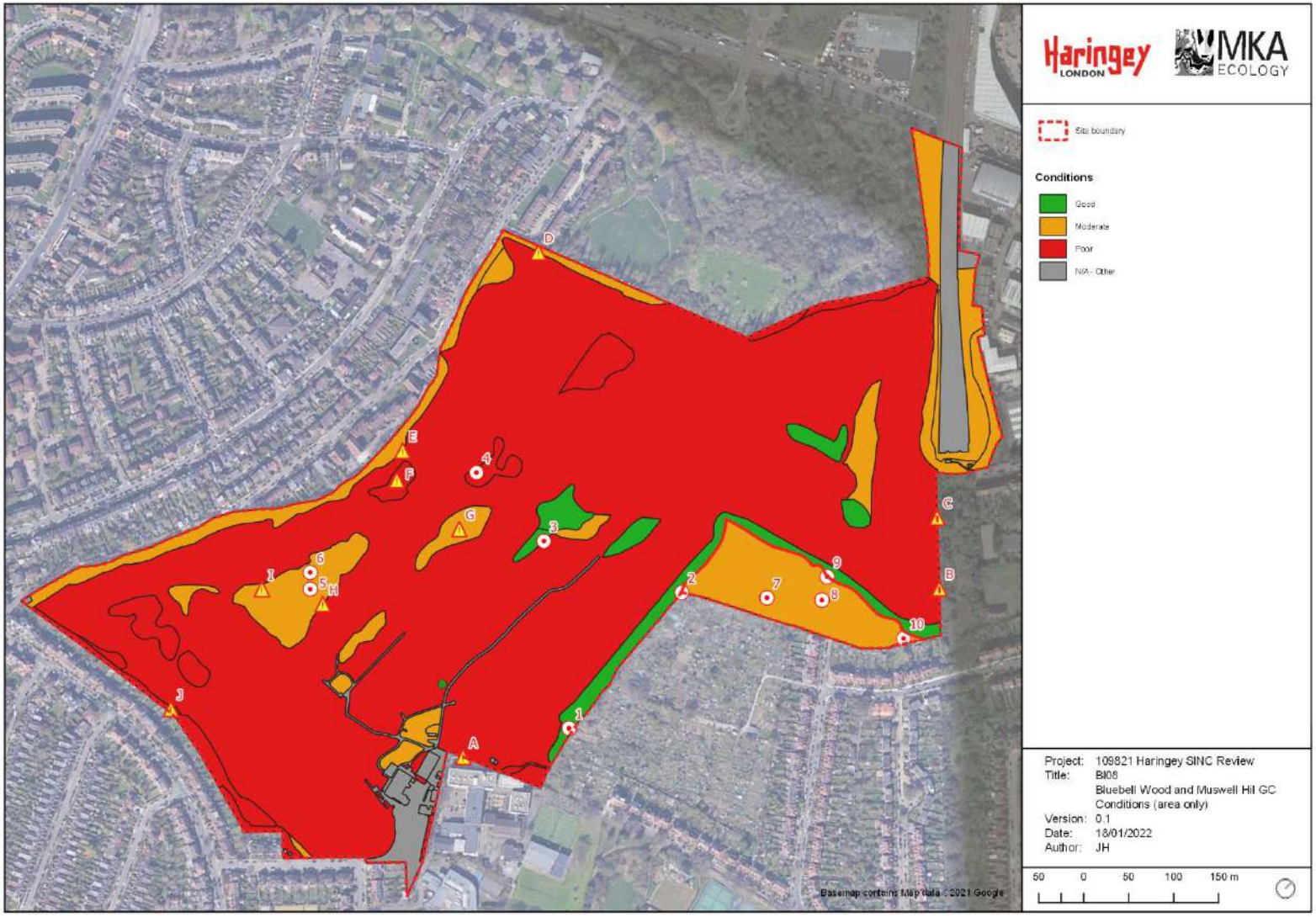
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location:

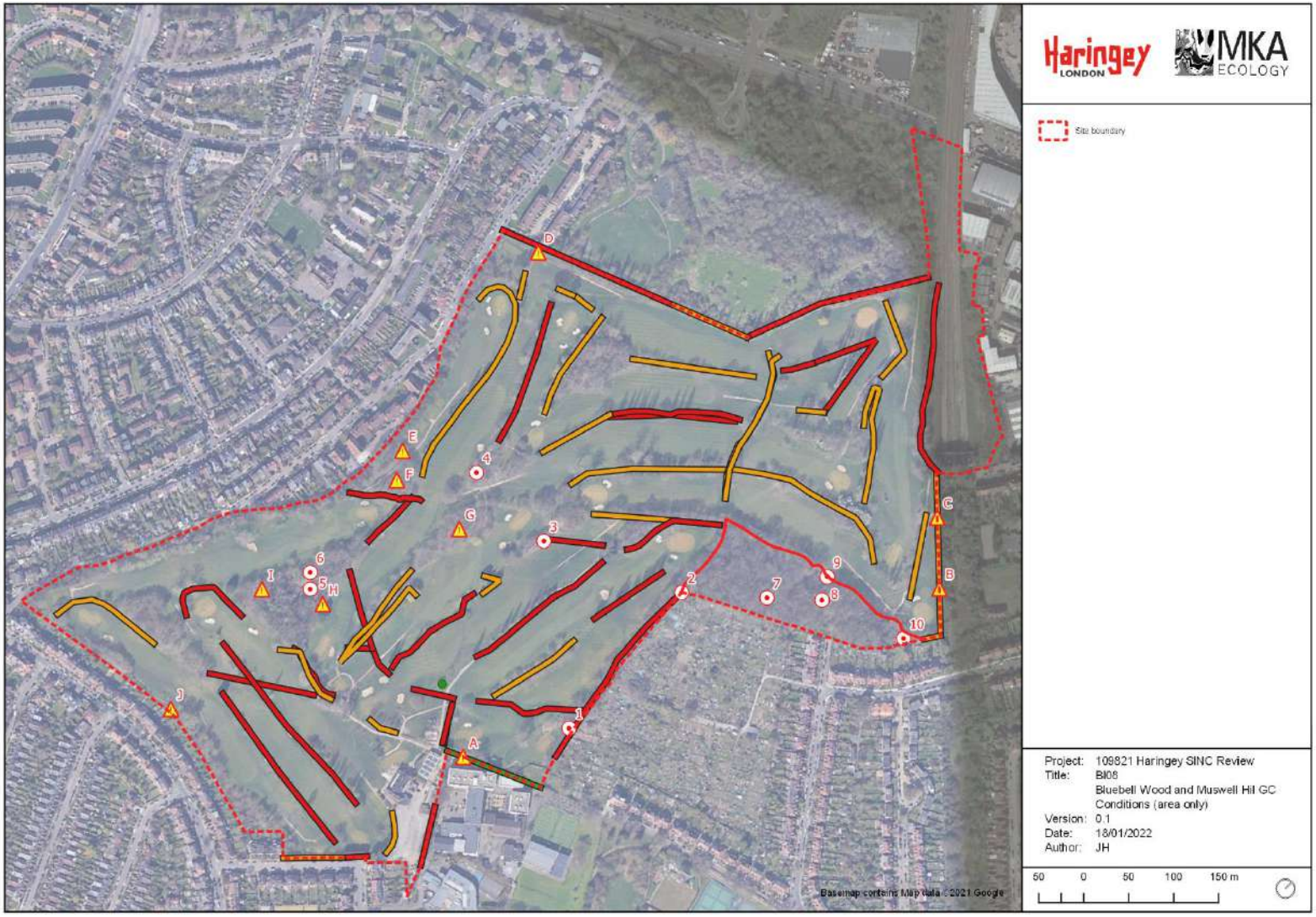
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Muswell Hill Golf Course
Bluebell Wood
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3a - Blackthorn scrub
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI08
Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill GC
Habitats (areas)
Version: 0.2
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Muswell Hill Golf Course
Bluebell Wood
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Hedgerows
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Other linear features
r1e - Canal or ditch
w1g6i - Line of trees
w1g6ii - Line of trees - assoc. bank/ditch
w1g6iii - Line of trees (ecol. val.)
w1g6iiii - Line of trees (ecol. val.) - assoc. bank/ditch
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI08
Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill GC
Linear features
Version: 0.2
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI08
Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hil GC
Conditions (area only)
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 m
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google


Haringey
LONDON
MKA
ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: BI08
Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hil GC
Conditions (area only)
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 m
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Log pile
2	Outflow
3	Unidentified fungus.
4	Wild service-tree
5	Small glade
6	Disused logs - opportunity for more discrete enhancements
7	Opportunity for felling of single large oak.
8	Damage & compaction particularly intensive here.
9	Insensitive tree works.
10	Failure to deploy fallen wood in biologically sensitive manner.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Portugal Laurel	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Cherry laurel	-
D	Cherry Laurel	-
E	Cherry Laurel	-
F	Wall cotoneaster	-
G	Cherry Laurel	-
H	Cherry Laurel	-
I	Cherry laurel	-
J	Montbretia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Bluebell Woods: Whilst not large (1.5 hectares), nor in good condition, Bluebell Wood is still considered to be a 'best example of a London Habitat' (oak-hornbeam woodland) and contains a number of species rare to London. It is recommended that Bluebell Wood be separated from the larger SINC and upgraded to Metropolitan Importance, along with other ancient woodlands in the borough.

Muswell Hill Golf Course: The mature boundary woodlands and trees, along with tree lines that divide the fairways are the course's greatest ecological assets. These were similarly identified as important for foraging and commuting bats in 2013 surveys. A great deal of the site's value also lies in its large size and therefore potential for connectivity. If split, this part of the site is considered to be of a Borough Grade II SINC, in line with Highgate Golf Course.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of protected plants Schedule 8 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended).
- Potential presence of notable invertebrates (e.g., stag beetle).

Opportunities

Bluebell Wood

(Full details on habitat enhancements and management options will be provided in a separate management plan for the site).

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes')
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland* • *Extension/re-introduction of coppicing regimes*. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • *Protection.* In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to protecting areas of woodland. The use of dead-hedging is preferrable in all instances, but in areas immediately adjacent to access points, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage. • *Coppicing & fencing, together with education.* Where areas of new coppice are adjacent to access points or paths, this presents both a risk (increased damage) but also an opportunity to provide education to the role of coppicing and the reason for fencing certain areas. An area of coppice and protection is mostly likely to be needed and effective in the north-west corner and west boundary where existing ancient woodland indicators are still present.

	• *Limits to dog-walking:* Dog walking was evident as a major source of recreational pressure (on the site visit, a professional dog walker had six animals, all off-lead). Consider limiting dog walking, e.g.:
	  ○ Placing an upper limit on the number of dogs:
	  ○ Enforcing a 'leads only' either entirely or on a seasonal basis (e.g., leads must be used during the bird breeding season).

Species	*Ancient woodland indicator plants*
	• Consider fencing of particularly sensitive areas as above.
	Birds/bats.
	• A range of artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques.
	Invertebrates.
	• As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates.
	  ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
	  ▪ *Ring-barking*
	  ▪ *Branch breaks*
	  ▪ *'Horse – damage'*
	  ▪ *Pollarding*
	  ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016)
	  ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.

Muswell Hill Golf Course

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds* • Creation of a simple pond(s) will add further diversity to the site, as well as adding to the existing series of water hazards present for golfers.
Species	*Hedgehog:*

	• Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes'). *Nesting birds:* • Provision of general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • Reinstatement/restoration of areas of acid and/or neutral grassland. Whilst creating long 'rough' grass is generally not favoured by golfers, there are areas where the restoration of low intensity grassland can be encouraged (e.g., in the lee of tee boxes, corners of the site etc). This is being achieved at other courses within the Borough (e.g., Highgate GC). *Woodland* • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (both fallen and standing) to leave within the woodland floor. • Arisings/deadwood from tree felling operations were evident in woodland areas, but these could be used more effectively and in a greater variety of ways to promote habitat for invertebrates and other taxa, e.g.the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016).

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Regular botanical surveys to record botanical species diversity against coppicing regimes (Bluebell Wood).
- Invertebrate surveys, particularly focussing on the impact of measures to increase habitat for saproxylic invertebrates (Bluebell Wood).
- Surveys to determine uptake of any artificial nesting/roosting provisions.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Further introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

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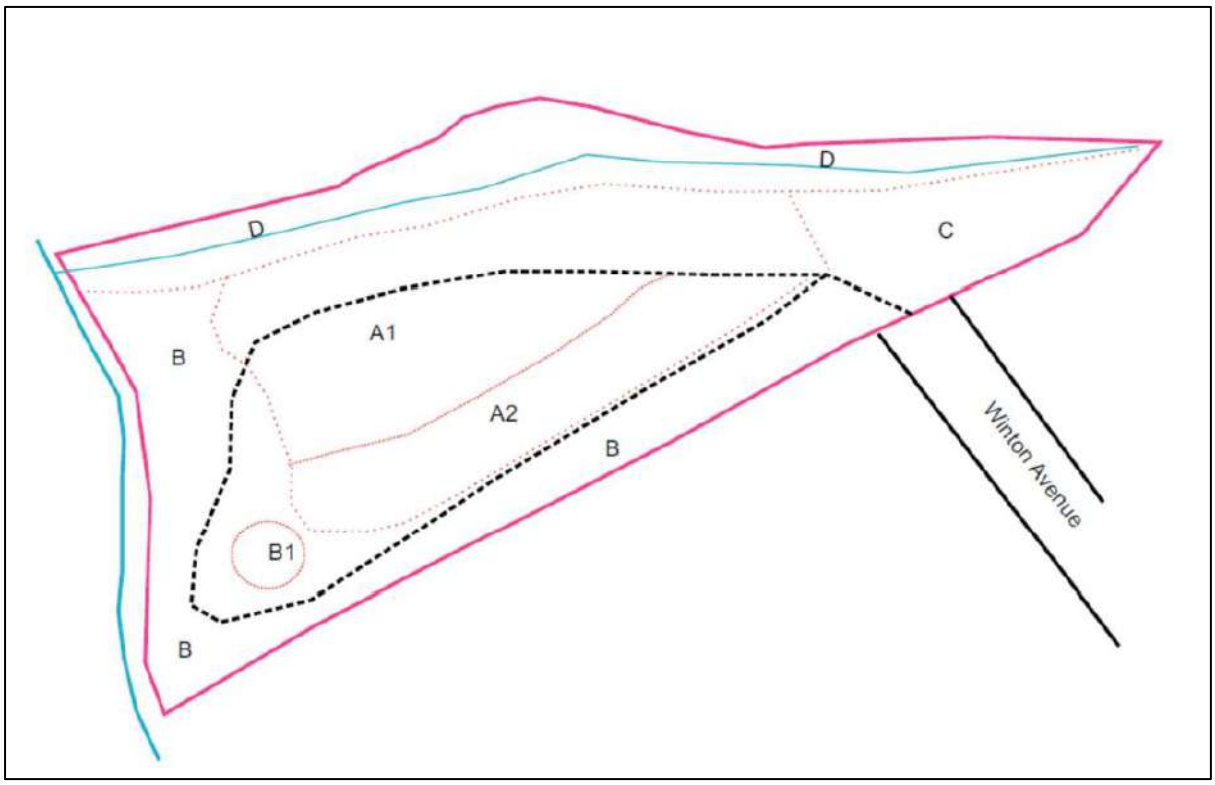
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3. APPENDIX

3.1. Compartment map of Bluebell Wood



1. Crouch End Playing Fields Complex

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade 1**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 1**

1.2. Site description

The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29353 88846. The site's current ecological value is largely contained within two larger blocks: The CREOS (Crouch End Open Space) area in the west and Meadow Orchard in the east. The CREOS woodland is continuous with Queen's Wood and supports large mature and veteran trees (mainly pedunculate oak) as well as sections dominated by ash, with the ancient woodland indicators giant fescue *Schedonurus gigantea,* wood meadow-grass *Poa nemoralis,* wood melick *Melica uniflora* and midland hawthorn *Crataegus laevigata* all recorded in 2021. Meadow Orchard is a former urban site now managed as a traditional orchard with a valuable mosaic of grassland, scrub, fruit trees and woodland. Mature tree lines surrounding the cricket grounds serves to provide some connectivity across the site. The Nationally Scarce Cat. B Sharp-collared Furrow Bee *Lasioglossum malachurum* has also been recorded at the CREOS site in 2000.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests** **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland** **w1g6 - Line of trees** **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests.** Only 8% of the total woodland coverage within CREOS is considered as oak-hornbeam woodland, this being the section adjacent to Queen's Wood. Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* standards with hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* and silver birch *Betula pendula* as a lower storey accompany holly *Ilex aquifolium.* **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland:** As one moves east from the Queen's Wood access gate, the remainder of the woodland reverts to a less specific lowland deciduous woodland type where hornbeam gives way to greater cover of ash *Fraxinus excelsior.* To the west and adjacent to the areas of grassland not managed as cricket grounds, there is a natural low-point and corresponding increase in wetness, with willows *Salix* and aspen *Populus tremula* becoming locally fre-

quent. The field layer contains a number of ancient woodland indicators, including the relatively uncommon giant fescue *Schedonorus gigantea* as well as pendulous sedge *Carex pendula,* wood melick *Melica uniflora* and wood meadow grass *Poa nemoralis,* as well as other woodland specialists (e.g., enchanters nightshade *Circaea lutetiana* and lord's and ladies *Arum maculatum*). A small wetland area is present where the footpath leads to the grassland area. However, this suffers from disturbance and supports few plants. Two lines of oak trees, one of which located along the western site boundary, and the other which is located between the two large areas of grassland in the western portion of the site, is included in this habitat.

A London Bat Group survey between 2015 and 2018 reveals the presence of common and widespread bat species such as common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* and Soprano pipistrelle *P.pygmaeus,* as well as the rarer migratory Nathusius' pipistrelle *P. nathusii.* Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* has also been recorded in gardens to the west.

w1g6 - Line of trees: Tree lines serve to connect the areas of woodland and line driveways between the different cricket grounds. Some are non-native species such as horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* and cypress *Cupressus,* whereas others are dominated by willows *Salix* and poplars *Populus.*

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: To the east of the site and within the Meadow Orchard area is an area of non-Priority woodland. Here, non-native species such as sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and horse-chestnut are frequent, along with ash. Nevertheless, both pedunculate and sessile oak *Q. petraea* are present as mature standards. Common nettle *Urtica dioica* is present in dense patches, as is the case in several parts of CREOS.

Condition

w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests & w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Treated together, the main areas of woodland are either in Moderate or Good condition, with the areas of Good condition with abundant ash to the west and surrounding the areas of non-amenity modified grassland being predominant. Where Moderate condition was found, invasive species (cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus),* a relative absence of veteran trees and/or deadwood, and high levels of disturbance were to blame.

w1g6 - Line of trees: All tree lines were either in Moderate or Poor condition. The absence of any semi-natural habitat buffer will prevent the attainment of Good condition (tree lines were invariably surrounding or dividing cricket grounds). Those in Poor condition were also dominated by non-native species, immature and/or with canopy gaps.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Moderate condition. The relatively young age of this woodland gives rise to lower scores for structural diversity and deadwood. This area was however at the upper end of the Moderate condition bracket.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g3c5 - Arrhenatherum neutral grassland (140 – Anthills, 161 - Tall or tussocky sward, 21 - Traditional orchards, 231 - Vegetated garden)

g4 - Modified grassland (66 - Frequently mown)

g4a - Amenity grassland (510 - Sports pitches, 520 - Recreation ground)

Description

g3c5 - *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland. Neutral grassland forms the ground layer habitat type for the second Priority Habitat present, 'Traditional Orchard'. The tussocky and anthill rich grassland is relatively species rich though is characterised by abundant and in places locally dominant meadow vetchling *Lathryrus pratensis*. Grasses were dominated by false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* with red fescue *Festuca rubra.* Silverweed *Potentilla anserina* and common ragwort *Jacobea vulgaris* were the other abundant herbaceous species. The grassland is managed by hand cutting (scything) in autumn and is used as a community space, with a small area in the north-east corner given over to the growing of other produce. Fruit trees (see description for scrub) are relatively immature, the area only having been subject to habitat restoration since 2010.

g4 - Modified grassland & g4a - Amenity grassland: The majority of the open habitats are grasslands managed for recreation, with six different cricket clubs or schools occupying the space. An area along the southern boundary is no longer used for formal recreation, though is presumed to have once been so. This area has a relaxed management regime, with a longer sward, but a similar species composition of rye-grass *Lolium,* white clover *Trifolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major.* It is understood that an area of wildflower meadow is present in the north-west corner of this section, which due to the timing of the survey, was not recorded. A smaller glade within CREOS is of a similar botanical composition, but is notable for the presence of a dense area of *Iris* and meadow vetchling, which may indicate the location of a former pond.

Condition

g3c5 - *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland (traditional orchard): Meadow Orchard is subject to the Orchard condition assessment and achieves Moderate condition. Obtaining Good condition for an orchard is dependent on the presence of veteran trees with standing deadwood (features not realistic for a newly created orchard). However, all other condition criteria are fulfilled, a reflection of the sensitive management of the grassland.

g4 - Modified grassland. Moderate condition. Whilst failing on biological diversity, these areas do have at least a more relaxed management regime.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Poor condition. Grasslands managed for sport are unlikely to be anything other than in Poor condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3h - Mixed scrub (10 - Scattered , 140 - Anthills, 161 - Tall or tussocky sward)
Description Scrub forms the southern boundary to the main CREOS section along with a line of trees. This boundary scrub is notable for the presence of an extensive stand of Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica.* Elsewhere, the largest component of scrub is forms part of a mosaic along the grassland to woodland continuum within Meadow Orchard. Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. was the dominant species, though within Meadow Orchard, a range of fruit trees are present including more commonly occurring orchard species such as Cherry *Prunus* and a number of apple *Malus* varieties, as well as rarer trees such as quince *Cydonia oblonga* and medlar M*espilus germanica.*
Condition Within the CREOS area, the scrub is in Moderate condition, failing on account of a relatively lack of structural diversity and the presence of invasive species. The majority of the scrub within Meadow Orchard is in good condition; here, whilst bramble is still the dominant species, other species such as ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and cherry are present at levels to give sufficient biological diversity. The management regime also creates sufficient structural diversity.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (39 - Freshwater (man-made))**
Description A small pond has been created within Meadow Orchard. The margins of the pond are largely dominated by creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* with a central open water area of about 1m in depth.
Condition Moderate condition. Good condition is only limited by coverage of filamentous algae >10% in the north corner.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree))** **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden)**
Description

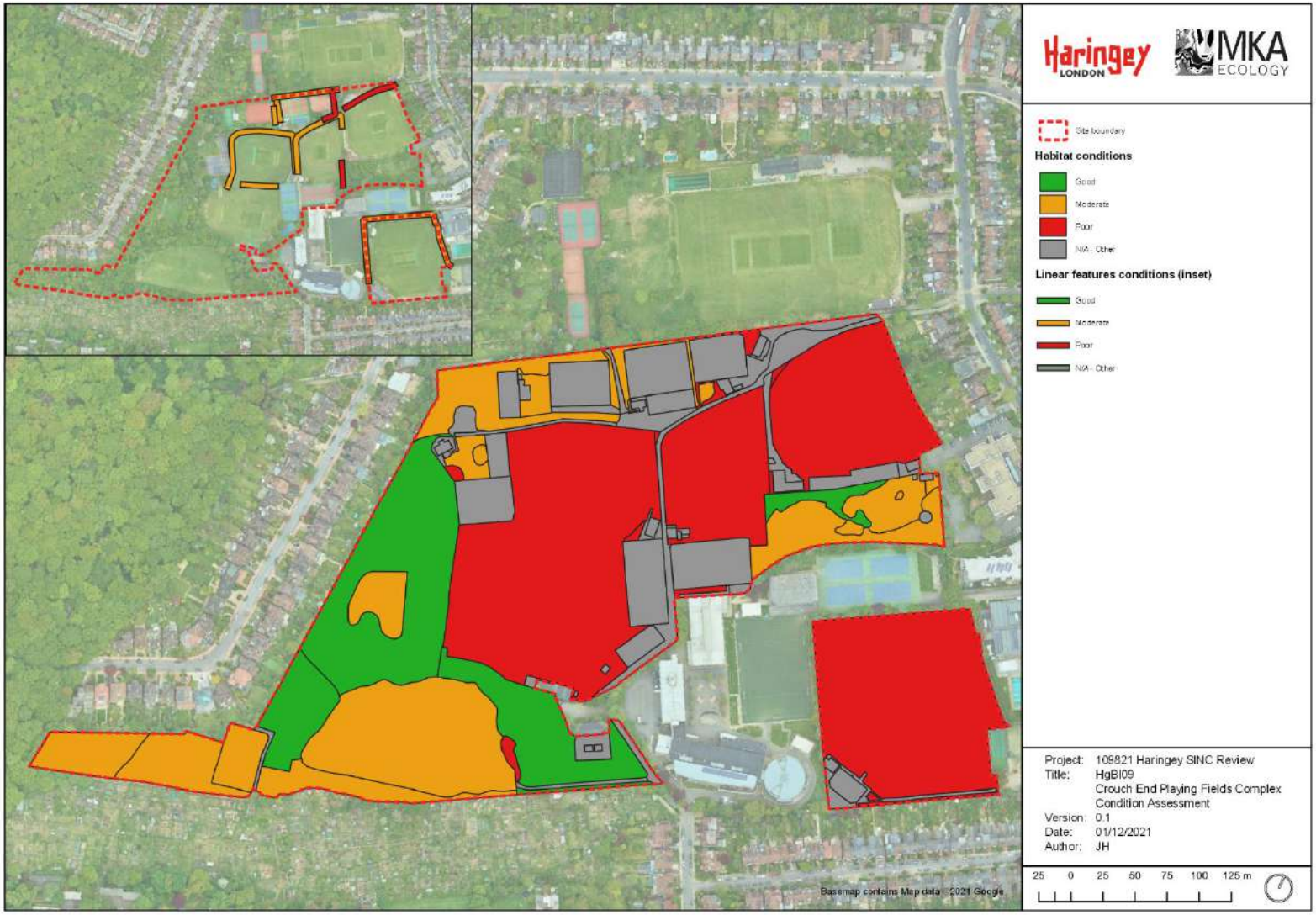
u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree)) **u1b5 - Buildings:** Sports pavilions. **u1b6 - Other developed land:** Driveways and other hardstanding. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Non-tarmaced paths (gravel or sandy substrates) **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden):** Ornamental planting around buildings.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of Introduced shrub which defaults to Poor.

Priority habitats

- Traditional orchards.
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c5 - Arrhenatherum neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI09
Crouch End Playing Fields Complex
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 125 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI09
Crouch End Playing Fields Complex
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 125 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Sycamore saplings
2	Wetter/bare area next to path with *Salix* and *Carex*
3	Brick & block bank/wall
4	Young conifers
5	Increasing deposition of rubbish form neighbouring properties
6	Rough sleeping
7	Wetter area - *Iris* and meadow vetchling. Potentially a former pond.
8	Central section dominated by Meadow vetchling
9	Bramble abundant
10	Community area
11	Forest school
12	Active Anthills

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	-	Unidentified bamboo with potential as an INN.
B	Laurel	-
C	Laurel	Incr. freq here spreading from garden
D	Snowberry	-
E	Buddleia	-
F	Montbretia	-
G	Japanese knotweed	-
H	Japanese knotweed	-
I	Japanese knotweed	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst adjacent to an existing Metropolitan grade SINC (Queen's Wood) and containing Priority Habitats, these areas are not considered to represent 'best examples' of these habitats. In particular, only a small section of the overall CREOS woodland can be considered as the Oak-hornbeam woodland that characterises the Borough's ancient woodland sites. Similarly, the traditional orchard habitat within Meadow Orchard is still in its relative infancy.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles: slow-worm have been recorded from the adjacent Shepherd's Hill Allotments and suitable habitat is present.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of a simple pond(s) will add further diversity to the site. The areas of non-amenity grassland appear the most appropriate areas, particularly given the existing wetness in this low point.
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of additional, more general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland, tree lines and buildings. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and or buildings.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:*

	• Introduction of coppicing regimes. Most suitable for the areas of ash dominated woodland dividing the two areas of grassland not used for sport. This will benefit overall plant diversity. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • Continued dead-hedging to limit footfall to dedicated paths and reduce disturbance. Enforcement of access permissions (e.g. closure of access gates from private properties on boundaries). • Removal of invasive laurel, particularly around perimeter. • Retention of deadwood. Where created through necessary felling work, the creation of features for invertebrates (see below). *Grassland:* • Greater relaxation of management frequency and intensity of grasslands not used for sport, with a focus on deriving a larger area of more botanically and structurally rich grassland to add to the small area already present within Meadow Orchard.
Species	*Invasive species* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species. *Invertebrates.* • As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates. ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- None recommended

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Lack of existing management regimes (particularly at Meadow Orchard).
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Scout Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade 1**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 1**

1.2. Site description

Scout Park (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29659 91402) supports a mixture of scrub, amenity grassland and woodland, the latter supporting isolated occurrences of ancient woodland indicators such as wood sedge *Carex sylvatica* and pendulous sedge *C. pedula.* The woodlands, especially the northern block contain a number of mature ash, pedunculate oak and hornbeam. Two large ponds are present within the woodland areas with historical records (2016) of great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland** **w1g6 - Line of trees** **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland:** The north and south-east of the site are considered to support a Priority woodland. Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* is the most abundant tree species, with encouraging levels of regeneration from saplings of this species also observed. A noteworthy, double stemmed veteran specimen is also present within the centre of the woodland. Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* was the other most common species, particularly of the more mature trees, alongside hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* where the two were found at the woodland edge at the site's high point. Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and hazel *Corylus avellana* were amongst those which formed the shrub layer. Closer to the northernmost pond, grey willow *Salix cinerea* was more common. Ancient woodland indicators such as giant fescue *Schedonorus gigantea,* wood sedge *Carex sylvatica* and pendulous sedge *C. pendula* were present in the ground flora. These habitats were characterised by heavy disturbance from activities associated with the Scouts and are accessible from camping fields. Likely hedgehog droppings were identified on adjacent lawns and it is likely that the mosaic of woodland, scrub and adjacent gardens is of considerable value to this species. **w1g6 - Line of trees:** Two short tree lines are located at the western and northern boundaries, the latter being a line of cypress *Cupressus.*

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: The southern and central-most woodland blocks are non-Priority secondary woodland and include the areas surrounding both ponds. Here, non-native sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* were abundant. Ivy *Hedera helix* and bramble dominate the field layer and, in the southern block there is much less disturbance. The central area, adjacent to the pond has the highest levels of disturbance, as above. All woodland habitat at The Scout Park accounts for 45% of the total site area.

Condition

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: All areas are in Good condition. All criteria are passed for the main block in the north of the site, with the exception of the damaging levels of access and ground conditions, with recent surface flood water damage also present.

w1g6 - Line of trees: These are both in Poor condition.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: The southern section is in Good condition. Whilst a lower cover of native species is observed and lower frequency of mature/veteran trees and deadwood is partly limited, disturbance is low. Elsewhere, the woodland is in Moderate condition, in part due to the damaging levels of access.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb)

g4a/g4 – Amenity/Modified grassland (73 - Bare ground)

Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb). A small strip of neutral grassland with tall herbs is found along the western boundary, this having been created on a landscape bund. Tall herbs (including common nettle *Urtica doica*) were abundant.

g4a/g4 – Amenity/Modified grassland (73 - Bare ground). Of the 0.88 hectares (24% of site area) of grassland, 80% is either amenity or modified grassland, with five large blocks used for camping and other activities. These are comprised of typical 'lawn' species and frequently mown.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb): Poor condition. Whilst structurally diverse, is botanically poor.

g4a/g4 – Amenity/Modified grassland (73 - Bare ground): Moderate condition. Whilst species poor and characterised by frequent mowing, the grass is free of damage and bare ground is not found to excessive levels

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (19 - Ponds (Priority Habitat))
Description Three large ponds are present at the site. The northern most is formed of two sections connected by a channel which, at peak water levels, give rise to a continuous water body. Flanked by scrub and mature trees, this is a shaded woodland pond. Bulrush *Typha latifolia,* yellow iris *Iris psedacorus* and pendulous sedge were the most abundant emergent plants. Whilst duckweed *Lemna* was present in all ponds, it was only above 10% coverage in the north-western most pond. The presence of surrounding woodland, deadwood and scrub adds to the value of the ponds to amphibians and other taxa; the southern most pond has confirmed breeding great crested newt records from 2010, with more recent records from 2016. It is unknown from which pond the 2016 records originate. Pipistrelle-like bats were observed foraging over the north ponds at dusk during the August field visit. Whilst the early timing might indicate a nearby roost, it also highlights the local value of these ponds to invertebrates and their predators.
Condition The southern and north-eastern pond are in Good condition, these passing all condition criteria. The presence of excessive duckweed reduces the condition of the north-western pond to Moderate.

Hedgerows

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow** **h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees**
Description Native hedgerows surround the main car park and a hedgerow with trees forms the north boundary of the access road. Hawthorn, dogwood, hazel are among the woody species, though all are species poor. Sycamore is present at 10-15%.
Condition Whilst structurally sound, the hedgerows suffer from absent or poor ground flora, with car park/hardstanding being present; all are in Poor condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3d - Bramble scrub** **h3h - Mixed scrub**
Description

h3d - Bramble scrub: A single dense stand of bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* is present along the north-eastern boundary.

h3h - Mixed scrub: Elsewhere, the majority of scrub is found as a glade in the central woodland. Blackthorn, *Prunus spinosa,* Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* are the dominant woody species.

Condition

Bramble scrub is in Poor condition, this being species poor and lacking any structural diversity. The central glade is in Good condition.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

s - Sparsely vegetated land (17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral)

u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree))

u1b5 - Buildings

u1b6 - Other developed land

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground)

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden, 232 - Un-vegetated garden)

Description

s - Sparsely vegetated land (17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral): A recently cleared area with bare substrate and ephemeral/pioneer species (e.g., petty spurge *Euphorbia peplus*).

u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree)). In addition to woodland blocks, isolated trees are present.

u1b5 – Buildings: A number of institutional and private residential buildings are present within the site. Sharing the site with the Scout Association is a tree surgery business. As such, a number of piles of felled wood of large volume are present within the site, in some cases apparently present for several years. This association presents an opportunity for dedicated enhancements for woodland and invertebrates through the more targeted deployment of this resource.

u1b6 - Other developed land: Roads, hardstanding and paved areas.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground).

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden, 232 - Un-vegetated garden). Private residential houses are present with vegetated gardens, as well as some ornamental planting.

Condition

Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of Introduced shrub and vegetated garden habitats which default to Poor.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Ponds
- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a6 - Native Hedgerow
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Other linear features (inset)
w1g8 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI10
Scout Park
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgB110
Scout Park
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.2
Date: 11/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Scrub
2	Veteran oaks
3	Likely hedgehog dropping
4	Woodland boundary 3 mature oak & 2 mature coppice hornbeam
5	Significant bare areas
6	Log pile. Ideal amphibian refuge
7	Log pile
8	Three pipistrelle like bats foraging in evening
9	Six stem veteran ash
10	Area of highest disturbance & compaction
11	Standing deadwood example
12	Bird/bat boxes present but in poor state of repair
13	Large volume fallen deadwood
14	Small glade within Wood where forms boundary with scrub
15	High compaction and potential water run off
16	Arb contractors wood pile potential for distribution around site
17	Wood-chipping & compaction
18	Climbing wall

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Stags horn sumach	-
B	False acacia	-
C	Cherry laurel	-
D	Japanese knotweed	Within glade at entrance.
E	Buddleia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst disturbance to the woodland floor is causing considerable understorey damage, the size and variety of habitats present onsite warrant the retention of Borough Grade I SINC status. The Scout Park also has considerable value for environmental education, given its current use.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Likely presence of protected (great crested newt) and notable (common toad) amphibians.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of additional, more general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland, tree lines and buildings. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and or buildings. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • Consider the relaxation of mowing regime and seeding with additional grassland species at the edges of camping paddocks. This will increase the connectivity

	around these areas (e.g. amphibians), provide additional shelter for invertebrates without taking space for existing operations. *Woodland* • Continued dead-hedging to limit footfall to dedicated paths and reduce disturbance. • Removal of invasive species. • Retention of and deployment of fallen wood from tree surgery business. Where created through necessary felling work, the creation of features for invertebrates (see below). *Pond:* • Targeted and limited felling of appropriate trees on south aspects to increase light availability.
Species	*Invasive species* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species. *Invertebrates.* • As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates. ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Updated environmental DNA (eDNA) surveys for great crested newt – to provide updated information from 2016.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Establishment of non-native tree species within Priority woodland at expense of native trees.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Increased shading of ponds and excessive nitrate loading.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Wood Green Reservoirs

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 1
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 1**

1.2. Site description

The existing SINC citation implies that wet woodland/willow carr is present. However, this is only present within the boundary of the Alexandra Palace Park boundary. Wood Green Reservoirs (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30406 90033) instead consists of two large water bodies and their associated vegetated fringes, with some infrastructure. The value of the site is almost entirely due to its value to birds, particularly wintering waterfowl.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (1040 – Reservoirs, 108 – Reservoir)**
Description Eighty-two percent of the site is occupied by eutrophic freshwater. Whilst direct survey of the waterbody was not undertaken, it is highly likely that invasive plant species are present; the adjoining and presumed connected New River support Nuttall's waterweed *Elodea nuttallii.* The reservoirs are also monitored as part of the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) Wetland Bird Surveys (WeBS; Frost *et al.,* 2021). The waterbodies predominantly support moderate numbers of wintering gulls (five-yearly average annual totals for black headed gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*, common gull *Larus canus* and herring gull *L. argentatus* are 365, 25 and 36. The site is also important for coot *Fulica atra* and great crested grebe *Podiceps cristatus.* Smaller numbers of migrant waders have also been recorded, including little ringed plover *Charadrius dubius* in the breeding season, with records available from 2017 from the adjoining filter beds. This, along with kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, which is seen regularly, and barn owl *Tyto alba* (for which a box has been installed on the western bank) is a species listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended) which affords it additional protection during the breeding season. Other summer migrants for which the reservoirs are likely to be important for foraging are swallow *Hirundo rustica,* sand martin *Riparia riparia* and house martin *Delichon urbicum*.
Condition

The reservoirs are assessed using the Freshwater Biological Association 'Habitat Naturalness Assessment'. Scores from each of physical, hydrological, chemical and biological naturalness are converted into BNG metric v3.0 categories. Categories are assigned a score between 1 and 5 (1 = most natural). The assessment represents an approximation; some of the categories would require specialist survey and expertise (e.g. chemical analysis). The overall score is 'Fairly poor'. Both physical and hydrological naturalness are considered 'least natural' (a score of 5). Chemical naturalness could not be assessed but was tentatively assigned a score of 2, but with low confidence. Biological naturalness was rated as 3, though could be moved to 4 (less natural) if, following further survey, there is greater coverage of non-native plants and animals.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4 - Modified grassland (66 - Frequently mown)**
Description The vegetated banks to the water bodies are uniformly maintained areas of grass with species typical of modified grassland (e.g., greater plantain *Plantago major*). Only species observed from the western boundary (via the Alexandra Palace Park viewing areas) were recorded, this appearing to be representative of the entire bankside vegetation.
Condition The banks are in Moderate condition. Whilst species poor, it is relatively free of damage and there is no scrub encroachment.

Urban

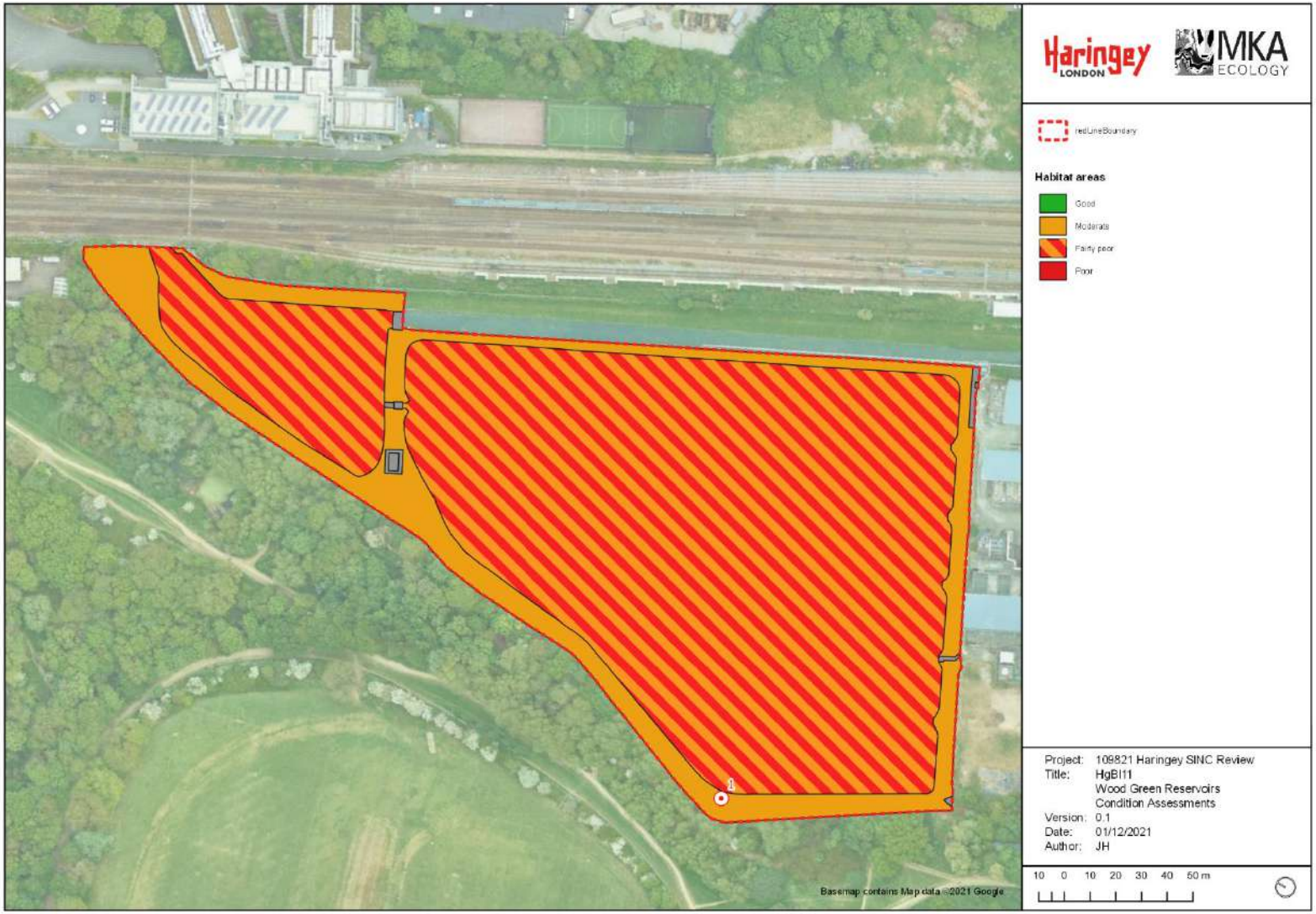
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**
Description These represent existing or abandoned infrastructure.
Condition Defaults to a zero-condition score.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
Point features
Target Note
g4
r1a
1
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI11
Wood Green Reservoirs
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Fairly poor
Poor
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI11
Wood Green Reservoirs
Condition Assessments
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Barn owl box

1.5. Invasive non-native species

None recorded

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site boundaries as managed by GiGL imply that the area of wet-woodland lies within the Alexandra Palace Park and as such does not appear within the Wood Green Reservoir SINC. The fringes of vegetation, previously described as a diverse ruderal flora are now a more intensively managed bank around the reservoirs. As such, the value of the site is mostly concentrated in its value to birds (particularly wintering wildfowl) and bats. The most recent formal ornithological data available is from 2017, though observations from local groups indicate the site is valuable to grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* and kingfisher. No change in status is warranted.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of Schedule 1 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) protected bird species (little ringed plover, kingfisher and barn owl).
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for suitable features in abandoned pump houses and/or on neighbouring mature trees).
- Likely presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Aquatic marginal vegetation:* • The reservoirs are botanically poor. Investigation into the possibility of creating more marginal vegetation (e.g., common reed *Phragmites australis*). Without compromising the reservoirs' function.

Species	*Birds:* • Installation of kingfisher tunnel. • Provision of 'tern rafts' (breeding terns and/or gulls). • Grey wagtail boxes (open fronted, near water). *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on buildings (see monitoring proposals). *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs).
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Relaxation of management regime (i.e. mowing) as far as the limits of the reservoirs' operation allow. Reduce cutting frequency as far as possible and remove arisings to reduce nutrient build up. • Additional seeding to increase botanical diversity.
Species	*Invasive species:* • If present, control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Undertake a full lake condition assessment, particularly with sufficient levels of chemical (water quality) and biological (invasive species) expertise.
- Undertake Preliminary Roost Assessments for bats on disused pumphouse/reservoir infrastructure. This will guide decisions as to whether additional roosting features at this location are of value and/or what legislative constraints exist for future development/removal of these structures.
- Given extra protection afforded to little ringed plover and potential conflict with site operation, annual monitoring of this species within and outside the site boundary.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding, including both structural damage (banks) and chemical/biological damage (breaches of sewage treatment plants within the catchment).
- Introduction and/or continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

Frost, T.M., Calbrade, N.A., Birtles, G.A., Hall, C., Robinson, A.E., Wotton, S.R., Balmer, D.E. and Austin, G.E. (2021). *Waterbirds in the UK 2019/20: The Wetland Bird Survey.* BTO/RSPB/JNCC. Thetford.

1. Tottenham Marshes

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 1
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 1**

1.2. Site description

Tottenham Marshes provides the largest area (31.42ha.) of mixed grassland, scrub and woodland in Haringey which has been set aside for nature conservation. The mosaic of these habitats is of significant ecological importance in the Borough. This ecological value is further enhanced by the location of Tottenham Marshes adjacent to the Lea Valley corridor which provides critical green/blue infrastructure both for Haringey and London. Tottenham Marshes is designated as a SINC for the ecological value held within this habitat mosaic, together with the fact that the site provides significant opportunities for the public to engage with nature. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 35273 90842.

Tottenham Marshes is owned by the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority. The Authority has published a Biodiversity Action Plan for the park for the period 2019 – 2029 (Lea Valley Regional Park Authority, 2019). Individual Biodiversity Action Plans have been produced for specific habitats (rivers and streams, standing open water, grassland and fen, woodland, built environment and brownfield) and species (bittern *Botaurus stellaris*, water vole *Arvicola amphibius*, early marsh orchid *Dactylorhiza incarnata*, kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, creeping marshwort *Apium repens*, otter *Lutra lutra*, bats, barbel *Barbus barbus*). A number of these habitats and species occur, or have the potential to occur, within Tottenham Marshes.

The site comprises open areas of neutral grassland with varying degrees of management activities. These are set with boundaries of scrub which are encroaching into the grassland habitats, occasionally forming islands. The central third of the site is dominated by woodland with some scrubby and grassy habitats. The lower stretches of Pymme's Brook runs through Tottenham Marshes before joining the River Lea Navigation just to the south. This section of the brook is entirely canalised, and consequently very fast flowing with little aquatic vegetation.

Tottenham Marshes is known for several botanical species of interesting and notably the nationally scarce wall bedstraw *Galium parisiense* and yellow vetchling *Lathyrus aphaca*, as well as several species which are uncommon in London, such as bee orchid *Ophrys apifera*, grass vetchling *Lathyrus. nissolia*, and Babington's poppy *Papaver dubium ssp lecoqii*. These species were not recorded during the site visit although there are recent records on the Greenspace Information for Greater London (GIGL) database for most. A short visit to the site later in the botanical survey season for this

assessment revealed nearly 60 plant species present in the grasslands alone, which is an indication of the botanical diversity of Tottenham Marshes. Several native black poplar *Populus nigra subsp. betulifolia* trees are of note at the site.

The botanical diversity combined with a good structural diversity in the habitats gives rise to the presence of important invertebrate species, and assemblages of invertebrates. A good diversity of butterfly species have been recorded. Butterfly species recently recorded include small white *Pieris rapae*, red admiral *Vanessa atalanta*, meadow brown *Maniola jurtina*, common blue *Polyommatus icarus* and ringlet *Aphantopus hyperantus*. Three skippers have also been recorded, Essex skipper *Thymelicus lineola*, small skipper *T. sylvestris* and large skipper *Ochlodes sylvanus*. Speckled wood *Parage aegeria* were also recorded during the visit. GIGL hold recent records (within the past decade) for brown argus *Aricia agestis* and marbled white *Melanargia galathea*, both London species of interest, as well as small heath *Coenonympha pamphilus* and white-letter hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* which are both Species of Principal Importance in the UK. Other important invertebrates recorded at the site include, among others, the red-girdled mining bee *Andrena labiate* with its distinctive red band on the abdomen and the scarce mallow flea beetle *Podagrica fuscipes* which feeds on species of the mallow family.

The open greenspace of Tottenham Marshes, and the diversity of habitats, ensure that this location supports a locally significant bird assemblage. Of particular note both kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* and sand martin *Riparia riparia* use the riverine habitats, the latter nesting in specially drilled holes in the banks of Pymme's Brook. Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* and peregrine *Falco peregrinus* hunt over the grasslands, with both observed during the site visit. Other raptors have been recorded at the site including short-eared owl *Asio flammeus*, hobby *Falco subbuteo* and marsh harrier *Circus aeruginosus*. Numerous notable or protected passerines were recorded during the site visit and have been recorded in the past including dunnock *Prunella modularis*, skylark *Alauda arvensis*, swift *Apus apus*, Cetti's warbler *Cettia cetti*, cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*, house martin *Delichon urbicum*, reed bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*, grey and yellow wagtails *Motacilla cinerea* and *M. flava*, house sparrow *Passer domesticus*, black redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* and willow warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Recent visitors include great white egret *Ardea alba*.

Mammal species recorded at Tottenham Marshes include a good diversity of bat species, a total of seven species. These includes some scarcer species such as serotine *Eptesicus seriotinus* and Nathusius' pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii*. The site is likely to be of significance for foraging bats in the local area, particularly with the wide expanses of unlit greenspace and adjacent riverine habitats providing excellent additional foraging habitats and connectivity. Roosting opportunities are scarce with only occasional features potentially present in the mature trees. The buildings may provide limited roosting opportunities. The grasslands are likely to support good population of small mammals such as voles, as evidenced by foraging kestrel, and pygmy shrew *Sorex minutus* has been recorded historically. Some old records of water vole are held by GiGL but nothing within the past twenty years.

Smooth newt have been recorded within the small pond in the site but there are no other records of amphibians for the area. Similarly low number of reptile species are known to occur at Tottenham Marshes with only grass snake *Natrix helvetica helvetica* recorded. The habitats have great potential for supporting good reptile populations and the site may provide a potential translocation site for species such as common lizard or slow-worm.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c – Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ephemeral, 161 - Tall or tussocky sward)** **g3c5 – *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ephemeral, 77 - Neglected, 80 - Unmanaged, 161 - Tall or tussocky sward, 421 - Walking/cycling route)** **g4a – Amenity grassland (64 - Mown, 75 - Active management)**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** Many of these compartments were dominated by tall herb species, such as common nettle *Urtica* dioica, which means that further detailed classification was not feasible. False oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* is less prevalent in some of these smaller areas of neutral grassland otherwise species composition is generally closely aligned with the dominant g3c5 habitat type described below. **g3c5 – *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland:** The dominant habitat type across the site. False oat-grass is dominant but many other grasses are also abundant including cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, timothy *Phleum pratense*, smooth meadow-grass *Poa pratensis*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, common couch *Elytrigia repens*, tall fescue *Festuca arundinacea* and perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne*. The tall fescue and cock's-foot give the grassland a tussocky appearance in parts. Almost 50 species were recorded in the neutral grassland habitats which is a good diversity. Some species of note included wild basil *Clinopodium vulgare*, lady's bedstraw *Galium verum*, field scabious *Knautia arvensis* and chicory *Cichorium intybus*. Some areas were dominated by tall herbs, particularly horse-radish *Armoracia rusticana* and Russian comfrey *Symphytum officinale x asperum* and there were also areas of encroaching scattered scrub, both indicative of low levels of management. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** Areas of closely mown amenity grassland occur around the centre of the site close to the car parking facilities. Dominated by grasses which can withstand this management (perennial rye-grass and annual meadow grass *Poa annua*) relatively few forbs occur here.
Condition

g3c – Other neutral grassland: Typically in Poor condition across the site. This is because these areas frequently fail conditions relating to overly dominant scrub or undesirable tall herb species. This also means that wildflowers, sedges or indicator species are not clear within the sward.

g3c5 – *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland: This habitat type is in Moderate condition throughout the site. The numbers of wildflowers, sedges and indicator species are moderately good throughout the sward and the extent of damage and bracken/scrub encroachment fall within an acceptable range. The grassland fails two criteria which relate to a poor diversity of sward height (being almost entirely the same height) and the presence of invasive and undesirable species.

g4a – Amenity grassland: For a low value grassland type these areas are in Good condition. There is generally an absence of indicators of poor condition such as damage or undesirable species. The grassland fails the criteria for sward height diversity.

Woodland and forest

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 – Line of trees

w1h5 – Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaf

Description

w1g6 – Line of trees: Several lines of trees are present through the site with a line of London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* forming part of the southern boundary and a line of lime *Tilia sp.* along the access to the car park. To the north of the site a line of poplars *Populus* and willows *Salix* runs alongside the river.

w1h5 – Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaf: Typically young mixed woodland, presumably planted in parts, with a wide variety of woody species including hazel *Corylus avellana*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, spindle *Euonymus europaeus*, white willow *Salix alba*, aspen *Populus tremula*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, field maple *Acer campestre*, goat willow *Salix caprea*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. Some less desirable species are also present, including false-acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*. The ground flora, where present, is typical and poor with cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and garlic mustard *Alliaria petiolate,* amongst others.

Condition

w1g6 – Line of trees: All in Moderate condition although the pass and fail criteria vary depending on the tree line. The London plane tree line fails due to an absence of native species and the adjacent concrete path. The row of lime by the car park fails due to a lack of mature trees and the presence of the road. The line of trees alongside the river passes all criteria with the exception of one concerning the gaps in the canopy cover.

w1h5 – Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaf: The woodlands are generally in Moderate condition typically scoring well for structure, native species and availability of open space. However,

they all score poorly due to a lack of deadwood, good quality ground flora and veteran trees, and also because of higher levels of disturbance. Several areas of woodland around the car parking area are in Poor condition due to the presence of invasive and non-native species.

Heathland and shrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a5 – Native hedgerow

h3d – Bramble scrub (189 - Scattered grass)

h3h – Mixed scrub (189 - Scattered grass)

Description

h2a5 – Native hedgerow: A small section of native hedgerow borders the allotments to the south of the site which is dominated by hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*. Other species occur including bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg*. and large bindweed *Calystegia silvatica*.

h3d – Bramble scrub: Found in scattered islands within the grassland habitats, with more substantial areas just north of the car park and on the western side of Pymme's Brook. This is dominated by bramble.

h3h – Mixed scrub: Areas of mixed scrub occur throughout Tottenham Marshes and form an important part of the habitat matrix. Significant areas of scrub are present in the north of the site. Species are varied and include dogwood, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, bramble, hawthorn, spindle, elder *Sambucus nigra*, dog rose *Rosa canina* and field maple. Some significant areas of buddleja *Buddleja davidii* are also present. In parts these areas of scrub form a complex mosaic of habitats with ruderal dominated grasslands, woodland edges and more open grasslands.

Condition

h2a5 – Native hedgerow: The hedgerow is in Good condition passing most condition criteria except for the presence of gaps in the canopy and an adjacent path.

h3d – Bramble scrub: Bramble scrub is automatically assigned a Poor condition status.

h3h – Mixed scrub: Ranging from Good condition to the west of the site which passes all criteria, to Poor in the north. However, the majority is in Moderate condition, typically failing due to the presence of undesirable species.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface (115 - Track)

u1b5 – Buildings

u1d – Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden, 1160 - Introduced shrub)

Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** This includes the car parking facilities and tracks/paths. **u1b5 – Buildings:** Some buildings are present including a café. **u1d – Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface:** Areas of garden planting closely associated with either the buildings are car parking landscaping.
Condition These habitat types are automatically assigned a zero score condition, with the exception of vegetated garden planting which is Poor.

Rivers and lakes

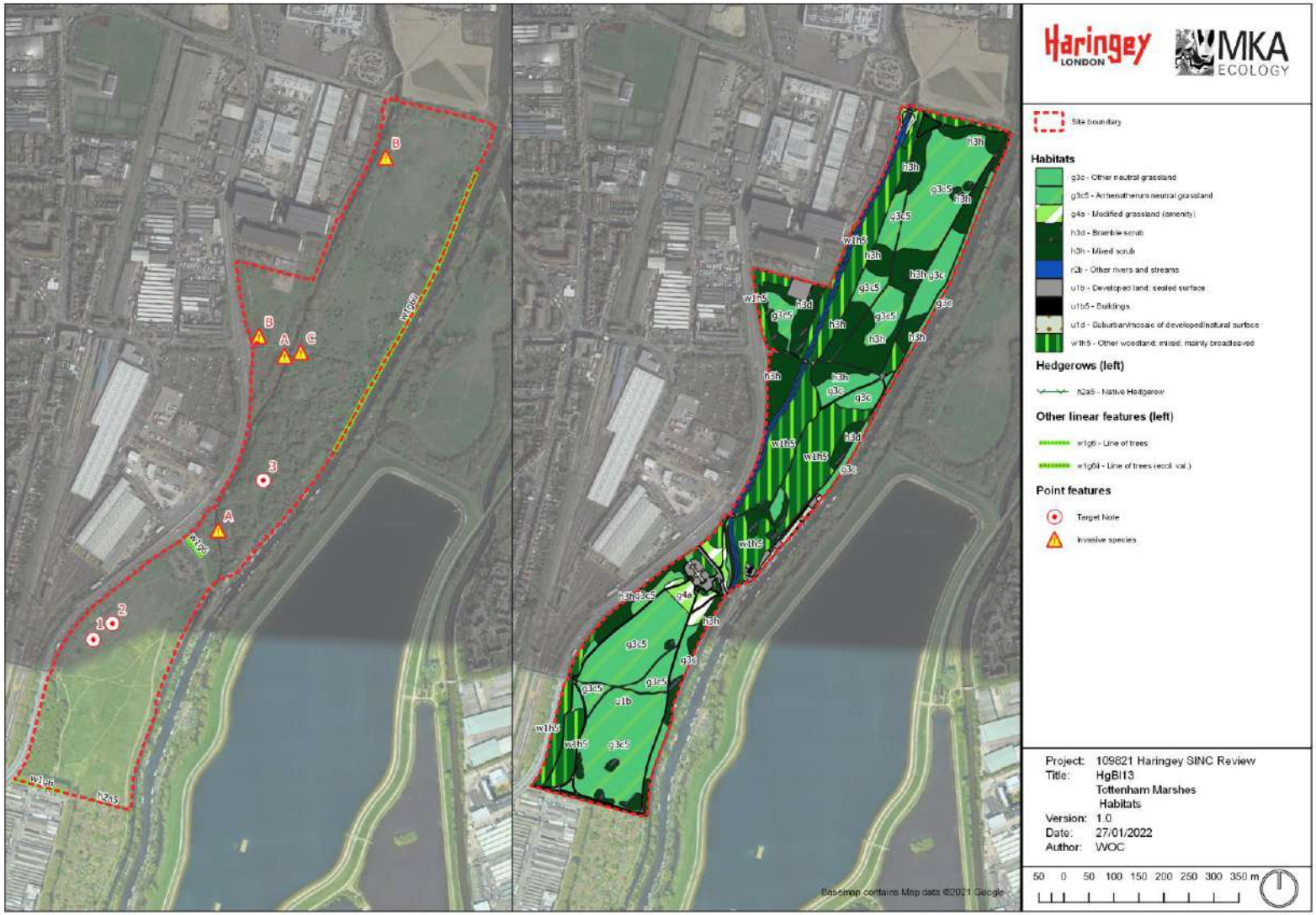
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r2b – Other rivers and streams (40 - Freshwater heavily modified, 412 - Artificial watercourse)**
Description **r2b – Other rivers and streams:** Pymme's Brook runs through Tottenham Marshes. The brook is heavily modified with concrete sides and bed. Very little vegetation is present.
Condition A condition assessment of the brook was not included in the scope of this assessment although it is clear that this feature is in Poor condition.

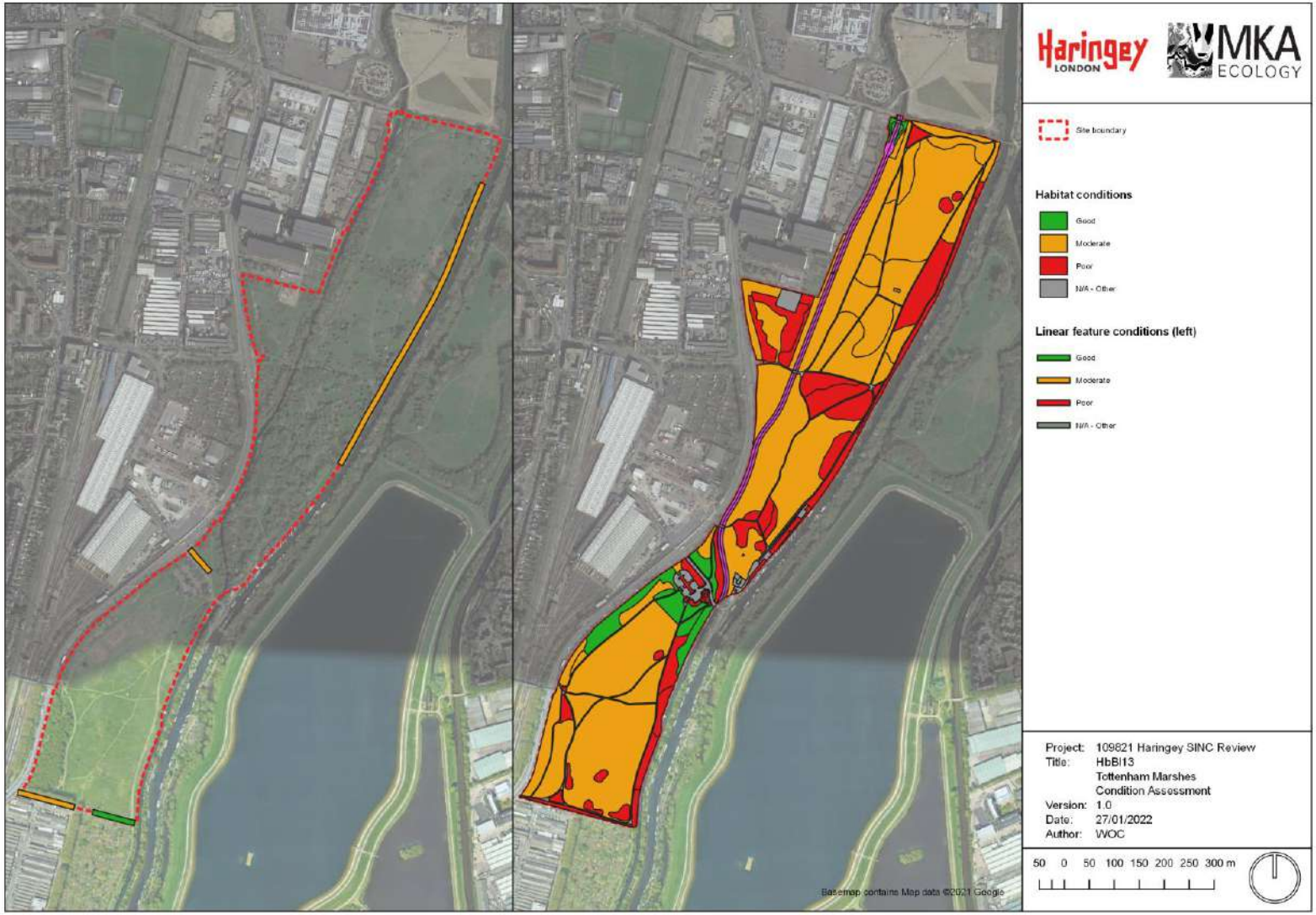
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g3c5 - Arrhenatherum neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r2b - Other rivers and streams
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved
Hedgerows (left)
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features (left)
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6i - Line of trees (recoll. val.)
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBI13 Tottenham Marshes Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 27/01/2022
Author: WOC
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 300 350 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (left)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HbBI13
Tottenham Marshes
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 27/01/2022
Author: WOC
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 300 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Area of disturbance dominated by bristly ox-tongue *Helminthotheca echioides*, other ruderals and Michaelmas-daisy *Aster.*
2	Area of recent clearance becoming dominated by bramble
3	Small pond/wetland area with reed sweet-grass *Glyceria maxima* and purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria*

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Japanese knotweed	-
B	Buddleja	-
C	Snowberry	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

This site's value lies in the extensive areas of open rough grassland which is uncommon in the borough. This grassland appears largely unmanaged and contains a good floristic diversity, including notable species such as wall bedstraw and yellow vetchling (both of which have been recorded recently). Set within and around the grassland are areas of woodland and scrub with glades and varying age structure which provide important habitats for invertebrates and birds. Boundary features include hedgerows, trees lines and scrub, with some native black poplar specimens.

The large open grasslands with pockets of scrub provide high quality habitats for a wide range of species, as well as having intrinsic ecological value. Furthermore, the rarity of such habitats and species within the borough, and its accessibility for public enjoyment, mean that Tottenham Marshes should be retained as a Borough Grade I SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds (including species listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1881, as amended: kingfisher, black redstart, Cetti's warbler).
- Potential for roosting bats (within trees or buildings).
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Native black poplars should be protected.

Opportunities

Tottenham Marshes presents a number of opportunities for the creation of new habitats and features for species. Those presented below specifically reference the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority BAP where appropriate.

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Wetlands:* • The location of Tottenham Marshes within the Lea Valley offers an opportunity for creating new wetland habitats. The creation of standing water and fen habitat would be in alignment with the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority BAP. Scrapes, open water and reedbed habitats would significantly add to habitat mosaic available at the site. Development of such projects and their scale must consider the value of the grassland resource at this location, which is significant within the Borough. *Ditches:* • The introduction of ditch features through the grassland areas would have the potential to significantly increase floristic diversity as well as provide habitat for a good diversity of invertebrates, birds and potentially water vole (see below).
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Improving structure of scrub (see below) to create micro-climates and improve resource of food plants, nectar and pollen. • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ,* the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. Unless a tree has to be felled to its base for some reason, this should be seen as the default option.

	○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) • *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Bat boxes:* • Bat roosting features on trees, buildings and bridges/riverbanks. *Bird boxes:* • Bird nesting boxes/features. The following types are recommended: ○ 'Standard' hole/cavity nest boxes on trees (e.g., tits). ○ Open fronted cavity boxes on trees along woodland edges (spotted flycatcher). ○ Kingfisher nesting tunnels. Where works of habitat creation is taking place alongside the river or brook. ○ Sand martin. Creation of more holes within the Pymme's Brook channel or purpose built sand martin bank as part of a wetland creation project. ○ Tawny owl. Nest cavity box in mature woodland trees. ○ Grey wagtail. Open fronted boxes under bridges over Pymme's Brook. *Water vole:* • Creation of appropriate wetland habitats and potential translocation. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes'). *Black poplar:* • Opportunities for planting native black poplar of local provenance could be explored at Tottenham Marshes.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grasslands:* • Improving the condition of the grasslands at Tottenham Marshes should be the key target for this location. Improving the condition of grassland on this scale would have a significant positive impact on the Borough's biodiversity re-source. In order to achieve this it is recommended that a grassland manage-ment strategy, together with monitoring programme, is developed. The aim should be to improve the floristic and structural diversity of the habitat. Initially an appropriate 'cut and collect' mowing regime should be developed and the impacts of this on the grassland diversity should be monitored. Seeding could be considered as a last resort if the diversity of the grassland does not im-prove, but the preference should always be to allow the existing seedbank to

	develop. The cutting regime should aim for a diverse sward height and appropriate level of tall herb vegetation (recognising that a certain coverage of this type of vegetation is critical for many species). With a likely increase in recreational pressure it will be important to monitor and damage on the grassland, providing public guidance where appropriate. *Scrub:* • The extensive areas of scrub at Tottenham Marshes are also an important and uncommon resource within the Borough. Improving their condition will deliver significant ecological benefits. This can be achieved by increasing the diversity of native species, particularly in areas dominated by bramble, removal of non-native species and better management of the scrub edges creating ecotones between scrub and grassland habitats. *Woodland:* • The condition of the woodlands throughout Tottenham Marshes should be improved. Woodland areas around the carpark could easily be enhanced by removal of non-native false-acacia and the introduction of native species. The deadwood resource throughout the site is poor and attempts should be made to increase the volume of both standing and fallen deadwood. Veteranisation of non-veteran trees would also be beneficial. • The provision of pollard willows alongside the river in the north of the site should be explored. Pollard willows with their deadwood habitats support a very good diversity of invertebrate species as well as providing an attractive landscape feature. *Pymme's Brook:* • Whilst a condition assessment of Pymme's Brook was not undertaken it is clearly not in an optimum state for biodiversity. The entirely modified structure of the brook makes any positive interventions for biodiversity difficult. Opportunities for flow management, to enable slack waters and vegetation development may not be feasible from a water management perspective. An ambitious project would be the development of a natural flood management system at Tottenham Marshes which could see the naturalisation of the channel through the site with riverside habitats allow to flood during periods of high rainfall. This would have significant biodiversity benefits, as well as providing other ecosystem services such as flood management in the Borough.
Species	*Translocations:* • The availability of good quality habitat for, but likely absence of, both reptiles and water vole provide a potential opportunity for translocation projects for these species.

	Invasive species: • Control of Schedule 9 and other invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- A grassland management strategy and monitoring strategy should be developed.
- Condition of habitat types should be monitored following any positive interventions to ensure delivery of goals.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Encroaching scrub reducing the quality and extent of the grassland resource.
- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

Lea Valley Regional Park Authority (2019), *Lea Valley Regional Park Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2029*. Lea Valley Regional Park Authority: Enfield.

PTES (2016) *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

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1. Fortis Green Covered Reservoir and Central Foundation Playing Field

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough II grade**
- Recommended status: **Splitting of the site into separate SINCS:**
    - **Fortis Green Covered Reservoir and Central Foundation Playing Field – Retain as Borough Grade 2.**
    - **Fortis Green Community Allotment – Downgrade to Local.**

1.2. Site description

As set out within the original SINC citation, this covered reservoir (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28052 89224) is one of the few grasslands in the borough which is (at least intermittently) grazed. There are mature trees and areas of scrub around the edges, providing valuable habitat for birds, whilst the edges of the former playing field to the east of the reservoir is dominated by amenity grassland and also supports areas of scrub and mature trees. The site supports a number of hedgerows, an allotment plot and an area of deciduous woodland used as by the Tetherdown Primary School and Tree House School, which dominates the east of the site, for educational purposes.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland (17 – Ruderal/ ephemeral, 700 – Open space around premises)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (500 – Outdoor sports facilities, 700 - Open space around premises)**
Description **g3c - Other neutral grassland (700 – Open space around premises):** Areas of neutral grassland habitat are present surrounding the covered reservoir in the west of the site, comprising areas of grassland which appear to have been subject to a more sympathetic management regime. These areas were noted to support a greater diversity of grass and herbaceous species, whilst also providing more varied vegetation structure than elsewhere within the site. Grasses tend to dominate across this habitat, including species such as perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne,* false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus,* along with a herbaceous component, comprising species such as red clover *Trifolium pratense*, ribwort plantain *Plan-*

tago lanceolata, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp,* along with more occasional instances of ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris*, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and cut-leaved crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum.*

g3c - Other neutral grassland (17 – Ruderal/ ephemeral): A small area of neglected hardstanding has been colonised by ruderal and ephemeral species, such that a large proportion of this area is covered by such vegetation.

g4a - Amenity grassland (500 – Outdoor sports facilities, 700 - Open space around premises): The majority of the grassland within the site is formed by areas of amenity grassland which have been well managed to a short 5cm sward height throughout. These areas encompass the areas surrounding the Tree House and Tetherdown Primary School buildings, in addition to the grassland atop the covered reservoir which is used as a sports facility. The grass species in these areas are dominated by perennial rye-grass, with a herbaceous component comprised of common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain, daisy and dandelion.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland (17 – Ruderal/ ephemeral): Moderate. The longer sward and more diverse grassland habitats within the site are considered to be in moderate condition, failing good condition criteria due to the presence of undesirable species, such as white clover *Trifolium repens*.

g4a - Amenity grassland (500 – Outdoor sports facilities, 700 - Open space around premises): Moderate. The grassland does not achieve good condition as it is subject to an unsympathetic management regime and, whilst 'undesirables' accounted for less than 5% of the total area, the grassland supports the invasive non-native species cotoneaster *Cotoneaster horizontalis* and undesirable species, such as cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees

Description

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: A small area of woodland is present within the west of the site which was noted to support partially closed canopy dominated by semi-mature sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and oak *Quercus robur*, along with more occasional silver birch *Betula pendula*, field maple *Acer campestre*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna,* yew *Taxus baccata* and white poplar *Populus alba*. A somewhat sparse understorey is present, comprising of self-seeded ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and holly *Ilex aquifolium* scrub. The ground flora was also noted to be sparse, being dominated by bare ground and leaf litter, with occasional wood avens.

w1g6 - Line of trees: A small number of tree lines are present within the centre of the site, comprising largely semi-mature trees which have been planted as ornamental and screening features to the

central public access pathway and the site itself. These features supported species such as apple *Malus pumila,* oak *Quercus robur*, cherry *Prunus* sp., ash, sycamore, and white poplar.

Condition

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Good. This area scores highly for the presence of native species, distinct age classes, a varied vertical structure and open space that it supports. The only criteria that it does not score highly for are the deadwood distribution and the presence of veteran trees.

w1g6 - Line of trees: A single tree trees line is considered to be in Moderate condition due to the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation and a lack of mature specimens. The majority of the tree lines within the site are considered to be in Poor condition due to the above criteria failures, in addition to an absence of a continuous canopy coverage.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a5 – Native hedgerow

h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees

h2a9 – Native Species rich Hedgerow

Description

h2a5 – Native hedgerow/h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees: Hedgerows are present throughout the school grounds within the east of the site, largely in the form of well managed beech *Fagus sylvatica* hedges, however the hedgerows present within the south of the site also support dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, hazel *Corylus avellana* and hawthorn. A small number of these hedgerows also support standard field maple trees.

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees: A single hedgerow within the site is considered to be species rich, supporting species such as field maple, hawthorn, hazel, rose *Rosa* sp., sycamore and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*.

Condition

h2a5 – Native hedgerow: Moderate. The majority of hedgerows within the site are managed to a box such that they fail the condition criteria for height and width, along with lacking undisturbed vegetation within the ground flora.

h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees: Poor. The native hedgerows with trees are subject to regular management, resulting in damage to the hedgerow and its underlying ground flora. In addition, none of the trees that these hedgerows support are mature.

h2a11 – Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees: Good. Whilst also lacking undisturbed vegetation within the ground flora, the species rich hedgerow within the site forms a continuous, linear and dense feature.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h - Mixed scrub (330 – Scrub)**
Description The scrub habitat within the site is largely to the inaccessible areas surrounding the sports facilities. These areas are dominated by ash, dogwood and butterfly-bush.
Condition Poor. The scrub habitat is largely uniform in age and structure, was accompanied by 'undesirables' such as butterfly-bush and lacked clearings within to provide sheltered areas for fauna.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface (1232 – Non-permeable paving)** **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space, 512 – Artificial sports pitches)** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (910 – Allotments)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface (1232 – Non-permeable paving):** Hardstanding paths and areas of car parking. **u1b5 – Buildings**: Tree House and Tetherdown Primary School buildings. **u1b6 - Other developed land (631 – Natural adventure playground, 530 – Ball courts)**: Natural and tarmac laid playing and sports areas. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (910 – Allotments)**: Allotment plots.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of the allotments habitats, which have been assigned a moderate condition due to the diversity of its vegetation structure and the pollen rich species that it supports. It has not achieved Good condition as the pollen rich plants include non-native species.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland.
- Hedgerows.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land, sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
h2a9 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Treetree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII01 Fortis Green Covered Reservoir and Central Foundation Playing Field Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 15 30 45 60 75 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII01 Fortis Green Covered Reservoir and Central Foundation Playing Field Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Log piles
2	Bat & bird boxes
3	Fox earth

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cotoneaster	-
B	Butterfly bush	-
C	Montbretia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site's value lies within its boundary features, with hedgerows and mature trees, a small woodland and allotments surrounding the covered reservoir on the west, south and east boundaries. The relatively large area of grassland has the potential to offer more with the introduction of a less intensive management regime.

In keeping with other allotments in the borough, it is recommended that the allotments are split from the existing SINC and, in keeping with other such sites, downgraded to a Local Grade. These allotments are similar, if not slightly less valuable for wildlife compared with other allotments in the borough, in part a consequence of its relatively small size and proximity to public paths. There is considerable pressure on the allotment to admit new members and potential availability of new plots can be easily determined by passers-by. Consequently, there is less opportunity for the committee to give over 'fallow' areas for the sole benefit of wildlife.

The eastern half of the site, an approximately 20m wide strip that surrounds the Tree House school is now occupied by Tetherdown Primary School buildings, and landscaping and car parking associated with Tree House School. As such, this section – the eastern boundary of the Fortis Green Community Allotment – no longer warrants inclusion within the SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of roosting bats (buildings).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryide Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond within communal areas will add further diversity to the site. *Hedgerows*: • Creation of further hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways, comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. Infilling of the exiting hedgerow to create a species rich feature. *Shrub planting*: • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	

Habitats	*Woodland:* • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Include further areas of reduced/relaxed management. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: o Nest box creation within living trees. o 'Woodpecker hole' *Reptiles and amphibians:* • Creation of brash and log piles from vegetation clearance works, especially within the woodland and grassland areas. • Will benefit from the above deadwood feature creation. *Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

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1. Tottenham Cemetery, All Hallows Churchyard and Bruce Castle Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough II Grade**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Borough Grade I**

1.2. Site description

This site, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 33245 91069, comprises Tottenham Cemetery, All Hallows Churchyard and Bruce Castle Park. Bruce Castle Park supports an area of open parkland and a large number of mature trees, including a veteran sessile oak *Quercus petraea*. Areas of managed and unmanaged grassland and scrub are also present within the less formally managed recreational areas and form features of ecological value. Bruce Castle Park has a Green Flag Award, which was first awarded in 2003.

Tottenham Cemetery is dominated by areas of frequently managed grassland across the graves. However, given the size of the site, the grassland is managed in rotation, such that there are varying sward lengths present throughout much of the year, which adds to the ecological value of these areas. The site supports a diverse assemblage of mature trees, including a notable wych elm *Ulmus glabra*, all of which are of value in their own right but also form an extensive network of trees and tree lines likely to be of elevated value to commuting bats. A number of the trees themselves also afford roosting opportunities to this species group. Bats have been recorded within and surrounding the site over many years.

The Moselle Brook runs through the Cemetery, which provides a blue corridor across the site and contributes value to the blue network within the borough. Of value in its own right, the Brook also provides an aquatic resource for a variety of faunal groups. The lake within the west of the site provides suitable nest sites for common waterfowl, and provides an important aquatic resource within a heavily urban area lacking in blue infrastructure. Grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* have been recorded along the Brook.

The large allotment area within the north east of the site provide ecological benefits in the form a large green space with low levels of disturbance and numerous fruit trees. This area also provides social and health benefits for the local community. This site has also been awarded a Green Flag Award.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland (810 - Cemetery)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park, 810 - Cemetery)**
Description **g3c - Other neutral grassland (810 – Cemetery):** Within the site are various areas of grassland which appear to have been subject to a more sympathetic management regime, such as in the northern portion of Bruce Castle Park, at the top of the banks surrounding the Moselle Brook and within the more neglected graveyard plots. These areas were noted to support a greater diversity of grass and herbaceous species, whilst also providing more varied vegetation structure than elsewhere within the site. Ruderal and nitrophilous species are present within these areas, including species such as broad leaved-dock *Rumex* obtusifolius and bristly ox-tongue *Picris echiodies,* however grasses tend to dominate across this habitat, including species such as perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne,* meadow grass *Poa* sp., cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata,* a brome *Bromus commutatus x racemosus,* common bent *Agrostis capillaris,* false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius,* wall barley *Hordeum murinum* and Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus.* The herbaceous species comprised common and widespread species such as white clover *Trifolium repens*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp,* along with more occasional instances of ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris,* wood avens *Geum urbanum* and greater celandine *Chelidonium majus.* **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park, 810 - Cemetery):** Within Tottenham Cemetery, All Hallows Churchyard and Bruce Castle Park are a number of areas of amenity grassland which have been well managed to a short 5cm sward height throughout. These areas encompass the amenity spaces within the Cemetery and Bruce Castle Park, in addition to the grassland within the more heavily managed graveyard plots and memorial spaces. The grass species in these areas are dominated by perennial rye-grass and meadow grass, with rare incidences of cock's-foot. The herbaceous species comprised common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain, daisy and dandelion.
Condition **g3c - Other neutral grassland:** The longer sward and more diverse grassland habitats within the site are considered to be in Moderate condition in the majority, with more limited areas of Poor-quality habitat. The Moderate areas fail only due to the presence of invasive non-native species, including butterfly-bush *Buddleja davidii*, Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and green alkanet *Pentaglottis sempervirens*. The area of Poor condition habitat also fails the criteria on the basis of the large areas of bare ground it contains. **g4a - Amenity grassland:** Moderate. The grassland does not achieve Good condition as it is subject to an unsympathetic management regime and, whilst 'undesirables' accounted for less than 5% of the total area, the grassland supports invasive non-native species.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland** **w1g6 - Line of trees**
Description **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland:** Small areas of woodland are present within the south west of the site, which were noted to support partially closed canopies dominated by semi-mature sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, along with more occasional oak *Quercus robur* and white poplar *Populus alba*. This woodland habitat lacked a significant understorey but it was distinct in that it comprised young elm *Ulmus* sp. and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*. The ground flora was noted to be sparse, being dominated by bare ground and leaf litter, with occasional wood avens. Fly tipping was also noted within this habitat. **w1g6 - Line of trees:** A large number of tree lines are present across the site, comprising semi-mature to mature trees which have been planted as ornamental features of the Cemetery, Churchyard and Park. These features were noted to be dominated by London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, with more occasional instances of species such as oak, cherry *Prunus* sp., alder *Alnus glutinosa*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, false-acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*, field maple *Acer campestre*, hawthorn, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, lime *Tilia platyphyllos* x *cordata = T. x europaea*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, sycamore, turkey oak *Quercus cerris* and yew *Taxus baccata.*
Condition **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland**: Moderate. Whilst this area scores highly for the presence of native species and presence of deadwood, the presence of only two size classes (seedlings were not observed), lack of veteran trees and heavy disturbance through fly-tipping all contribute to a Moderate score. **w1g6 - Line of trees**: The majority of the tree lines within the site are considered to be in Moderate condition, due to the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation and largely non-native species composition trees. A number of the tree-lines are considered to be in Poor condition due to the above criteria failures, in addition to the lack of mature specimens or continuous canopy coverage.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a5 – Native hedgerow** **h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees** **h2a11 – Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees**
Description

h2a5 – Native hedgerow/ h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees: Hedgerows are present throughout the site, the majority of which are comprise privet *Ligustrum* sp. or yew hedges managed to a box that act as a screen at the boundaries of the site. A small number of these hedgerows also support standard ash trees. **h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees:** Two hedgerows within the site are considered to be species rich, supporting species such as cherry, elder, elm, hawthorn, horse-chestnut, white poplar and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*.
Condition **h2a5 – Native hedgerow/ h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees**: Moderate. The majority of hedgerows within the site are managed to a box such that they fail the condition criteria for height and width, along with lacking undisturbed vegetation within the ground flora. **h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees:** Whilst also lacking undisturbed vegetation within the ground flora, the species rich hedgerows form continuous, linear and dense features and comprise of native species such that they are considered to be in Good condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h – Mixed scrub (330 – Scrub)**
Description The scrub habitat within the site is largely restricted to the areas surrounding the lakes within the west of the site, along with the scrub present on the island within the larger waterbody. The scrub habitat was noted to be dominated by bramble, along with butterfly-bush, elder, field maple and willow saplings. These areas formed large, dense stands of scrub.
Condition Poor. The scrub habitat is largely uniform in age and structure (which is invariably the case with bramble), was accompanied by 'undesirables' such as butterfly-bush and lacked clearings within to provide sheltered areas for fauna.

Rivers and Lakes

r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (362 - Artificial lake or pond) **r2b – Other rivers and streams (40 Freshwater – heavily modified)**
Description **R1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (362 - Artificial lake or pond):** Two large, manmade lakes are present within the west of the site, situated within the ornamental gardens in this area. The waterbodies are functionally linked but an island of mixed scrub provides separation between the two.

Each waterbody was noted to support relatively unpolluted water and do not appear to dry out at any point during the year. Given their setting and likely frequent management, there are limited instances of marginal vegetation in the form of willowherb *Epilobium* sp. and flag iris *Iris pseudoacorus*, however greater reedmace *Typha latifolia* and common reed *Phragmities australis* are present within the western waterbody. Large willows *Salix* spp. Are present on the boundaries of the waterbodies and provide some overshading.

r2b – Other rivers and streams (40 - Freshwater – heavily modified): A section of the Moselle Brook runs through the SINC. The majority of this section of the river has been highly channelised, being set within steep banks and enclosed in concrete along much of its length. The river itself was noted to be lacking in any form of emergent, aquatic or marginal vegetation, aside from occasional instances of flag iris where the river runs over bare ground towards its western extent.

Condition

r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (362 - Artificial lake or pond): In Poor condition, failing a number of criteria based on its artificial nature, likely stocking with fish and location within a heavily managed, ornamental setting.

r2b – Other rivers and streams (40 - Freshwater – heavily modified): In Poor condition, failing a number of criteria due to the lack of aquatic and marginal vegetation and the overshading of the entire feature by the surrounding trees within the site.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface (1232 – Non-permeable paving)

u1b5 - Buildings

u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space, 631 – Natural adventure playground, 530 – Ball courts)

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden, 910 – Allotments, 1160 – Introduced shrub)

Description

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface (1232 – Non-permeable paving): Hardstanding paths.

u1b5 – Buildings: Haringey Mortuary, All Hallows' Church, Bruce Castle Museum, public toilets and other buildings.

u1b6 - Other developed land (631 – Natural adventure playground, 530 – Ball courts): Natural and tarmac laid playing and sports areas.

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface: Allotment plots, residential garden areas and introduced shrub planting within the church and cemetery.

Condition

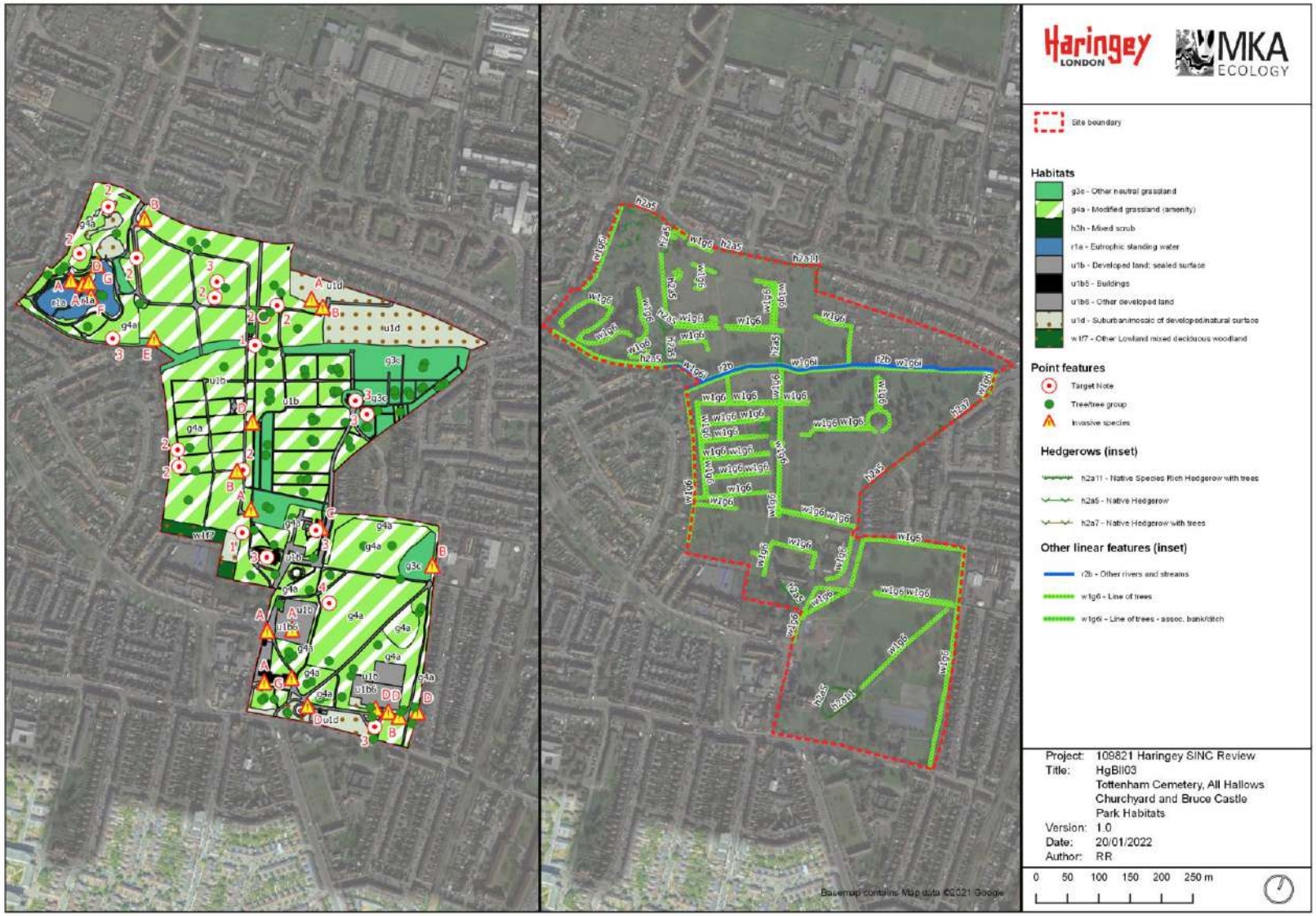
Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated gardens and introduced shrubs, which default to poor, and allotments habitats, which have been assigned a Moderate condition due to the diversity of its vegetation structure and the pollen rich species that it supports. It has not achieved good condition as the pollen rich plants include non-native species.

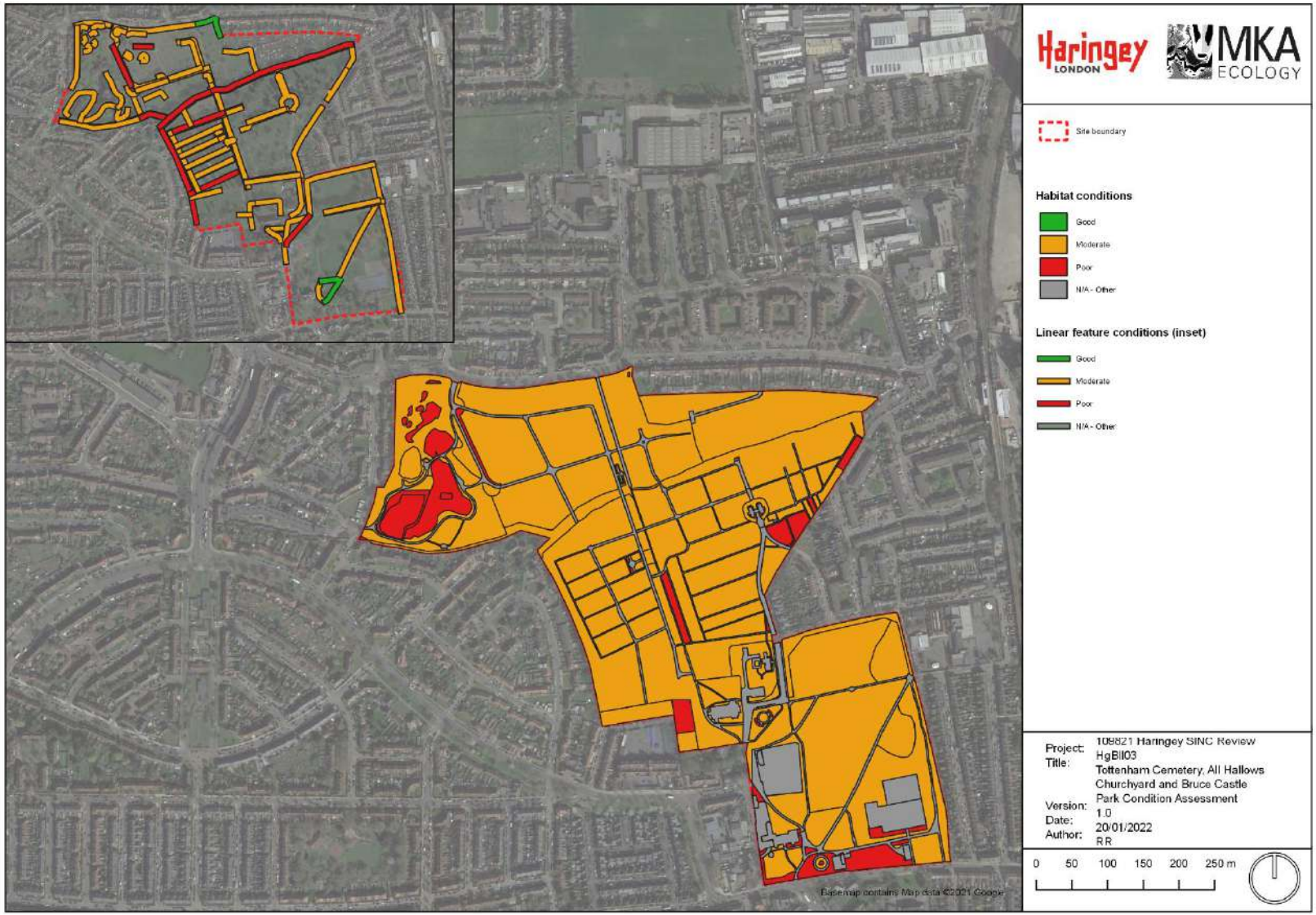
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland.
- Hedgerows.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Other linear features (inset)
r2b - Other rivers and streams
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6i - Line of trees - assoc. bank/ditch
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII03 Tottenham Cemetery, All Hallows Churchyard and Bruce Castle Park Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII03 Tottenham Cemetery, All Hallows Churchyard and Bruce Castle Park Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Bat and barn owl potential
2	Standing deadwood
3	Large volume deadwood following felling

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Butterfly-bush	-
B	False-acacia	-
C	Cotoneaster	-
D	Rhododendron	-
E	Japanese knotweed	-
F	Non-native terrapin	Household pet released into waterbody
G	Green alkanet	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The variety of habitats within the site provide significant opportunities to wildlife within an area which, unlike elsewhere within the borough, is largely lacking in significant green infrastructure and is somewhat isolated from the existing green network. The Moselle Brook provides a blue corridor across the site and contributes value to the blue network within the borough, providing an important aquatic resource within a heavily urban area lacking in blue infrastructure. The site also provides excellent social and health benefits for the local community, with the site being heavily utilised for recreational purposes, including cycling and walking. Accordingly, the site warrants designation as Borough Grade I SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds, particularly species such as barn owl.
- Likely presence of roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees and buildings).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles and amphibians.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.
- Potential for a range of Priority Species, including invertebrates such as stag beetle *Lucanus cervus.*

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows*: • Creation of further hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways, comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. Infilling of the exiting hedgerows to create a species rich feature. *Shrub planting*: • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow and specific to species such as barn owl). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed.

	○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Include areas of reduced management which are left to develop more diverse species composition and longer swards. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding. *Lakes:* • 'Softening' of the hard surrounds at the waterbody edge to allow the planting of emergent species (e.g., through the use of planting shelves or rafts). Decrease the frequency of management of the surrounding grassland to increase the sward height and allow for a greater species diversity to develop. Increase the frequency of tree and scrub management to reduce overshading from oversailing vegetation. • Undertake clearance works to open up ground space and to provide increased faunal opportunities within the scrub dominated island.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole'. *Reptiles and amphibians:* • Creation of brash and log piles from vegetation clearance works, especially around scrub areas and hedgerows. • Will benefit from the above deadwood feature creation.

	Invasive species: • Continued control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

The above recommendations should be informed by further survey and monitoring activities, as proposed below:

- Roosting bat surveys, should any buildings within the site be subject to development proposals.
- Breeding bird survey of the site. Identification of a breeding bird baseline, prior to habitat changes and installation of any additional nest box features.
- Reptile surveys. To establish presence or absence of species such as slow-worm.
- Invasive species monitoring and control.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria.*
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Palace Gates

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 2
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 2**

1.2. Site description

With the exception of a small patch of intensively manage grassland at the north-west entrance, the site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30658 90432) is comprised entirely of secondary woodland dominated by sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*. There is considerable incursion from neighbouring properties with significant damage from fly-tipping and use as a play space from the neighbouring school. Cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* dominates at each of the north-western and south-eastern ends, with variegated yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum* also present.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description The site consists primarily of secondary woodland of sycamore. Native trees are nevertheless present at occasional or rare frequencies, with ash *Fraxinus excelsior* the most common, along with pedunculate oak *Quercus robur,* silver birch *Betula pendula* occasional and rowan *Sorbus acuparia* rare. The shrub layer consists of holly *Ilex aquifolium,* hazel *Corylus avellana,* cherry *Prunus sp,* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna.* Cherry laurel is present throughout, but dominates at either end of the site. The field layer consists of a mixture of expected woodland understorey species (e.g., enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana,* herb-robert *Geum robertianum* and herb-bennet *Geum urbanum*) as well as garden escapes, including the Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 as amended) invasive non-native variegated yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum.* The woodland is subject to significant disturbance from neighbouring properties (fly-tipping, garden expansion and footfall), including a children's camp with swing. The neighbouring primary school also make use of the site. A number of bird and bat boxes have been installed.
Condition The ends of the site are in Poor condition. These are less mature areas of woodland, with fewer age classes and no veteran tress and, with invasive cherry laurel dominating the understorey. The main

body of the site is in Moderate condition, albeit at the lower end of the scale. Invasive species are present, albeit less dominating than above. However, this area scores more highly on the presence of veteran trees (oaks) and associated age structure and deadwood features. Non-native species (sycamore) nevertheless dominate and there is significant damage to the field layer.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4 - Modified grassland (66 - frequently mown)**
Description A small area of lawn which, whilst within the site boundary, appears to be managed by an adjacent property.
Condition Poor condition. A species poor lawn is unlikely to achieve any other condition.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a - Eutrophic standing waters**
Description A small pond is present adjacent to the rear fence of a property on the north boundary. Yellow iris *Iris psuedacorus* was observed growing in its margins.
Condition In spite of its unpromising situation, it is in Moderate condition, failing on the absence of good water quality.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden)**
Description There is incursion from back gardens. Even where some incursions appear sensitive to the woodland (no rubbish or physical damage, there is risk of invasive non-native garden escapes).
Condition This habitat type is considered to only have a Poor condition.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII04 Palace Gates Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII04
Palace Gates
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Broken face with direct access & associated damage
2	Child swing
3	Garden waste
4	Fly tipping
5	TCV log pile
6	School planting with Gladioli
7	Apparent encroachment
8	'Camp'
9	Encroachment – back-garden extension
10	Palettes
11	Veteran oak
12	Bird box
13	Dead hedge

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Cherry laurel	Growing as a significant stand in the north-west and south-east ends of the site.
C	Variegated Yellow Archangel	-
D	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

In spite of the evident damage present within this non-native woodland, there is nevertheless significant potential for restoration and enhancement of a valuable linear feature of value to the local community. The high density of sycamore is likely to provide a valuable woodland resource in the future given the wider and significant risks to ash (e.g. Broome & Mitchell, 2017).

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

- Likely presence of hedgehog (one record from LWT survey, 2001)

Opportunities

<table>
<tr><td colspan="2">Creation of features</td></tr>
<tr><td>Species</td><td>Hedgehog:
Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’).
Increase permeability to adjoining gardens via the provision of ‘hedgehog highways’ (~13cm x 13cm holes cut in fence base boards).
Birds:
Provision of additional (or repair of existing), boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher.
Bats:
Provision and/or repair of bat roosting features on trees.
Invertebrates.
As well as the general benefits to woodland offered below, the following specific measures are recommended where resource are available, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates.
Veteranisation of non-veteran trees: Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in ‘high forest’ with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
Ring-barking
Branch breaks
‘Horse – damage’
Pollarding
‘Monolith stumps’: Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.
Standing deadwood piles/beetle towers: Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of ‘stumperies’ with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016)
Artificial rot-holes: Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="2">Management/restoration of existing features</td></tr>
<tr><td>Habitats</td><td>Woodland
Reinstatement of boundaries where severely damaged or absent.</td></tr>
</table>

	• Reduction in physical damage. The reduction of damage to the woodland is likely to need involvement, rather than exclusion of the local people. This may range from the generation of a local 'friends' group with management responsibilities to an education programme (e.g. leaflets, social media) to encourage residents to consider how their actions can damage (e.g., garden extensions, fly-tipping) or enhance (e.g., work parties) their local natural space. It is also likely to require a greater focus and involvement with the local school. • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (see above).
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Monitoring of physical damage and inappropriate use of woodland by residents.
- Monitoring of invasive non-native species, particularly less obvious ground layer/garden escapes.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of damage and disturbance.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD, ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Further introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

Broome, A. & Mitchell, R. J. (2017) *Ecological impacts of ash dieback and mitigation methods*. Forestry Commission Research Note 029, Forestry Commission

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Grove Lodge, Muswell Hill

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 2
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 2**

1.2. Site description

The areas of neutral grassland described in the citation are now only present in the form of an approximately 1,200m^2 area of lawn associated with residential housing association building on Muswell Hill. The site is otherwise a relatively undisturbed woodland with abundant sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and occasional oak *Quercus robur* and hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*. A path along the southern boundary supports the majority of the understorey diversity. Elm *Ulmus* is rare, but present along the north-boundary. White-letter hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* was recorded in 2007. Common toad *Bufo bufo* and common frog *Rana temporaria* have both been recorded within and adjacent to the site within the last 15 years, as too has hedgehog, with records as recently as 2017. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29261 89477.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description Whilst ash is frequent, it is not at a coverage great enough (>25%) to warrant inclusion within the Priority Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland habitat type. Instead, sycamore and horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* form a canopy cover of approximately 65%. Larger, mature pedunculate oak are present, with holly *Ilex aquifolium* being frequent in the shrub layer. Bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* and ivy *Hedera helix* dominate the herb layer to the exclusion of nearly all other species. The exception to this rule occurs along the path which runs along the southern edge. Here, willowherbs *Epilobium* are rare, as are tall fescue *Schedonorus arundinacea,* wood dock *Rumex sanginueus* and pendulous sedge *Carex pendula.* Whilst the latter is an ancient woodland indicator, it may also arise as a garden escape, such is its popularity in planting schemes and gardens.
Condition The woodland is considered to be in Good condition. The woodland has a diversity of tree age, canopy structure and recruitment. It scores poorly in the presence of some invasive species (cherry

laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* and snowberry *Symphoricarpos albus*), as well as signs of ash-die back. It is relatively free of disturbance.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4a - Amenity grassland (66 - Frequently mown)**
Description There is lawn to the south-east of residential housing association building on Muswell Hill. It is a species poor sward with white clover *Trifolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major* abundant.
Condition This is in Moderate condition, with no scrub or other damage.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h - Mixed scrub**
Description A band of scrub is present on the north side of the access drive into the Grove Lodge. Bramble is abundant, with immature ash and elm also present.
Condition Poor condition. Whilst there is a good age range present, with shrubs and young trees, it is otherwise constrained by the situation (atop a retaining wall) with no field layer.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (pond)**
Description A pond is present within the grounds of the language school. Access constraints prevented a proper assessment of this feature, though views were afforded from the neighbouring woodland.
Condition The pond was evidently artificial, with oxygenating pumps and fountains audible. A duckweed *Lemna* was also present. The pond is rated as being in Poor condition.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (231/232 – vegetated/un-vegetated garden)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings:** Three buildings; two residential and a school. Records from the data search indicate the potential for breeding swift *Apus apus* though it is unclear whether this is associated with the building. **u1b6 - Other developed land:** Driveways and other hardstanding. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Gravel paths **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (231/232 – vegetated/un-vegetated garden):** Gardens of the associated residential properties.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated gardens which defaults to Poor.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII06
Grove Lodge, Muswell Hill
Version: 0.2
Date: 12/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
u1b5
u1d
w1g7
h3h
u1b6
g4a
u1c
w1g2
A
B
C
D
E
F
1
2
3


Haringey
LONDON
MKA
ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII06
Grove Lodge
Condition Assesment
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Evidence of rough sleeping
2	Artificial water feature /pond which is being infilled/succeeded c. 4m^2.
3	Three veteran trees in garden with bat/bird/invertebrate potential

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Snowberry	-
C	Snowberry	-
D	Cherry laurel	-
E	Cherry laurel	-
F	A bamboo	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site continues to match previous descriptions as secondary woodland with important specimens of beech *Fagus sylvaticus* and oak *Quercus*. As such, no change in status is recommended. Furthermore, the site warrants continued designation at Borough Grade II for the presence of a relatively large (in the context of London) and relatively undisturbed block of woodland. The site also abuts two other SINCS (Alexandra Palace Park and Alexandra Palace Allotments) and therefore forms an uninterrupted area of woodland and other semi-natural habitat.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes')

	Birds: • Provision of additional (or repair of existing), boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Provision of swift colony/boxes on buildings. *Bats:* • Provision and/or repair of bat roosting features on trees and or buildings. *Invertebrates.* • As well as the general benefits to woodland offered below, the following specific measures are recommended where resources are available, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* o *Standing deadwood piles/beetle towers:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland* • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (see above).
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and/or LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Potentially increased levels of damage.
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Tunnel Gardens

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 2
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 2**

1.2. Site description

Tunnel Hardens is a linear site, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29442 91343, containing a mosaic of neutral grassland, scrub, and immature ash woodland. The value of the site comes in the presence of this mosaic. Whilst there are threats from garden escapes (Russian-vine *Fallopia baldschuanica*), Michaelmas-daisy *Aster* and Canadian goldenrod *Solidago canadensis*, there is considerable value for a range of taxonomic groups, including habitat for pollinating invertebrates and nesting birds.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c5 – *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 140 – Anthills)**
Description Over fifty species of plant were recorded in the grassland, which is present in three main blocks at both ends of the site. Some of this diversity is due to the evident seeding of 'wildflower' areas, with species typical of meadow/verge mixes present (e.g., wild carrot *Daucus carota* and common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* being more common, with corn marigold *Glebionis segetum* and corncockle *Agrostemma githago* as more isolated occurrences). Common toadflax was occasional, but widespread as too was common bird's foot-trefoil. Yellow oat-grass *Trisetum flavescens* was found towards the eastern end of the site, but only in one location. The grassland was otherwise typified by rank tussock forming grasses such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and cock's foot *Dactylis glomerata.*
Condition The blocks of grassland within the eastern half are in Moderate condition. Whilst present, indicator species are present at low frequencies and invasive non-natives are present (see *Scrub*). In the western half, the grassland is in Good condition.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland** **w1g6 - Line of trees** **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description **w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland:** A relatively small area of Priority woodland (7% of site area) is found at the south-eastern entrance. Here, an ash dominated stand exists, later giving rise to grassland. The stand is relatively immature, with diameter at breast height rarely exceeding 25cm and young saplings and seedings were abundant. Holly *Ilex aquifolium* was present occasionally in the shrub layer, with a field layer dominated by ivy *Hedera helix.* **w1g6 - Line of trees.** A short line of hawthorn on the south-eastern boundary. This is not a hedgerow, but a regularly spaced set of mature trees. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types:** The majority of the woodland recorded (19% of the site total) is a non-Priority woodland type. Along the south-east boundary include a mixture of cherry and beech *Fagus sylvaticus*, whereas in the north-west end sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* and fruit trees account for more than 70% of the canopy.
Condition **w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland**: The ash dominated woodland is in Moderate condition, reflecting its relative immaturity and concomitant lack of veteran trees and deadwood. **w1g6 - Line of trees:** Moderate condition (absence of semi-natural vegetation on both sides). **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types:** In the north-western end, the woodland is Moderate. The non-native trees, invasive species (cherry laurel) and absence of veteran trees and deadwood give rise to this condition. Along the southern boundary, there are more mature trees present, giving rise to a Good condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3d - Bramble scrub** **h3h - Mixed scrub**
Description **h3d - Bramble scrub:** Bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* alone occupies 21% of the site area, and are predominantly found along the paths. These form dense, impenetrable stands with little else in the way of botanical diversity. They are very likely, nevertheless to provide a significant resource for pollinating invertebrates, for nesting birds and, when fruiting, an autumn forage resource. They are also likely to be very effective at limiting disturbance from dog walkers etc to other areas.

h3h - Mixed scrub: Mixed scrub, with a greater diversity of woody species, with ash and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* the most abundant woody species, with cherry *Prunus* occasional and goat willow *Salix caprea* rare. A tall herb/grassland ground layer is present as described above. In places, particularly at the site's east end, this was dominated by the non-native garden escapes Michaelmas daisy *Aster* and Canadian goldenrod *Solidago canadensis.* Whilst potentially invasive, it is likely these stands offer a locally important pollinator resource.
Condition **h3d - Bramble scrub:** Bramble scrub can only be in Poor condition, a reflection of the lack of botanical and structural diversity afforded by dense stands of this species. **h3h - Mixed scrub:** The areas of non-bramble scrub are generally in Good condition; they are of sufficient botanical and structural diversity and, with the presence of the adjoining neutral grassland, have a herb rich field layer. Where these areas are in Moderate condition is either due to the presence of non-native and/or undesirable species in the ground layer (e.g., nettles) or due to the absence of young shrubs.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground)**
Description **u1b6 - Other developed land:** Paved pathwayds **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground):** Unpaved pathways
Condition These default to a zero condition ('N/A – other').

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location:

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


North-west
South-east
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g3c5 - Arrhenatherum neutral grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII07
Tunnel Gardens
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


North-west
South-east
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII07 Tunnel Gardens Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Stand of leyland cypress
2	Sown area

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Cherry laurel	-
D	Buddleia	-
E	Russian vine	Sprawling from neighbouring garden

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site remains relatively unchanged from the previous review of 2014. Despite its small size, the relatively low disturbance and mosaic of habitats, coupled with a lack of lighting means that it provides a useful ecological resource. The ongoing presence of yellow oat-grass is also notable.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of roosting bats.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of protected (great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*) and notable amphibians (common toad *Bufo bufo)*, with records of the former from the adjacent Scout Park (HgBI10) and suitable terrestrial habitat present.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees. *Nesting birds:*

	• Provision of general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Control of garden escapes. Whilst likely to be of value for invertebrates as a single patch, spread of *Aster* and Canadian goldenrod is likely to be at the exclusion of other native species. *Scrub:* • Selective thinning and diversification of bramble scrub to increase structural diversity. Where possible, this thinning should occur away from the main path and seek to leave bramble stands here to act as protection/deterrent to dog walkers.
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. *Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Monitor of invasive, non-native species.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Potential increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Total dominance and spread of bramble scrub to the exclusion of valuable grassland habitat**.**

1. Highgate Golf Course

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 2
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 2**

1.2. Site description

The areas of fairway, tees and greens are botanically poor, as expected given its function. Some species are indicative of acid and wet grassland. Whilst the shrub layer has been cleared between many of the fairways, the club have created a number of areas of neutral grassland through seeding and reduced mowing. There are small areas of woodland of pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, silver birch *Betula pendula* and sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus.* Trees scattered throughout the golf course include hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*, rowan *Sorbus acuparia*, hybrid black poplar *Populus nigra x deltoides* = *P. x canadensis*, London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis* = *P. x hispanica* and oak. An area at the northern edge and beyond the golf course boundary was added into the SINC boundary prior to the 2014 review. Whilst access to this area was not available, views from boundaries suggest a brownfield area with potential to be classified as Open Mosaic Habitat in the future. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 27339 88265.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c5 – *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland** **g4 - Modified grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (66 - Frequently mown, 540 – Golf course)**
Description **g3c5 – *Arrhenatherum* neutral grassland:** A number of areas have been given over the creation of neutral grassland with reduced management intensity compared with neighbouring fairways and 'light rough'. This area is comparatively small, totalling 1.3 hectares (4% of the site total) but noteworthy enhancement. Species are typical of 'meadow seed mixes', including oxeye-daisy *Leucanthemum vulgare,* common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* and yarrow Achillea millefolium, with coarse grasses such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and cock's-foot abundant. Creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* was also frequent. **g4 - Modified grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb).** Areas of modified grassland that were outside of the main areas of tees, fairways, light rough and greens are classified here. These

were generally areas where a reduced mowing regime was evident, but species composition was similar to the course (e.g. dominant rye-grass *Lolium* with plantains *Plantago* and clovers *Trifolium*.

g4a - Amenity grassland (66 - Frequently mown, 540 – Golf course). Over 82% of the site is amenity grassland, these being the areas given over to tees, fairways, light rough and greens. This is invariably a tightly mown sward of grass for sports.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Predominantly in Moderate condition, with two sections in Good condition; within a dip below the 4th tee, and along the left hand side of hole 7. Moderate condition areas all failed one condition criterion; this was either the presence of greater than 5% of 'undesirables' such as common nettle (e.g., west part of course) or due to grasses dominating to the exclusion wildflowers/sedges (second area below 4th tee).

g4 - Modified grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb): Uniformly moderate. Whilst species poor, the reduced mowing intensity gives rise to a more varied sward height/structure.

g4a - Amenity grassland (66 - Frequently mown, 540 – Golf course). Poor condition, as constrained by management activities and function.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 - Lines of trees

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved

Description

w1g6 - Lines of trees: Arguably one of the sites greatest ecological assets. Approximately 4.2km of tree lines have been mapped, with many trees being mature. A number are also associated with banks and ditches. It is likely, as at Muswell Hill GC, that these tree lines provide a great deal of value to invertebrates and to foraging and commuting bats.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Blocks of woodland are small, totalling 2.4 hectares (7% of the site total). Pedunculate oak, ash and hornbeam were the most frequent native tree species, but the frequent sycamore gives rise to none of the woodlands being deemed a Priority woodland type. Field layer species include the relatively common enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana,* wood avens *Geum urbanum* and garlic mustard *Alliaria petiolate.* Pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* was rare and potentially a garden escape, rather than an indication of historically ancient woodland.

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: Where woodland had been planted with addition non-native conifers (e.g. Scot's pine *Pinus sylvestris* and yew *Taxus baccata*), a mixed woodland was present, this being restricted to the southern corner.

Nearly all woodland areas supported invasive, non-native species, with cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* being widespread. A substantial stand of small balsam *Impatiens parviflora* is present along the west boundary, likely to have spread from adjoining embassy gardens.

Condition

w1g6 - Lines of trees. In spite of their obvious value, very few tree lines are in good condition. Invariably, tree lines do not have a ground layer of semi-natural vegetation; being set within the course, they are flanked by fairways. This leads to the majority being in Moderate condition. Only those set away from fairways in the north or east boundary is Good condition seen. Poor condition tree lines are those where more recently planted lines give rise to a gappy appearance and/or contain non-native species.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland/w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: Woodland varies in condition from Good to Poor. That in Good condition is limited to an area in the south-west corner. Whilst invasive species are present, the area is structurally diverse, coverage of native species is relatively high and disturbance is low. Elsewhere, a poor or absent ground flora, low structural diversity and the lack of mature or veteran trees constrains condition assessment to Moderate or Poor (e.g., north-east corner). Invasive species are present in all areas.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native

Description

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: A planted hedgerow of predominantly hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* is present in the centre of the course, acting as visual shield for above ground covered reservoir infrastructure.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native: An ornamental hedgerow shields the practice green from the rest of the course, as well at the back of a tee box.

Condition

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: Poor condition. Structurally weak and with little or no ground flora (the grassland is managed as fairway on both sides.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native: Defaults to Poor condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3d - Bramble scrub (16 - Tall herb)

h3h - Mixed scrub (16 - Tall herb)

Description

All scrub is located along the northern boundary of the course and within the north extension, south of the Alymer Road (A1). Bramble is naturally dominant within those areas categorised as such. Elsewhere, elder *Sambucus nigra,* goat willow *Salix caprea* and silver birch form more mature areas of woody scrub alongside bramble. Buddliea is also occasional. Tall herbs include typical of former development sites (e.g., ribbed melilot *Melilotus officinalis,* rosebay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium* and ragworts *Jacobea*). The presence of other invasive species, aside from Buddliea, could not be ascertained. Within the golf course boundary further to the west, these herbs were absent, but instead the scrub edge was characterised by 'long rough'.

Condition

h3d - Bramble scrub (16 - Tall herb): Defaults to Poor condition on account of a lack of structural and botanical diversity.

h3h - Mixed scrub (16 - Tall herb): Moderate (outside course boundary) or Good (within). Moderate condition scrub only fails by the presence of non-native/invasive species.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (ponds) (39 - Freshwater man-made)

r1e - Ditches

Description

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (ponds) (39 - Freshwater man-made): Two ponds are present. A newly created pond associated with a mature oak tree line in the north has no emergent plants. The second along the eastern boundary, south of the access road is dominated by a mat of plicate sweet-grass *Glyceria notata* with redshank *Persicaria maculosa.*

r1e - Ditches: Ditches were usually dry, but where wet, were also dominated by mats of *Glyceria.* These features were usual 'water hazards' within the course, and therefore no marginal vegetation is usually allowed to develop.

Condition

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (ponds) (39 - Freshwater man-made): Both Poor. The former is a newly established feature and both ponds are artificially connected to other water features (ditches as above).

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

s - Sparsely vegetated land (16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral)

u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree))

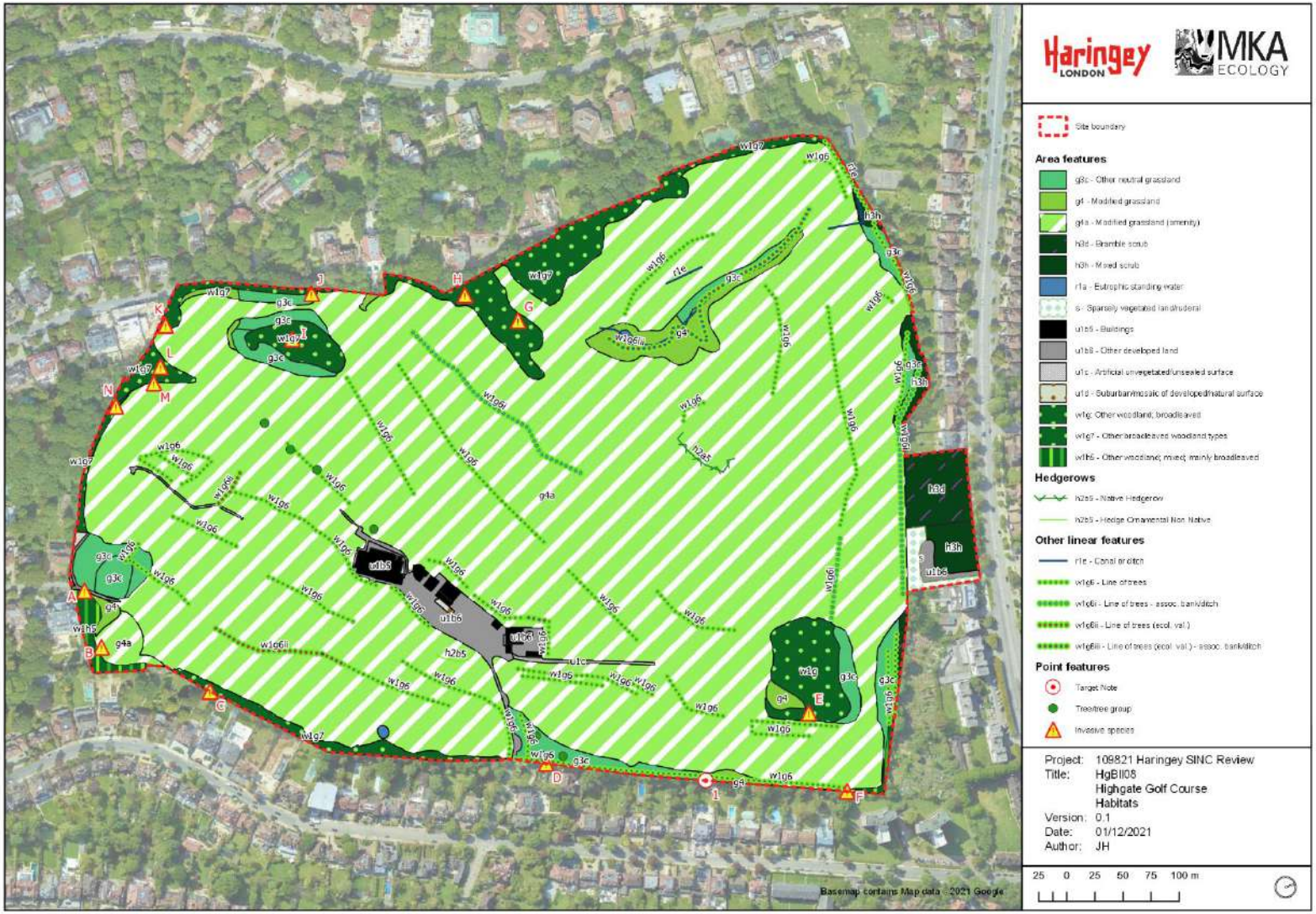
u1b5 – Buildings **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description **s - Sparsely vegetated land (16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral)**: This forms a mosaic with the above mentioned scrub to the north of the course boundary and refers to areas where bare sub-strate was visible and/or areas of past tarmac/concrete driveway had broken up and were supporting ephemeral or ruderal species. **u – Urban (1170 - Tree)**: Where isolated trees were not in an obvious tree line, these were marked as individual trees. **u1b5 - Buildings**: Golf club clubhouse and offices. **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Driveways, car park. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**: Untarmacked pathways (gravel/cinder). **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub)**: Ornamental shrubs around clubhouse.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero condition score ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs (Poor) and the sparsely vegetated land habitat. This latter area is in Moderate condition under the 'Urban' condition assessment. Whilst there is a moderate diverse range of plants and resources for pollinators, invasive non-native species are present.

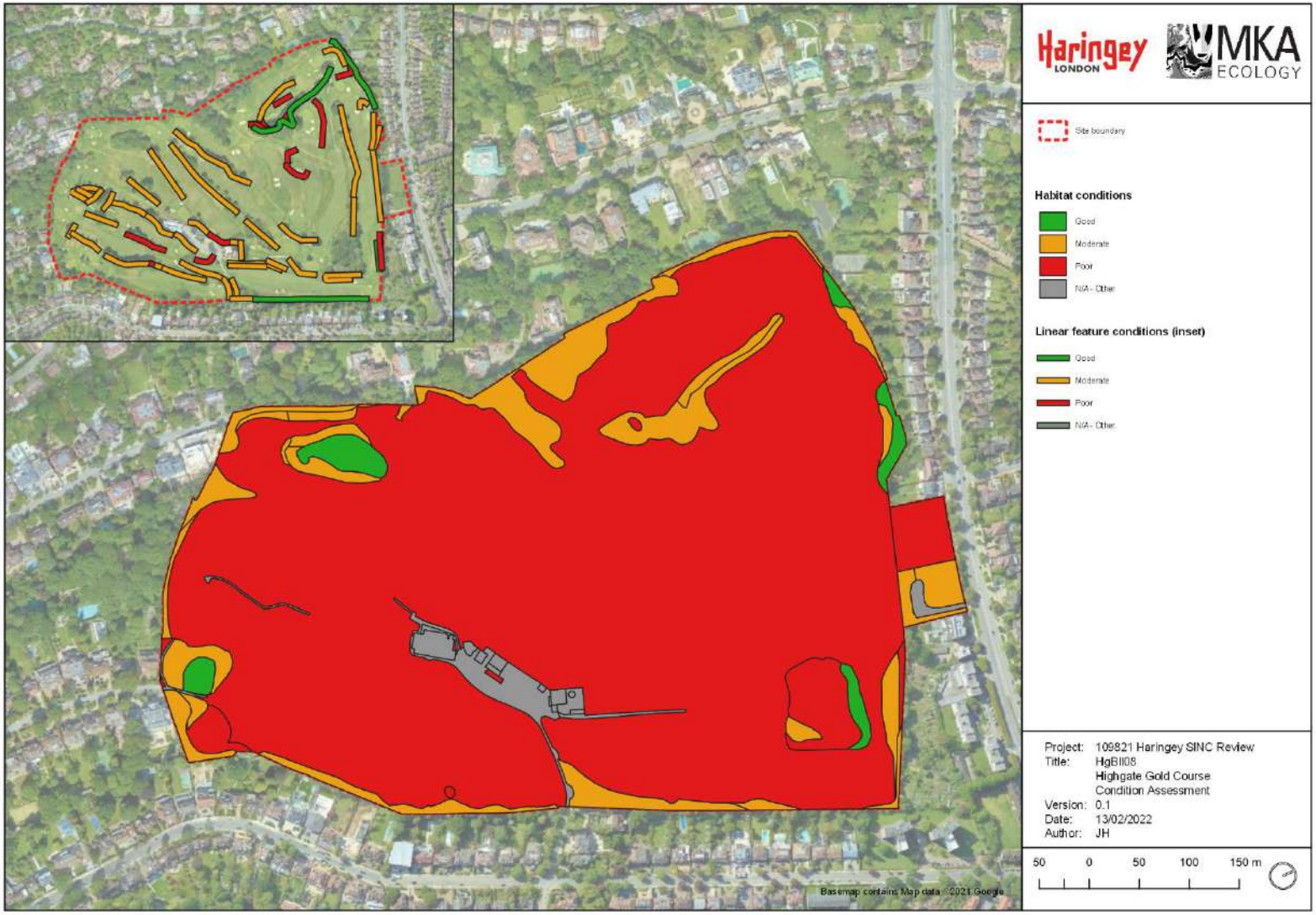
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
s - Sparsely vegetated land/ruderal
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved
Hedgerows
h2b5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features
r1e - Canal or ditch
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6ii - Line of trees - assoc. bank/ditch
w1g6ii - Line of trees (ecol. val.)
w1g6iii - Line of trees (ecol. val.) - assoc. bank/ditch
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII08
Highgate Golf Course
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII08 Highgate Gold Course Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/02/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Non-native ornamental grass spill-over from garden

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Cherry land	-
D	Cherry Laurel	-
E	Cherry laurel	-
F	Cherry laurel	-
G	Small balsam	Spreading within woodland
H	Cherry laurel	-
I	Cherry laurel	-
J	False acacia	-
K	Japanese rose	-
L	Cherry laurel	-
M	Snowberry	-
N	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Since the last review, the course has undergone changes in management, such that, whilst the understorey shrubs below tree lines have been cleared to speed up play, areas surrounding tee-boxes and at fairway edges have been subject to a less intensive management regime and apparently seeded with wildflowers. As with Muswell Hill Golf Course, the main value of the site lies in its size and within the mature trees that divide fairways. Opportunities exist to expand the areas of less intensively managed grassland. The changes made, whilst to be applauded and further encouraged, do not warrant an upgrade in status. No change in status is recommended.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and/or LISI species.

- Potential presence of protected and/or notable reptiles (particularly grass snake) and amphibians.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of additional pond(s) will add further diversity to the site. *Open mosaic habitats:* • Whilst not present at the site at present, there is potential for this to be present within the area north of the golf course boundary. This can be easily created by actively disturbing suitable areas such as landscape bunds. Removal of tall herb vegetation via a shallow soil scrape will create areas of south-facing bare earth and rubble that characterise this habitat type and which accompany existing areas of tall herb and scrub. Disturbance on a rotational basis will see a gradient of plant succession.
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Nesting birds:* • Provision of swift colony/boxes in buildings. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees. *Invertebrates* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches.
Management/restoration of existing features	

Habitats	*Grassland:* • Further expansion of areas of wildflower sowing and/or reduced management intensity (e.g., in between tees and fairways, course edges, under tree lines).
Species	*Invasive species* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Monitoring of small balsam within woodland to west.
- Butterfly surveys. Given the recent establishment of grassland/wildflower areas at the course, and with the possibility of creating more, this presents an opportunity to compare the efficacy of such a measure in providing habitat for pollinators, with an ultimate aim of contributing to a wider body of evidence for habitat enhancement, particularly on golf courses (e.g., Conservation Evidence (Sutherland *et al.,* 2019).

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Introduction and/or continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Cessation of management practices to newly created areas of neutral grassland and/or reversion to a higher intensity level management (as per, for example, fairways/light rough)**.**

2. REFERENCES

Sutherland, W.J., Dicks, L.V. Ockendon, N. & Smith, R.K. (2019) *What Works in Conservation*. Cambridge, UK: Open Book Publishers

1. Finsbury Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Borough Grade 2
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade 2: Take on section of Parkland Walk east of railway line and contiguous with existing Finsbury Park SINC boundary**

1.2. Site description

This large public park which gives the area its name, was one of the first London parks to be created during the Victorian era. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 31705 87497, and measuring approximately 45 hectares, it is only matched by Alexandra Palace Park, Highgate and Queen's Wood, and the Lea Valley in terms of size of open green space within Haringey. Whilst clearly a 'park', the habitats are not considered to qualify under the Priority 'Wood Pasture and Parkland' habitats, as is considered to be present elsewhere in the borough in Alexandra Palace Park. This is due the near absence of any low management intensity grassland and relative paucity of truly veteran trees, aside from those roadside tree avenues.

The current nature conservation of the site is relatively limited, given the amenity grassland present, although there are many mature trees in long avenues, predominantly represented by *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and lime *Tilia platyphyllos x cordata = T. x europaea*. A number of invasive non-native species as listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) and London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI), including Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, rhododendrons, Japanese rose *Rosa rugosa* and cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*. The Park also acts as buffer to a short stretch of The New River (M096) which runs through the north of the SINC. A review of this SINC is provided in a separate report. This site has also been awarded a Green Flag Award.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 123 - Neutral grassland with calcicoles)** **g4 - Modified grassland (1160 - Introduced shrub, 17 -Ruderal/ ephemeral, 73 - Bare ground)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 1160 - Introduced shrub, 73 - Bare ground)**
Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 123 - Neutral grassland with calcicoles): Two areas are considered as more neutral grassland, though at least one has been confirmed to originate from seeding with a meadow mix. This first area to the east of the athletics track is a roped area created by the site warden. It is still dominated by grasses, with false oat-grass *Arrenatherum elatius* abundant, as too are common- *Agrostis capillaris* and creeping bent *A. stolonifera* - perhaps an indication of the generally more acid soil conditions. Yarrow *Achillea millefolium* was locally frequent, with occasional common knapweed and autumn hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis.* A second area, also likely to have been derived from seeding, exists at the western entrance from Parkland Walk. Here, a greater diversity of species was observed, including common bird's foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus,* common toadflax *Linaria vulgaris p*erforate St. John's-wort *Hypericum perforatum*, lemon balm *Melissa officinalis.* These areas offer considerably more ecological value than the larger swathes of modified grassland that surround them.

g4 - Modified grassland (1160 - Introduced shrub, 17 -Ruderal/ ephemeral, 73 - Bare ground): Where mowing intensity is reduced, for example under some groups of trees, a more varied sward with additional species (e.g., common bent) and autumn hawkbit become more frequent.

g4a - Amenity grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 1160 - Introduced shrub, 73 - Bare ground): 68% of the park's total area is a close sward of amenity grassland. This is used for general recreation, as well as sports (e.g., athletics track in-field, bowling green). Rye-grass *Lolium* is dominant. At the fringes, particularly at the junctions of other habitat areas, taller herbs are found as above. To the north of the athletics track is an area of persistent dampness. It is thought most likely that this is due to structural damage to the boating lake. Should this damage prove not to the be the case, or is not resolvable, an opportunity arises to create a more permanent and dedicated wetland feature.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Moderate. Whilst present, herbaceous species are still infrequent within the sward. Sward height is varied however and an increase in wildflowers and sedges would lead to these areas being considered as in Good condition.

g4 - Modified/g4a - Amenity grassland: The majority of these areas are in Moderate condition. Whilst frequently mown, levels of use and access are not damagingly so. Where festivals/concerts, particularly under tree lines in the north of the park, lead to high physical damage and a great deal of bare ground, these areas are in Poor condition.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (365 – Artificial lake)

f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation (1160 - Introduced shrub)

Description

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (365 – Artificial lake) and

f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation (1160 - Introduced shrub): A boating lake dominates the highest point of the park. A narrow fringe of marginal vegetation is present on nearly all sides, comprising almost entirely of purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria* and great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum.* Where a barrier to access exists to an eastern inlet, this too has been colonised by these species. The lake is a well-known local site for a number of wildfowl, with records suggesting breeding pochard *Aythya farina* and mute swan *Cygnus olor* alongside coot *Fulica atra* and moorhen *Gallinula chloropus.* The lake also supports non-native Canada goose *Branta canadensis* and Egyptian goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca.* Whilst popular with local people and some birdwatchers, these species are likely to take nesting sites from native species and contribute to significant ground disturbance on the lake's island.

Condition

The lake and its associated marginal vegetation are in Poor condition. Whilst substantial efforts have been put in place to improve water quality, the artificial nature of the waterbody, the significant disturbance that is necessarily present hinder achieving a condition other than Poor.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 - Line of trees

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types (1160 - Introduced shrub, 48 - Non-native)

w2c - Other coniferous woodland

Description

w1g6 - Line of trees. The lines of mature trees are arguably the park's greatest ecological asset. Many of the lines of London plane date back to the Park's creation, making them over 150 years old. However, given their location alongside highways and paths, most deadwood and associated features of decay and aging are not present long enough (for public health and safety reasons) to be of ecological value. The trees are nevertheless likely to support a range of breeding and wintering birds, with several records of 100 plus counts of redwing *Turdus iliacus* and fieldfare *T. pilaris.* The combination of tall trees and open grassland is also likely to favour mistle thrush *T.viscivorus* (a bird listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern Red List, Stanbury, 2021) and green woodpecker *Picris viridus,* though the relatively lack of suitability of the grassland to invertebrates, particularly ants, constrains this.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types/w2c - Other coniferous woodland: Small strips of woodland are present on both the west and east side of the park. The west comprises a belt on the eastern embankment of the railway line. As typical of these secondary woodlands, sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* is dominant. Elsewhere, particularly on the eastern side, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* is the most prevalent native tree species. Willows *Salix,* aspen *Populus tremula,* are present on the lake island along with mature oak Quercus and silver birch *Betula pendula* is present at low frequencies.

The shrub layer supports non-native cherry laurel and snowberry, as well holly *Ilex aquifolium* and rarely yew *Taxus baccata.* Some woodland enhancements are being established within an area used by a local environmental group, where log piles and dead wood retention is seen.
Condition **w1g6 - Line of trees**: Either Moderate or Poor. Good condition is very difficult to achieve in this context as there is little scope for the presence of semi-natural vegetation at the base of a line of trees. Moderate tree lines are those lines of veteran London plane which tend to form continuous canopies. Elsewhere, lines of non-native species which are relatively newly planted and therefore 'gappy' are in Poor condition. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types/w2c - Other coniferous woodland:** All woodland is either in Poor or Moderate condition. The Moderate condition woodland to the east of the railway is inaccessible, therefore is relatively undisturbed. All woodland areas suffer from a low coverage of native species, relative lack of deadwood and diversity of age structure.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h - Mixed scrub.**
Description An area of recently planted shrubs has been planted along side a path (south-east of the lake and play area). Comprised of native species such as hazel *Corylus avellana* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna,* the area is considered as scrub in acknowledgement of its potential target habitat, albeit present conditions are suggestive of a more ornamental appearance.
Condition The relative recency of the planting and associated lack of structural diversity, and the absence of a tall herb layer. Give rise to this being in Poor condition at the time of the survey.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow** **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native**
Description **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow**: A 120m length of planted native hedgerow is present on the eastern boundary and access path. **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native.** A short length along the Endymion Road boundary.
Condition

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow. Moderate. Fails condition criteria for height, a lack of canopy continuity (horizontal gapiness) and a lack of an undisturbed layer ground layer. **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native.** Poor condition.

Urban

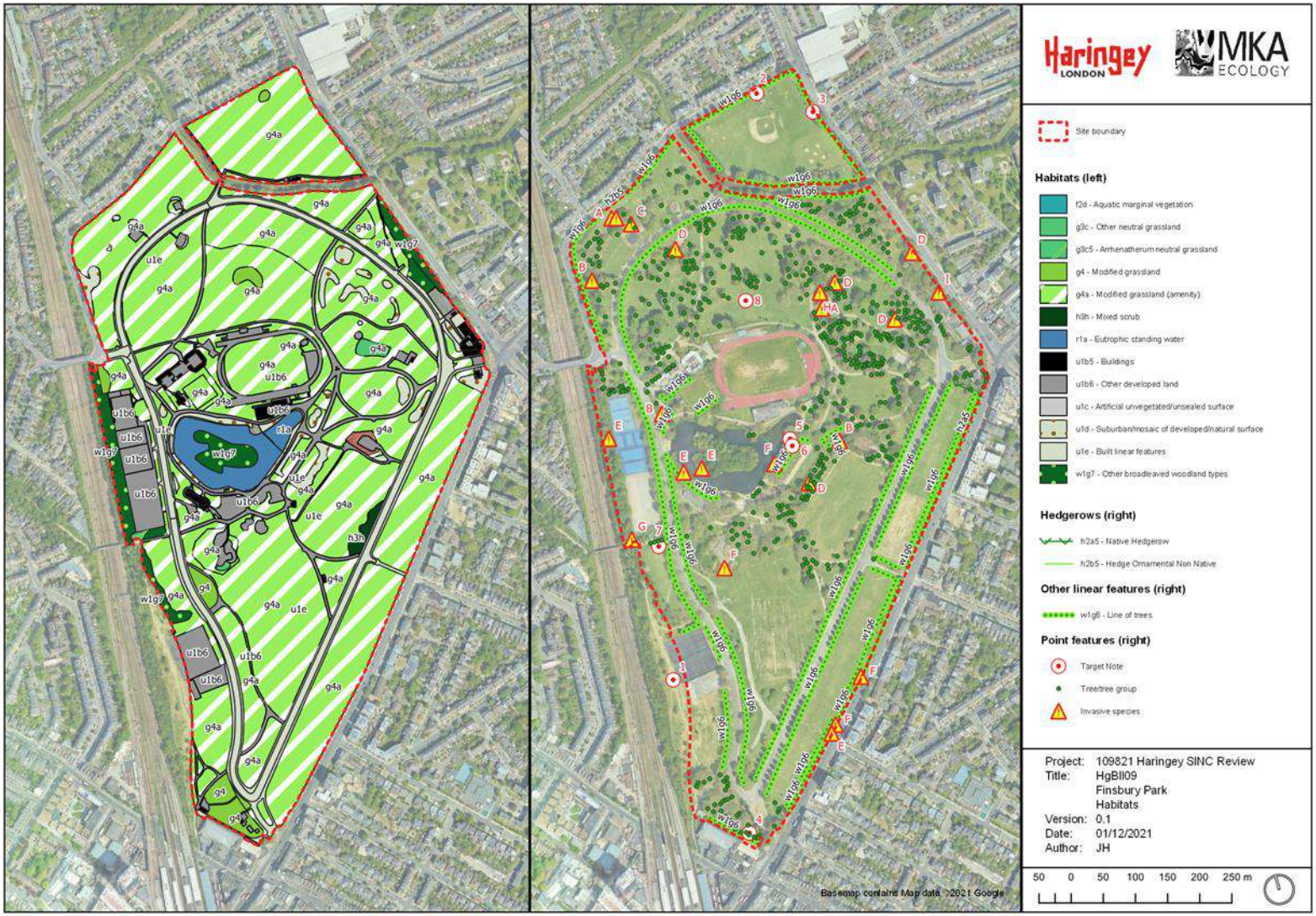
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u - (1170 – Urban street tree)** **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground)** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden)** **u1e - Built linear features**
Description **u - (1170 – Urban street tree)**: In addition to avenues of trees, a significant number of individual trees are present, with a similar species composition (see Haringey Tree Survey, 2019). **u1b5 - Buildings**: Cafe, sports pavilions and other ancillary structures. **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Hardstanding. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground)**: Non tarmacked paths and other areas of bare ground (e.g., around the boating lake). **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden)**: Areas of introduced shrubs alongside pathways and under tree lines. The larger areas of these in the north of the park support the majority of the stands of Japanese knotweed, cherry laurel and rhododendron. **u1e - Built linear features**: Roads and paths.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero condition score ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs and vegetated gardens (Poor).

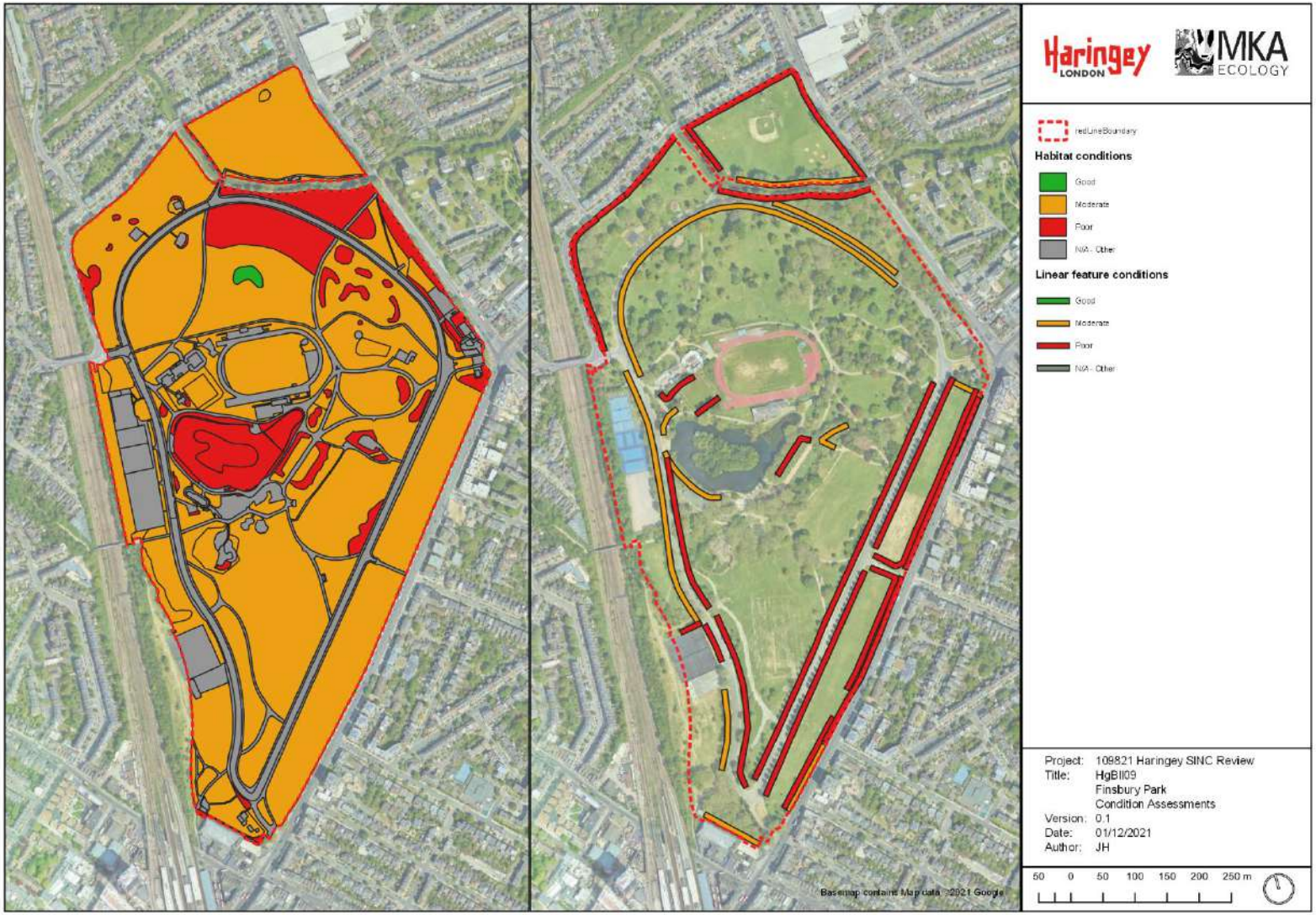
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats (left)
f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g3c5 - Arrhenatherum neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Hedgerows (right)
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features (right)
w1g8 - Line of trees
Point features (right)
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII09
Finsbury Park
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
NA - Other
Linear feature conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
NA - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII09
Finsbury Park
Condition Assessments
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/12/2021
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 150 200 250 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Consider moving this section from Parkland Walk to Finsbury Park
2	Disturbed area from access
3	Newly planted trees next to fallen deadwood
4	Play equipment
5	Log pile
6	Ranger created stag beetle stumpery
7	Building works
8	Seepage from below athletics track

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Japanese knotweed	-
B	Rhododendron	-
C	Rhododendron/Japanese knotweed	-
D	Cherry Laurel	-
E	Buddliea	-
F	Japanese rose	-
G	Goat's-rue	-
H	Robinia	-
I	Tree of heaven	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst the habitats present at Finsbury Park (mature tree lines, introduced shrubs, amenity grassland and ornamental lakes) are neither unique nor, when viewed in isolation, particularly valuable habitats for wildlife, their size and extent is unique to Haringey and valuable in their ability to provide connectivity within the borough. The size of the site means that any steps to restore or enhance habitats, for example reduction in grassland mowing intensity in certain areas, could lead to significant contributions to biodiversity. No change in status is recommended. However it is recommended that, from a purely practical point of view, the section of Parkland Walk (M116) that lies east of the railway line and which is contiguous with Finsbury Park (and apparently arbitrarily divided) be moved to Finsbury Park.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Finsbury Park will be subject to a new Habitat Management Plan and detailed opportunities for restoration and enhancement will be included therein. Below represents a summary. Whilst landscape character and the history of parks are often cited as reasons not to increase the area of more natural habitats (e.g., rank/meadow grasslands), given the size of the SINC and the need for reversals in biodiversity declines, it is highly recommended that biodiversity considerations be given greater weight when considering changes in management.

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of a simple pond(s) will add further diversity to the site. *Wetland:* • If feasible, the creation of a dedicated wetland feature on the north side of the athletics track, taking advantage of existing wetness. This can include the creation of pools, leaky dams and planting of species typical of wet grasslands.
Species	*Invertebrates* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. A number of these have already been created. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Nesting birds:* • Provision of swift colony/boxes in buildings. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. *Bats:*

	• Bat roosting features on trees and buildings
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • **Restoration of as much of the available grassland as possible to a low intensity management regime, with or without additional seeding, as already seen in small areas.** *Shrub/scrub:* • Whilst it is recognised that ornamental planting is part of the landscape character of the park, this should not on its own pose a barrier to the restoration of areas of introduced shrubs to native species and with a more scrub like character. This should be a particular priority where invasive, non-native species (e.g., Japanese knotweed) exists. To avoid wholesale removal of non-native species, with a gap between establishment of native planting, it is recommended that native species be planted and non-natives be removed gradually to allow overlap. This will limit the visual impact of any works, whilst limiting the impact to animals that may take refuge or breed in these areas (e.g., scrub loving passerines). *Woodland/parkland trees:* • Whilst health and safety concerns are recognised, standing deadwood should be left *in situ*. Trees that are deemed necessary to be felled need not be felled to the base. Instead, trees can be 'monolithed', i.e. branches removed (thus drastically removing wind loading and therefore risk of falling/breaking) but trunks and stems retained. • Expanding areas of low intensity grassland to those below and extending from tree lines or parkland trees. • Allowing scrub to develop at the base of some to aid protection. • Filling canopy gaps with new trees to provide near continuous corridors across the site. *Lake:* • Consider restrictions to access for boaters, with the aim to limit damage. • Increase 'naturalness': i.e. create additional areas to facilitate the planting of marginal/emergent plants. At present, the hard structures of the lake edge limit this.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species (see above).

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Invertebrate monitoring. Given that the majority of enhancements recommended above are targeted at promoting invertebrate abundance and diversity, a range of surveys and monitoring programmes is also recommended to cover the following, should they be introduced:
    - Stag beetle (and other saproxylics). To assess benefits of 'beetle towers' and other deadwood features.
    - Butterflies (as a proxy for pollinators). To assess benefits of any changed management regimes to large areas of grassland.
- Invasive species. Monitor any invasive species: following eradication activities and identification of spread from current areas.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure, particularly in woodland areas.
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

Haringey Tree Survey, (2019) *A survey of trees within Haringey. A survey commissioned by Haringey Council, 2019.*

Stanbury, A., Eaton, M., Aebischer, N., Balmer, D., Brown, A., Douse, A., Lindley, P., McCulloch, N., Noble, D., & Win I. (2021). *The status of our bird populations: the fifth Birds of Conservation Concern in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands and Isle of Man and second IUCN Red List assessment of extinction risk for Great Britain.* British Birds **114**: 723-747.

1. Tottenham Hale to Northumberland Park Railsides

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade II**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade II**

1.2. Site description

The site forms an extensive length of vegetated railside, located between National Grid Reference TQ 35040 91651 to TQ 34514 89475. There are limited areas of open grassland present, with the majority of the site now comprising dense scrub habitat. However, the undisturbed nature of the site is unusual in the borough and adds to its ecological value.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h Mixed scrub (432 – Railway corridor)**
Description Along the railside areas are expanses of mixed scrub habitat that have developed on undistributed grassland. The scrub comprises a limited variety of species, including ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., butterfly-bush *Buddleja davidii*, cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris*, elder *Sambucus nigra*, silver birch *Betula pendula* and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, along with less frequent grasses such as Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*.
Condition The scrub is in Moderate condition as it passes all of the condition criteria except that it supports undesirable species in the form of butterfly-bush.

Urban

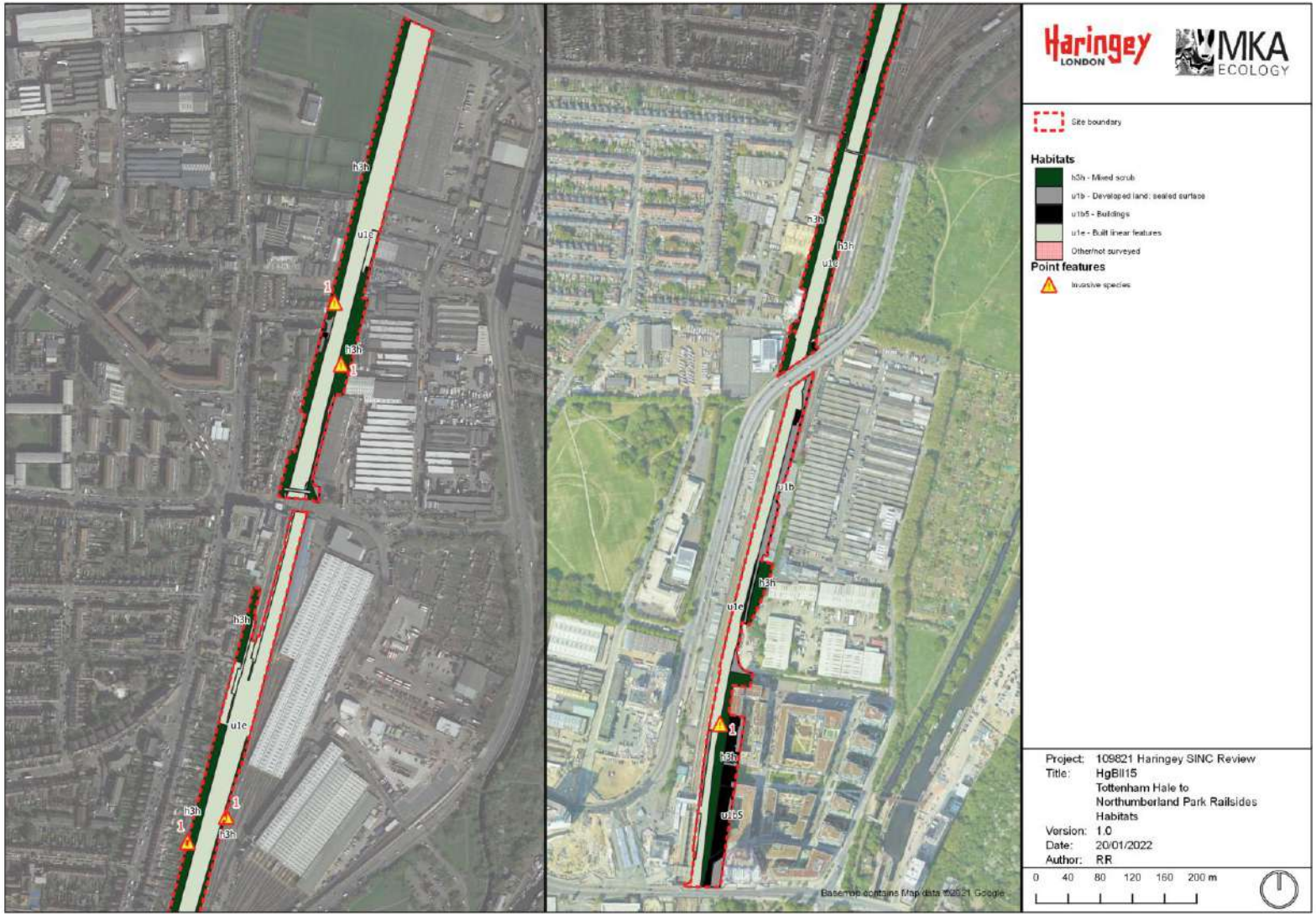
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land (1232 – Non-permeable paving)** **u1e - Built linear features (107 – Railway)**
Description

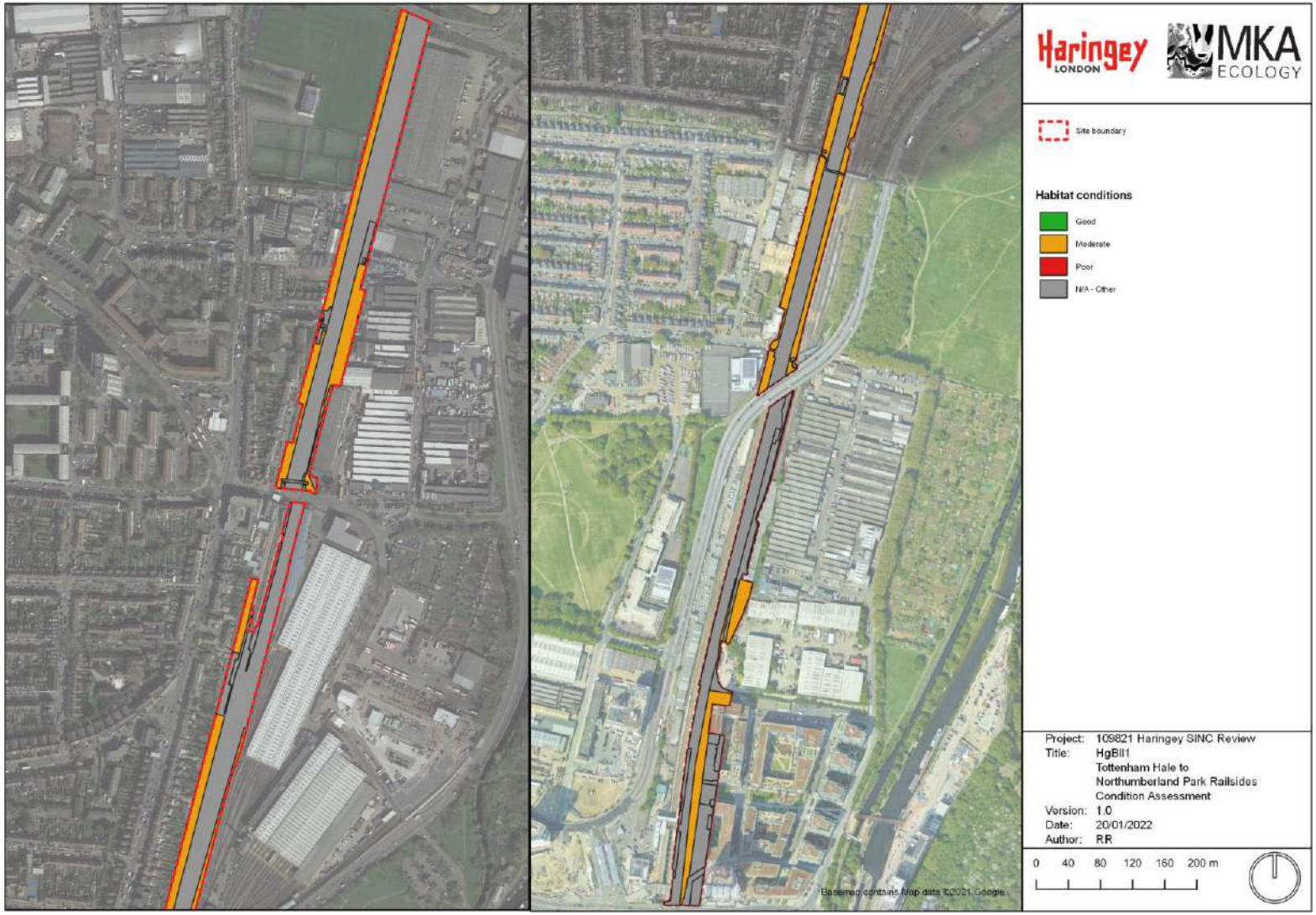
u1b5 – Buildings: Station platforms and substation structures, along with adjacent residential and commercial buildings. **u1b6 - Other developed land (1232 – Non-permeable paving)**: Hardstanding road and pavements. **u1e – Built linear features (107 – Railway)**: Railway track and associated infrastructure.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other').

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats are present at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1e - Built linear features
Other/not surveyed
Point features
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII15 Tottenham Hale to Northumberland Park Railsides Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 40 80 120 160 200 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey
LONDON
MKA
ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII1
Tottenham Hale to
Northumberland Park Railsides
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 40 80 120 160 200 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
1	Butterfly-bush	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst the site is dominated by built infrastructure and well-developed scrub habitats, the undisturbed nature of the site is unusual in the borough and adds to the ecological value of the site. Most importantly, the site forms part of an extensive continuous green corridor within the borough, connecting with Tottenham Railsides, Finsbury Park, Markfield Park, Tottenham Marshes and the Lea Valley. The site is a crucial part of the existing green infrastructure in the borough and is likely to afford commuting opportunities to a range of fauna. As such it warrants retention as a Borough Grade II Site of Importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Potential presence of amphibians.

Opportunities

Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Scrub:* • Reduction of dense bramble stands (to ~30% of current cover) and butterfly-bush coverage to increase opportunities for grassland ground flora and to increase structural diversity for invertebrates by providing a mosaic of sunny and shady aspects within a small scale. Arisings from ongoing railway tree works should be retained on site and used to form deadwood habitats, as set out in further detail below.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on semi-mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:*

	• Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Reptiles and amphibians:* • Creation of brash and log piles from vegetation clearance works, especially around scrub areas further removed from the railway line. • Will benefit from the above deadwood feature creation. *Invasive species:* • Control of LISI invasive non-native species

1.1. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.2. Future risks to condition

- Continued development and eventual domination of bramble scrub, reducing the structural and botanical diversity of the scrub habitat and leading to the decline in the condition of this habitat;
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; and
- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Holickwood Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Borough Grade II**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Borough Grade II**

1.2. Site description

This attractive park, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28770 91510, very effectively combines formal and informal areas. It was landscaped by Barnet Council using money provided as compensation for land lost when the nearby North Circular Road was widened. The park supports areas of amenity grassland and areas of formal landscaping, which are subject to regular management. The areas of young woodland and tree cover are outstanding features of the park and function to blend the site into the continuous block of green space in this area, providing a link between Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works, Tunnel Gardens, Rhodes Avenue Spinney, Albert Road Recreation Ground, Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill Golf Course. Dense shrubberies provide nest sites for birds, including a good population of the declining house sparrow *Passer domesticus*. A pond with a bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.* dominated island supports nesting moorhens *Gallinula chloropus* and Canada geese *Branta canadensis*.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park)**
Description The amenity grassland within the site is well managed to a short 5cm sward height throughout. The grass species were dominated by perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and meadow grass *Poa* sp., with rare incidences of cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*. The herbaceous species comprised common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp.*
Condition Moderate. Although grasses are dominant, species richness was still good and wildflowers were easily visible. The grassland does not achieve good condition as it is subject to an unsympathetic management regime and, whilst 'undesirables' accounted for less than 5% of the total area, the grassland supports invasive non-native species.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 – Line of trees

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (38 - secondary woodland)

w1h5 – Other woodland, mixed; mainly broadleaved (38 - secondary woodland)

Description

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Around the perimeter of the site are areas of mixed deciduous woodland, distinct from the woodland copse within the centre of the site. The canopy of this woodland supports young to semi-mature blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, field maple *Acer campestre,* ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and rowan *Sorbus acuparia*, along with apple *Malus* sp., cherry *Prunus* sp., hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*, horse chestnut *Pachycnemia hippocastanaria,* lime *Tilia x europaea*, oak, *Quercus robur* and silver birch *Betula pendula*. This woodland habitat contained a distinct understory comprising elder *Sambucus nigra,* hazel *Corylus avellana* coppice and holly *Ilex aquifolium*. The ground flora in this habitat comprised areas of bare ground with species such as common nettle *Urtica diocia*, hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium,* ivy *Hedera helix*, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and nipplewort *lapsana communis.*

w1g6 – Line of trees: A number of lines of trees are present within the site, comprising largely semi-mature to young London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, cherry, common lime, willow *Salix* sp. and hornbeam.

w1h5 – Other woodland, mixed; mainly broadleaved: Within the centre of the site is a copse woodland dominated by young to semi-mature blackthorn and more occasional field maple, holly, hazel, ash, rowan and conifer trees. This area of woodland lacks a distinct shrub layer, with only occasional self-seeded saplings present. The ground flora is dominated by bare ground, along with ivy and wood avens.

Condition

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: This woodland habitat is considered to be in Moderate condition, largely due to the medium scores for age structure (comprising only two age classes), deadwood presence and vertical structure, in addition to the lack of veteran trees.

w1g6 – Line of trees: Three of the seven tree lines within the site are considered to be in Moderate condition, due to the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation and mature trees. The remaining four tree lines are considered to be in Poor condition due to the above criteria failures, in addition to the domination of non-native species or continuous canopy coverage.

w1h5 – Other woodland, mixed; mainly broadleaved: This woodland habitat is considered to be in Moderate condition, largely due to the medium scores for age structure (comprising only two age classes), deadwood presence and vertical structure, in addition to the lack of veteran trees.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (366, Artificial pond, 39 Freshwater – man-made)**
Description A large pond is present within the north of the site, which supports marginal vegetation, including species such as Cyperus sedge *Carex pseudocyperus* and yellow loosestrife *Lysimachia vulgaris.* No emergent or aquatic vegetation could be observed within the pond due to the domination of the water surface by duckweed *Lemna* sp. The pond is also subject to frequent littering.
Condition Moderate. The pond fails on account of the complete covering of duckweed and the turbid nature of the water that it supports, likely resulting from the presence of litter.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3d Bramble scrub (330 scrub)**
Description A small bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. scrub dominated island is present within the large man-made pond in the north of the site. This habitat is entirely dominated by bramble, along with a single willow *Salix* sp. tree.
Condition The bramble scrub defaults to Poor condition due to its lack of structural and botanical diversity.

Urban

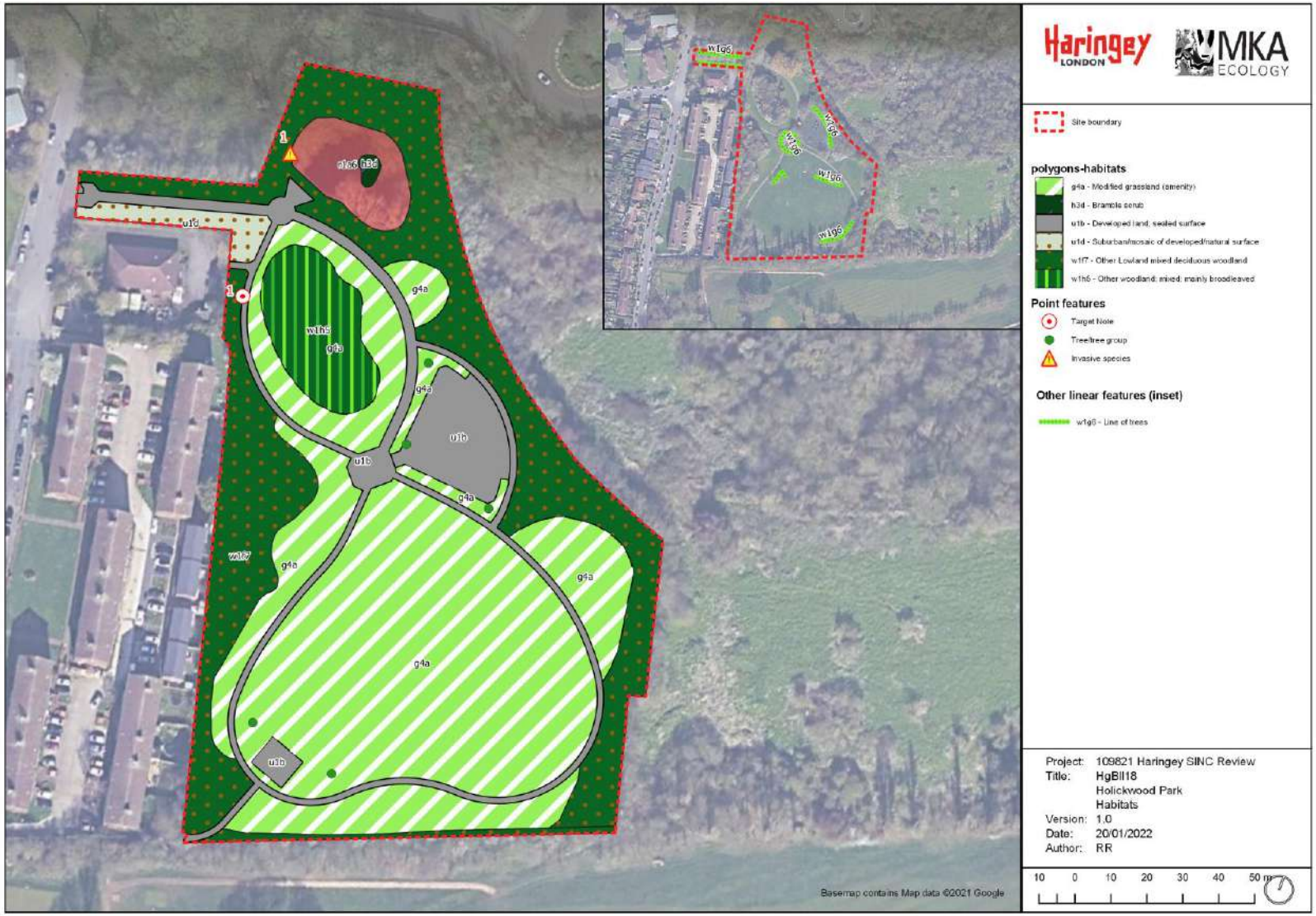
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space. 620 – Outdoor gym, 1232 – non-permeable paving)** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 – Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Tarmacked play areas, an outdoor gym and hardstanding paths. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface**: Areas of introduced shrub planting present at the entrance and the boundaries of the site.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score (‘N/A – other’), with the exception of introduced shrub which defaults to Poor.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
polygons-habitats
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII18 Holickwood Park Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgBII18
Holickwood Park
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Deadwood pile

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Butterfly-bush	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The park supports priority habitats in the form of the woodland present, although unlikely to be the best example of these within the borough. Given its urban setting, all of the habitats the site supports are considered to be of value. The park also functions as an area important for access to nature for the local community and as a part of the continuous block of green space in this area. The site clearly supports features important for both wildlife and people and so it is recommended the site is retained as a Borough Grade II Site of Importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Wetland*: • Develop new areas for seasonal inundation, it is recommended that these areas should be planted with a range of native species that can tolerate wet soils. It is also recommended that these areas are planted with marginal species via plug planting. *Hedgerows*: • Creation of hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways, comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. *Shrub planting*:

	• It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding*

	○ *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Include areas of reduced management. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding. *Pond:* • Increase the frequency of pond management to increase the diversity of emergent and aquatic species. Create 'softened' bankside areas to allow the planting of emergent species (e.g., through the use of planting shelves or rafts). Ensure litter is removed from the waterbody. • Undertake clearance works to open up ground space and to provide increased faunal opportunities within the scrub dominated island.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole'. *Invasive species:* • Control of LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria.*

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Rhodes Avenue Spinney

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Local
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

The site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29225 90699) is comprised of woodland, and some land associated with a primary school, including its buildings and play space. The description with relation to the woodland within the SINC citation remains accurate. As such, it is repeated below.

This small woodland has a canopy dominated by sycamore (Acer pseudoplatanus) and ash (Fraxinus excelsior), with lime (Tilia sp.), horse chestnut (Aesculus hippocastanum) and several other introduced species. A large swamp cypress (Taxodium distichum) in the middle of the wood indicates the edge of a former ornamental lake, which occupied much of the site in Victorian times. The shrub layer is dominated by hawthorn (Crataegus monogyna), elder (Sambucus nigra) and hazel (Corylus avellana). Hybrid bluebells (Hyacinthoides non-scripta x hispanica) occur in the ground flora, which is dominated by bramble (Rubus fruticosus agg.). The site is used for environmental education by Rhodes Avenue Primary School.

GiGL (2007)

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4 - Modified grassland (66 – frequently mown)**
Description An area of mown grass within the school playground. This was not surveyed due to limitation with access to school grounds, however it did not appear from the boundary views to be anything other than a typical lawn of rye-grass *Lolium*.
Condition Poor: Low species diversity, frequent mowing and damage.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g6 - Line of trees** **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description **w1g6 - Line of trees**: A line of mature/immature ash and cherry *Prunus*, with some sycamore. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**: See site description above.
Condition **w1g6 - Line of trees**: Poor condition. Fails criteria relating to canopy gaps, lack of veteran trees and the absence of natural vegetation. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types**: Moderate. The woodland scores well on structure, with some mature trees, shrubs and seedlings present, all contributing to a varied canopy structure. Deadwood, veteran trees and a ground flora are largely absent, the latter a result of disturbance from school activities. Where present, ivy *Hedera helix* is the dominant field layer species.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow**
Description A native hedgerow is found on the north-east boundary with Albert Road recreation ground. This is comprised of typical planted hedgerow species, including hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and dogwood *Cornus sanguinea.*
Condition Moderate condition. The hedgerow is narrow (less than 1m in width) and does not have an undisturbed ground layer that is absent from undesirable species.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface – (1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings**: School buildings **u1b6 - Other developed land:** Adjacent hardstanding

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Un tarmacked paths. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface – (1160 - Introduced shrub).** Ornamental planting in play area.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero condition score ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs (Poor).

Priority habitats

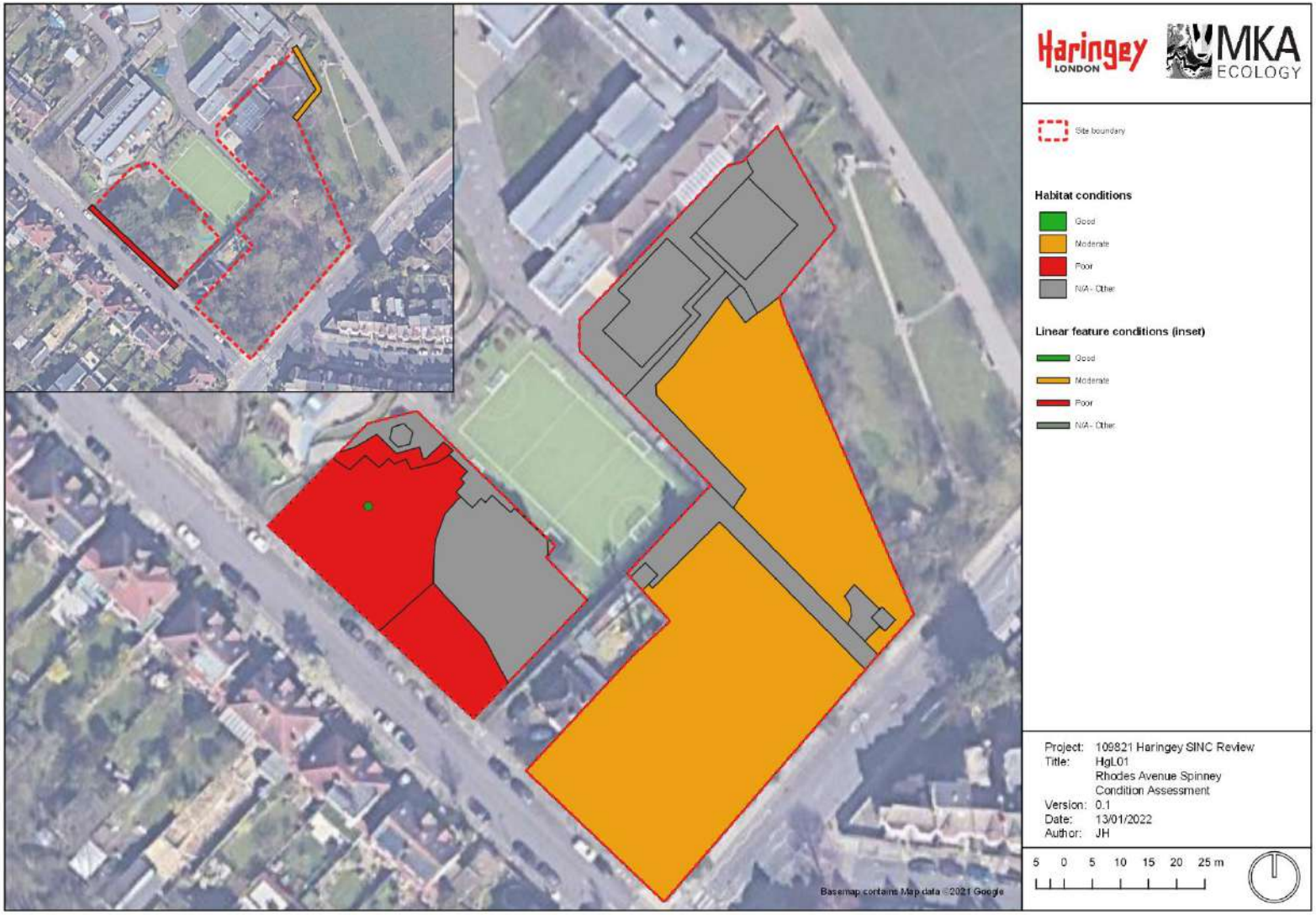
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Hedgerows
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Tree/tree group
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL01
Rhodes Avenue Spinney
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL01
Rhodes Avenue Spinney
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

None recorded

1.5. Invasive non-native species

None recorded

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The use of the site for environmental education by the adjacent Rhodes Avenue Primary School is limiting the condition of the woodland by way of disturbance. Nevertheless, this site is performing a valuable semi-natural resource to a local community and warrants retention as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a wildlife pond for the school.

Species	*Invertebrates*
	• Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or
	• Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs).
	• Deadwood features, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates.
	  ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
	  ▪ *Ring-barking*

	▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* ○ *Standing deadwood piles/beetle towers:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Nesting birds:* • Provision of swift colony/boxes in buildings. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and buildings
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland* • Deadwood habitats. ○ Retaining that which is generated from necessary felling works. ○ Retention of trunks/stems in situ (monolithing). Removal only of branches to reduce risk of trees falling, rather than the entire tree. • Wooodland management plan: A plan developed by and for the school to ensure its appropriate use and how to create and managed features and habitats.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Development of a woodland management plan, with particular focus on how the site is used by the school.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.

- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and/or continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

GiGL (2007). *HgL01 – Rhodes Avenue Spinney. SINC Citation.* Last edited 21/03/2007

1. Albert Road Recreation Ground

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Local
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

Albert Road Recreation Ground, also known as the Oliver Tambo Recreation Ground, is largely frequently mown amenity grassland, with an area in the north of the site of rough grassland and planted birch (*Betula pendula*) woodland. It also contains a number of mature pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* trees, with a series of mature oak and hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* along the northern part of the SINC boundary. In addition, a 2018 project funded by Froglife sees the addition of an area of grassland and pond in the north-east, giving added conservation importance. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29404 90930.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland** **g4 - Modified grassland** **g4a - Amenity grassland**
Description **g3c - Other neutral grassland**: Two areas: North-west corner. An area of unmanaged grassland with a higher species diversity than seen in areas surrounding play areas or simply unmown amenity space. Perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* was abundant, with frequent wall barley *Hordeum murinum* also locally abundant near paths. Common bent was also frequent, indicating some tendency towards acidic conditions. Cock's foot *Dactylis glomerata* gives the sward a tussocky appearance in some localised patches. Common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* was found in localised patches with autumn hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis* more widespread. Both of the more frequently occurring *Phleum* grasses, timothy *P. pratense* and smaller cat's tail *P.bertolinii* were occasional. The relatively infrequently reported narrow-leaved meadow grass *Poa angustifolia* was also recorded. Herbs include common knapweed, common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus,* with rare field scabious *Knautia arvensis* and greater knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa* and meadow crane's-bill *Geranium pratense* all hinting towards the relatively recent seeding of this area. .

g4 - Modified grassland: Areas that are likely to have been historically closely mown amenity grassland but which have had their mowing intensity reduced. The largest area is at the base of the slope on which the woodland is situated.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Rye-grass *Lolium* dominated sports pitches with white clover *Trifolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major* also frequent. This area also includes the bowling green.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Moderate. The area on the north boundary is a valuable area of grassland. Whilst herbaceous species are present, they are not obvious within the sward – this being the only criterion to be failed. Around the pond, only the presence of *Buddliea* leads to a failure of the presence of invasive species; this would otherwise be in Good condition.

g4 - Modified grassland: Moderate. Species richness similar to amenity grassland but, with a relaxed mowing regime, passes the criterion relating to sward height.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Poor. Low species richness, damage from frequent use and mowing and present of 'undesirable species' contribute to a Poor assessment.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 - Line of trees.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

w1g6 - Line of trees: Tree lines cross the site along most foot paths. Those in the centre are of recently planted birch *Betula* and lime *Tilia platyphyllos x cordata* = *T. x europaea*. To the north-east is the line (represented on the map as three tree groups) of mature hornbeam, pedunculate oak and hawthorn. Other mature oaks are found along the north-west boundary.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and silver birch *Betula pendens* are the two most frequent tree species within this area of planted woodland. Pedunculate oak is occasional, as are elder *Sambucus nigra* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* within the shrub layer. Typical ground flora representatives include herb robert *Geranium robertanium* and wood avens *G. urbanum*, though in general the ground was heavily worn, largely from children's play. A patch of ground-elder *Aegopodium podagraria* was also noted.

Condition

w1g6 - Line of trees: The mature oaks along the north boundary are in Good condition. Elsewhere, tree lines are mostly in Poor condition; these are characterised by the presence of young trees which therefore have several canopy gaps and, being placed next to paths and sports pitches, have no semi-natural vegetation at their base.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Moderate. Being a young woodland, Good condition cannot be achieved due to the absence of a sufficient diversity of size classes, absence of deadwood and veteran trees and/or features. Native species do account for over 80% of cover and in a good diversity.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (39 – man made)

Description

A pond, the digging of which was aided by Froglife funding in 2018, is present in the north-east corner of the site and surrounded by an area of rough grassland. The marginal vegetation of the pond is varied and includes sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus,* hard rush *J. inflexus*, marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* and purple loose-strife *Lythrum salicaria,* as well as the striking common club rush *Schoenoplectus lacustris* and false-fox sedge *Carex otrubae.* Spiked water-milfoil *Myriophyllum spicatum* was present within the water body.

Condition

Good condition. This is an apparently very successful pond creation, with good water quality, and range of marginal and floating plants.

Hedgerows

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native

Description

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow. A planted hedgerow forms the southern boundary of the recreation ground.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native: Ornamental garden privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium* hedges surround the bowling club.

Condition

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: Moderate. This hedgerow is narrow (<1.5m) and has no undisturbed ground flora.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native: Defaults to Poor condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3h - Mixed scrub (16 - Tall herb)

Description Scrub with tall herbs is isolated to two relatively small areas; at the back of the tennis courts and surrounding a service building on the north site. Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. was frequent as too was creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* within the tall herb layer. The woody species were a mix of native (elder, cherry *Prunus* and holly *Ilex aquifolium*) and non-native (firethorn *Pyracantha* and Oregon grape *Mahonia*). Tall herbs were also abundant; together the mix of woody species and flowering tall herbs (bristly oxtongue *Picris echinoides* and great willowherb *Epilobium hirsutum*) may provide a locally important resource for invertebrates.
Condition Poor: That associated with the tennis courts is >50% bramble, and being partly originated from ornamental planting, also includes non-natives and lacks age structure. The area surrounding the service building is also Poor.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u – 1170 (Urban street tree)** **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground)** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings**: Sports pavilions. **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Paths **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface.** Dirt paths. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Introduced shrubs are found along the boundary with Bidwell Gardens. Cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* dominates.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero score for condition ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs, which defaults to Poor.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b6 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge: Ornamental/Non Native
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6i - Line of trees (ecol. val.)
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL02
Albert Road Recreation Ground
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL02
Albert Road Recreation Ground
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains map data ©202 | Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Nature area with info board from Froglife
2	Reduce mowing intensity – opportunity for further application in other areas.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Buddleia	-
D	False acacia	-
E	Wall cotoneaster	-
F	Virginia creeper	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site is evidently a well-used area for recreation; both the sports pitches and the woodland were in active use for formal and informal play alike. The addition of the grassland and pond gives the site additional conservation interest. This area, with dipping platform and information boards confirms the site's status as an important educational resource to a local community and therefore warrants retention as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for features on buildings).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Invertebrates* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees.

	• Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Nesting birds:* • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. • Swift and/or house sparrow boxes on existing buildings. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and buildings
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Restoration of as much of the available grassland as possible to a low intensity management regime, with or without additional seeding, as already seen in small areas. *Pond:* • Provision of corridors leading to this area by relaxation of mowing regimes as above. At present, this part of the site is a relative island surrounded by amenity grassland.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Surveys for amphibians: Identify which, if any species have colonised the new pond.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued application of high intensity management methods where relaxed mowing and seeding with additional species can be achieved with little or no loss to the overall recreational facility.

- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Chestnuts Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Borough Grade II**

1.2. Site description

A recreational park situated in an area with little accessible natural greenspace. The site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32476 88813) comprises predominantly areas of amenity grassland, hardstanding paths and play areas, along with associated introduced shrub planting, a number of public buildings and small areas of scattered scrub. Lines of mature trees are present around the main grassland areas, whilst a number of hedgerows are also present, all of which are considered to form ecologically valuable habitats. New hedge creation has also been carried out by the Friends of Chestnuts Park along the western boundary, comprising young whip planting of native species which will be managed to form a hedgerow. The Friends of Chestnuts Park have also established a scented garden by the south-east entrance to provide a nectar source for bees and have planted many of bulbs. House sparrows *Passer domesticus* can still be found here especially in the dense firethorn *Pyracantha* sp. in the north-west corner. Some areas are managed for nature conservation, providing opportunities for invertebrates. The Friends group have also planted a small community orchard and a small wildflower meadow, which comprises a number of native species. The variety of plant species, particularly within the scented garden and community orchard, are likely to be a locally important resource for pollinators, whilst ample opportunities are present for breeding birds.

Flood attenuation works are also to be undertaken which will include the creation of a species-rich, wet grassland meadow within the proposed attenuation swale, along with further biodiversity enhancement measures.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park)**
Description **g4a - Amenity grassland:** The amenity grassland within the site is well managed to a short 5cm sward height, although areas located around the drains and ditches were noted to support a longer sward of approximately 20cm. The grass species were dominated by perennial rye-grass *Lolium*

perenne and meadow grass *Poa* sp., with rare incidences of cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*. The herbaceous species comprised common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp.* Areas of wildflower planting are also present which have been created by the Friends of Chestnut Park group, and consist of species such as snowdrop *Galanthus nivalis,* yarrow *Achillea millefolium,* cut-leaved crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum* and yellow-rattle *Rhinanthus minor.* In addition, it was noted that a number of daffodils *Narcissus* sp. have also been planted along the eastern boundary of the Site.

Condition

Moderate. Although grasses are dominant, species richness was still good and wildflowers were easily visible. The grassland does not achieve Good condition as it is subject to an unsympathetic management regime and, whilst 'undesirables' accounted for less than 5% of the total area, the grassland supports invasive non-native species.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 – Line of trees

w1g6ii – Line of trees (ecologically valuable)

Description

w1g6 – Line of trees: A number of lines of trees surrounded the amenity grassland areas. These were prominently mature specimens, with the most abundant species being London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, along with less frequent semi-mature common lime *Tilia x europaea*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, silver lime *Tilia tomentosa*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, double pink cherry *Prunus kanzan*, Lawson cypress *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*, Swedish whitebeam *Sorbus intermedia*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hazel *Corylus avellana*, weeping willow *Salix babylonica*, weeping golden willow *Salix x chrysocoma*, beech *Fagus sylvatica*, horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, red horse-chestnut *Aesculus x carnea* and false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*

w1g6ii – Line of trees (ecologically valuable): A single line of mature London plan is present along the western site boundary and is considered to be ecologically valuable due to the opportunities it afforded to nesting birds.

Condition

All tree lines are considered to be in Moderate condition, due to the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation and the presence of non-native species. These tree lines did support a number of mature trees with continuous canopies.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a5 – Native hedgerow**
Description Four hedgerows were present in the park. These were predominately small lengths, associated with the boundaries and paths within the site.
Condition Excluding the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation within the ground flora, the hedgerows form continuous, linear and dense features and comprise of native species such that they are considered to be in Good condition.

Urban

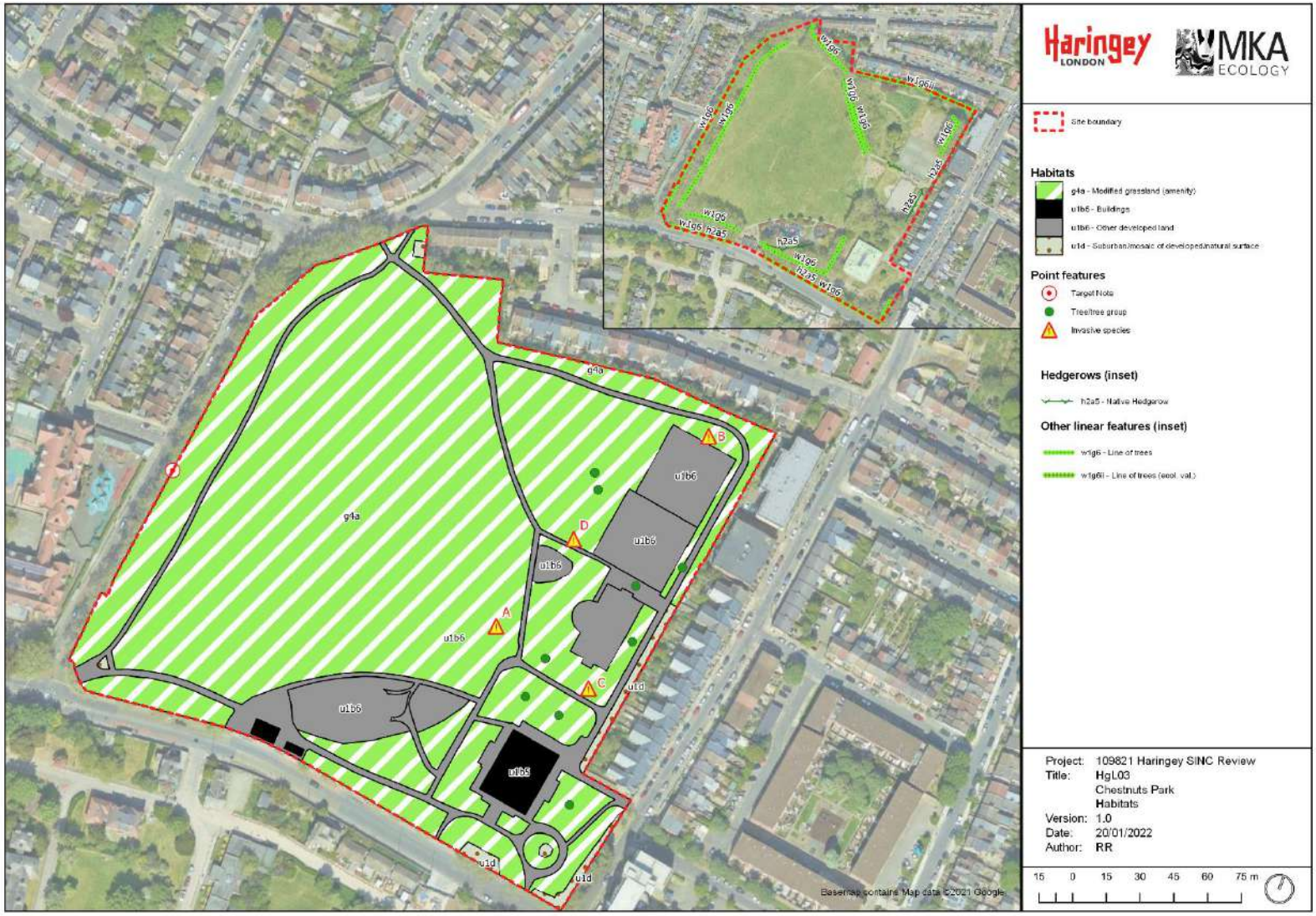
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space. 620 – Outdoor gym, 530 – Ball court, 351 – vacant/ derelict land)** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 – Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings**: a community centre, a café and a toilet block. **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Tarmacked play areas, an outdoor gym and a good condition tennis court. An area of hardstanding has become colonised by ephemeral species and is considered to be derelict land as its current condition prevents its use for ball games. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface**: Areas of introduced shrub planting present at the entrances and the boundaries of the site.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub which defaults to Poor.

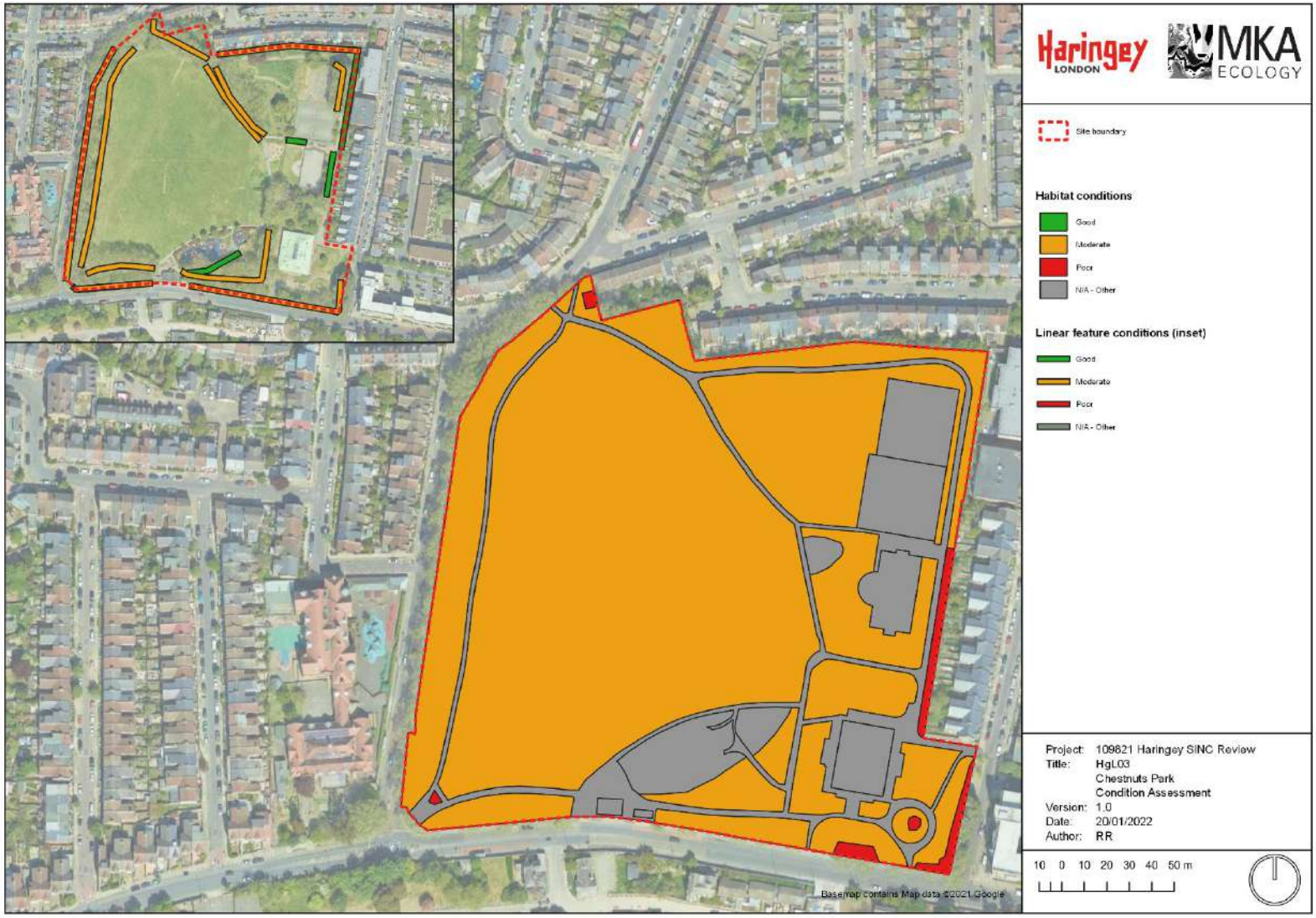
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
u1b6 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6i - Line of trees (ecol. val.)
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL03 Chestnuts Park Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
15 0 15 30 45 60 75 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
g4a
u1b6
u1d
A
B
C
D


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL03
Chestnuts Park
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Base map contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Young hedge planting, currently comprising young whips

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Small-leaved cotoneaster	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	False-acacia	-
D	Butterfly-bush	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The park retains many of the features described in the citation, and supports priority habitats in the form of the hedgerows present, although unlikely to be the best examples of these within the borough. Given its urban setting, all of the habitats the site supports are considered to be of value. The Park also functions as a good community hub, with the local Friends of Chestnut Park group running a number of community events. The work of the Friends of Chestnut Park is also considered to contribute towards the value of the site, with new developing orchard, wildflower and hedgerow creation taking place. The park continues to provide important access to nature for the local community. The site clearly supports features important for both wildlife and people and so it is recommended that Chestnuts Park is upgraded to a Borough Grade II Site of Importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Wetland:* • Develop new areas for seasonal inundation, it is recommended that these areas should be planted with a range of native species that can tolerate wet

	soils. It is also recommended that these areas are planted with marginal species via plug planting. • Create rain gardens and plant them with a range of native species that can tolerate occasional temporary flooding *Hedgerows:* • Creation of further hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways, comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. Infill planting should be undertaken to in order to convert the existing hedgerows to species-rich features. *Shrub planting:* • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. • *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Tree lines and trees:*

	• As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed.
	  ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
	  ▪ *Ring-barking*
	  ▪ *Branch breaks*
	  ▪ *'Horse – damage'*
	  ▪ *Pollarding*
	  ○ *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.
	  ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016)
	  ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
	Grassland:
	• Include areas of reduced management.
	• Increase the area of wildflower seeding.
	• Increase fruit tree planting to form a dense urban orchard habitat.

Species	*Birds/bats*
	• Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques:
	  ○ Nest box creation within living trees.
	  ○ 'Woodpecker hole'
	Invasive species:
	• Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back. Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Lordship Lane Recreation Ground

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Borough Grade I SINC and extend to encompass Lordship Recreation Ground into existing SINC**

1.2. Site description

A large area of accessible greenspace in the local area (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32610 90021), with a variety of habitats including woodland, streams, grassland, orchard and scrub. A large artificial pond sits within the centre of the park, and approximately 100m of the Moselle Brook runs through the SINC. An area of woodland to the south of the park, known as Lordship Wood, was planted in the mid-1980s and has since matured to provide good opportunities for birds. This site has also been awarded a Green Flag Award.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (161 Tall or tussocky sward, 920 Orchard) **g4 – Modified grassland (11 Scattered trees)** **g4a – Amenity grassland (11 Scattered trees)**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** Neutral grassland covered several areas within the park. These had considerably less management than other areas, with a particularly long sward and a number of species not seen in other grassland types. The grasses were dominated by bent grass *Agrostis* sp. and cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and false-oat grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, with meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis* rare. Of the herbaceous species, common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, chicory *Cichorium intybus* and common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* were abundant. To the east of the site, neural grassland was the ground habitat for a relatively newly planted community orchard (see urban – trees). **g4 – Modified grassland:** Areas with less regular management, resulting in a longer sward, approximately 10-15cm, with small tussocks. Species diversity was higher in these areas, with 18 species recorded including selfheal *Prunella viulgaris*, willowherb *Epilobium* sp. and smooth hawk's-beard. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** Large areas of uniformed, regularly managed grassland were present across the site. These had short, uniform sward heights, with a relatively low species diversity.

Grassland species were abundant, bent grass *Agrostis* sp. and perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* most regularly seen.

Condition

g3c – Other neutral grassland and g4 – Modified grassland: All areas of grassland were in good condition, providing a good diversity in species and sward heights.

g4a – Amenity grassland: In moderate condition, these areas lacked the diversity and sward height variation seen in other grassland within the park and high in undesirable species. High levels of damage through recreational pressure have resulted in larger areas of bare ground.

Woodland

w1d – Wet woodland

w1f – Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

w1d – Wet woodland: The woodlands to the north surrounding a bike track, known as the spinney, are dominated by alder *Alnus glutinosa*, willow *Salix* sp. and silver birch *Betula pendula*. Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and poplar *Populus* sp. are also common within the canopy.

w1f – Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: This woodland block comprised semi-mature and mature trees with no dominant species. Species within the canopy include ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, pedunculate oak, field maple *Acer campestre* and silver birch. Evidence of self-seeding from the canopy was evident within the relatively sparce understorey, which also comprised hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*. The ground flora was sparce and comprised predominately bramble and ivy *Hedera helix*. A permanent path runs through this woodland block.

w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types: The woodland blocks that run along the north of the lake are in the former location of the Moselle ditch. A relatively young woodland, planted in 2001, comprises alder, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* and willows with an understorey of coppiced hazel *Corylus avellana* and hawthorn.

Condition

w1d – Wet woodland: Recorded in moderate condition, these areas lacked temporary open space, diverse ground flora and veteran trees and associated dead wood. Although intentional footpaths are present within the woodland, recreational pressure is also evident.

w1f – Lowland mixed deciduous woodland and w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types: Recorded to be in moderate condition. As the majority of these woodland blocks have planted in the last 30-40 years, they lack the structure, veteran trees and associated standing deadwood that are associated with more mature woodland. Additionally, the woodland lacks ground flora diversity.

Hedgerows

h2a5 – Native hedgerow **h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow** **h2a11 – Native species rich hedgerow with trees**
Description **h2a5 – Native hedgerow:** Bounding a section the children's play area, this hedgerow was comprised solely of dogwood. **h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow:** Covering a section of the southern boundary, adjacent to the residential gardens, hawthorn, beech *Fagus sylvatica*, hazel and holly *Ilex aquifolium* were among the woody species. Virginia creeper *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* was present within this hedgerow, likely overgrown from an adjacent residential garden. Bounding the north western model traffic area was a 130m length of hawthorn dominated hedgerow. Young sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and ash were also present. **h2a11 – Native species rich hedgerow with trees:** Two approximately 150m lengths of hedgerow bound the residential properties to the west of the park, separated by the western entrance. Both had a number of semi-mature trees within the hedgerow. The northern section was more species diverse, with firethorn *Pyracantha coccinea*, elm *Ulmus* sp. and horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* present, while the southern was hawthorn dominant with dogwood and sycamore with the woody species.
Condition All hedgerows were in good condition, with the exception of the southernmost hedgerow which was in moderate condition due to large gaps around the base and lacking in width, likely associated with historical over management.

Scrub

h3d – Bramble scrub **h3h – Mixed scrub**
Description **h3d – Bramble scrub:** Stands of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominant dense scrub were present across the park. **h3h – Mixed scrub:** Stands of mixed scrub were often dominated by common nettle *Urtica dioica*.
Condition The mixed scrub was in moderate condition. Bramble scrub defaults to poor condition due to lack of structural and botanical diversity

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b- Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrubs, 910 Allotments)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** A number of scattered trees, of varying species, were present throughout the park. These include a newly planted community orchard of both native and non-native species. **u1b- Developed land; sealed surface:** Footpaths, play areas, sports pitches and a skate park. **u1b5 – Buildings:** Brick built structures, housing the Lordship Hub Co-op, skate park building and allotment structures. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of introduced shrubs and two allotment sites.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub, which defaults to poor, and the allotments, which were assessed as moderate.

Rivers and Lakes

r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (362 Artificial lake or pond) **r2b – Rivers (priority) (40 Freshwater – heavily modified)**
Description **r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters:** A large, high sided concrete lake with a small island in the centre. There is minimal vegetation within the pond, with only duckweed *Lemna* sp. present. The central island lacks ground or scrub cover but has a number of mature trees, including standing dead wood. A diverse range of grasses, rushes and sedges are present around the margins of the artificial lake. **r2a – Rivers (priority):** A section of the Moselle River runs through the SINC. Historical evidence states that, within the park, the river was relocated slightly north of its original location in 2012 as part of a restoration project. This section has a high sided bank, with dense bramble scrub along a significant portion of its length. A number of herbaceous species are present along the banks, including loosestrife *Lythrum* sp., flag iris *Iris pseudoacorus* and greater bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*. A number of rushes and reeds were also present. Willows *Salix* sp. are present along the length, with larger, more mature crack willow *Salix fragilis* and white willow *Salix alba* further to east. There are records from 2011 of common frog *Rana temporaria* in the area.
Condition

r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters: In poor condition, failing a number of criteria based on its artificial nature.
r2b – Rivers (priority): In moderate condition, likely due to the relatively recent regeneration works.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Wet woodland
- Hedgerows
- Rivers

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1d - Wet woodland
w1f - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
points
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
r2a - Rivers (priority habitat)
u1e2 - fence
w1g6 - Line of trees
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2a9 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL04
Lordship Lane Recreaction Ground
Habitats
Version: 0.2
Date: 21/01/2022
Author: JS
0 31 62 93 124 155 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL04
Lordship Lane Recreaction Ground
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 21/01/2022
Author: JS
0 31 62 93 124 155 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Bat boxes – 1 hibernation box, 2 cavity boxes
2	Standing deadwood with suitable bat roosting features

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-
B	Virginia creeper	-
C	Snowberry	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The park retains many of the features described in the citation, and contains priority habitats, although unlikely to be the best examples of these within the borough. The park also has a new developing orchard. The park continues to provide important access to nature for the local community, and is closely located to other SINCs, including Downhills Park and Chestnuts Park. Due to the variety and types of habitats within the park, and in concert with the proposed extension, it is recommended that Lordship Lane Recreation Ground be upgraded to Borough Grade I importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of amphibians.
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’) *Birds:*

	• Provision of general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and on tree lines. *Bats:* • Additional bat roosting features on trees and within woodland blocks. *Invertebrates:* • 'Bee hotels': Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • 'Beetle tower': Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • *Introduction of coppicing regimes*. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • *Protection.* In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to protecting areas of woodland. The use of dead-hedging is preferrable in all instances and is seen to work (e.g. central coppice area) but in areas immediately adjacent to access points, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage. • *Coppicing & fencing, together with education.* Where areas of new coppice are adjacent to access points, this presents both a risk (increased damage) but also an opportunity to provide education to the role of coppicing and the reason for fencing certain areas. An area of coppice and protection is mostly likely to be needed and effective for Lordship Park Forest, close to the Walpole Road entrance. • Where deadwood is created from felling work, the creation of: o *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016).

	○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Species	*Birds/bats:* • A range of artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques. *Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and/or LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

London Borough of Haringey, 2015. *Lordship Recreation Ground Management Plan 2015-2025*.

1. Harrington Site

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

The Harrington Site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28643 87478) is a greenspace for use by local residents and the Harrington Project, providing important opportunities for access to nature. It comprises predominantly woodland and areas of grassland. The eastern section is less maintained, with grassland and open woodland areas present. A number of fruit trees are well established, associated with the vegetable plots. Beside the Harrington Site is a small developing woodland, also inaccessible to the general public.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (17 Ruderal/ ephemeral) **g4 – Modified grassland**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** A number of areas of grassland appeared to have been left unmanaged, allowing for self-seeding. Dove's-foot crane's-bill *Geranium molle*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* were abundant within the sward, alongside common nettle *Urtica dioica*. There was little management of these areas, resulting in a varied sward height. **g4 – Modified grassland:** Much of the grassland appeared to be regularly managed, with a fairly uniform sward. One area was for sole use by one of the nearby residential blocks. The areas to the west of the site are part of the college. These included typical 'lawn' species, with perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* dominant within the sward, with a number of flowering species present, such as medick *Medicago sp.* and scarlet pimpernel *Anagallis arvensis*.
Condition All grassland was in moderate condition.

Woodland

w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types

Description A large portion of the site is made up of a young secondary woodland block. Many of the trees are semi-mature specimens, with ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* dominant within the canopy. Common lime *Tilia* × *europaea*, London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis* = *P. x hispanica* and silver birch *Betula pendula* were also present within the canopy. The understorey had a limited structure, and was comprised of elder *Sambucus nigra* and immature trees, likely seeded from the canopy. The ground layer had 85% cover, dominated by ivy *Hedera helix* with bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg and a number of grassland species. The woodland block to the north and east of the site was separated by a fence, delineating the boundary of the college grounds. These areas of woodland had a high diversity of tree species, with no one species being dominant. Understorey was limited within the college grounds, with hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and holly *Ilex aquifolium* the most abundant species, where present. Within the residential area, there was a relatively dense understorey, with dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, hazel *Corylus avellana* and elder present. A small remnant of woodland present in the southern corner of the site had a high diversity of tree species present, including silver birch and copper beech *Fagus sylvatica 'purpurea'*; there was almost no understorey present which was comprised solely of cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*.
Condition With the exception of the most southern woodland block, which was poor, all other woodland blocks were in moderate condition, lacking in veteran trees and varied structure within the woodlands, alongside poor ground flora diversity.

Hedgerow

h2a5 – Native hedgerow
Description A hedgerow bound the access road on one side, screening the adjacent grassland, with a small section further north of this. This was species poor, with 80% of the hedgerow dominated by beech *Fagus sylvatica,* with holly being the only other woody species.
Condition The hedgerow is in moderate condition, due to the absence of any woody material at the base, the lack of undisturbed ground surrounding the hedgerow and regular management.

Urban

u – Urban (Tree (Urban tree)) **u1b5 – Buildings** **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**

u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub, 910 Allotments)
Description **u – Urban (Tree (Urban tree)):** A small number of individual trees were present, these were mainly fruit bearing trees within the college grounds, and broadleaf species to the south east of the site. **u1b5 – Buildings:** Two permanent polytunnels, associated with the college. **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Areas of bare ground used as footpaths. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub, 910 Allotments):** Areas of ornamental planting, with a small allotment plot, associated with the college.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero-condition score ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of the allotment area (poor) and the introduced shrub, which defaults to poor.

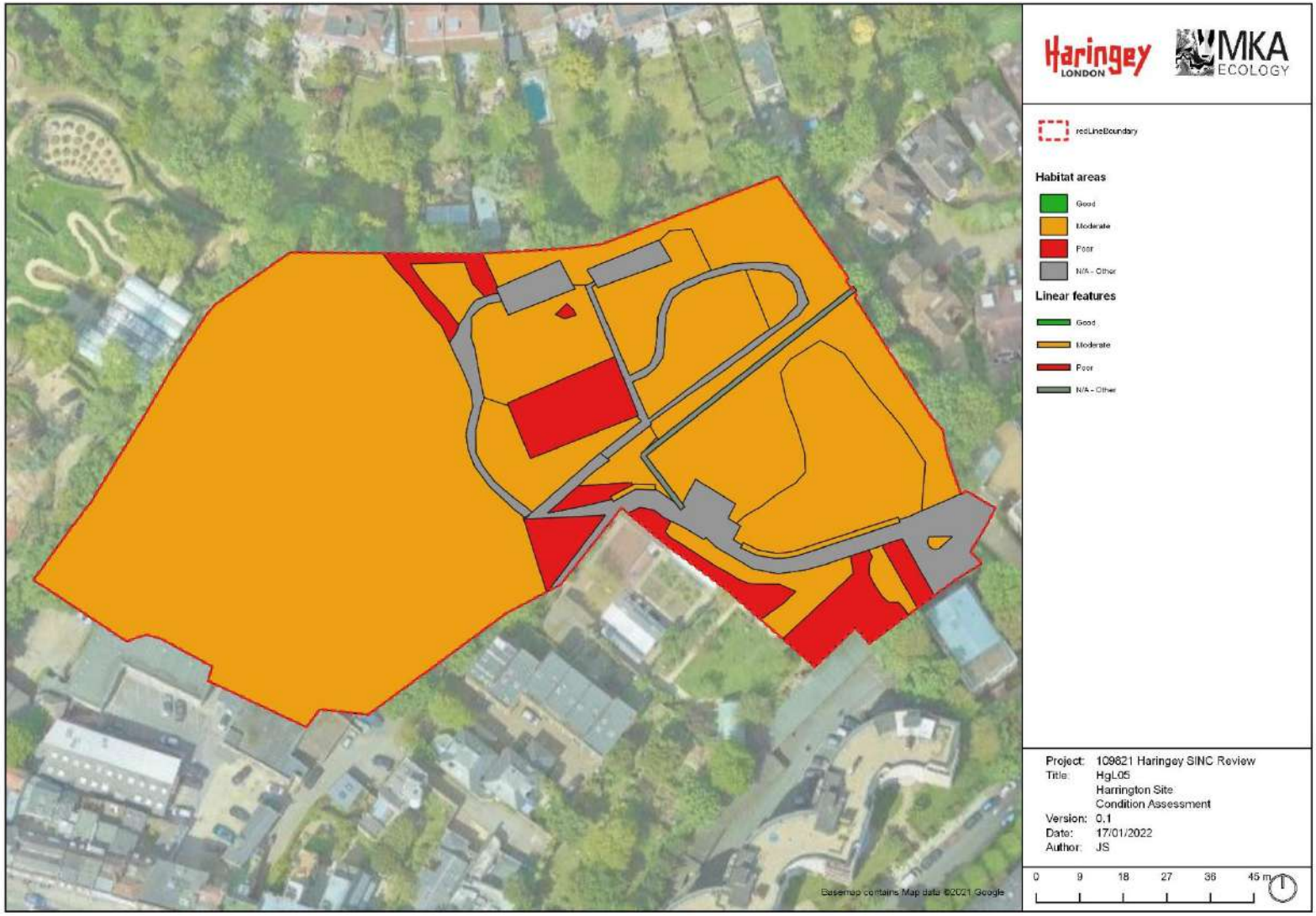
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Hedgerowss
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features
u1e2 - fence
Point features
Treelines group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL05
Harrington Site
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JS
0 9 18 27 36 45 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL05
Harrington Site
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 17/01/2022
Author: JS
0 9 18 27 36 45 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Green alkanet	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The use of the site for environmental education by the adjacent Harrington Project is limiting the condition of a section of the woodland by way of disturbance. Nevertheless, this site is performing a valuable semi-natural resource to a local community and warrants retention as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of a simple pond, to add diversity to the site.
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’) *Birds:* • Provision of more general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland blocks. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and within woodland blocks. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees’ nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs).

	Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (both fallen and standing) to leave within the woodland floor. • Develop understorey by planting native species of local provenance. • Create a small glade through the removal of existing trees.
Species	*Invertebrates* • Where deadwood is created from felling work, the creation of: o *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary to leave tall trunks in situ.* o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.

1. Southwood Lane Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local Grade**

1.2. Site description

A small woodland block and areas of grassland that surround a housing estate, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28423 87983. Local residents have cleared an area of grassland for recreational use and a small allotment plot.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

w1f – Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (37 Semi-natural)
Description Much of the site was dominated by a Priority habitat woodland which separated the neighbouring housing estate from the road. There is evidence of natural regeneration of the woodland, with saplings present. The woodland is fenced and not accessible to the public. There was no dominant species within the canopy, with a high diversity of tree species present. Tree species included ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, beech *Fagus sylvatica*, London plane *Platanus × acerifolia*, and horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*. Yew *Taxus baccata* was rare within the canopy. The understorey was relatively open, with rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, privet *Ligustrum* sp. and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* present. Ground flora was sparse and dominated by ivy *Hedera helix*. Instances of cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* and snowberry *Symphoricarpis albus* were recorded within the woodland.
Condition The woodland was in Moderate condition, lacking mature trees and associated deadwood, and with the presence of invasive species within the understorey.

Grassland

g3c - Other neutral grassland (17 Ruderal/ephemeral, 73 Bare ground, 77 Neglected) **g4 - Modified grassland (17 Ruderal/ephemeral, 73 Bare ground, 76 Recent management)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (740 Housing estate open space)**
Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Two areas of grassland, heavily shaded by surrounding trees, had been allowed to develop unmanaged. This has resulted in the grassland supporting a number of tall-herbs, including dock *Rumex* sp., willowherb *Epilobium* sp. and cleavers *Galium aparine*. **g4 - Modified grassland:** An area of grassland that may have been managed in the past but has developed into a tussocky grassland with a varied sward and with scattered scrub. Species indicative of disturbance are present, such as spear thistle *Cirsium vilgare* and mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, along with elder *Sambucus nigra* saplings. A local resident had cleared an area to be used as a small allotment. **g4a - Amenity grassland:** Small areas of well managed grassland were included within the site boundary, that were part of the housing estate. These are comprised of typical 'lawn' species and frequently mown.
Condition With the exception of the amenity grassland, recorded in Moderate condition, all grassland areas were in Poor condition, primarily due high abundances of invasive or undesirable species.

Scrub

h3d – Bramble scrub
Description Two small patches of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominant scrub extended off the western woodland block.
Condition Defaults to Poor condition due to lack of structural and botanical diversity.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings** **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 Bare ground)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** In addition to woodland parcel, isolated trees are present. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Footpath to external buildings **u1b5 – Buildings:** Two single storey storage blocks and a small substation unit were present. **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** The access track off Southwood Lane was compacted earth.
Condition

Urban habitats have a zero condition score (‘N/A – other’).

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

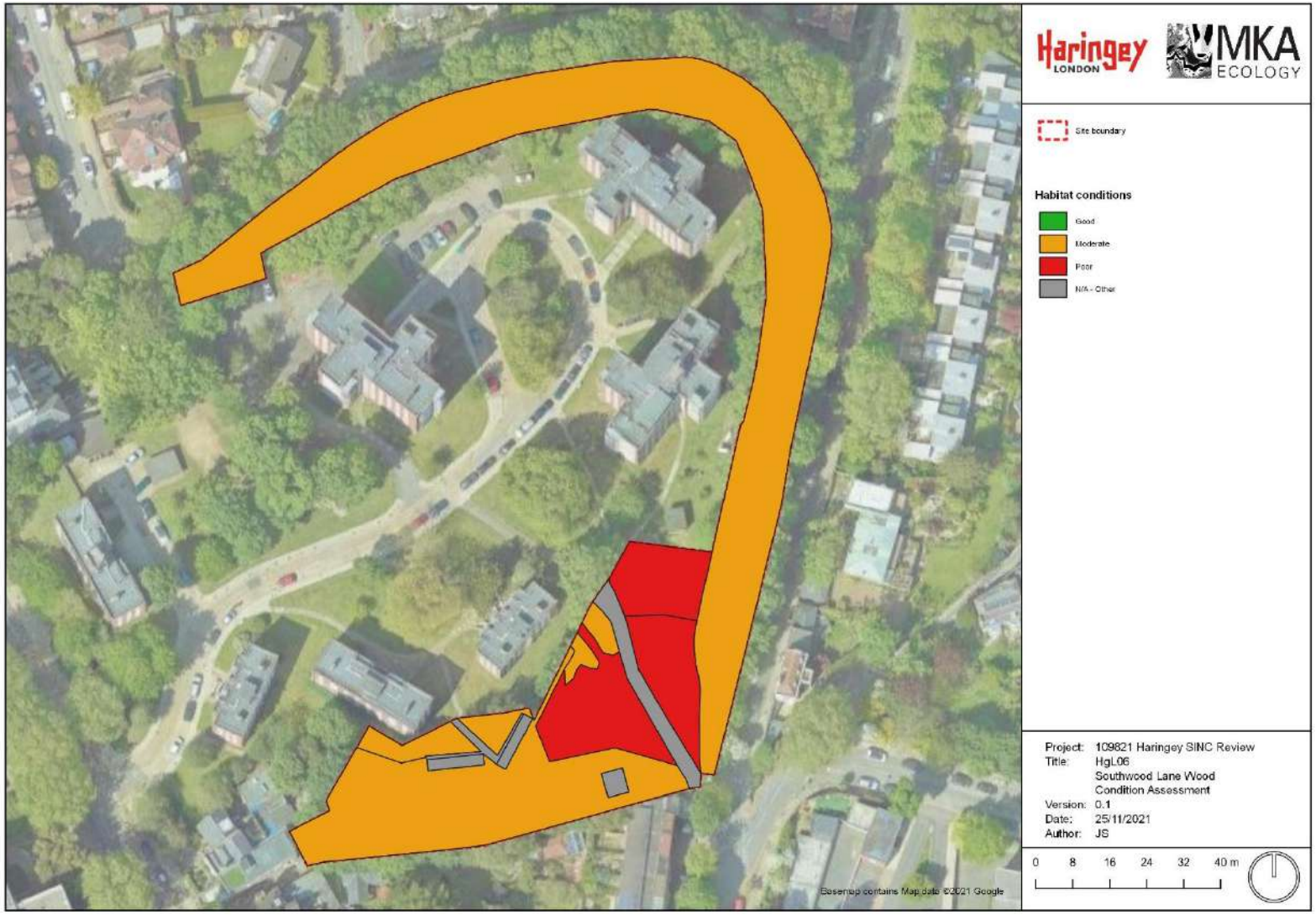
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps

Habitats



Conditions


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL06
Southwood Lane Wood
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 25/11/2021
Author: JS
0 8 16 24 32 40 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Vegetable patch

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Green alkanet	-
C	Snowberry	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site remains mostly unchanged from the previous review in 2014, continues to provide important woodland to the borough, and is likely to be beneficial to the local community and wildlife. Overall, the site warrants retention at Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of more general boxes for woodland species. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and or buildings. *Invertebrates:*

	• Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • Removal of invasive species from the woodland understorey. • Develop understorey by planting native species of local provenance.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

1. St Ann's Hospital Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

Two separated blocks of woodland, located to the south of St Ann's Hospital and adjacent to the Barking to Gospel Oak railway line (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32482 88423). A private area of woodland, there is no access to the public, the western block has been allowed to develop undisturbed. A large area within the eastern woodland block has been recently felled.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g4 – Modified grassland
Description Small areas of grassland bounding areas of carpark used by St Ann's Hospital. Dominated by fescue *Festuca* sp., with an abundance of white clover *Trifolium repens*. Unlikely to be managed on a regular basis, as evidenced by small areas of tussocky grass.
Condition Recorded to be in good condition, only failing the criteria for >5% undesirable species.

Woodland

w1 – Broadleaved mixed and yew woodland (53 Felled) **w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types (37 Semi-natural woodland)**
Description **w1 – Broadleaved mixed and yew woodland:** A large area of the eastern woodland had been recently cleared, with log piles around the boundary of the cleared area. **w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types:** A large portion of the site is comprised of semi-natural broadleaved woodland. There was no dominant species within the canopy, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, silver birch *Betula pendula* and horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* were common, with occasional sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and copper beech *Fagus sylvatica 'Purpurea'*. White poplar *Pipulus alba* and elder *Sambucus nigra* were present but

rare. The shrub layer consists of apple and cherry *Prunus* sp.*,* dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna.* The ground layer was minimal, with bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg, ivy *Hedera helix* and common nettle *Urtica dioica* present.
Condition **w1 – Broadleaved mixed and yew woodland:** No assessment required - condition fixed at good **w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types:** All woodland was assessed as being in a moderate condition, failing a number of criteria, including the lack of veteran trees and lacking ancient woodland indicators. The large area of cleared woodland in the eastern parcel was a contributing factor to this block of woodland failing to achieve a good condition.

Scrub

h3d – Bramble scrub **h3h – Mixed scrub**
Description **h3d – Bramble scrub:** Two areas of dense bramble scrub had developed within the western woodland. Common nettle *Urtica dioica* and hedge bindweed C*alystegia sepium* were also regularly present within the scrub. **h3h – Mixed scrub:** Likely having developed from historical ground clearance, the mixed scrub was dominated by common nettle, with high abundances of hedge bindweed.
Condition All areas of scrub were in poor condition, with bramble scrub defaulting to poor condition, due to lack of species diversity and high abundances of undesirable species.

Urban

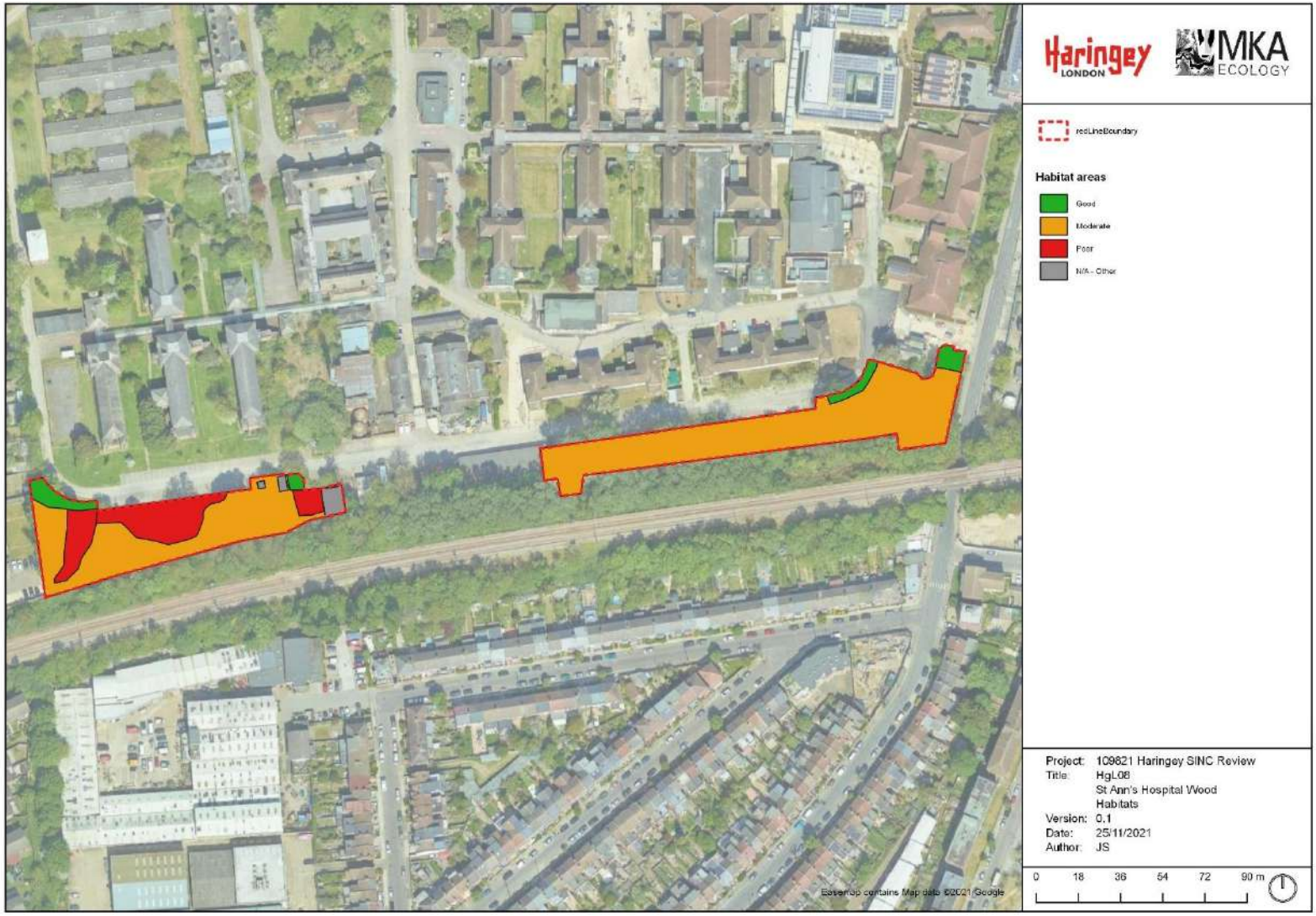
u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1b5 - Buildings**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** **u1b5 – Buildings:** A small substation structure
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other')

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
TN2
TN1
g4
h3h
h3d
w1g7
u1b
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL08
St Ann's Hosptial Wood
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 25/11/2021
Author: JS
0 17 34 51 68 85 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL08
St Ann's Hospital Wood
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 25/11/2021
Author: JS
0 18 36 54 72 90 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Area of tree clearance

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The western portion of the SINC reflects the citation. However, a large portion of the eastern section has been recently felled, leaving a large clearing. Whilst the recent tree felling does reduce the overall value of the site, this alone does not warrant a change of status.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (likely suitable features on mature trees within woodland).
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Woodland* • Create and maintain a woodland glade habitat within the area of clearance. These can be created in three zones: a central zone of short grasses, a wider zone of long grasses and tall herbs and an outer zone of scrub connected to the wider woodland block.
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of more general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland, tree lines and buildings.

	Bats: • Bat roosting features on trees. *Invertebrates:* • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) • *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland* • Develop understorey by planting native species of local provenance • Retention of deadwood from recent felling works, the creation of features for invertebrates (see below). • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (see above). *Scrub* • Clear areas within scrub to provide varying habitats and allow for new growth.
Species	*Invasive species* • Control of LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Further tree felling.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 13/01/2022

1. Downhills Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade and extended to encompass Downhills Recreational Ground into existing SINC.**

1.2. Site description

A relatively large ornamental park, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32519 89552, with grassland, woodland and a small pond. A well-manicured garden is located within the centre of the park. A wildflower meadow, sown in 2009, is present with a number of log piles and standing deadwood, which are likely to provide an excellent habitat for invertebrates and foraging bats. An extension to the west is proposed, as detailed below within the Downhills Park potential SINC. A number of notable ornamental exotic trees are present, all surviving from the original 19th century planting. This site has also been awarded a Green Flag Award.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (11 Scattered trees, 161 Tall or tussocky sward) **g4 – Modified grassland (11 Scattered trees)** **g4a – Amenity grassland (11 Scattered trees)**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** An area of grassland to the south had been sown as a "wildflower meadow", resulting in a considerably higher species diversity than any other grassland area in the park. Grass species were still present within the sward, but didn't dominate. Species in high abundance included mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, white clover *Trifolium repens* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium*. Species specific to this area included tufted vetch *Cicia cracca*, common poppy *Papaver rhoeas* and perforate St John's wort *Hypericum perforatum*. This grassland had a less rigorous management, resulting in a tall and tussocky grassland. An area of grassland surrounding a small pond has also been left unmanaged, resulting in a varied and species diverse sward. **g4 – Modified grassland:** Numerous sections of grassland, predominantly within the northern section of the park, had a less stringent management regime allowing the grassland to develop a more varied sward. Dominant species include perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera*; white clover *Trifolium repens* and broadleaf plantain *Plantago major* were also abundant.

g4a – Amenity grassland: Regularly managed grassland areas were present across the park, resulting in a uniform, short sward length.

Condition

g3c – Other neutral grassland: Recorded to be in moderate condition, due only to the high abundances of undesirable species, white clover and common nettle *Urtica dioica* specifically.

g4 – Modified grassland: In moderate condition, having low species diversity and high abundances of undesirable species.

g4a – Amenity grassland: In moderate condition, having low species diversity and short, uniform sward.

Woodland

w1g – Other woodland, broadleaved (73 Bare ground)

w1g6 – Line of trees

Description

w1g – Other woodland, broadleaved: The mature woodland canopy includes a number of native species, including hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*, silverbirch *Betula pendula*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*. Yew *Taxus baccata* was also present within the woodland, although rare. Many of the trees exhibited features suitable to support roosting bats. Where present, the understorey and ground cover was dense, with bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg*, ivy *Hedera helix* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* regularly seen. Large, lined walkways had been cleared within the woodland, to provide footpaths, however recreational pressure has likely reduced the quality and quantity of ground flora. Some woodland enhancements were established within the woodland areas including log piles and dead wood retention. Stag beetle *Lucanus cervus* have been recorded within the park, so the dead wood features are likely to be specifically beneficial to this species.

w1g6 – Line of trees: Lines of trees were present throughout the park, but were largely situated along the footpaths. Many of these comprised of London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and common lime Tilia × europaea, although there were a number of other species including within these treelines, including Lombardy poplar *Populus nigra 'Italica'*, bay laurel *Laurus nobilis*, beech *Fagus sylvatica* and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*.

Condition

w1g – Other woodland, broadleaved: All woodland was recorded in poor condition, due to high recreation pressure causing disturbance, and lack in age structure within the woodland.

w1g6 – Line of trees: Two tree lines closest to the eastern access were in poor condition, due to being newly planted. The remainder of the tree lines were in moderate condition.

Hedgerows

h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow **h2b5 – Hedge ornamental non native**
Description **h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow:** A 100m length of hedgerow bounding the western edge of the ornamental garden area, with dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and holly *Ilex aquifolium* among the woody species. **h2b5 – Hedge ornamental non-native:** A 40m length of hedgerow which is comprised primarily non-native ornamental species. Cherry laurel is present within this hedgerow.
Condition Both hedgerows were recorded in good condition, with the native species rich hedgerow failing only one of the relevant criteria.

Urban

u – Urban (Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrubs)**
Description **u – Urban (Tree (urban tree)):** The park had a large number of mature individual trees. Many of these are ornamental non-native species. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Footpaths, sports pitches and hardstanding. **u1b5 – Buildings:** A single building, comprising a café. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental planting within the northern section of the park, with a large area dedicated to a well-manicured flower garden.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub habitats which default to Poor.

Freshwater

r1a – Eutrophic standing waters (362 Artificial lake or pond)
Description A very small pond was present at the northern border of the woodland. Purple loosestrife *Lythrum salicaria* and Iris were present within the waterbody. This pond is likely to be particularly beneficial for local wildlife, such as bats and invertebrates.

Condition

Passing only two of the criteria for not being artificially connected to other waterbodies and not stocked with fish, this was recorded to be in poor condition.

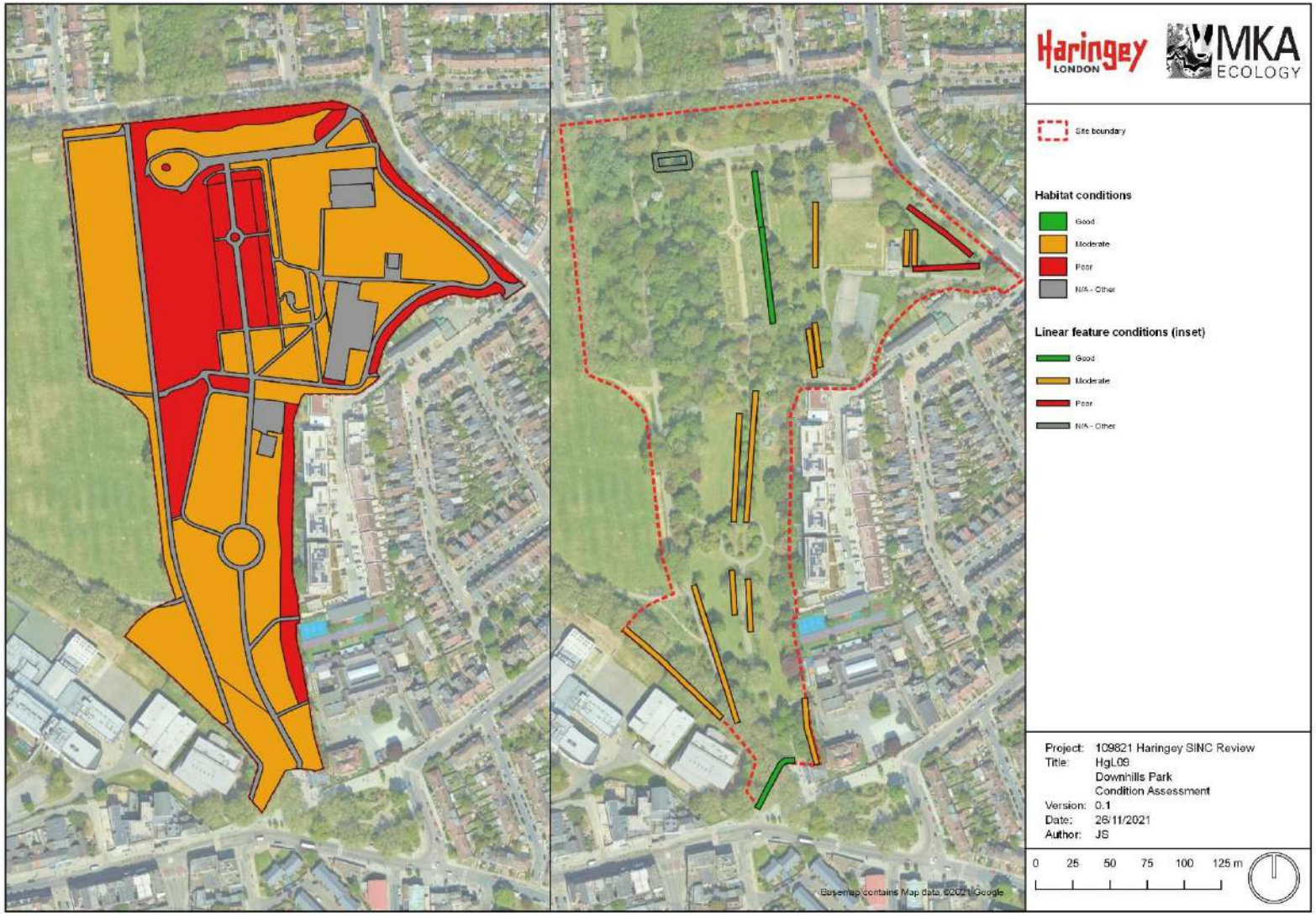
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a9 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features (inset)
u1e1 - wall
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL09 Downhills Park Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 25 50 75 100 125 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL09
Downhills Park
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 25 50 75 100 125 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Standing dead wood with bat roosting features
2	Log piles/ dead wood
3	Evidence of rough sleeping

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Bamboo	-
B	False acacia	-
C	Snowberry	-
D	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The park retains many of the features described in the citation. Whilst the habitats within the park are not particularly noteworthy, they still provide valuable resources for a number of taxa. Additionally, the park continues to provide important access to nature for the local community, and is closely located to other SINCs, including Lordship Lane Recreation Ground and Chestnuts Park. The park should continue as a Local grade SINC, with an extension to the west proposed.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees and standing deadwood).
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher.

	• Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and on tree lines. *Bats:* • Additional bat roosting features on trees.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Maintain relaxed mowing regime. This will retain the connectivity around the park and continue to provide shelter for invertebrates. • Undertake a feasibility study to better understand the potential for providing additional enhancement the species richness of these areas to deliver more extensive areas of species-rich grassland in the borough. *Woodland:* • Control access through the woodland by dead-hedging, to limit footfall to dedicated paths and reduce disturbance. • Introduction of coppicing regimes. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • Retention of and deployment of fallen wood from tree surgery business. Where created through necessary felling work, the creation of features for invertebrates (see below).
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Retention of existing log piles and deadwood. • As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates. ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.*

	○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). • *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Invasive species:* • Control of LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. St Mary's Churchyard, Hornsey

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Local
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

In many ways a 'typical' churchyard with mown grassland, ornamental trees and hedges. However, added ecological interest is provided in the form of an area of mature hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* and oak *Quercus,* considered by some to be a relict of the ancient woodlands of Middlesex. Sympathetic grassland management ('the meadow') adds further value. The tower itself also has potential to support nesting birds and/or roosting bats. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30652 89277.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4 - Modified grassland (1160 - Introduced shrub, 16 - Tall herb - Bare ground, 920 – Orchard, 1170 – Urban trees, 66 – frequently mown)**
Description Grassland accounts for 70% of the habitats in the churchyard. The northernmost part of the site is frequently mown, in keeping with its more ornamental surroundings. Rye-grass *Lolium* dominates with white clover *Trifolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major* also frequent. To the south, the grass is subject to a reduced mowing regime and referred to locally as 'the meadow'. Here, there is a more diverse assemblage, with the above species being joined by occasional false-oat grass *Arrhenatherum elatius,* wall barley *Hordeum murinum*, dandelion *Taraxacum agg.* Meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris* is rare and wood avens *Geum urbanum* becomes more common where shading from a line of pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and hornbeam casts shade. A small orchard is present on the east boundary. In the north, the grassland forms the field layer to a number of ornamental trees as befitting a churchyard. Yew *Taxus baccata* is frequent, along with London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*.
Condition For the most part, Poor, on account of frequent mowing and the associated damage and lack of species richness. The 'meadow' to the south is Moderate, where increased sward height and a

relative lack of damage is afforded. A small 'tongue' in the centre is in Good condition, this having additional species richness.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native

Description

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow. A recently planted (2004) hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* hedgerow forms the majority of the northern boundary. Whilst not visible during the survey, records indicate that cowslip *Primula veris* grows at the base of this hedge.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native. Ornamental hedgerows are present on the north-west boundaries.

Condition

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: Poor. Passes only three of the available eight condition criteria. This is in part due to its location and the constraints placed upon its size (it is both short and narrow) and the lack of adjacent semi-natural habitat at the base.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native: Defaults to Poor condition.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 – Line of trees

Description

The southern boundary supports a number of mature pedunculate oak, hornbeam, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and hawthorn. This is possibly one of the most ecologically rich parts of the site. These are mapped as individual tree groups. Along the west boundary is a mixed species line, with suckering elm *Ulmus* present and offering potential to white letter-hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* (a Priority Species). The ground flora is largely dominated by common nettle *Urtica dioica,* which is encouraged to provide habitats for invertebrates. Rowan *Sorbus acuparia,* holly *Ilex aquifolium* and elder *Sambucus nigra* are also present here, along with non-native species such as sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus*.

Condition

The mature tree line to the south is in Good condition, reflecting the maturity of the trees and their setting adjacent to the meadow area. Elsewhere, the tree lines are in Poor condition. Non-native

species, lack of adjacent semi-natural habitats and relative immaturity of the trees all contribute to a Poor condition.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings .** **u1b6 - Other developed land.** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 – Bare ground)** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 – Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b5 - Buildings**. St Mary's Tower. Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* have been recorded as breeding here in the past, though their current status is unknown. **u1b6 - Other developed land.** Paths. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**. Un-tarmacked paths. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Introduced shrubbery and border planting. Two species of cotoneaster, including wall cotoneaster *Cotoneaster horizontalis*, a species listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981, as amended) are present.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero score for condition ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs, which defaults to Poor.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location:

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Hedgerows
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental/Non Native
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL10
St Mary's Churchyard, Hornsey
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
NA - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
NA - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL10
St Mary's Churchyard, Hornsey
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Church tower – potential for roosting bats and/or nesting swift

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Tree cotoneaster	-
B	Wall Cotoneaster	-
C	Buddleia	-
D	Cherry Laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site is largely ornamental and under relatively intensive management, with the exception of small areas of grassland. The trees forming small pockets or strips of woodland in the south and along the west boundary are the most valuable resource, as too is a larger 'meadow' in the south. This is a relatively quiet site with easy access and important to local people. As such it warrants retention as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (church).
- Presence of invasive non-native LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond(s) will add further diversity to the site and, if potentially add a valuable educational resource to the neighbouring St Mary's C of E Infant School.
Species	*Birds:*

	• Provision of swift colony/boxes in church tower, subject to results of further survey. • Provision of additional, more general boxes on trees for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Investigate feasibility of installation of peregrine nesting platform (this species is known from Alexandra Palace). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on mature trees and/or within St Mary's Tower, subject to further surveys.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland/trees:* • Additional planting in south-east corner/additional support for naturally occurring seedlings/saplings. To maintain a supply of trees where natural recruitment is less likely. *Grassland:* • Expansion of 'meadow-like' management techniques as seen in the south to other parts of the grassland, particularly the orchard.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Surveys for birds – Establish whether kestrel and/or swift *Apus apus* nest within St Mary's Church Tower prior to installation of any nesting boxes.
- Inspection for bats – Establish potential for roosting bats prior to installation of any artificial roost features.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Recreation Ground & Woodside Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Split into two SINCS:**
  - **New River Sports Centre and White Hart Lane Recreation Ground: Retain at Local Grade**
  - **Woodside Park: Retain at Local Grade**

1.2. Site description

Comprised of three separate areas (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 31354 91193), they represent large areas of accessible greenspace within an area of deficiency. White Hart Lane Recreation Ground and Woodside Park are free access to the public, and support large areas of grassland, with lines of trees bounding many of the footpaths. White Hart Lane Recreation Ground also supports Wood Green Cemetery and Wolves Lane Centre. New River Sports Centre, accessible during opening hours only, supports large areas of grassland partially used as sports pitches.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (73, Bare ground, 161 Tall or tussocky sward) **g4 – Modified grassland** **g4a – Amenity grassland**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** Small areas of grassland had less regular management than the majority, resulting in a slightly higher diversity in grasses and a longer more varied sward. Meadow fescue *Festuca pratensis* and meadow foxtail *Alopecurus pratensis* were only seen in these grassland areas. Field bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis* was also present within this grassland in White Hart Lane. **g4 – Modified grassland:** With less regular management than areas of amenity grassland, these areas had developed slightly varied sward heights, with areas of tussocky grass. Perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* were dominant within the sward, with rare occurrences of soft brome *Bromus hordeaceus*. A number of herbaceous species were also present,

including spotted medick *Medicago arabica*, scarlet pimpernel *Anagallis arvensis*, selfheal *Prunella vulgaris* and coltsfoot *Tussilago farfara* occurring regularly.

g4a – Amenity grassland: These areas were highly managed, with short sward of 2cm or 3cm. These were grass dominant, with instances of broadleaf plantain *Plantago major*, white clover *Trifolium repens* and creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens*. Many of these areas had extensive patches of bare ground due to increased recreational pressures.

Condition

g3c – Other neutral grassland: In poor condition, due to lack of structural and species diversity, along with extensive areas of bare ground. This will partially be due to areas being used as sports pitches.

g4 – Modified grassland: In moderate condition, having a varied sward with slightly higher species diversity. However, high abundances of undesirable species contributing in achieving a higher condition.

g4a – Amenity grassland: Assessed to be in poor condition, due to high instances of recreational pressure resulting in large areas of bare ground, alongside structural and species deficiencies.

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees

w1h5 – Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved

Description

w1g6 – Line of trees: In Woodside Park, a combination of semi-mature and mature trees, with some occasional saplings, lined many of the footpaths. A variety of native and non-native species made up these features, including pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, common lime *Tilia* × *europaea*, Norway maple *Acer platanoides* and fruit bearing trees *Prunus* sp.

w1h5 – Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: There were two small areas of woodland were present within the cemetery and adjacent Wolves Lane Centre. These were a mix of native and non-native species, predominantly broadleaved species but with a number of young red cedar *Thuja plicata* present within the canopy. A very limited understorey was present, which comprised solely of saplings. Ground cover was approximately 50%, dominated by ivy *Hedera helix*, common nettle *Urtica dioica* and herb-robert *Geranium robertianum*. Evidence of recreational use could be seen in the woodland.

Condition

w1g6 – Line of trees: All were either in poor or moderate condition, due to non-native species presence, gaps within the canopy and being within a parkland setting.

w1h5 – Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: In moderate condition, lacking the majority of features seen within mature woodland. The lack of ground flora and understorey also negatively impacted on the condition.

Hedgerows

h2a5 – Native hedgerow **h2b5 – Hedge ornamental, non-native**
Description **h2a5 – Native hedgerow:** Several lengths of hedgerow bounded the school and George Meehan House grounds within Woodside Park, around the southern section of Wood Green Cemetery and the northern boundary of New River Sports Centre. Hedgerows within the cemetery were prodiminantely single species, either yew *Taxus baccata* or privet *Lagustrum ovalifolium*. All other hedgerows comprised no more than four woody species, alongside bramble and *Rubus fruticosus* agg. **h2b5 – Hedge ornamental, non-native:** Bounding a section of the cemetery, this was comprised mainly of cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*.
Condition All hedgerows were in moderate condition, but as all are located within parkland settings, or within cemeteries, none supported undisturbed vegetative strips, and many are regularly managed.

Scrub

h3d – Bramble scrub
Description Two areas of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominated scrub were present, one on the eastern boundary of New River Sports Centre and one within the cemetery within the White Hart Lane Recreation Ground. Instances of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and firethorn *Pyracantha coccinea* were present within the scrub, although rarely.
Condition Defaults to poor condition due to lack of structural and botanical diversity

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings** **u1b6 – Other developed land (810 Cemetery)** **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (17 Ruderal/ ephemeral, 350 Abandoned ruderal and derelict areas, 810 Cemetery)** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub)**
Description

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)): Present within all areas of this SINC, they were predominantly mature trees, both natives and non-natives. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Various footpaths, tarmac roads and artificial sports pitches. This includes the previous pond, which has been empty for an extended period of time. **u1b5 – Buildings:** A number of buildings were present, including George Meehan House and school within Woodside Park, a large greenhouse complex in White Hart Lane Recreational ground and the various sports facilities building within New River Sports Centre. **u1b6 – Other developed land:** Wood Green Cemetery. **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Wood Green Cemetery and areas of compacted earth acting as footpaths. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental planting.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs which defaults to poor.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

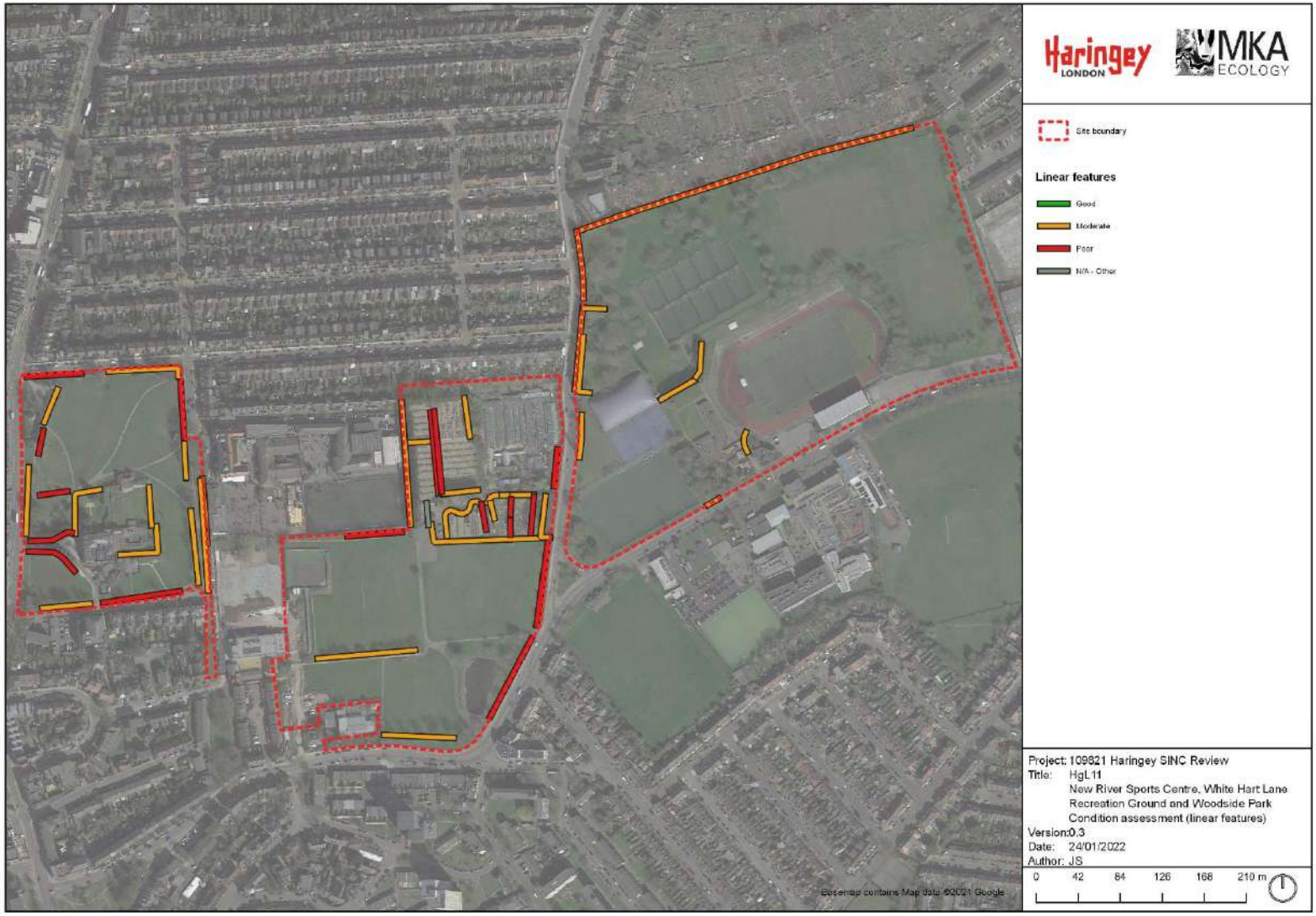
- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1h - Other woodland; mixed
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL11
New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Recreation Ground and Woodside Park
Habitats (areas/ points)
Version: 0.3
Date: 24/01/2022
Author: JS
0 42 84 126 168 210 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Hedgerows
h2e5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features
w1e1 - wall
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL11
New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Recreation Ground and Woodside Park
Habitats (linear features)
Version: 0.3
Date: 24/01/2022
Author: JS
0 42 84 126 168 210 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
No condition assigned (no access)
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL11
New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Recreation Ground and Woodside Park
Condition assessment (areas)
Version: 0.3
Date: 24/01/2022
Author: JS
0 42 84 126 168 210 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL11
New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane
Recreation Ground and Woodside Park
Condition assessment (linear features)
Version:0.3
Date: 24/01/2022
Author: JS
0 42 84 126 168 210 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Log piles

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-
B	False acacia	-
C	Turkey oak	-
D	Cherry laurel	-
E	Green alkanet	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Three open spaces together form a substantial area of parkland and amenity grassland in an area deficient in accessible natural greenspace. These areas continue to provide important access to nature, so warrants retention as a Local grade SINC.

To reflect the different regimes, constraints and organisations involved in the management of the site, it is recommended that they be split to form two separate SINCS, both retained at the current Grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on buildings and mature trees).
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Potential presence of reptiles.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Reinstating the existing waterbody, with the inclusion of aquatic plants.

	• Creation of a simple pond(s) will add further diversity to the site, potentially within the grassland in the northern section of New River Sports Centre which is not given over recreational use.
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of generalist bird boxes on mature trees or on buildings. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on south-eastern aspect of mature trees and or buildings.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • Consider the relaxation of mowing regime within grassland areas in the New River Sports Centre that are not used for recreational sports and beneath tree lines in all areas, and seeding with additional grassland species.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.

- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Nightingale Gardens and Avenue Gardens

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local Grade**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local Grade**

1.2. Site description

These two attractive public gardens (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30493 90566), with plenty of tree and shrub cover, are linked by a section of former railway embankment. Avenue Gardens and Nightingale Gardens both have good selections of mature trees, whilst the former railway embankment between the two gardens is dominated by woodland and continues to the east of Park Avenue, where it is known as Palace Gates (HgBII04). The park is dominated by areas of amenity grassland and areas of formal landscaping.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park)**
Description The amenity grassland within the site is well managed to a short 5cm sward height in the majority, although some pockets of longer, less regularly managed sward are also present. The grassland within the site is dominated by perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and white clover *Trifolium* repens, along with common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp.*
Condition Moderate. The grassland is dominated by perennial ryegrass and white clover, such that there is there is a limited diversity of species present. Areas of encroaching scrub and instances of introduced shrub planting are present which contain invasive, non-native species such as green alkanet *Pentaglottis sempervirens*, butterfly-bush *Buddleja davidii* and cotoneaster *Cotoneaster* sp.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (210 – Urban park)**

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland**: Along the eastern site boundary is a stretch of mixed deciduous woodland habitat. The closed canopy of this woodland supports young to mature trees, including species such as ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, poplar *Populus* sp., cherry *Prunus* sp., oak *Quercus robur*, sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus,* false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*, tree-of-heaven *Ailanthus altissima*, whitebeam *Sorbus aria* agg, lime *Tilia platyphyllos x cordata = T. x europaea* and field maple *Acer campestre*. The understorey below consists largely of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and holly *Ilex aquifolium*, with a ground flora dominated by bare ground, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg.. common nettle *Urtica diocia*, hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium,* ivy *Hedera helix* and wood avens *Geum urbanum.* **w1g6 – Line of trees:** A number of lines of trees are present within the site, comprising largely semi-mature specimens, along with more occasional mature trees. Species include beech *Fagus sylvatica*, false-acacia, hawthorn, holly, lime, Norway maple *Acer platanoides*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, silver birch *Betula pendula*, sycamore, tree-of-heaven and common whitebeam.
Condition **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland:** The woodland habitat within the site is considered to be in Moderate condition, largely due to the presence of invasive non-native species, the lack of veteran trees, the disturbance by humans in the form of fly tipping and litter, and an absence of a recognisable ground flora. **w1g6 – Line of trees:** The majority of the tree lines within the site are considered to be in Moderate condition, failing to achieve Good condition only due to the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation or mature trees. A single tree line is considered to be in Poor condition due to the above criteria failures, in addition to the immature nature of the tree line and the lack of continuous canopy coverage.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2b5 – Ornamental hedgerow**
Description A single ornamental hedgerow is present in the northern entrance to the park, comprising a short length of privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium*, along with encroaching elder *Sambucus nigra*, elm *Ulmus* sp. and bramble.
Condition Ornamental hedgerows comprising non-native species default to Poor condition.

Urban

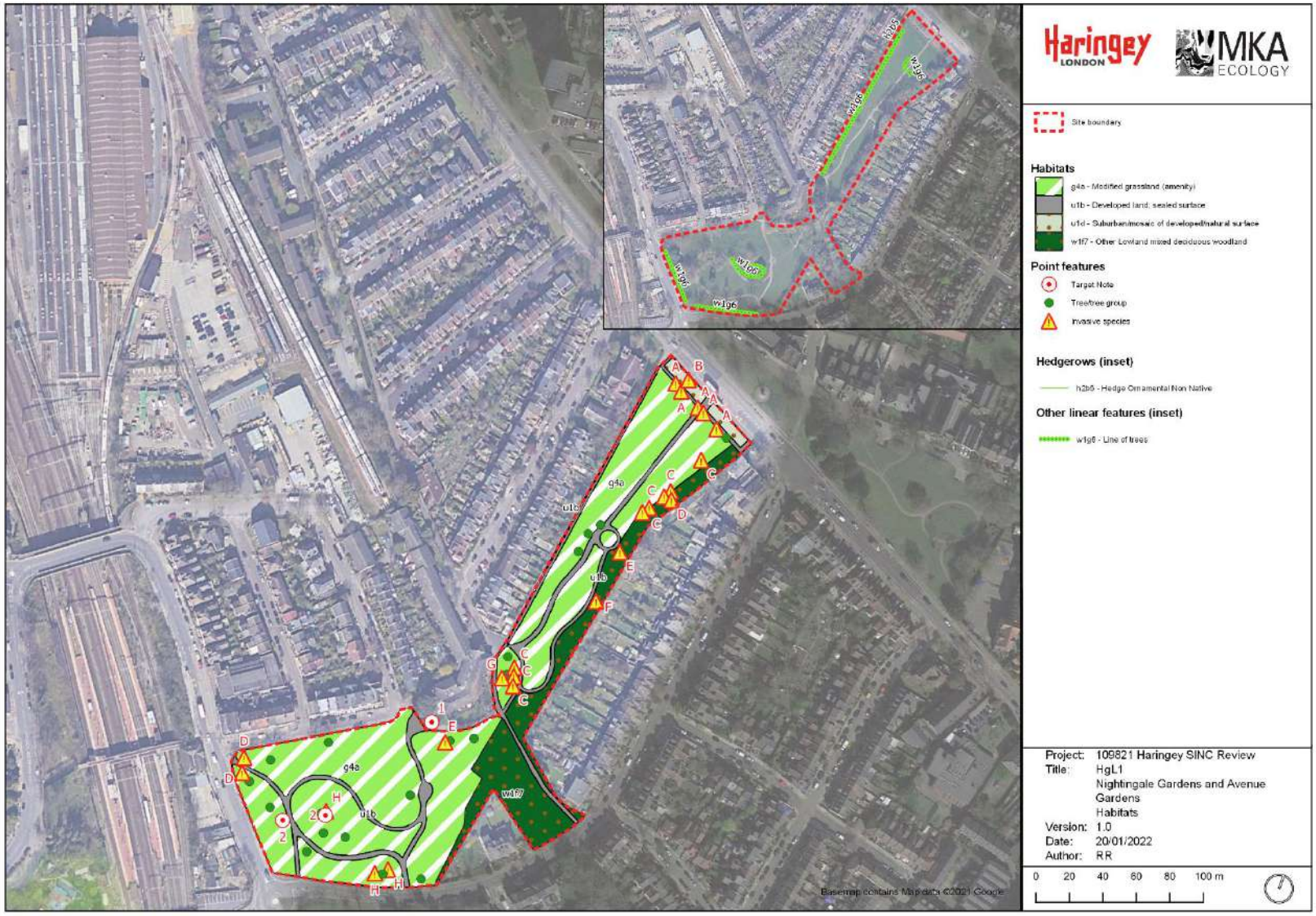
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b6 - Other developed land (1232 – non-permeable paving)** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 – Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Hardstanding paths and seating areas. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface**: Areas of introduced shrub planting present at the entrance of the site.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub which defaults to Poor.

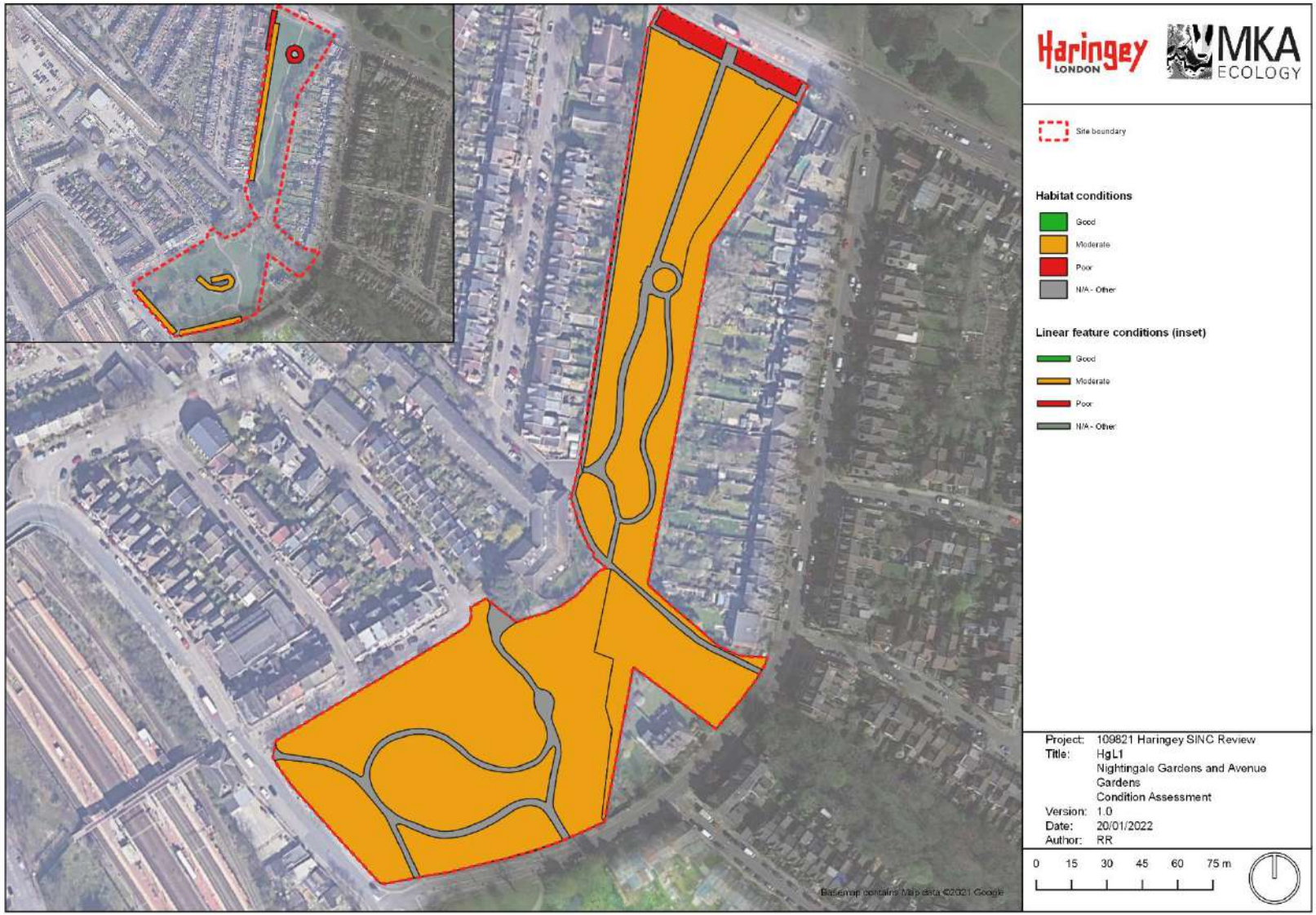
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL1 Nightingale Gardens and Avenue Gardens Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL1 Nightingale Gardens and Avenue Gardens Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 15 30 45 60 75 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Deadwood
2	Bat roost potential tree

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Montbretia	-
B	Butterfly-bush	-
C	Cotoneaster	-
D	Tree of heaven	-
E	Snowberry	-
F	Cherry laurel	-
G	Green alkanet	-
H	False acacia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The park supports Priority habitats in the form of the woodland, although this is unlikely to be the best example within the borough. Given its urban setting, all of the habitats the site supports are considered to be of value. The woodland provides ample opportunities for breeding birds and is likely to function as a dark commuting corridor for bats and other fauna. Indeed, this site forms part of a continuous green corridor within the borough, connecting with Alexandra Park, Thorold Road Allotments and the New River. As such it warrants retention as a Local Site of Importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles and amphibians.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features

Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond within communal areas will add further diversity to the site. *Hedgerows*: • Creation of further hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways, comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. Infilling of the exiting hedgerow to create a species rich feature. *Shrub planting*: • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (both fallen and standing) to leave within the woodland floor.

	• Develop a more diverse assemblage of species within the ground flora through the sowing of a woodland seed mix. • Develop understorey by planting native species of local provenance • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Include areas of reduced management. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: o Nest box creation within living trees. o 'Woodpecker hole' *Reptiles and amphibians:* • Creation of brash and log piles from vegetation clearance works. • Will benefit from the above deadwood feature creation. *Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria.*
- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Priory Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local Grade**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local Grade**

1.2. Site description

Priory Park, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30019 89061, is a typical of several other parks within the borough. The dominant habitat types are frequently mown amenity grassland, introduced shrubs with tarmac paths crossing the site. These paths are lined by tree avenue, typically London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, common lime *Tilia platyphyllos x cordata = T. x europaea* and false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia.*

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland (1160 Introduced shrub)** **g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland (66 Frequently mown, 1160 Introduced shrub)**
Description **gc3 – Other neutral grassland:** A 3m x 40m strip of seeded grassland and wildflowers is present at the east of the north entrance. Compared with the otherwise species poor amenity grassland that occupies the majority of the site, this area is relatively species rich with musk mallow *Malva moschata* and meadow crane's-bill *Geranium pratense* among the rare species, with common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* and wild carrot *Daucus carota* more frequent. **g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland:** Rye-grass *Lolium* and white clover *Trifolium repens* were the dominant species in a typical amenity grassland sward occupying over 50% of the 6.4ha site. An area to the west is less frequently mown, with a sward height of around 30cm.
Condition With the exception of the area of wildflower planting and less frequently mown area - both of which are in Moderate condition - the remaining grassland is considered to be in Poor condition. The seeded area is a higher distinctiveness grassland, though still only attains moderate condition due to the presence of patches of creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* and bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g6 - Line of trees (56 Young trees – planted)** **w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer**
Description **w1g6 - Line of trees:** A total of 2.2km of tree lines are present across the site, with mature London plane, silver birch *Betula pendula* and common lime all found in the avenues. **w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer.** A small ornamental woodland area comprising predominantly of planted yew *Taxus baccata* and other conifers is presence north of the main basketball/sports court. This, and the area to the north, may be alternatively described as an 'arboretum', where other more ornamental trees exist, including mature silver birch surrounding a central circular path.
Condition No line of tree attained Good condition. This would be rare in an ornamental parkland situation, where undisturbed ground vegetation is not usually found. In addition, the only tree lines with mature specimens tend to be those of non-native species (London plane). Those tree lines in Moderate condition indeed tend to be those with mature trees and continuous canopies. Those in Poor condition tend to be younger, more recently planted trees. The 'arboretum' area is also Poor on account of its non-native status, heavy disturbance from park users and lack of any varied structure.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h - Mixed scrub (1160 Introduced shrub)**
Description Scrub is limited to two narrow boundary sections in the west, occupying no more than 1.5% of the total area. As well as introduced species (see below), hazel *Corylus avellana,* hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* are also present.
Condition The scrub is in Poor condition, failing all condition criteria. This reflects its position as essentially continued areas of ornamental planting, but dominated by native species. There are no tall herbs or grassland buffers and there is little structural variety.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (362 Artificial pond or lake)**

Description A small artificial pond (with liner) is present along the southern boundary. The water surface is dominated by a duckweed *Lemna* with an ornamental feature at its centre.
Condition The pond is in Poor condition, failing nearly all condition criteria. It passes only the criteria relating to the absence of non-native species (none present) and there being an absence of fish stocking.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (1160 Introduced shrub; 73 Bare ground)** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (11 Scattered trees; 1160 Introduced shrub; 73 Bare ground)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings:** Sports pavilions are present. **u1b6 - Other developed land:** Paths and sports courts account for 25% of the total area. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/natural surface:** Introduced shrub makes up six percent of the total area of the site. Species typical of ornamental planting are present, including cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus, Berberis* and snowberry *Symphoricarpos albus,* as well as at least two species of *Cotoneaster.*
Condition All urban habitats listed above are, by default, considered to have a Poor condition.

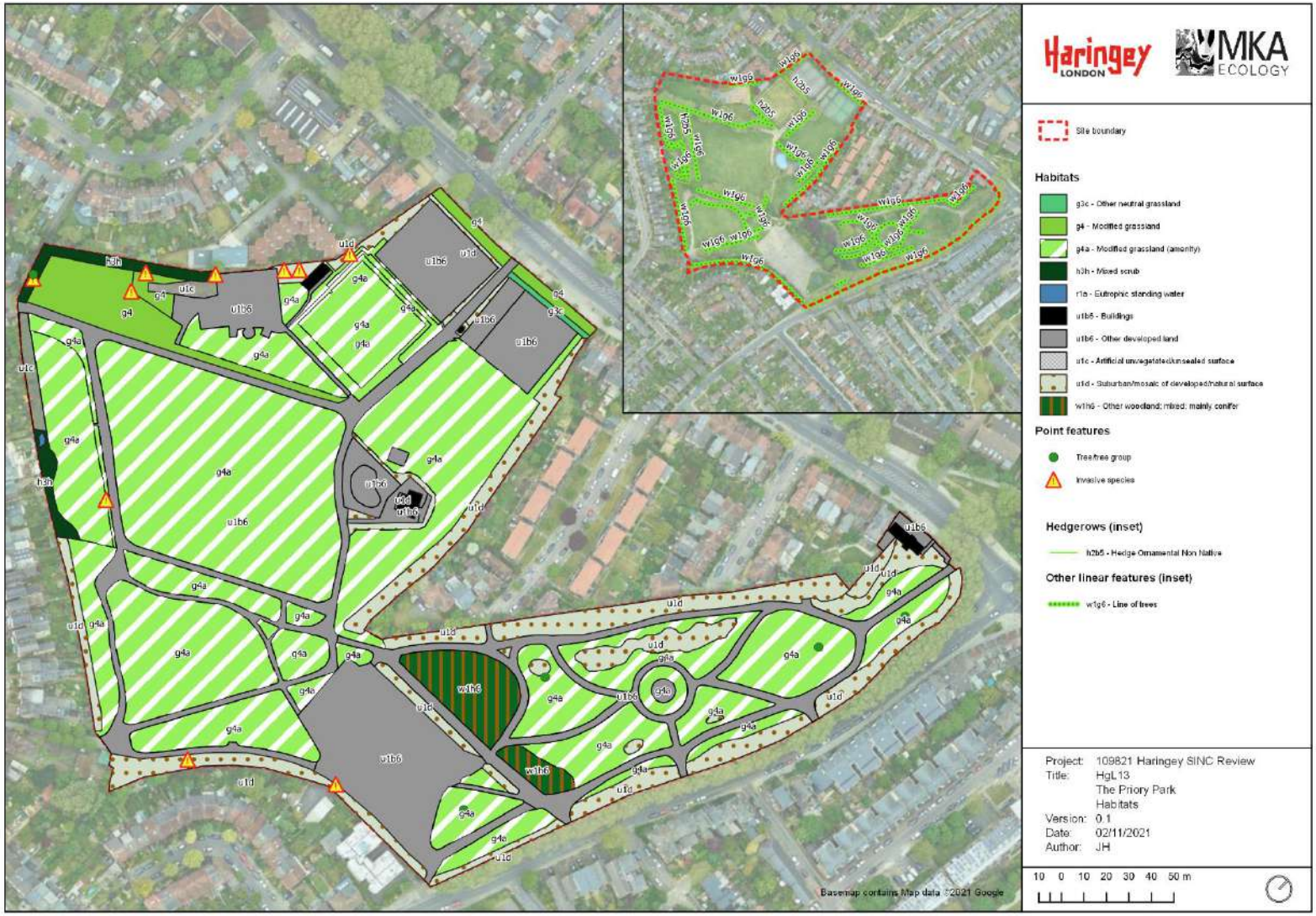
Hedgerow

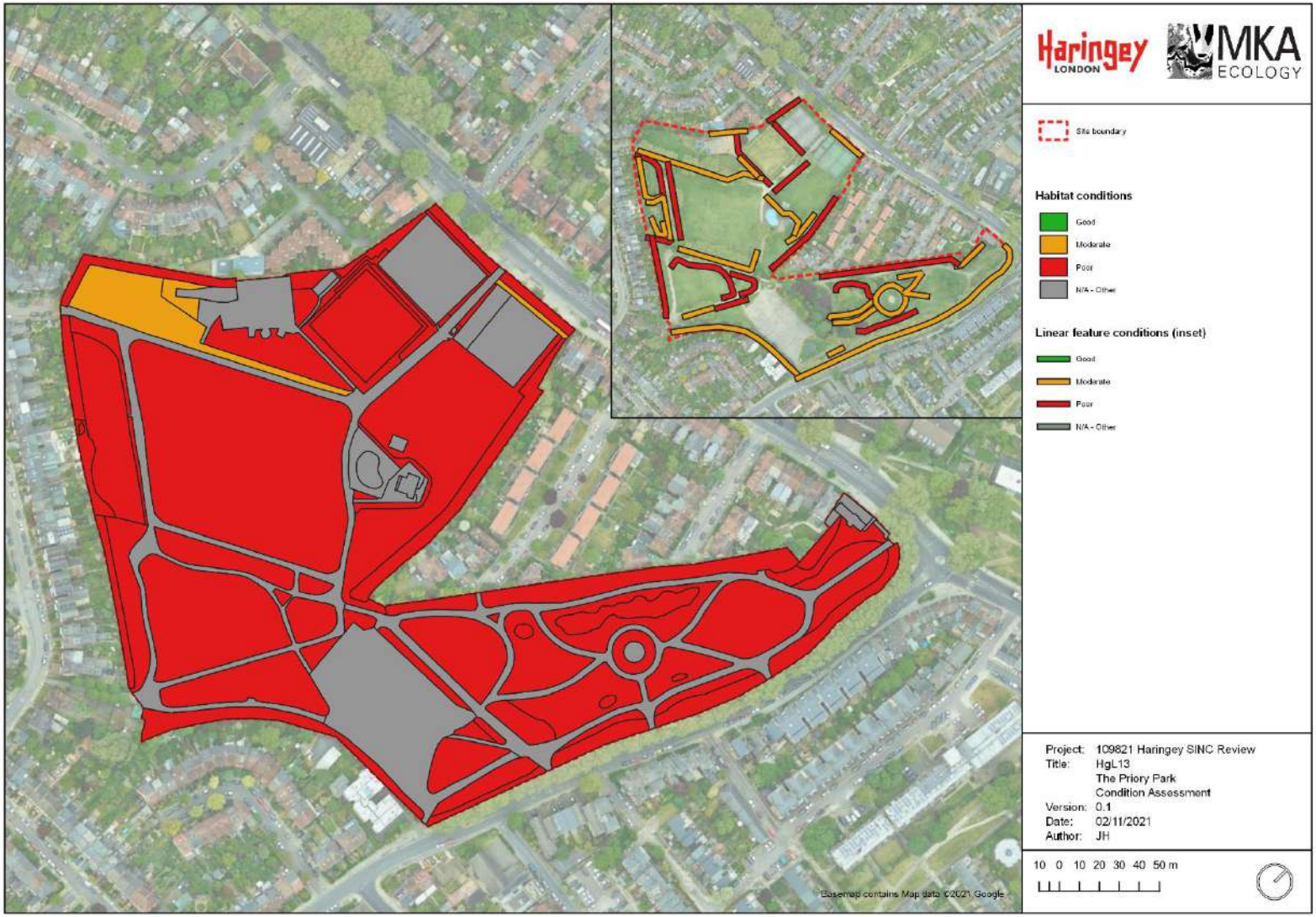
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native**
Description Garden privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium* and cypress *Cupressus* sp. hedgerows surround tennis courts and other sections of the park.
Condition Ornamental hedgerows are considered to have a Poor condition by default.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats are present at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1b - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1h6 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly conifer
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL13
The Priory Park
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 02/11/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL13
The Priory Park
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 02/11/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Bamboo	-
C	Cherry laurel	-
D	False acacia	-
E	False acacia	-
F	Buddleia	-
G	False acacia	-
H	Cherry laurel	-
I	Cherry laurel	-
J	Portugal Laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The lines of mature London plane along the paths and eastern boundary are an outstanding feature of the Park. The park is apparently well used by local people and provides a useful stepping stone of green space between the Crouch End Open Space (CREOS) SINC to the west and Alexandra Park to the north. As such, the site warrants continued designation at the **Local** grade. The habitats present are typical of urban parks, but are of relatively low ecological value in themselves and so an upgrade to a Borough grade is not warranted.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

The open spaces in the west of the site and the boundary shrub and scrub offer opportunities for relatively simple and cost saving changes in management.

Creation of features	
Habitats	**Ponds:** Creation of additional ponds.

Species	**Birds:** Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species and spotted flycatcher). **Bats:** Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of mature tree-lines. **Invertebrates (deadwood):** Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around perimeter areas and within shrubs. **Invertebrates (pollinators):** Additional planting of annual meadow/wildflower seed mix areas. **Invertebrates (generalist)**: Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels'
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	**Pond:** Enhancement and enlarging of existing pond. Removal of ornamental central feature and re-profiling to create more varied depths (shelves, etc) and planting with marginal plants. Creation of log piles around pond edge. **Grassland:** Relaxation of mowing regimes in more areas of the park, over time allowing for a more tussocky sward structure and increased habitat provision for invertebrates. E.g., mowing only in the centre of quadrants with cut paths leading out ('spoke and wheel').

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

None recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

Potential risks which may impact upon habitat condition and features include;

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species;
- Impact from human recreation, particularly dog walking, on the majority of habitats.

1. Paignton Road Open Space

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

Typical of an urban park, it's dominated by well-maintained amenity grassland with pathways crossing the entire park. Scattered and lines of trees are present throughout the park with a children's playground area situated in the north eastern corner. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 33238 88226. Te local community are involved in the management of the park, undertaking regular litter picks.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – 'other' neutral grassland (10 - Scrub, 11 - Scattered trees, 73 - Bare ground) **g4a – Amenity grassland (73 - Bare ground)**
Description **g3c – 'other' neutral grassland:** Three small areas of high diversity grassland were present on small earth mounds within the children's play area. These were grass dominant, with common couch *Elytrigia repens*, wall barely *Hordeum murinum* and perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* within the sward. Other species within the sward included field bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis* and spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare*. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** The majority of the site was comprised of well managed grassland, dominated by bent grass *Agrosis* sp. This had a uniform short ward of 2cm. Approximately 10% of the grassland was bare ground, likely due to recreational pressures.
Condition **g3c – 'other' neutral grassland:** This grassland was given moderate condition, failing only one condition due to high abundances of undesirable species. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** Assessed as being in moderate condition, failing several of the condition criteria.

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees

Description Lines of mature and semi-mature trees bounded many of the footpaths through the park. Many of these comprised *Prunus* species, alongside other species including silver birch *Betulus pendula*, Lombardy poplar *Populus nigra 'Italica'* and London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*.
Condition All lines of trees were in poor condition, with the exception of the line of hawthorn and *Prunus* trees in the centre of the park.

Hedgerow

h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees
Description Two sections of hedgerow were present in the southern section of the park, adjacent to neighbouring private residential gardens. Both sections lacked species diversity, and were dominated by blackthorn, with instances of hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*.
Condition Both hedgerows were in moderate condition, being immediately adjacent to well managed areas of grassland.

Scrub

h3d Bramble scrub
Description A small area of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominated scrub was present in the southern portion of the park, likely having developed from lack of management from neighbouring hedgerow. Dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* were also present.
Condition Given poor condition, lacking in age range, a well-developed edge and clearings within the scrub.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 – Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings (92 - Educational building)** **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**

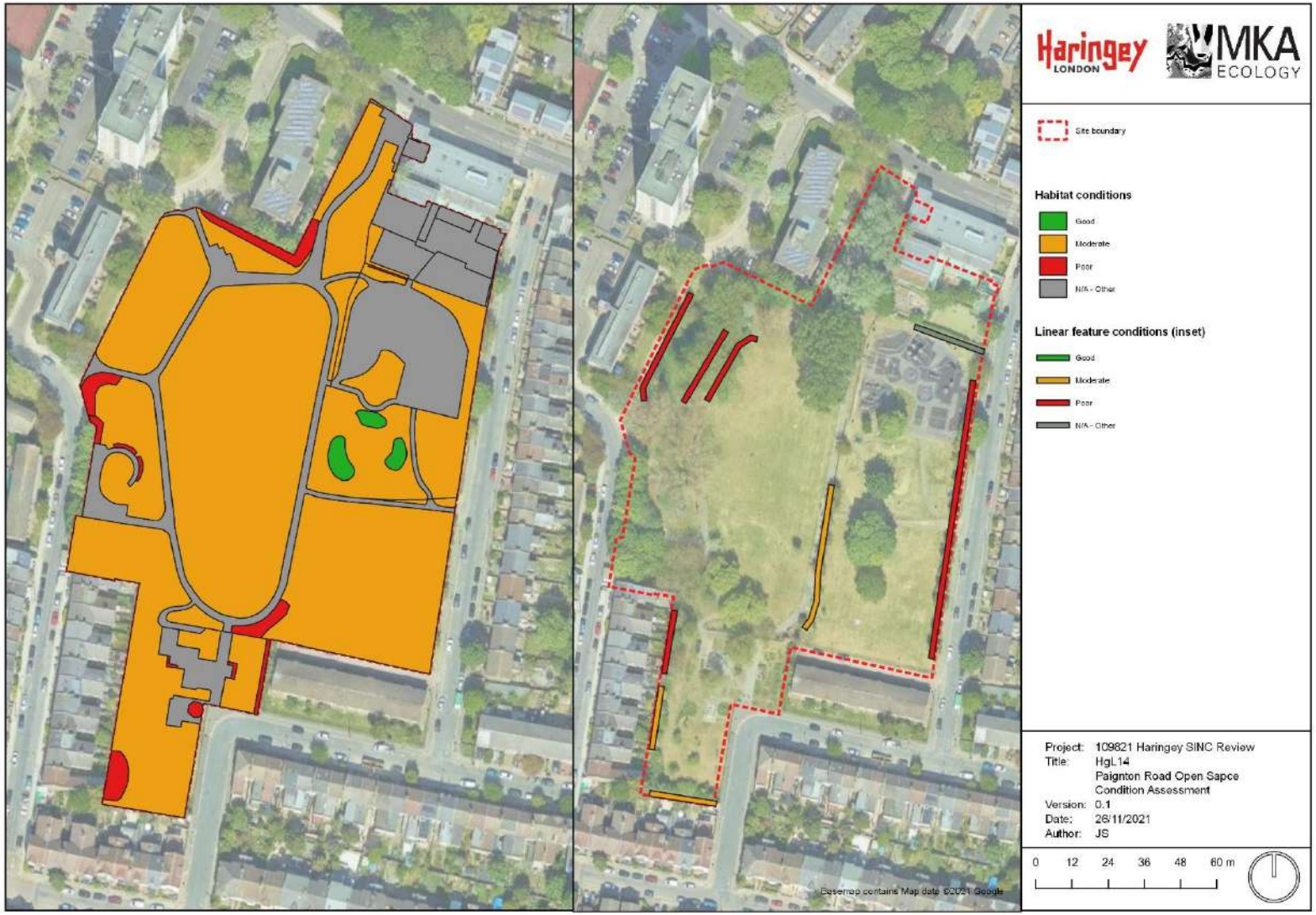
u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (73 - Bare ground, 1160 - Introduced shrub)
Description **u – Urban (1170 - Tree (urban tree)):** Scattered trees are present. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Concrete footpaths, bonded rubber mulch in the children's play area and outside areas in the school, including Astroturf. **u1b5 – Buildings:** Part of the neighbouring school **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** A small area of bare ground within the school premises, used as a storage area. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental planting were present in planting beds and around some of the boundaries of the park. These were well maintained, with evidence of recent management.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of Introduced shrub habitats which default to Poor.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Other linear features (inset)
u1e1 - wall
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL14
Paignton Road Open Space
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JS
0 11 22 33 44 55 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL14
Paignton Road Open Sapce
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 12 24 36 48 60 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	False acacia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The habitats present are typical of urban parks, but are of relatively low ecological value in themselves. Some areas of the park are suffering from recreational damage but the park still provides access to open greenspace, so retention at Local grade is recommended.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.
- Presence of roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees)
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows:* • Planting of native species rich hedgerows around suitable park perimeters *Ponds:* • Creation of a simple pond to increase diversity within the site.
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’) *Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and or buildings. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees’ nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried

	vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • Consider the relaxation of mowing regime and seeding with additional grassland species throughout. This will provide additional shelter and foraging resources for invertebrates. E.g., mowing only in the centre of quadrants with cut paths leading out ('spoke and wheel'). *Scrub:* • Management of the existing scrub habitat in the south western corner of the park for development into hedgerow.
Species	*Invasive species* • Control of LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Muswell Hill Playing Fields

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Local
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

Muswell Hill Playing Fields (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 27689 90828) consists largely of large areas of amenity grassland with borders of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. shrub. An area of woodland in the north is the most valuable ecological feature and, being somewhat undisturbed, is in relatively good condition. Existing areas in the playing fields have been given over to a reduced management regime and there is opportunity for this to be further expanded. A significant stand of Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* is present along the western boundary. The play area has also been subject to recent tree planting of hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and oak *Quercus* sp.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 - Tall herb)** **g4 - Modified grassland 10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 64 – Mown)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (1160 - Introduced shrub, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral, 511 - Natural sports pitches; 520 - Recreation ground; 610 - Children's Play Space, 64 – Mown, 66 - Frequently mown)**
Description **g3c - Other neutral grassland**: Perimeter fringes of tall herb and rough grassland are found on the north and west of the north-most sports pitch. There was a diverse array of species, perhaps partly arising through seeding on a bund. Grasses include frequent creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera,* false-oat grass *Arrhenatherum elatius,* cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and common couch *Elytrigia repens.* Tall herbs include black horehound *Ballota nigra*, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense,* hogweed *Heracleum sphondylium* and rosebay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium.* Within the field layer, common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus,* red campion *Silene dioica* and white campion *S. latifolia* suggest some previous seeding. However, the taller herbs of disturbed ground dominate. This area, particularly with the unshaded south-east facing bund could provide an excellent basking site for reptiles, if

managed to their needs, keeping a mosaic of bare ground, ephemeral vegetation, tall herbs with nearby scrub. Common lizard *Zootoca vivipara* was recorded from the site in 2012.

g4 - Modified grassland: Areas that are likely to have been historically closely mown amenity grassland but which have had their mowing intensity reduced. The largest area is in the south-east corner. These areas were still species poor, though yarrow *Achillea millefolium* and autumn hawkbit *Scorzoneroides autumnalis* were occasional. These areas, if expanded and connected to other semi-natural habitat would also favour reptiles and amphibians.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Rye-grass *Lolium* dominated sports pitches with white clover *Trifolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major* also frequent.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Poor. The presence of non-native species (e.g., green alkanet *Pentaglottis sempervirens*) and other undesirable species, scrub incursion (bramble and Japanese knotweed), relatively uniform tall height (those lower growing species accounted for less than 20% total cover) all give rise to a Poor condition.

g4 - Modified grassland: Moderate. Species richness similar to amenity grassland but, with a relaxed mowing regime, passes the criterion relating to sward height.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Poor. Low species richness, damage from frequent use and mowing and present of 'undesirable species' contribute to a Poor assessment.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: A mixed woodland occupies a sloped, northern projection of the site boundary. It is fenced on all sides and is comprised of pedunculate oak *Quercus robur,* aspen *Populus tremula,* silver birch *Betula pendula* and sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus*. Mature London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* are also present. The shrub layer is comprised of hazel *Corylus avellana*, very occasional rowan *Sorbus acuparia* and cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus.* The relatively undisturbed ground flora was seen to support ground-ivy *Glechoma hederecea,* wood avens *Geum urbanum* and common nettle. A single lords-and-ladies *Arum maculatum* was also observed.

Condition

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Good. Whilst supporting non-native species and non-native sycamore accounted for over 25% of the canopy cover, the presence of some veteran trees and the full range of age structure, ground flora and tree replacement associated with a relative lack of disturbance gives rise to a Good condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3d - Bramble scrub** **h3h - Mixed scrub (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 48 - Non-native, 76 - Recent Management)**
Description **h3d - Bramble scrub**: Uniform, dense bands of bramble scrub are present along much of the northern and eastern boundary. Only where informal access from back-gardens leads to pathways through these blocks is there any break. **h3h - Mixed scrub**: On the southern and western boundary is scrub of a more diverse nature, with ash, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa,* hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* present, along with white willow *Salix alba* within a larger projection in the south-west corner, where common nettle forms the dominant tall herb. Japanese knotweed is present in dominant stands along the northern half of the western boundary.
Condition **h3d - Bramble scrub**: Defaults to Poor condition. **h3h - Mixed scrub:** Poor condition, with the exception of the larger areas to the south-west which are Moderate. The relative uniformity of the northern bands, coupled with the presence of a Schedule 9, Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981, as amended) species contributes to this Poor condition. Only the presence of nettles in the field layer prevents the larger block in the south-west from being in Good condition. Replacement with other, perhaps flower-rich tall herb or grasses would make this a more valuable area of structurally diverse scrub.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land (530 - Ball courts, 610 - Children's Play Space)** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings**: Two buildings of unknown function. **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Paths **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface.** Dirt paths. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Introduced shrub of firethorn *Pyracanthus* flank the buildings, with additional, small areas of planting within the play area.
Condition

Urban habitats are given a zero score for condition ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs, which defaults to Poor.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were found at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL16 Muswell Hill Playing Fields
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL16
Muswell Hill Playing Fields
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Area of reduced mowing intensity. Demonstration of what else could be achieved

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Japanese knotweed	-
B	Japanese knotweed	-
C	Cherry laurel	-
D	Japanese knotweed	-
E	Japanese knotweed	-
F	Japanese knotweed	-
G	Japanese knotweed	-
H	Japanese knotweed	-
I	Japanese knotweed	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The playing fields, whilst of minimal ecological value in themselves, do provide a buffer from urban areas to the sensitive sites of Coldfall Wood and St Pancras & Islington Cemetery. The woodland in the north-west corner and scrub/grassland buffer along the north boundary are the most important habitats. The presence of the latter, with some areas supporting tall herbs and a local resource for invertebrates, highlight the potential that larger areas in the south of the site hold for habitat enhancement. Indeed, the relaxation of mowing in a strip along the south-east boundary is a positive feature. Significant stands of Japanese knotweed are present along the western boundary. The site warrants continued designation as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats in mature trees and buildings.
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a wildlife pond will provide additional habitat diversity for invertebrates and increase the availability of breeding habitat for amphibians.
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Using existing bunds in the north-west corner, creating/shaping mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees (e.g. north-west corner). When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') at boundaries where the site adjoins neighbouring woodland SINCs and within woodland. *Nesting birds:* • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and buildings
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Restoration of as much of the available grassland as possible to a low intensity management regime, with or without additional seeding, as already seen in some areas. Expansion of existing areas of tall herbs/rough grassland at the site's perimeter to a wider strip. *Scrub:*

	• Opening out of bramble scrub to [a] decrease its dominance and [b] allow opportunities for a more varied tall herb/grassland field layer and [c] increase structural diversity. • Providing continuity between areas of scrub and rough grassland to provide mosaics of grassland/tall herbs/scrub.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Surveys for reptiles. Update to 2012 record of common lizard; guide management practices along western boundary where ongoing control of scrub and invasive species is necessary. Add further rationale for recommending wider relaxation of grassland management.
- Continued monitoring and control of Japanese knotweed and other invasive species.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued application of high intensity management methods where relaxed mowing and seeding with additional species can be achieved with little or no loss to the overall recreational facility.
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Down Lane Recreation Ground

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A small park, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 34374 89957, that comprises large areas of open grass, groups of trees, with lines of trees bounding the park on all sides.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g4 – Modified grassland **g3c – 'Other' neutral grassland (17 Ruderal/ ephemeral)**
Description **g4 – Modified grassland:** Of the 5ha site, 4.65ha of the site was modified grassland. This are comprised of typical 'lawn' species and is frequently mown. **g3c – 'Other' neutral grassland:** One small earth mound showed evidence of less regular management, with a varied sward height, likely to provide opportunities for invertebrates. Species included cut-leaved crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum*, chickweed *Stellaria* sp. and wall barely *Hordeum murinum* not seen elsewhere on site. Dead wood has been left in place at the edge of this area of grassland.
Condition All grassland was in moderate condition. Whilst characterised by frequent mowing, there is little evidence of damage to the grassland in the form of bare ground.

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description Lines of mature trees surround the whole site. These were a variety of species, including hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* and common lime *Tilia* × *europaea*.
Condition

All lines of trees were assessed as being in moderate condition, all having gaps more than 5m within the canopy and being surrounded by modified grassland and footpaths.

Urban

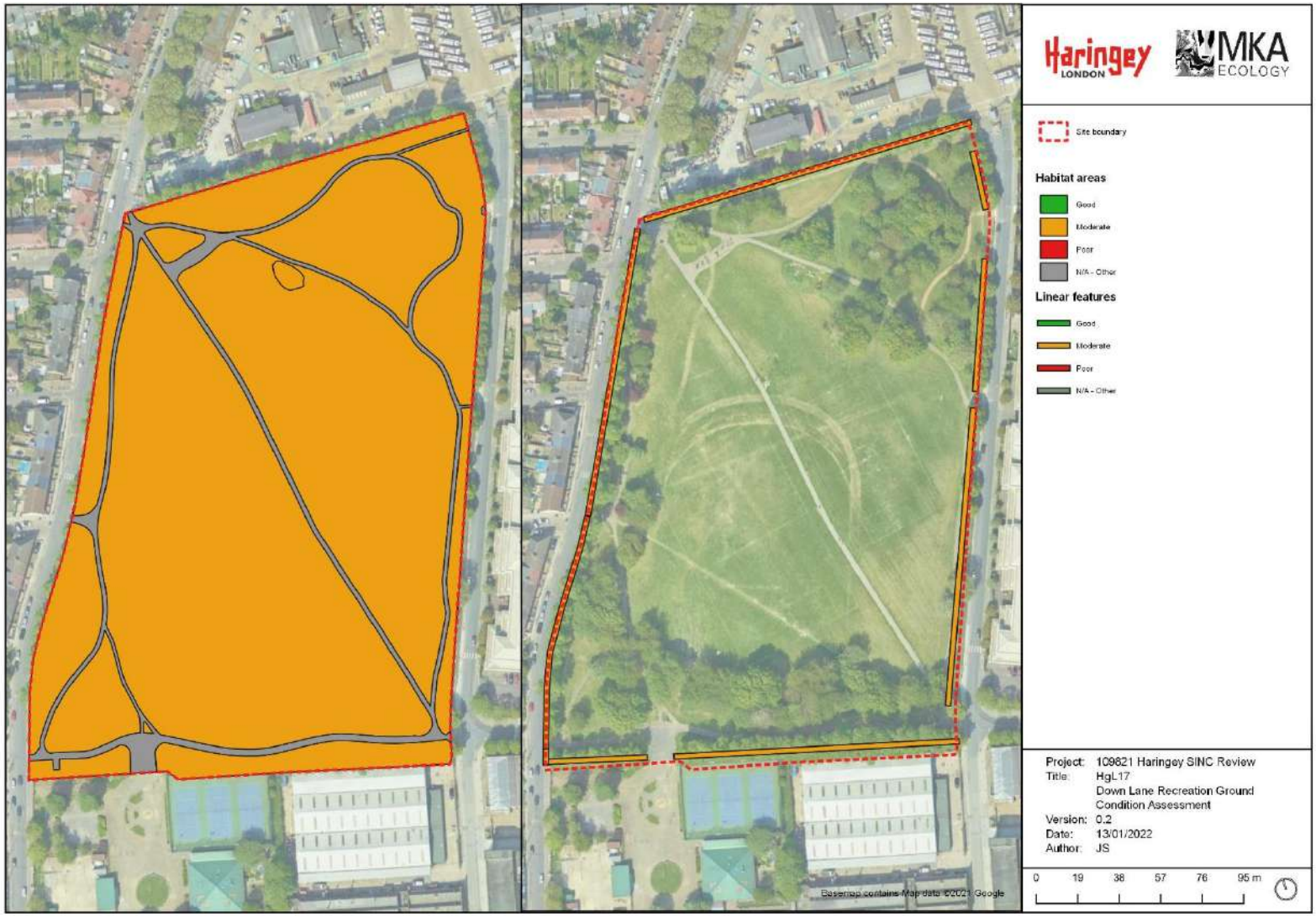
u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** In addition to the lines of trees, individual trees and groups of trees were present. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Hardstanding used for footpaths throughout the park.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other').

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
linearFeatures-habitats
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL17
Down Lane Recreation Ground
Habitats
Version: 0.2
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JS
0 13 26 39 52 65 78 91 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL17
Down Lane Recreation Ground
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.2
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JS
0 19 38 57 76 95 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Target note
1	Dead wood

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

This site continues to acts as an important site for access to greenspace, and provides connectivity to other nearby SINCs. As such, the site deserves to retain its Local grade status.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a small wildlife pond within the group of trees in the north east corner of the site. This would increase diversity within the park.
Species	*Birds:* • Provision of bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) on mature trees. *Bats:* • Provision of bat boxes on mature trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland*

	• Consider the relaxation of mowing regime around the park edges and below scattered trees and seeding with additional grassland species to create a parkland type habitat, beneficial to invertebrates and bats. • Wildflower meadow habitats could be created alongside the bisecting path for park users

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Introduction of invasive, non-native species.

1. North Bank, Pages Lane

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Local
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Borough Grade 2.**
    - Extend SINC boundary to west to include all woodland. This and the woodland present within the SINC boundary are contiguous and accessible from one another.

1.2. Site description

A mixed woodland is by far the most valuable part of the site and includes a small seasonally wet pond in the south-west corner. The woodland contains a number of mature trees, including a veteran horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*. Ancient woodland indicator sedges are also present (wood sedge *Carex sylvatica* and pendulous sedge *C.pendula*), particularly visible along paths. Elsewhere, the site is largely amenity grassland, ornamental planting and hedgerows. A tennis club is in the south of the site and buildings of a Methodist Church and Chester House occupy the north-east. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28513 89968.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g6 - Line of trees** **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types (47 – Native, 48 - Non-native, 49 - Veteran Trees)** **w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved (1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description **w1g6 - Line of trees.** Two tree lines are recorded, one in the middle of the site and a second is a line of mature trees along the south boundary. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types.** A broadleaved woodland forms the entire western part of the site and includes the area that is proposed for the SINC extension. Due to the presence of abundant horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* and sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* it is not considered as a Priority woodland. Nevertheless, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* is frequent. A veteran horse-chestnut is present within the western corner. Holly *Ilex aquifolium* and cherry *Prunus* form the shrub layer, with the latter present at the woodland edge. The ground flora is relatively diverse and includes ancient woodland indicators wood sedge and pendulous sedge. Other ground flora species include

enchanter's nightshade *Circaea lutetiana,* male fern *Dryopteris filix-mas* and wood dock *Rumex sanguineus*. Trails run through the woodland, but access is relatively limited and damage is therefore much reduced compared with other, more accessible sites within the borough.

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: Continuous with the main woodland body, this area consists of a mixture of broadleaved and coniferous species. In addition to horse-chestnut as above, London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, yew *Taxus baccata* are present.

Condition

w1g6 - Line of trees. The central tree line is in Poor condition, the southern boundary in Good condition.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Good: The presence of invasive cherry laurel and the cover of non-native horse-chestnut are the only categories to score poorly in this woodland.

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: Moderate. This woodland area scores poorly in the presence of invasive species, a high proportion of non-native tree cover and absence of dead-wood.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g3c - Other neutral grassland (161 - Tall or tussocky sward)

g4/g4a – Modified/amenity grassland (64 Mown, 11 - Scattered trees, 1160 - Introduced shrub, 66 - Frequently mown)

Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland: A bank north of the natural boundary of the site (the southern tree line), yet still within the SINC. Cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* gives the bank a tussocky appearance. Herbs include as common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* and meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris* were rare within the sward, whereas creeping buttercup *R.repens* was at relatively high density.

g4/g4a – Modified/amenity grassland: The majority of the non-woodland habitats are frequently mown amenity grass with species such as rye-grass *Lolium* and white clover *Trifolium repens.* Elsewhere, common ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris* and creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla reptans* were abundant, particularly where some areas (e.g., south of the central tree line) had been allowed to grow longer.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Moderate condition. A high proportion of undesirable species are present and herbs are relatively infrequent.

g4a – Amenity grassland: Mostly moderate. Sward structure was varied in places.

Hedgerows

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees** **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow** **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native**
Description **h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees:** The southern boundary to the tennis club is a mixed hedge including elm *Ulmus,* hazel *Corylus avellana* and hawthorn. The hedge is relatively dense and, on its south side, is afforded a wide strip of rough grassland (see above). **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow:** Relatively recent hedgerow planting is present along the access road from the south-east. Hawthorn is the dominant species. **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native:** A cypress *Cupressus* boundary hedge.
Condition **h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees:** Good. This hedgerow passes all condition criteria. **h2a5 - Native Hedgerow:** Poor. A lack of width or 'bushiness' and the absence of any real form of ground flora make this hedge a Poor hedgerow. **h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-native:** Defaults to Poor condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3h - Mixed scrub**
Description Narrow bands of mixed scrub form the eastern boundary of the woodland provide a buffer between the tennis club and southern boundary hedge and tree line. The latter includes cherry as the dominant species. The former is a mixed, but dense block of cherry, elder and bramble *Rubus fruticosus.*
Condition Along the south boundary, botanical and structural diversity, and the absence of non-native or undesirable species gives rise to a Good condition. The block associated with the woodland is in Poor condition, being little other than a bramble stand with additional woody species.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (162 - Temporary water bodies, 39 – man made)**

Description

An ornamental pond lies to the south-west of Chester House. The marginal vegetation is dominated by bulrush *Typha latifolia* which chokes the water body. An unidentified ornamental shrub dominates the island in the centre. Within the woodland is a seasonally dry pond which is dominated by reed sweet grass *Glyceria maxima.*

Condition

The ornamental pond is in Poor condition. There is no semi-natural habitat and duckweed *Lemna* covers what little surface water is visible. The woodland pond is in Moderate condition.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b5 - Buildings (500 Outdoor sports facilities, 98 - Institutional building

u1b6 - Other developed land (89 - Car Park)

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (11 - Scattered trees, 1150 - Flower bed, 1160 - Introduced shrub)

u1e - Built linear features

Description

u1b5 – Buildings: A Methodist church and Chester house. An RSPB swift survey identified a screaming party in the vicinity in 2012 with an indication of potential breeding. There is no indication that any of the buildings were the potential breeding site, but the potential remains. Similarly, the London Bat Group conducted a range of static detector surveys in 2016. Five species of bat were recorded at the site (common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *P.pygmaeus*, Nathusius' pipistrelle *P.nathusii,* noctule *Nycatlus noctula* and Leisler's bat *N. leisleri*). As these were records from automated detectors, there is no indication whether a roost is nearby. However, the possibility remains that the church or Chester House may support roosting bats.

u1b6 - Other developed land: Car parks and other hardstanding.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Untarmacked parking/pull in area.

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface: Ornamental planting around buildings and within the shrub layer of the more ornamental woodland area to the north. Cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* was locally abundant, with Oregon-grape *Mahonia aquifolium*, *Buddliea* and ornamental dogwood *Cornus.*

u1e - Built linear features: Paths.

Condition

Urban habitats are given a zero score for condition ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs, which defaults to Poor.

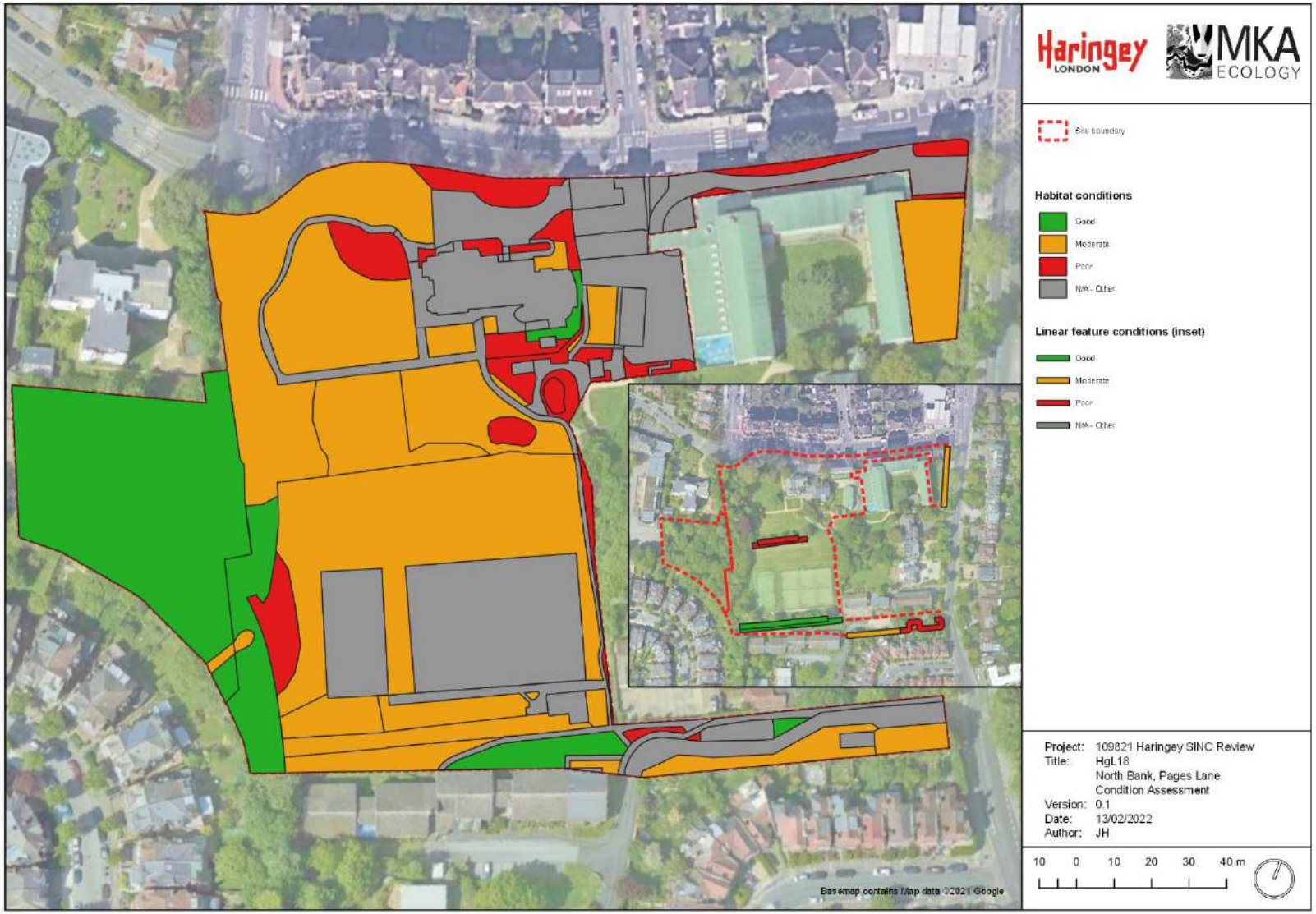
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location:

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Proposed extension
Current SINC boundary
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b6 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
w1h5 - Other woodland, mixed, mainly broadleaved
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Treetree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL18
North Bank, Pages Lane
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 01/10/2021
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL18
North Bank, Pages Lane
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/02/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Veteran horse-chestnut. ~2.0m DBH

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-
B	Rhododendron	-
C	Montbretia	-
D	Montbretia	-
E	Japanese knotweed	Area of recent eradication.

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Of the 0.75ha woodland present, only 50% lies within the SINC boundary in the eastern half, yet the entire area consists of a contiguous block. Indeed, the highest quality areas of woodland (fewer introduced shrubs, greater herb and AWI cover) is within the undesignated western section. It is therefore recommended that the SINC boundary be extended to include this western section (south of Whitehall Lodge).

Contrary to the SINC Citation, the north part of the site is not freely available to the public and is instead controlled by gated access. Nevertheless, the presence of a 0.75ha woodland with ancient woodland indicators and veteran trees warrants upgrade to a Borough Grade II SINC; the woodland is comparable to that seen at Grove Lodge Muswell Hill and Palace Gates and certainly in better condition than the latter.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential for protected or notable amphibians.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Invertebrates* • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Nesting birds:* • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and tree lines. • Swift and/or house sparrow boxes on existing buildings, subject to further survey work. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and buildings, further to additional survey work.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Restoration of as much of the available grassland as possible to a low intensity management regime, with or without additional seeding, as already seen in small areas. *Pond:* • Restoration of both ponds. For the ornamental pond, removal of some *Typha,* replacement of non-native ornamental planting and planting with native scrub and marginal species. *Scrub:* • Allowing scrub to expand at the woodland edge and managing dense stands of bramble where they occur. May require initial 'seeding' with woody species such as hawthorn to provide an initial 'focus'. *Woodland:*

	• Selective felling of non-native sycamore and horse-chestnut to allow regeneration of native species and provide additional light to promote ground flora. • Retention of any wood arising from necessary tree work. Where deadwood is created from felling work, the creation of: o *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs only where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016). o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Development of high canopy woodland to the exclusion of ground flora.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Thorold Road Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

This was a very well-kept allotment site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30554 91289), with an active allotment community who are both sympathetic to and actively encourage wildlife within the allotment. The allotment plots have a good variety of vegetable and flowering plants, with beehives and deadwood features present throughout. An area of scrub habitat exists to the northern end of the site, while a well-managed grassland path bisects the site.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland
Description Approximately 6m wide, this strip of grassland ran north to south through the site and is actively managed and regularly used by the allotment holders. The grassland was dominated by grass species, such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, with white clover *Trifolium repens* also abundant within the sward.
Condition The grassland is considered to be in moderate condition, despite the high proportion of white clover within the sward, as in many places the grassland margins had a varied sward height.

Scrub

h3d Bramble scrub (11 Scattered trees)
Description A small area of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominated scrub was present in the north eastern corner of the site, encroaching into an unused allotment plot. A number of young trees such as Norway maple *Acer platanoides* had developed, likely seeded from the neighbouring private gardens.
Condition

The scrub was in moderate condition. It had a well-developed edge and good age range of species within the habitat, due to being left unmanaged.

Urban

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)
Description The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife. There was a particular abundance of fig *Ficus* sp. trees.
Condition The diversity of pollen rich species beneficial for wildlife give this habitat a moderate condition.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19A
Thorold Road Allotment
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 25/11/2021
Author: JS
0 8 16 24 32 40 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
h3d
u1d
g4a
A
B
1


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19A
Thorold Road Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 25/11/2021
Author: JS
0 8 16 24 32 40 48 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Beehive

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Bamboo	-
B	Virginia Creeper	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

An allotment with an active community who are sympathetic to and actively encourage wildlife, with one plot dedicated to wildlife enhancement. As such, this site is likely to have particular benefit for wildlife. This allotment is well used by the allotment holders. The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond within communal areas will add further diversity to the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on semi-mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots.

	• Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes')
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Allotments:* • Where possible, designate further areas dedicated to wildlife.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species *Invertebrates:* • Retention of the existing log piles and areas of unmanaged

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Chitts Hill Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**
- Rename site: **Chitts Hill Allotments (Wolves Lane)**

1.2. Site description

Chitts Hill Allotments is one of the larger allotment sites within the borough (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 31632 91590), that borders a portion of the New River Sports Centre, White Hart Lane Recreation Ground & Woodside Park SINC. A line of mature oak *Quercus robur* and hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* remain present to the north of the site, with a few mature oak trees to the south west. A number of ponds are present within individual allotment plots, though descriptions of condition assessments are not included here for brevity.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description A single line of mature pedunculate oak and hornbeam was present within the centre of the allotment.
Condition Recorded in moderate condition, due to the being situated within the centre of an allotment and large gaps within the canopy.

Grassland

g3c – Modified grassland
Description Small strips of unmanaged but well-worn grassland acted as footpath access to allotment plots. A small area of grassland was present along the southern boundary, which appeared to be used occasionally as an area for vehicle parking. The grassland had relatively low diversity, with the highest abundancies of bent grass *Agrostis* sp., wall barley *Hordeum murinum* and white clover, typical of modified grasslands.

Condition The grasslands are considered to be in poor condition, due to the high abundance of undesirable species, such as white clover, and lack of structural diversity.

Scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub
Description Limited to a small area near the entrance of the allotment site, comprised primarily of young white willow *Salix alba* and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* samplings, with hedge bindweed *Calystegia sepium* relatively abundant.
Condition The scrub is in Poor condition, failing three of five condition criteria. Although there is no dominance within the habitat there is still little structural variety, with no clearings within the scrub.

Urban

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Access roads and footpaths. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife. A number of allotments to the east appeared to be less regularly managed. Numerous ponds are present on individual allotment plots which are understood to support populations of newts and common frogs *Rana temporaria*.
Condition **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** The default condition for is 'N/A – other' **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The diversity of pollen rich species beneficial for wildlife give this habitat a moderate condition.

Hedgerow

h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow
Description

A hedgerow that bounds the southern section of the site, along a wire fence line. A hawthorn dominant hedgerow *Crataegus monogyna*, with instances of blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and young ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and sycamore.
Condition Assessed as being in poor condition, as it failed on five condition criteria: width, undisturbed ground, undesirable species, gaps at base and current damage.

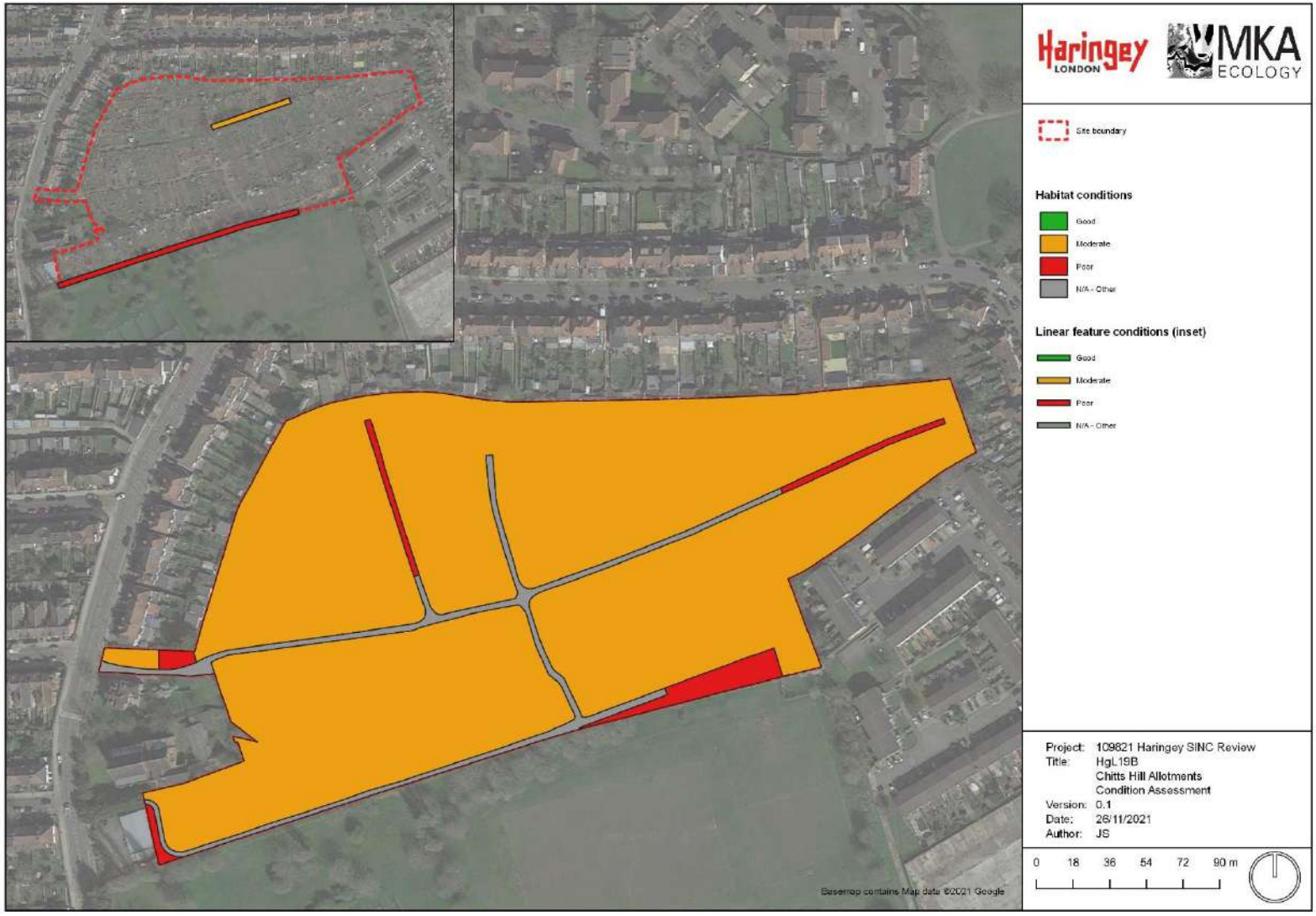
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land: sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Hedgerows
h2a9 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19B
Chitts Hill Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.2
Date: 09/12/2021
Author: JS
0 18 36 54 72 90 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
u1d
h3h
u1b
g4
w1g6
h2a9
A
B
1


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19B
Chitts Hill Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 18 36 54 72 90 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Ornamental pond

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-
B	Montbretia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

A very active allotment, that is beneficial to a large number of people, providing them with access to greenspace. A good diversity of flowers, fruit trees and a number of plots supporting scrubby areas were present. The line of mature trees is a particularly important feature of the site. Overall, the site warrants continued designated at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Potential presence of protected and/or notable amphibians.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Trees:* • Additional UK native tree planting *Ponds:* • Creation of a further small pond(s), dedicated to wildlife, will add further diversity to the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species).

	Bats: • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of mature tree-lines. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots. • Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structure ('hedgehog domes')
Management/restoration of existing features	
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species *Invertebrates:* • Retention of the existing log piles and areas of unmanaged

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Devonshire Hill Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A typical allotment site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32791 91612); the majority of the site had well maintained allotment plots, with a small number of plots recently left unmanaged.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland
Description Two small areas of grassland were present within that site that were not included as part of an allotment plot. The western area had been left unmanaged, allowing tussocky patches and a long sward to develop, up to 60cm. The grassland had high proportions of perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and white clover *Trifolium repens*. The A small amount of scrub was encroaching from the boundary. However, this accounts for less than 5%.
Condition Both areas of grassland were given moderate condition. Both areas of grassland had a high percentage of white clover, which limited the condition.

Scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub
Description Contained to two small sections of the site, these were bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominated areas of scrub that had been left unmanaged. The northern area of scrub was considerably more limited in structure, with an abundance of common nettle *Urica dioica*.
Condition The scrub was either assessed to be in poor or moderate condition. The northern section was in poor condition due to the lack of woody species, absence of structural diversity and abundance of

undesirable species. Both areas failed the conditions of lack of woody species diversity and absence of undesirable species.

Hedgerow

h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees
Description A hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* dominated hedgerow was present along the southern boundary of the allotment site, with an ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and oak *Quercus robur* tree. There evidence from historical imagery that this hedgerow has regenerated since 2019.
Condition This was in poor condition, failing the majority of the condition criteria.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** An individual mature pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* was present at the eastern end of the hedgerow, but did not form part of the hedgerow itself. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Concrete that formed access roads through the site. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'). **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The diversity of pollen rich species beneficial for wildlife give this habitat a moderate condition.

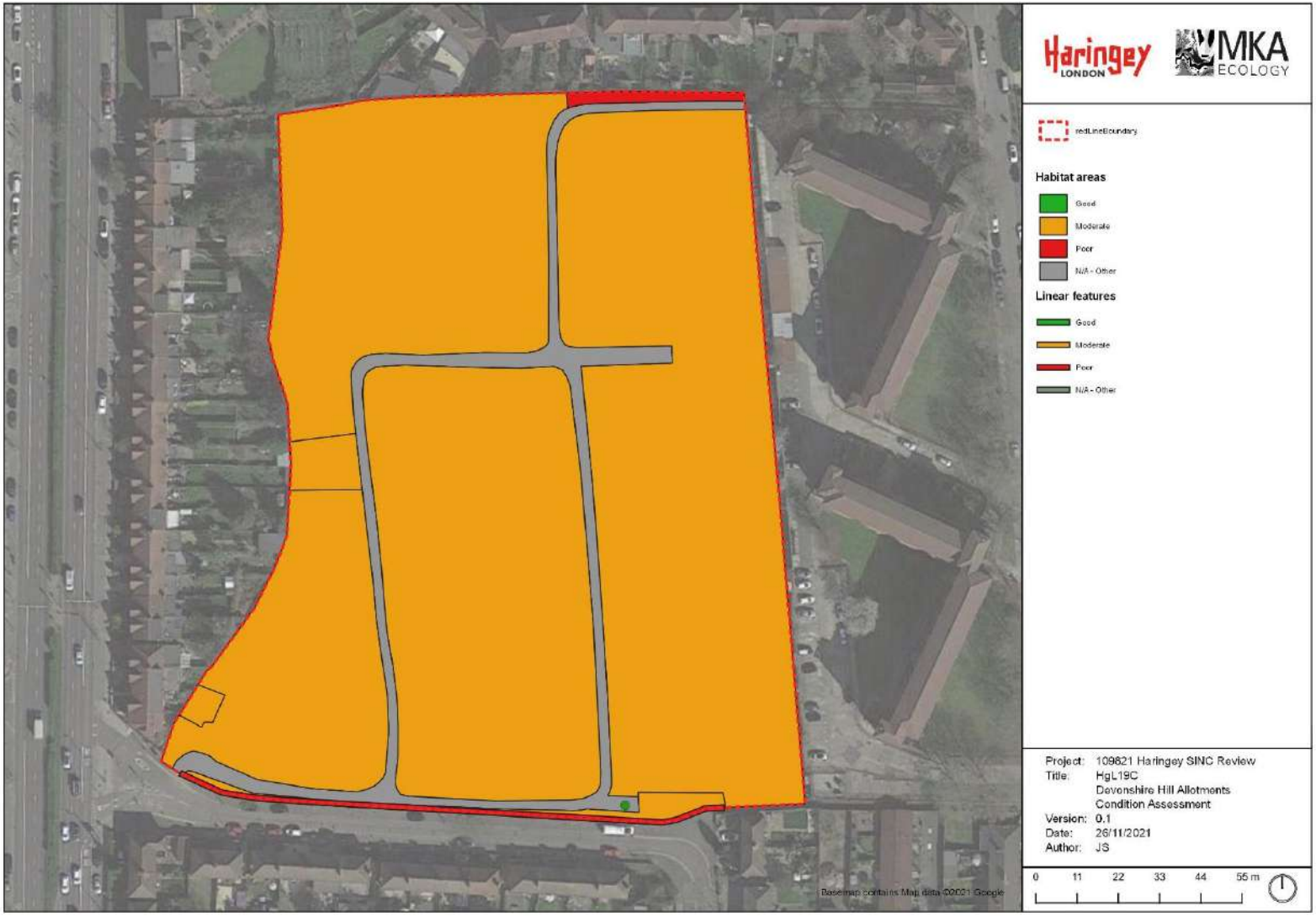
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land: sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Hedgerows
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Point features
Tree/tree group
u1d
g3c
u1b
h3h
h2a7
Base map contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19C
Devonshire Hill Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 11 22 33 44 55 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109621 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19C
Devonshire Hill Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 11 22 33 44 55 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.6. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.
- Potential presence of reptiles.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Trees:* • Additional UK native tree planting *Hedgerows:* • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along the northern boundary. • Enhance the existing hedgerow, by infilling at the base and reducing cutting regime to allow regeneration. *Ponds:* • Creation of small pond, dedicated to wildlife, within unused or communal areas will add further diversity to the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees within hedgerow (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of pole mounted bat boxes. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots. • Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structure ('hedgehog domes')

1.7. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.8. Future risks to condition

- Potential establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Coles Park Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A small allotment site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32120 91277), bound on three sides by residential housing and Haringey Borough football club to the north. A number of these plots have been left unmanaged over the last 24 months, resulting in overgrown areas, with a higher diversity of flowering plant species.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

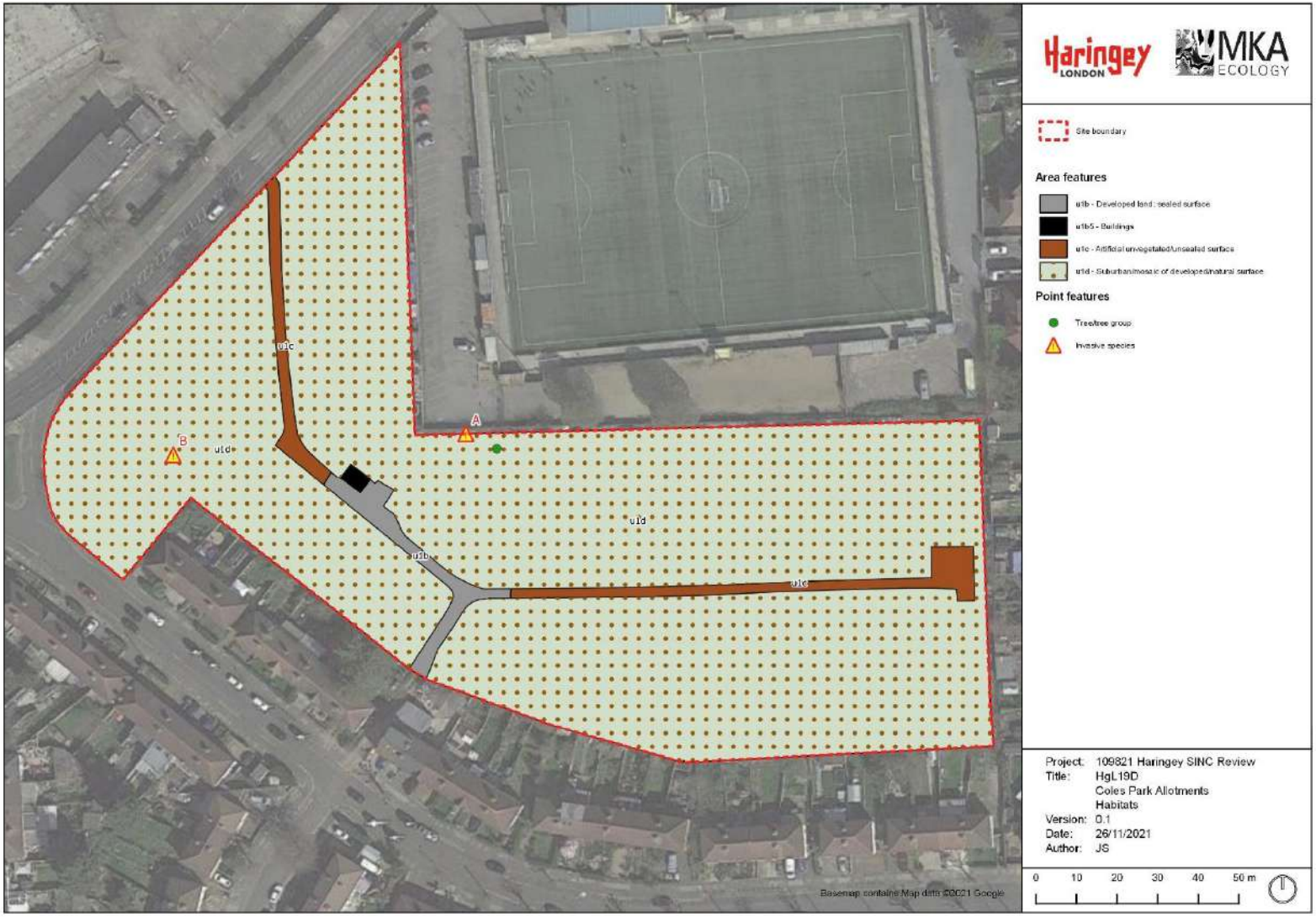
Urban

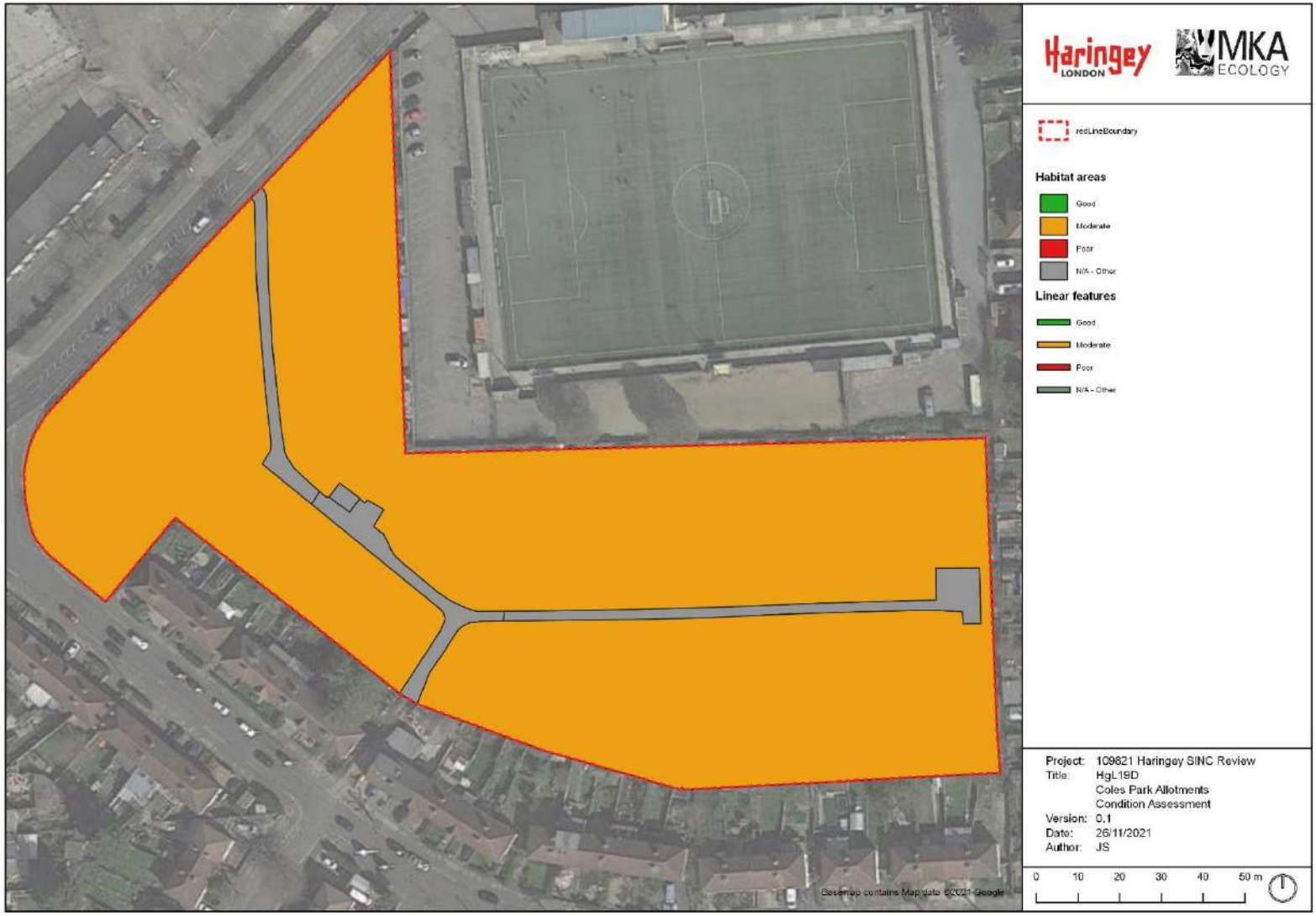
u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** A single notable sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* was present in the centre of the site, near the northern boundary. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Access onto the site from the main road was comprised of concrete. **u1c – Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface:** The access road became areas of compact earth, allowing vehicular and pedestrian access throughout the allotment site. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife. A large number of allotments across the site had been left unmanaged for a number of months, and have become relatively scrubby. Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* was present within communal areas on the northern boundary.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with exception of the allotments themselves, which had a moderate condition, due to the presence of Schedule 9 species.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
u1b - Developed land : sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
u1c
u1d
u1b
A
B
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19D
Coles Park Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19D
Coles Park Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Japanese knotweed	-
B	Montbretia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Allotment:* • Allow for a dedicated wildlife plot, including log piles and a wildlife pond where feasible. *Trees:* • Additional UK native tree planting, including additional fruit tree planting. *Ponds:* • Creation of further small pond(s), dedicated to wildlife, will add further diversity to the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on boundary fences (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of pole mounted bat boxes. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots. • Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels' *Hedgehog:*

	• Provision of hedgehog hibernation structure ('hedgehog domes')
Management/restoration of existing features	
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Gosspatrick Road Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A small, relatively well-managed allotment site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32054 91046). Three areas of bramble scrub have developed in communal areas, which may have developed from previously managed allotment plots. A small pond has been created in one of the plots, which has been artificially stocked with goldfish. A beehive is present within the allotment site.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Scrub

h3a – Blackthorn scrub **h3d – Bramble scrub** **h3h – Mixed scrub (16 – Tall herb)**
Description Small areas of scrub were located in the north western and south eastern sections of the Site. Those in the northern section were single species dominant, bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, whist the section to the south was mixed scrub, including hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, bramble and oak *Quercus robur*, alongside unmanaged allotment related species.
Condition All areas of scrub were in poor condition, lacking in diversity, age range and clearings within the scrub (bramble scrub defaults to poor condition).

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree) **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree):** A small number of mature individual trees were present within the allotment site, these were silver birch *Betula pendula* and a large *Eucalyptus* tree.

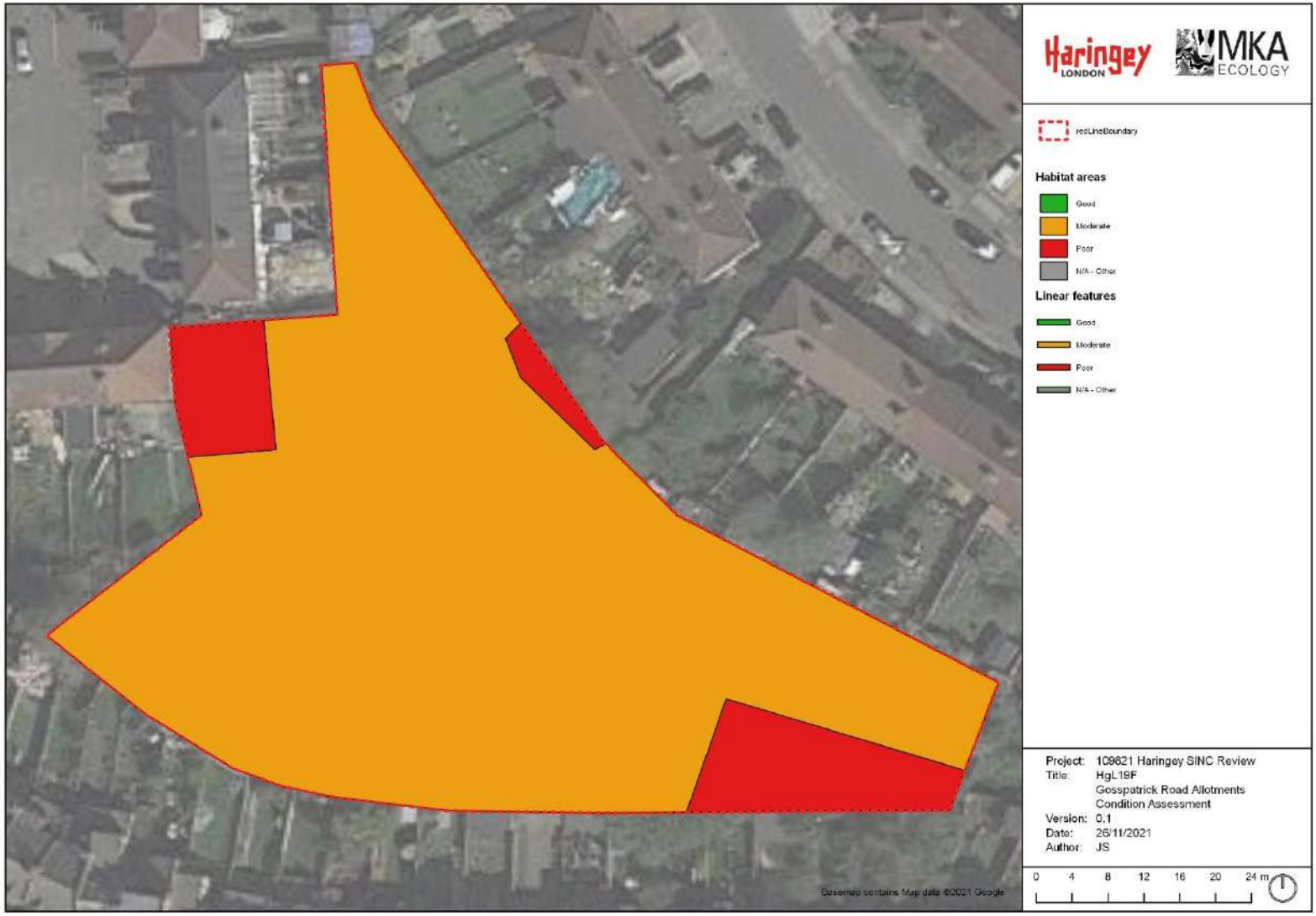
u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife. A number of allotments to the east appeared to be less regularly managed.
Condition The diversity of pollen rich species beneficial for wildlife give this habitat a moderate condition.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19F
Gosspatrick Road Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 6 12 18 24 m
h3d
h3a
h3h
u1d
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19F
Gosspatrick Road Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 4 8 12 16 20 24 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Beehives
2	Ornamental Pond

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry Laurel	-
B	Buddleja	-
C	Bamboo	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Allotment:* • Allow for a dedicated wildlife plot, including log piles and additional wildlife pond(s) where feasible. *Trees:* • Additional UK native tree planting, including fruit tree planting *Ponds:* • Creation of further small pond(s), dedicated to wildlife, within unused or communal areas will add further diversity to the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes boundary fences (generalist species).

	Bats: • Installation of pole mounted bat boxes. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots. • Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes')
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Scrub:* • Clear glades within the existing areas of scrub to provide opportunities for new growth and increase species diversity.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species *Invertebrates:* • Retention of the existing log piles and areas of unmanaged

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Courtman Road Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local Grade**

1.2. Site description

This allotment site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32339 91057) is surrounding by residential housing, with an area to the north of the site dedicated to beehives; this area was screened by bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. and privet *Ligustrum* sp. scrub. A good diversity of flowering plants and fruit trees are present in the allotment areas.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g4a - Amenity grassland (66 Frequently mown, 73 Bare ground)
Description Used for vehicular and pedestrian access through the allotment, the grassland is regularly used and kept well maintained with a short sward, with high abundances of bent grass *Agrostis* sp. and white clover *Trifolium repens*. The margins of the grassland were less well managed, with longer a longer sward and slightly higher species diversity. An area of bare ground was present near the entrance, which had evidence of being used for regular vehicle parking.
Condition Failing the majority of the criteria, the grassland has been given poor condition.

Scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub
Description A large area of mixed scrub was present within the centre of the site, within which was an area or open grassland with a number of beehives present. Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and privet were the most abundant species, with bramble and immature plum *Prunus* sp. saplings also present regularly.
Condition

The scrub was in moderate condition, only failing the age range criteria.

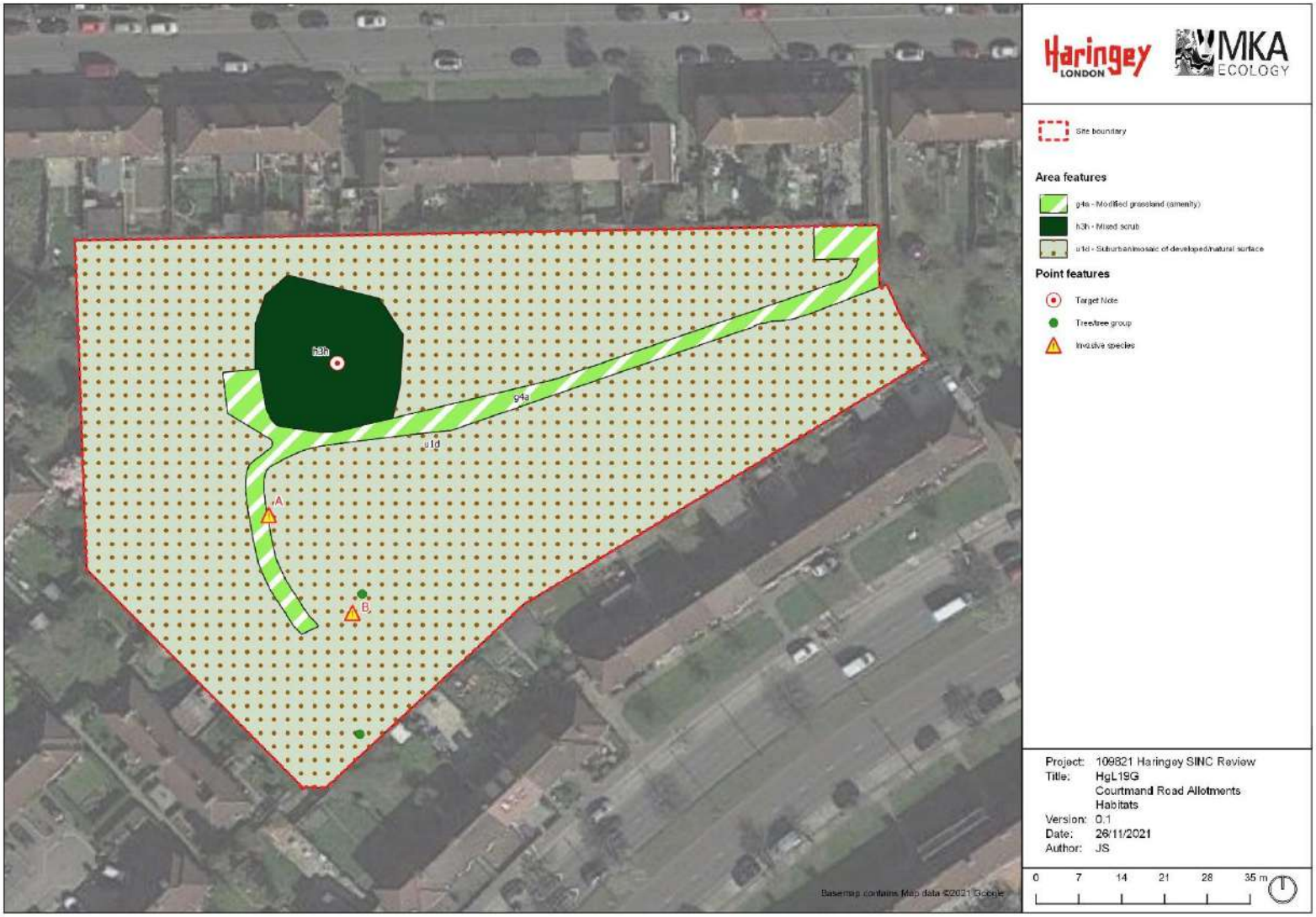
Urban

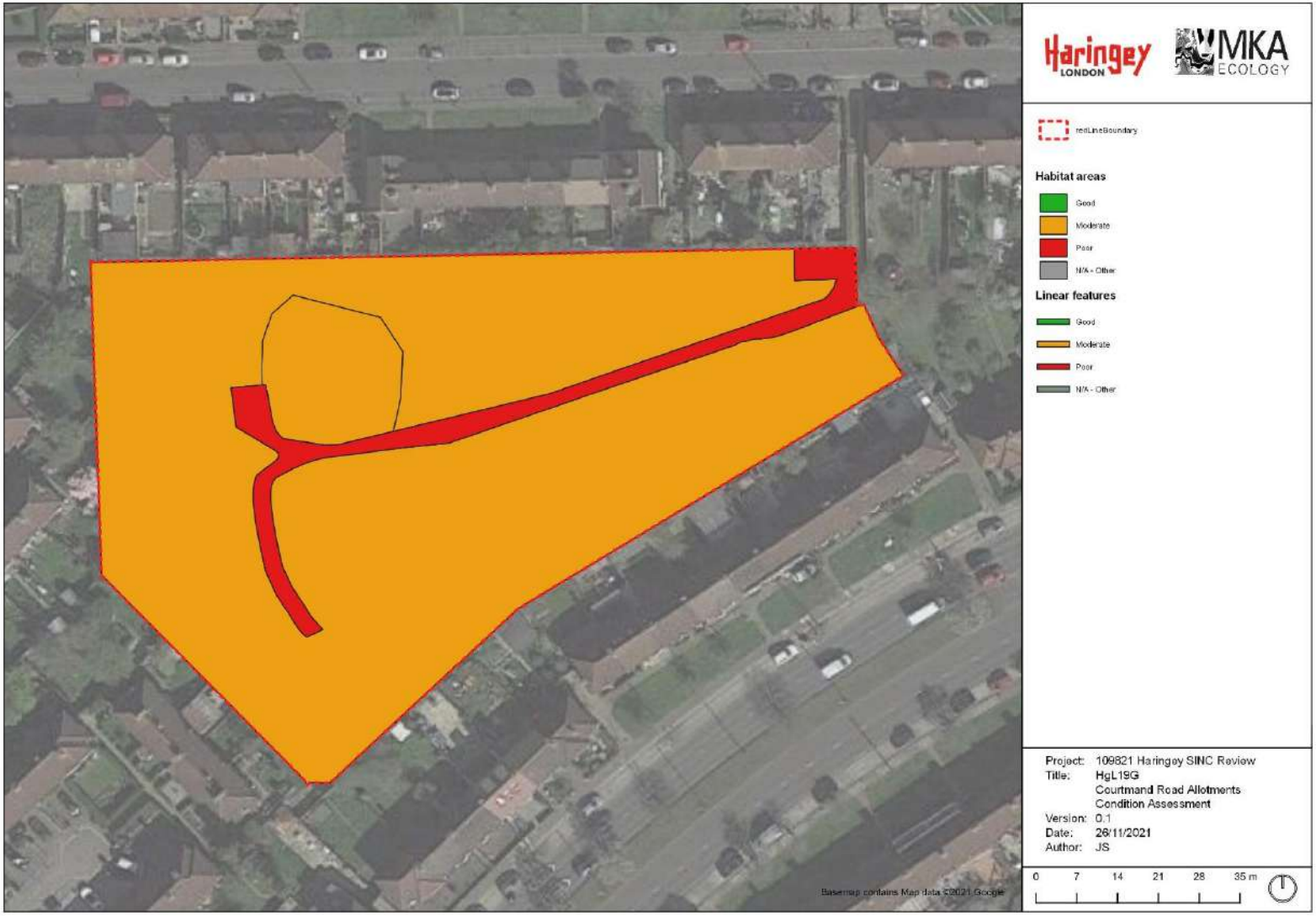
u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** Two notable trees were present within the site, these were a large hawthorn and a mature pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments):** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife.
Condition The diversity of pollen rich species beneficial for wildlife give this habitat a moderate condition.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
h3h
g4a
u1d
A
B
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19G
Courtmand Road Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 7 14 21 28 35 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19G
Courtmand Road Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 7 14 21 28 35 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Beehives

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Goat's-rue	-
B	Montbretia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Allotment:* • Allow for a dedicated wildlife plot, including log piles, species rich grassland and a wildlife pond where feasible.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on mature trees or pole mounted. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots. • Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels'
Management/restoration of existing features	

Habitats	*Scrub:* • Retain and enhance areas of scrub with additional planting, such as blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, rose *Rosa* sp, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and yew *Taxus baccata*.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

1. Marsh Lane Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A very well-maintained, highly active and closely managed allotment site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 35098 90947), with very few plots without active management. The south eastern corner of the site houses a pylon surrounded by scrub, which is entirely unmanaged. This area in particular has experienced problems with dumping from allotment holders.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub (17 – Ruderal/ephemeral, 77 Neglected)
A comparatively large area of mixed scrub surrounded the base of a pylon, within the boundary of the allotment site. Common nettle *Urtica dioica*, hedge bindweed *Calystegia sepium* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris* were common throughout the area, with bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. also present. A large amount of rubbish dumping was evident in this area.
Condition Given a moderate condition, failing three of the five required criteria.

Urban

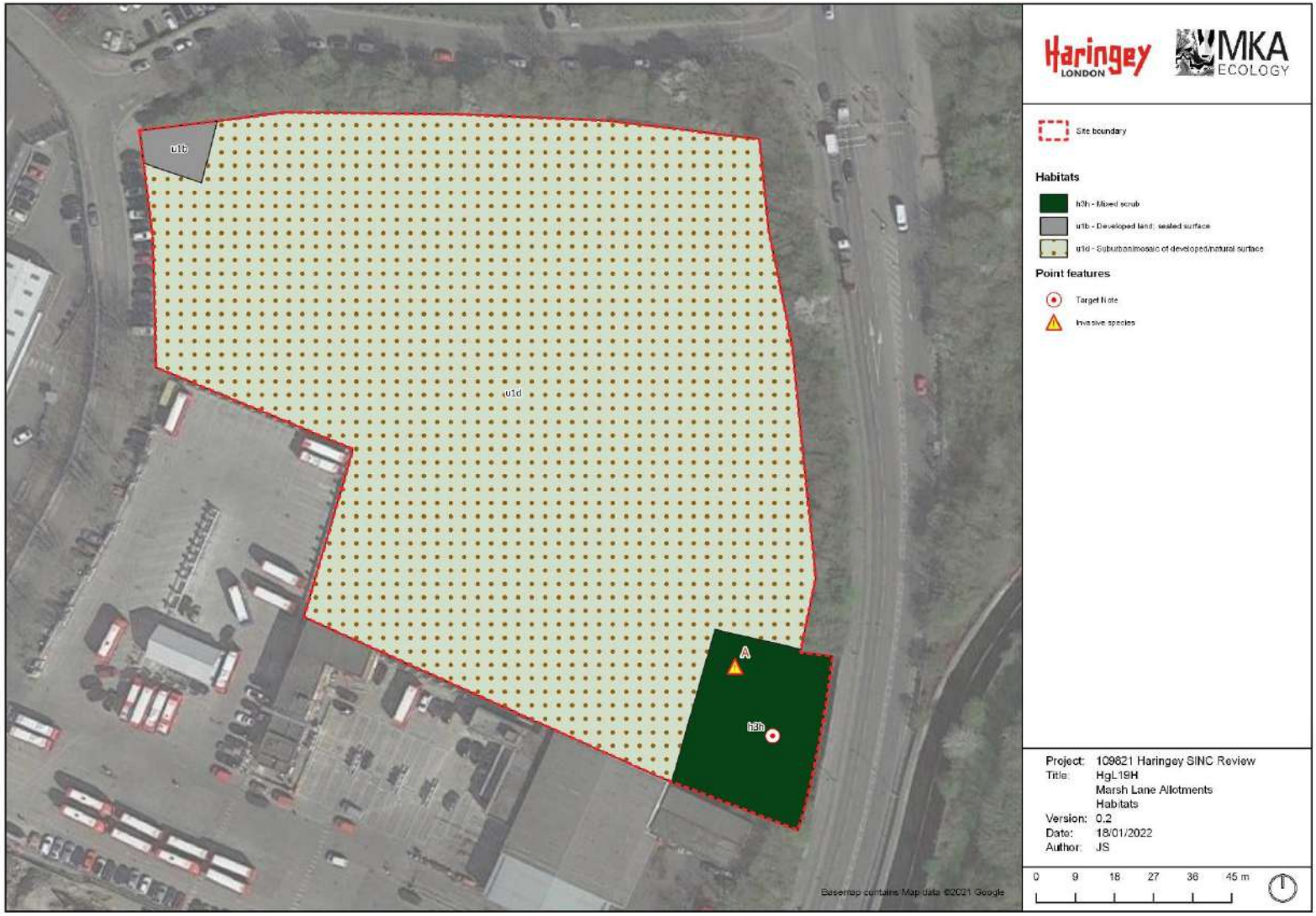
u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** A small area of concrete was present at the entrance of the allotment, used for vehicular parking. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of non-native flowering species
Condition **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other')

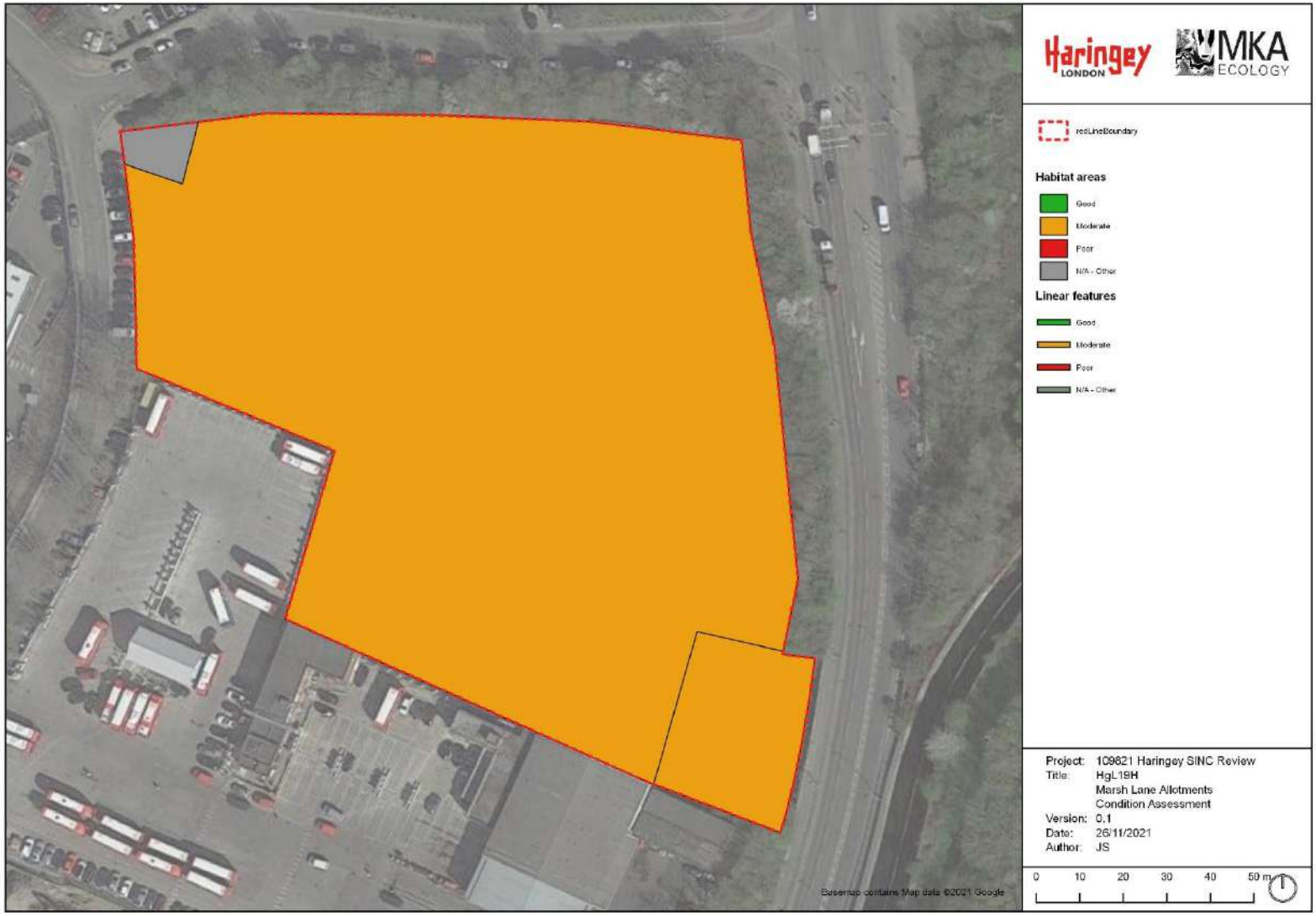
u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: The allotments were given a moderate condition, failing to provide a varied structure.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
u1b
u1d
A
h3h
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19H
Marsh Lane Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.2
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JS
0 9 18 27 36 45 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19H
Marsh Lane Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Pylon

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of small pond(s), dedicated to wildlife, within cleared scrub area (see below). *Hedgerow:* • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along the northern boundary within cleared scrub area (see below).
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of pole mounted bat boxes. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots.

	• Bramble/nettle patches, ‘bee banks’, ‘bug hotels’
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Scrub:* • Clearance of some existing scrub, enhancing with a diverse range of scrub species, and sow cleared area to provide a wildflower grassland, beneficial for wildlife.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of LISI species

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Continued rubbish dumping within the allotment boundary.

1. Easthale Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

One of the larger allotment sites (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 34851 89958), which borders Tottenham Marshes and Lea Valley SINC. Due to its size, there is a high diversity of flowering plants and fruit trees, with a single mature Lombardy poplar (*Populus nigra* 'Italica') at the centre of the site. No hedges were present on site, but the site was bounded by a metal fence on all sides. Climbing species were present and some growth from the neighbouring sites. The site supports bee hives, ponds and a number of log piles.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – 'other' neutral grassland (161 Tall or tussocky sward, 76 Recent management)
Description A small area of grassland near the entrance of the allotment that was used as a communal space. There was minimal management of this area, as evidenced by the long and tussocky sward. This grassland was grass dominated with species such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* and barren brome *Bromus sterillis* but had no obvious dominant species, and had a high diversity of flowering species.
Condition Given a moderate condition, the habitat passes all criteria but the presence of dock *Rumex* sp., common nettle *Urtica dioica* and white cover *Trifolium repens* account for more than 5% of ground cover.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description

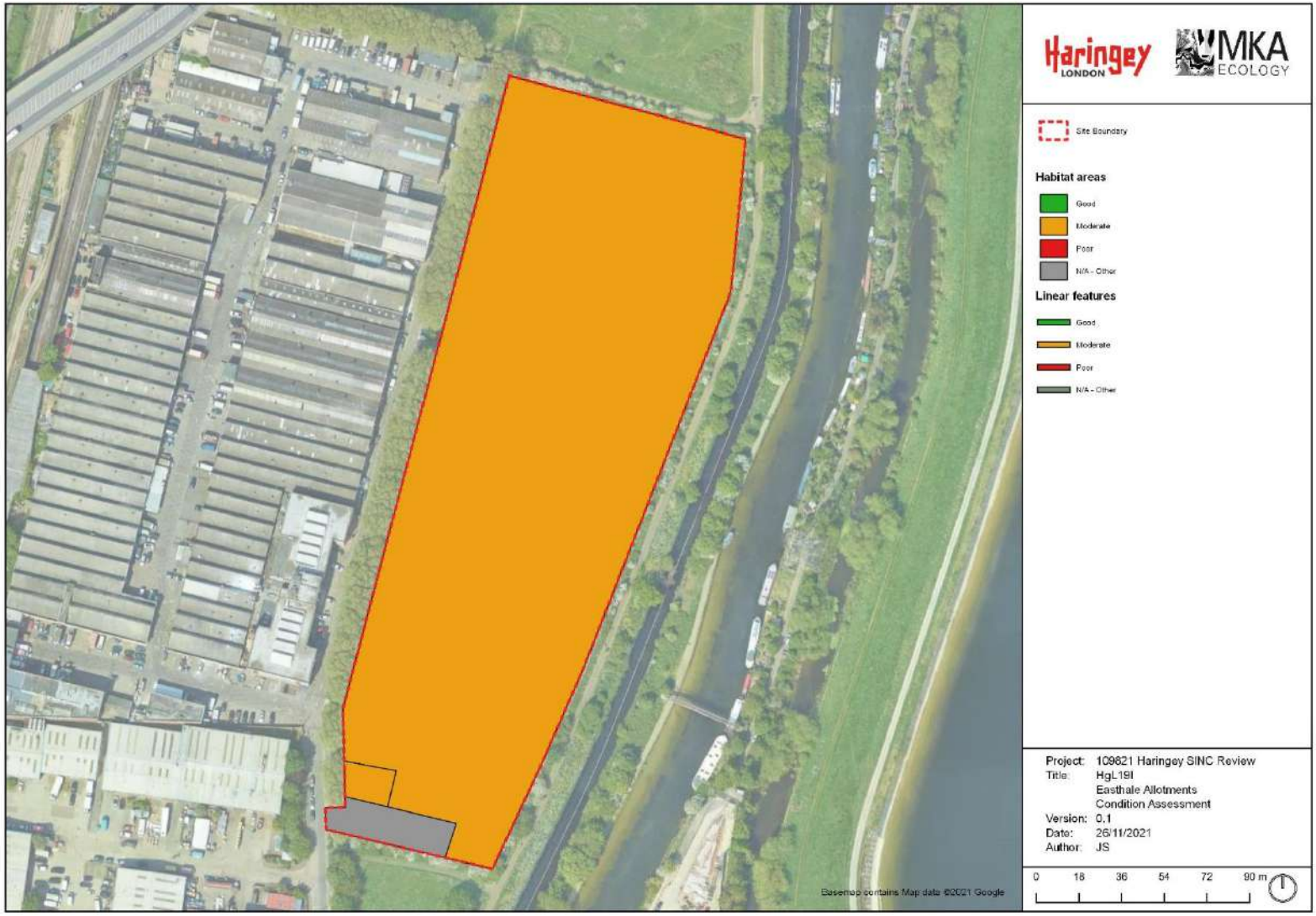
u – Urban (1170 (urban tree)): A number of mature and semi-mature individual trees were present within the allotment. These include a Lombardy poplar *Populus nigra 'Italica'*, copper beech *Fagus sylvatica 'purpurea'* and Leyland cypress *Cupressus* × *leylandii*. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** An area of concrete at the entrance of the site, for vehicular access. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of flowering species and fruit trees that are beneficial to wildlife.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of the allotment areas which was in a moderate condition.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
u1d
g3c
u1b
1
2
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19I
Easthale Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
14 0 14 28 42 56 70 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site Boundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19I
Easthale Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/11/2021
Author: JS
0 18 36 54 72 90 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Beehives
2	Log pile

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Country Side Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.
- Potential presence of reptiles.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of further small pond(s), dedicated to wildlife, within unused or communal areas will add further diversity to the site. *Hedgerows:* • Planting of UK native, species rich hedgerows around the boundary of the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of mature trees. *Invertebrates:*

	• Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas and within "wildlife friendly" plots. • Bramble/nettle patches, 'bee banks', 'bug hotels' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structure ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of LISI species

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Creighton Avenue Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

An allotment (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28310 90286) with an active community association who are sympathetic to and actively encourage wildlife. This allotment had one of the greatest densities of ponds of those sites surveyed and an active program of introducing more larger volume deadwood to encourage ground beetles and other saprophilic species. Bat boxes have also been installed and there is a varied array of flower areas, scrub and fruit trees. A wet area is present along the western edge, believed to emerge from drainage overflow from Creighton Avenue and has been made into a drainage channel ditch by the allotment holders.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Urban

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Tarmacked paths and allotment storage building. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of non-native flowering species and there are many small ponds. Common frog was reported by several allotment holders and an adult was observed during the site visit, as was an adult smooth newt close to one of the many log piles that was a striking feature of the site. The habitats also offer potential for slow-worm *Anguis fragilis,* a reptile often associated with allotments. No records of slow-worm are present from this site. Fruit trees are frequent and there is overall a great diversity of habitat structure. The allotment is served by a grassy track running through its centre.
Condition **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'). **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The allotments were given a Moderate condition. A Good condition assessment is contingent on the absence of invasive non-native species (Montbretia *Crocosmia pottsii x aurea = C. x crocosmiiflora* is present) and that any flowering/nectar

resources for pollinators be from native species. Neither is the case here, yet all condition criteria are satisfied otherwise.

Scrub

h3a - Blackthorn scrub **h3d - Bramble scrub**
Description Small corners or lees of scrub in the north and south corner. The latter, a relatively uniform stand of bramble and elder also supports a line of immature ash.
Condition North: Moderate; there is a relatively abrupt edge to the scrub. South: Poor. Uniform in structure and botanical diversity.

Woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees
Description A line of mature trees, including several mature pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*.
Condition Good condition – all condition criteria are passed.

Hedgerows

h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Description A native hedgerow of blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* projects into the site in the north.
Condition Good condition.

Freshwater

r1a – Eutrophic standing water (ponds) (39 – man made) Due to their size, not all individual ponds are likely to have been found, nor are mapped. For brevity, these ponds, where located, are not described nor condition assessments provided. General enhancement measures are provided below.

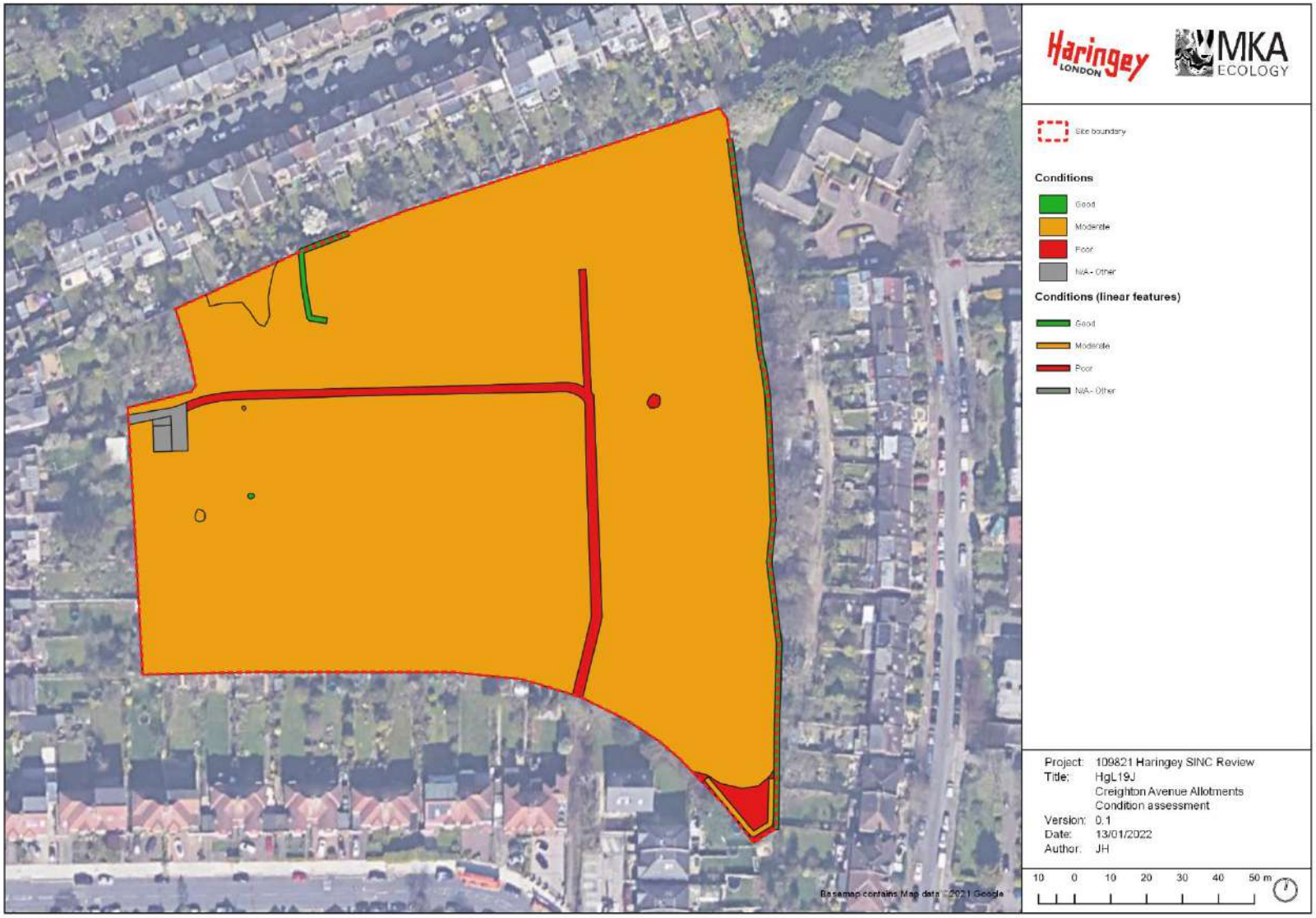
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are found at this location:

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
h3a - Blackthorn scrub
h3d - Bramble scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - (B10) - Allotments
Hedgerows
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Other linear features
w1g5 - Line of trees
w1g9i - Line of trees (excl. vat.)
h2a7
h3a
u1d
u1b6
g4
u1d
w1g9i
h3d
w1g5
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19J
Creighton Avenue Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Conditions (linear features)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19J
Creighton Avenue Allotments
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Deadwood is shipped in, use encouraged and widespread across the site.
2	Mixture of wild areas.
3	Honey bee hives.
4	Some plots managed entirely as a flower growing area.
5	Entrance area with Unmown section.
6	Combined use of logs for boundary making and log pile.
7	Example of flower resource.
8	Wood chippings.
9	Example of flower resources.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Montbretia	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Montbretia	-
D	Virginia creeper	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for features on trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of protected and/or native amphibians.
- Potential presence of reptiles (e.g. slow-worm).

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of more ponds, dedicated to wildlife. *Hedgerow:* • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along boundaries. *Wetland:* • Investigate source of wetness along west edge. If viable, consider making this into a formal wet area, including temporary pools, leaky damns and marginal planting.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of additional bat boxes on mature tree line. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes'). Records of hedgehog are present from within 10m of the eastern site boundary. *Invertebrates:* • Further creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around scrub areas, within "wildlife friendly" plots and site corners. • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. These could be encouraged as a form of natural plot boundary. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Pond:*

	• Where absent, consider the planting of marginal species (e.g., marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*, water mint *Mentha aquatica,* rushes *Juncus* and sedges *Carex*). • Where the pond is covered in duckweed *Lemna,* remove periodically. This is a sign of excessive nitrogen, so consideration to the water source may be needed (e.g., water butts may require cleaning etc). • Where not already present, consider the introduction of native oxygenating plants (e.g., rigid hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* or mare's-tail *Hippuris vulgaris*), avoiding non-native and invasive species such as Nuttall's and Canadian waterweed *Elodea nuttalli* and *E.canadensis.* *Scrub:* • Allowing non-tended areas to develop into 'wild corners'. Consider the ceding of one plot within the allotment as a 'wildlife only' area.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Increasing 'tidiness' of plot and allotment edges.
- Tree disease. e.g. acute oak decline; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats in mature tree line due to ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

1. Alexandra Park Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

The mature pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior* boundary trees are an important wildlife feature and the site, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29342 89584, holds additional value in forming a larger area of SINCs alongside Alexandra Park and Grove Lodge. The south facing banked profile and diversity of plot types will give additional value to invertebrates and stag beetle *Lucans cervus* has been recorded within the last five years. This is another allotment with a good number of ponds, though descriptions of condition assessments are not included here for brevity. It is likely that not all of the ponds within the allotment were seen during the site visit.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Urban

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Tarmacked paths and allotment storage building. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of native and non-native flowering species and there are many small ponds. Common frog *Rana temporaria* was reported by several allotment holders and records of this species are present from within the vicinity, as there are too of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*. The habitats also offer potential for slow-worm *Anguis fragilis,* a reptile often associated with allotments, though no records of slow-worm are present from this site. Stag beetle was recorded from this site in 2017. Fruit trees are frequent and there is overall a great diversity of habitat structure. The allotment is served by a tarmacked track running through its centre.
Condition **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'). **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The allotments were given a Moderate condition. A Good condition assessment is contingent on the absence of invasive non-native species (e.g., montbretia *Crocosmia pottsii x aurea = C. x crocosmiiflora* is present) and that any

flowering/nectar resources for pollinators be from native species. Neither is the case here, yet all condition criteria are satisfied otherwise.

Woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

w1g6 - Line of trees: A line of mature oak, hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* and sycamore *Acer pseudo-platnus* is present along the north-east boundary, including several mature pedunculate oak. Ash dominated tree lines are found on the south-east and south-west boundaries.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: An area of inaccessible woodland is present on the boundary with Grove Lodge. It is similar in composition to that SINC, with horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum* the predominant tree species. The area appears heavily disturbed and is not obviously part of the allotments.

Condition

w1g6 - Line of trees: North: Moderate. Only fails the condition relating to the need for undisturbed natural vegetation at the base. South east boundary – Moderate. In addition to the above, canopy cover is non-continuous. South west boundary – Poor. As above, but in addition, some ash are showing symptoms of ash die back.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Poor, on account of high non-native species frequency and disturbance.

Freshwater

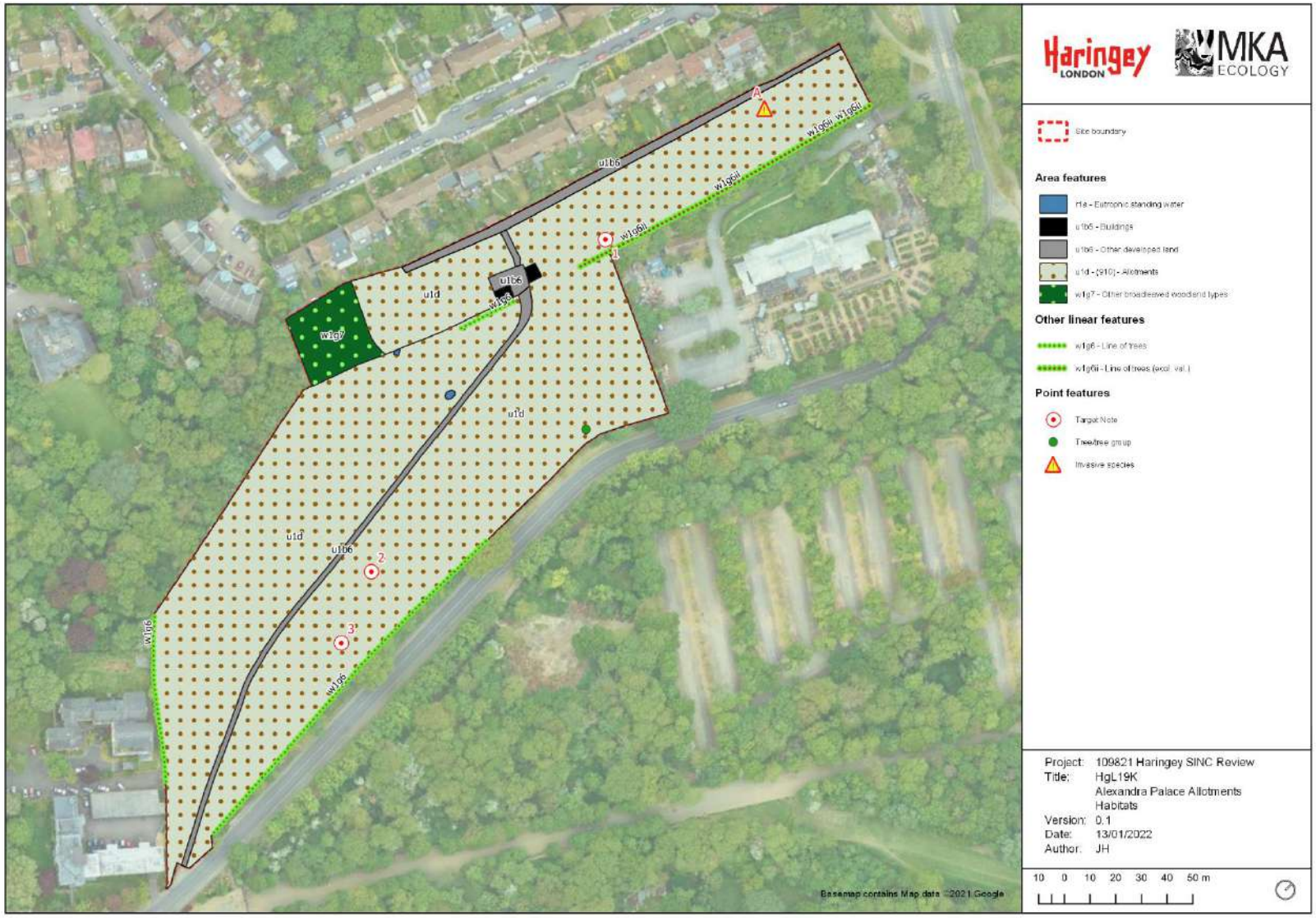
r1a – Eutrophic standing water (ponds) (39 – man made)

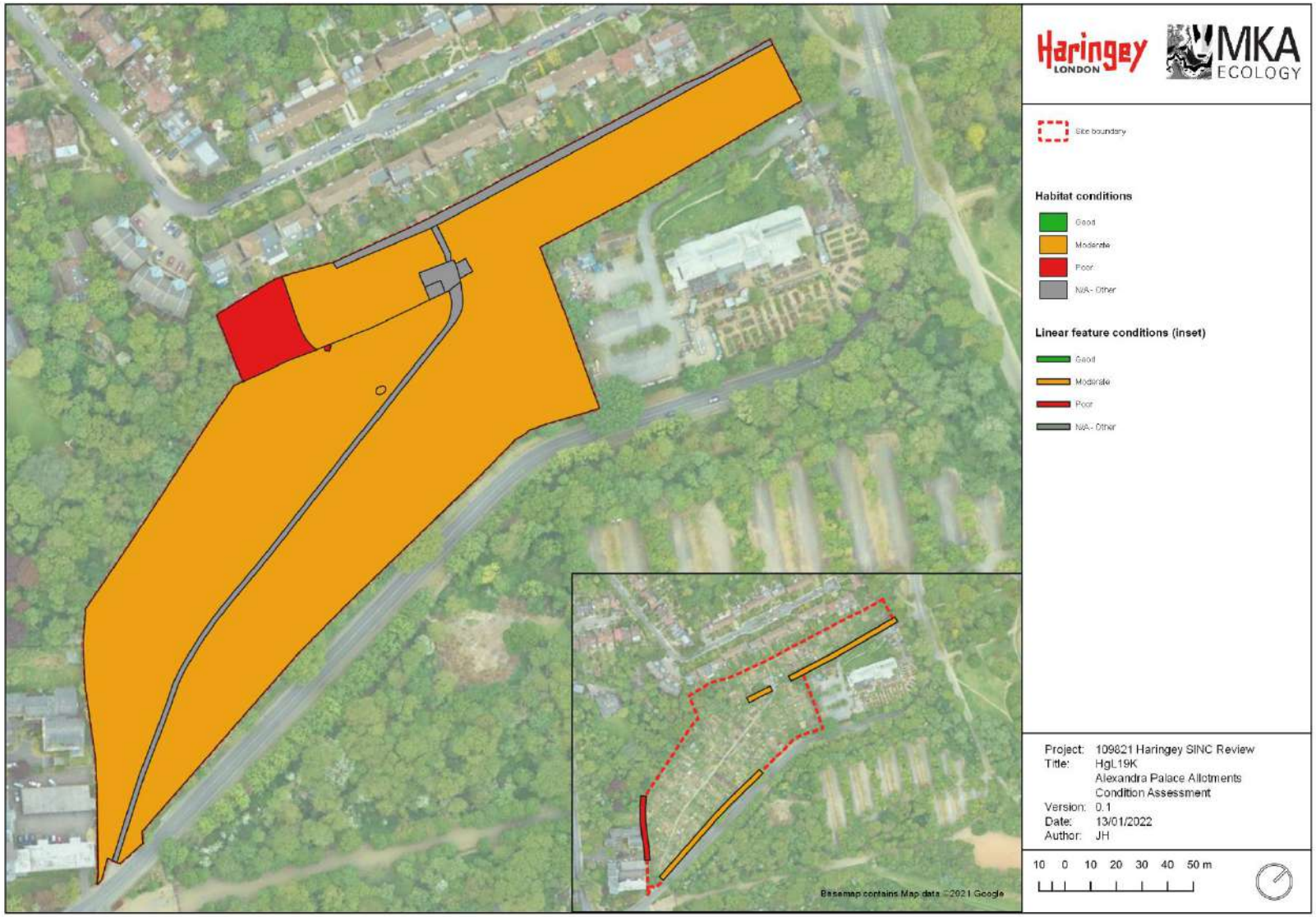
Due to their size, not all individual ponds are likely to have been found, nor are mapped. For brevity, these ponds, where located, are not described nor condition assessments provided. General enhancement measures are provided below.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
f1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - [S10] - Allotments
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6i - Line of trees (excl. val.)
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19K
Alexandra Palace Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
u1b6
w1g6i
u1d
w1g7
w1g6
1
2
3
A


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19K
Alexandra Palace Allotments
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Deadwood is shipped in, use encouraged and widespread across the site.
2	Mixture of wild areas.
3	Honey bee hives.
4	Some plots managed entirely as a flower growing area.
5	Entrance area with unmown section.
6	Combined use of logs for boundary making and log pile.
7	Example of flower resource.
8	Wood chippings.
9	Example of flower resources.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleia	-
B	Montbretia	Widespread, not mapped.

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for features on trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of protected and/or notable amphibians.
- Potential presence of reptiles (e.g., slow-worm).

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of more ponds, dedicated to wildlife.

	Hedgerow: • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along boundaries.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of additional bat boxes on mature tree line. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes'). Records of hedgehog are present from within 10m of the eastern site boundary. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around less tidy areas, within "wildlife friendly" plots and site corners. • Use of deadwood as a resource for creation of plot boundaries, as used in other allotments in the borough. As well as providing general habitat for invertebrates these provide breeding habitat for ground beetles and other predators of garden and allotment pests. • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. These could be encouraged as a form of natural plot boundary. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. • Seeding of fringes and unused corners with native wildflower seed.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Where absent, consider the planting of marginal species (e.g., marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*, water mint *Mentha aquatica,* rushes *Juncus* and sedges *Carex*). • Where the pond is covered in duckweed *Lemna,* remove periodically. This is a sign of excessive nitrogen, so consideration to the water source may be needed (e.g., water butts may require cleaning etc).

	• Where not already present, consider the introduction of native oxygenating plants (e.g., rigid hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* or mare's-tail *Hippuris vulgaris*), avoiding non-native and invasive species such as Nuttall's and Canadian waterweed *Elodea nuttalli* and *E.canadensis.* *Scrub:* • Allowing non-tended areas to develop into 'wild corners'. Consider the ceding of one plot within the allotment as a 'wildlife only' area.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Tree disease. e.g. acute oak decline; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats in mature tree line due to ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria.*

1. Yeatman Road Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

Known locally as Highgate Allotments, this is one of the larger allotment sites and with a diversity of habitats at the margins. As per the citation, the site is large and secluded enough to 'tolerate' small areas where cultivation is relaxed and these do allow for a diversity of 'weed' species and ranker grassland areas. A mature line of London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* on the east boundary is also an important feature. The site is centred on National Grid Reference TQ 27779 88202.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Urban

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Tarmacked paths and allotment shed and buildings. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of native and non-native flowering species and there are some small ponds. These offer breeding habitat to common frog *Rana temporaria* though no records of this or other amphibian species were returned from the data search. The habitats also offer potential for slow-worm *Anguis fragilis,* a reptile often associated with allotments, though no records of slow-worm are present. Fruit trees are frequent and there is overall a great diversity of habitat structure. A grassy track serves the allotment in a circular loop. At its edges this was allowed, in places, to develop into a tall sward.
Condition **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'). **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The allotments were given a Moderate condition. A Good condition assessment is contingent on the absence of invasive non-native species (e.g., montbretia *Crocosmia pottsii x aurea = C. x crocosmiiflora* is present) and that any

flowering/nectar resources for pollinators be from native species; neither is the case here. All condition criteria are satisfied otherwise.

Woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees

Description

w1g6 - Line of trees: A line of mature London plane forms the eastern boundary and a shorter line of hybrid black poplar *Populus nigra x deltoides = P. x canadensis* is on the northern boundary. The eastern tree line is a striking feature of the site and is likely to act as an important corridor for wildlife.

Condition

w1g6 - Line of trees: Both Moderate. They fail criteria relating to non-native trees and the absence of semi-natural base habitat, but have continuous canopy and contain some mature trees with veteran features.

Freshwater

r1a – Eutrophic standing water (ponds) (39 – man made)

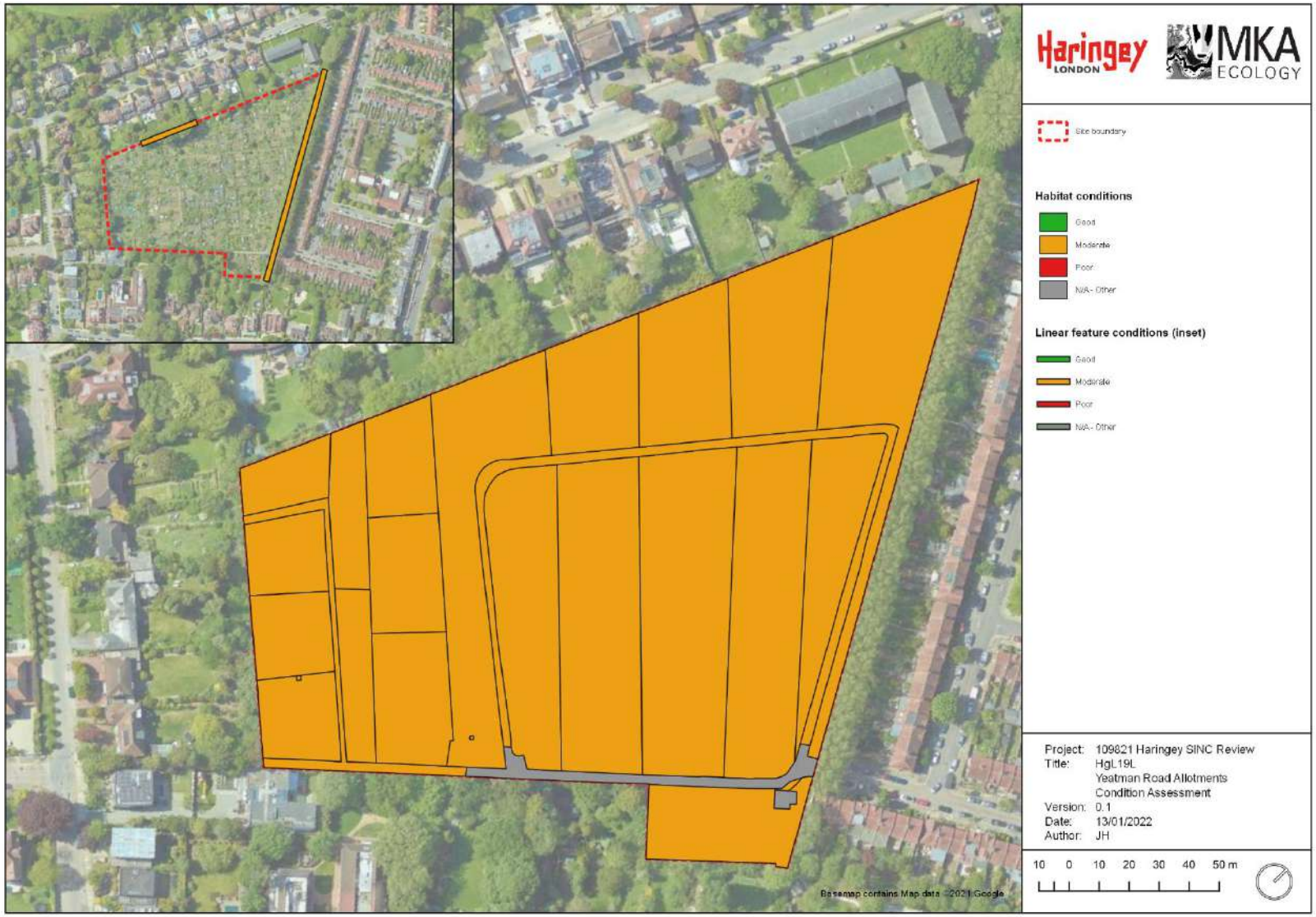
Due to their size, not all individual ponds are likely to have been found, nor are mapped. For brevity, these ponds, where located, are not described nor condition assessments provided. General enhancement measures are provided below.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19L Yeatman Road Allotments Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
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Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19L
Yeatman Road Allotments
Condition Assessment
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Date: 13/01/2022
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10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Area with more fruit trees.
2	Small orchard.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleia	-
B	Snowberry	-
C	Buddleia	-
D	Buddleia	-
E	Tree cotoneaster	-
F	Tree cotoneaster	-
G	Cherry laurel	-
H	Stags horn sumach	-
I	Buddleia	-
J	Wall cotoneaster	-
K	Buddleia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, provides a good diversity of habitat, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for features on trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of protected and/or notable amphibians (e.g., common toad *Bufo bufo*).
- Potential presence of reptiles (e.g., slow-worm)

Opportunities

Creation of features

Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of more ponds, dedicated to wildlife. *Hedgerow:* • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along boundaries.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on mature tree lines. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes'). *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around less tidy areas, within "wildlife friendly" plots and site corners. • Use of deadwood as a resource for creation of plot boundaries, as used in other allotments in the borough. As well as providing general habitat for invertebrates these provide breeding habitat for ground beetles and other predators of garden and allotment pests. • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. These could be encouraged as a form of natural plot boundary. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. • Seeding of fringes and unused corners with native wildflower seed.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Where absent, consider the planting of marginal species (e.g., marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*, water mint *Mentha aquatica,* rushes *Juncus* and sedges *Carex*). • Where the pond is covered in duckweed *Lemna,* remove periodically. This is a sign of excessive nitrogen, so consideration to the water source may be needed (e.g., water butts may require cleaning etc).

	• Where not already present, consider the introduction of native oxygenating plants (e.g., rigid hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* or mare's-tail *Hippuris vulgaris*), avoiding non-native and invasive species such as Nuttall's and Canadian waterweed *Elodea nuttalli* and *E.canadensis.* *Scrub:* • Allowing non-tended areas to develop into 'wild corners'. Consider the ceding of one plot within the allotment as a 'wildlife only' area. *Grassland:* • Relaxing management of grassy areas/pathways where access allows. Avoid unnecessary strimming for the sake of 'tidiness'.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Increasing 'tidiness' of plot, allotment edges and trackways.
- Tree disease, particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats in mature tree line due to ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

1. Shepherds Hill Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

A site with a good diversity of habitat with fruit trees, flowering plots and unused/scrub areas. The site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29255 88439) is long and narrow, the long axis being orientated approximately east-west and sloping down to the north. Some plots at the base of the slope and within the shade of Queen's Wood and CREOS are less suitable for cultivation and accordingly more diverse. This area is frequently wet and was so at the time of the survey. This may provide an opportunity for a more formal wetland/pond area if cultivation is considered too unproductive. Slow-worm *Anguis fragilis* is present, as is common frog *Rana temporaria*, which use widely available ponds.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Urban

u1b5 – Buildings **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 - Allotments)** **s – Sparsely vegetated land (17 – Ruderal/ephemeral)**
Description **u1b – Buildings:** A single storey timber and corrugated metal 'chalet' building for community events and storage. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Gravel/stone access path. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** The majority of the site was comprised of the areas given over to allotments. These had a good diversity of native and non-native flowering species and there are several small ponds. Common frog *Rana temporaria* was reported by several allotment holders (and observed during the site visit) and records of this species are present from within the vicinity, as too are records of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*. The habitats also offer potential for slow-worm, a reptile often associated with allotments, and was observed in a compost heap on the north boundary during the site visit. Stag beetle has been recorded from the allotments as recently as 2019. Fruit trees are frequent and there is overall a great diversity of habitat structure. The northern boundary with the CREOS site shares the burden of a large stand of Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and other Schedule 9 species (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 as

amended) are present, including the much planted montbretia *Crocosmia pottsii x aurea = C. x crocosmiiflora,* variegated yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum* and Nuttall's waterweed *Elodea nuttalli* in artificial ponds and water storage tanks.

s – Sparsely vegetated land: Alongside the access track on the north-east site boundary is an area of sparsely vegetated land with a mixture of low growing but mostly ruderal species (e.g. broad-leaved willowherb *Epilobium montanum,* common nettle *Urtica dioica* as well as knotgrass *Polygonum aviculare*. Bramble *Rubus fruticosus* was also present in patches.

Condition

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface: Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other').

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: The allotments were given a Moderate condition. A Good condition assessment is contingent on the absence of invasive non-native species (e.g., montbretia is present) and that any flowering/nectar resources for pollinators be from native species. Neither is the case here, though all condition criteria are satisfied otherwise.

s – Sparsely vegetated land: Poor condition; there is an absence of diversity, both botanically and structurally.

Woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees

Description

A line of immature cherry *Prunus* and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatnus* forms the north-west boundary. A line of more mature, mostly sycamore, forms the majority of the southern boundary.

Condition

North-west boundary - Poor, on account of the lack of mature trees and large canopy spacing. South boundary – Moderate. No veteran trees are present and there is dominance of non-native trees. All other condition criteria are passed.

Freshwater

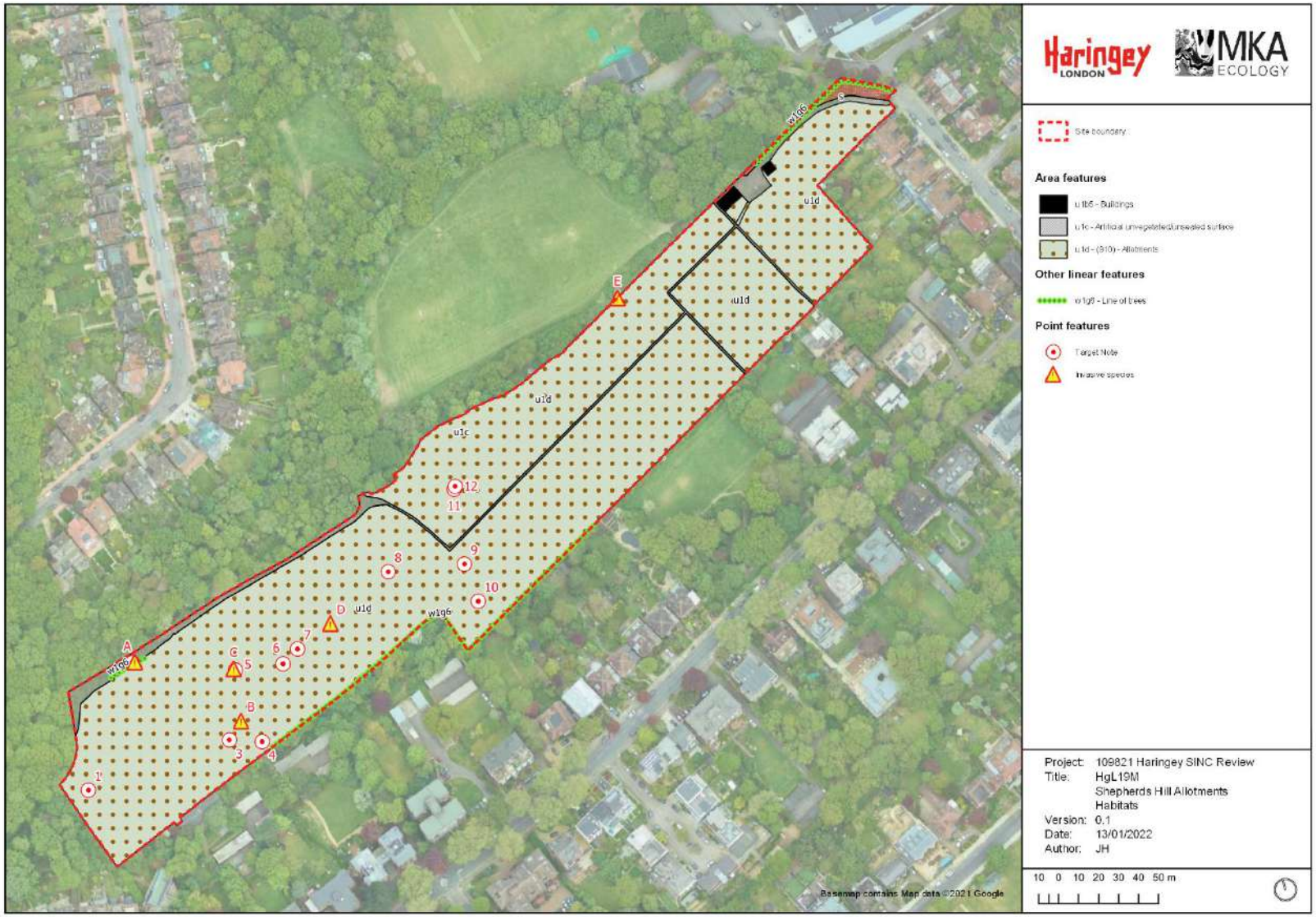
r1a – Eutrophic standing water (ponds) (39 – man made)

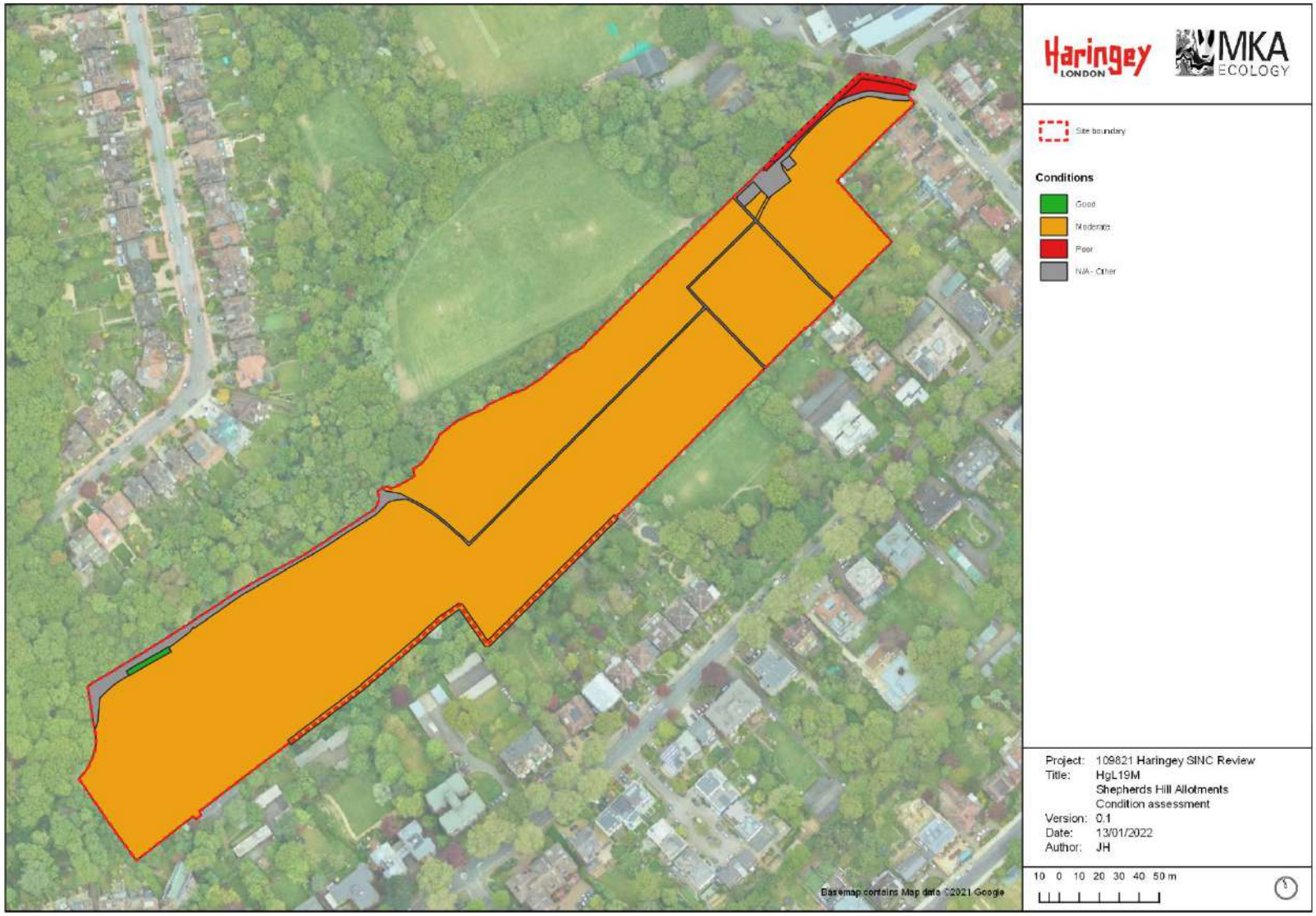
Due to their size, not all individual ponds are likely to have been found, nor are mapped. For brevity, these ponds, where located, are not described nor condition assessments provided. General enhancement measures are provided below.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - (810) - Allotments
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19M
Shepherds Hill Allotments
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
u1d
u1c
w1g6
A
B
C
D
E
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL19M
Shepherds Hill Allotments
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Frequent space given to non-cultivation with scrubby margins
2	Pond 1x1m.
3	Pond 1x1m.
4	Slow-worm recorded on site visit by allotment holder and confirmed by surveyor.
5	Pond 1x1m
6	Damp ditch, partially covered.
7	Nuttall's waterweed in several tanks.
8	Pond 1.5x1m.
9	Pond 1x1m.
10	Decommissioned plot with rubble and deadwood.
11	Pond 2x2m.
12	Example of non-cultivated area.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Variegated Yellow Archangel	-
B	Montbretia	Widespread.
C	Nuttall's waterweed	Present in several storage tanks and ponds.
D	Variegated Yellow Archangel	-
E	Japanese knotweed	Southern boundary, shared with CREOS.

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, supports a variety of wildlife, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds (southern boundary trees and scrub).
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for features on southern boundary trees).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of protected and/or notable amphibians (e.g., common toad *Bufo bufo*).
- Presence of reptiles (e.g., slow-worm).

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds:* • Creation of more ponds, dedicated to wildlife. *Hedgerow:* • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along boundaries. *Wetland:* • Consider the conversion of some/all of the south-boundary area which is understood to be near permanently damp into a formal wetland or pond. • If fast flowing water down the slope to the north boundary is a regular occurrence, consider turning the regular routes of water movement into a formal wetland/stream/flush with leaky dams, temporary pools.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on mature tree line. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes'). Records of hedgehog are present from within 10m of the northern site boundary. *Invertebrates:* • Creation of deadwood features (e.g., 'beetle towers/stumperies'), especially around less tidy areas, within "wildlife friendly" plots and site corners. • Use of deadwood as a resource for creation of plot boundaries, as used in other allotments in the borough. As well as providing general habitat for invertebrates these provide breeding habitat for ground beetles and other predators of garden and allotment pests. • Bee banks: Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. These could be encouraged as a form of natural plot boundary. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches.

	• Seeding of fringes and unused corners with native wildflower seed.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Where absent, consider the planting of marginal species (e.g., marsh marigold *Caltha palustris*, water mint *Mentha aquatica,* rushes *Juncus* and sedges *Carex*). • Where the pond is covered in duckweed *Lemna,* remove periodically. This is a sign of excessive nitrogen, so consideration to the water source may be needed (e.g., water butts may require cleaning etc). • Where not already present, consider the introduction of native oxygenating plants (e.g., rigid hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* or mare's-tail *Hippuris vulgaris*), avoiding non-native and invasive species such as Nuttall's and Canadian waterweed *Elodea nuttalli* and *E.canadensis.* *Scrub:* • Allowing non-tended areas to develop into 'wild corners'. Consider the ceding of one plot within the allotment as a 'wildlife only' area.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Increasing 'tidiness' of plot and allotment edges.

1. Tower Gardens

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A small park, situated within an area of residential housing (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32789 90651). It supports areas of grassland and woodland, with numerous areas of ornamental shrub planting and two children's play areas along with a building used by 'IntoUniversity'.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g4 – Modified grassland (73 Bare ground)
Description The majority of the site was comprised of modified grassland, dominated by bent grass *Agrostis* sp. Although the grassland lacked species diversity, a less regular management regime had allowed for a varied, slightly tussocky sward height. At the margins and beneath groups of trees, the sward height was considerably shorter, with patches of bare ground.
Condition All areas of grassland were in Poor condition, with limited species diversity, having high amounts of recreational damage and high abundances of undesirable species.

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees **w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types**
Description **w1g6 – Line of trees:** Three distinct lines of trees were present on the northern side of the park. The two lines at the northern entrance to the park were primarily a non-native maple *Acer* species, whilst the other line was comprised of London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and common line *Tilia* × *europaea*. **w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types:** Two areas of woodland were present within the park, separated by the southern access. The north eastern woodland block was interspersed with areas of

ornamental shrub planting. The there was no dominant species within the canopy, abundant species were field maple *Acer campestre*, London plane and common lime. There was very limited instances of understorey, but where these were present it comprised holly *Ilex aqufolium*, firethorn *Pyracantha* sp. and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*. There was very little ground cover, with a small amount of cover from grass species. A large *Eucalyptus* tree was present within this section of woodland.

The south eastern woodland block was more natural woodland, with ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and pedunculate oak dominant *Quercus robur* within the canopy. A dense understorey was present in patches, comprising holly, blackthorn and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* with ground cover dominated by ivy *Hedera helix* and bramble *Robus fruticosus* agg. There was evidence of recreational use within this woodland block.

Condition

w1g6 – Line of trees: The maple tree lines were both in poor condition, being immature trees with large gaps within the canopy. The other tree line was in moderate condition, as these were all mature. Being in an urban park setting, both lines lacked undisturbed vegetated strips.

w1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types: Both woodland blocks were recorded in poor condition, failing the criteria relating to lack of age range, temporary open space, regeneration and ground flora diversity.

Hedgerow

h2b5 – Hedge ornamental non-native

Description

A short length of hedgerow, comprising predominantly Wilson's honeysuckle *Lonicera nitida* surrounding a section of the school grounds.

Condition

In poor condition, failing all criteria, with exception of undesirable perennial vegetation.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree))

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface

u1b5 – Buildings

u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 Bare ground)

u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub)

Description

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)): Alongside the lines of trees and woodland, a number of individual trees were present across the park. Many of these were false acacia *Robinia pseudoacacia*.

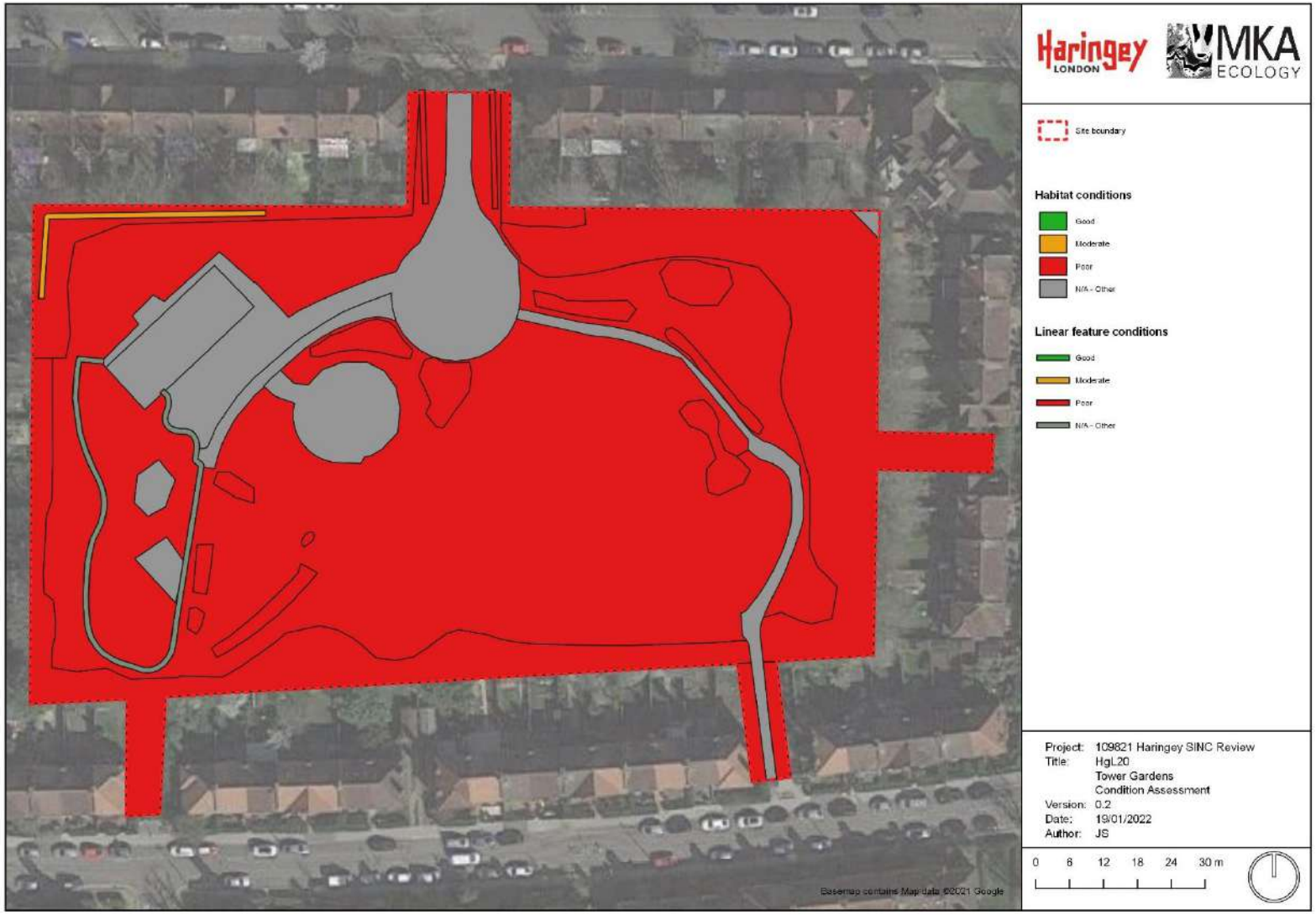
u1b – Developed land; sealed surface: Footpaths and hardstanding with playground areas. **u1b5 – Buildings:** A single storey building used for educational purposes. **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** Woodchip around playground areas. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental planting.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub habitats which default to Poor.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Hedgerows
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features
u1e1 - wall
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL20
Tower Gardens
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JS
0 7 14 21 28 35 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions
Good
Moderate
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N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL20
Tower Gardens
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.2
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JS
0 6 12 18 24 30 m
Basemap contains Mapdata ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	False acacia	-
B	Holm oak	-
C	Snowberry	-
D	Cotoneaster sp.	-
E	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site matches the existing citation, and continues to provide important access to greenspace. Additionally, the site is likely to be used as an educational resource for the school. This site provides a valuable semi-natural resource to a local community and warrants retention as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees/buildings).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Wetland:* • Develop new areas for seasonal inundation, where appropriate with regard to other users of the site, in particular the eastern side of the large grassland area.
Species	*Birds:* • Provision of general boxes. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and on buildings. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and or buildings. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs).

	• Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Relaxation of management frequency and intensity of areas of the grassland which are used less frequently for recreational purposes, with a focus on delivering a larger area of more botanically and structurally rich grassland. This can be achieved by overseeding of existing grassland with wildflower seed mixes and removing arisings after cutting. *Woodland* • Removal of invasive species. • Additional understorey planting in deficient areas. • Retention of and deployment of fallen wood.
Species	*Invasive species* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Introduction and/or continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Granville Road Spinney

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Local**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A small, native woodland surrounded by residential development (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30899 88003), freely accessible to the public. It is a remnant of a larger area of woodland on the opposite side of Granville Road. Much of the ground flora has likely resulted from the self-seeding of garden escapees.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g4 – Modified grassland
Description A small area of bent *Agrostis* sp. dominated grassland on the eastern boundary of the site. A relatively short ward of 5cm suggests this is regularly maintained. There were a number of benches on the edge of the grass, suggesting this area is used by the local community.
Condition Recorded to be in moderate condition, it failed criteria relating to structural variation and species diversity.

Woodland

wg1 – Other woodland; broadleaved (37 Semi-natural woodland)
Description The woodland was dominated by sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*, with a number of other species within the canopy, including field maple *Acer campestre* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. There was a well-developed understorey, with hazel *Corylus avellana*, holly *Ilex aquifolium* and hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* most abundant and cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* occasionally present. Fruit-bearing trees were regularly present within the understorey. The ground flora was dominated by bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg., with mallow *Malva* sp. and ivy *Hedera helix* present across the whole block. Garden escapees contributed to a high number of flowering plants within the ground

flora diversity. This highlights the risk associated with the spread of non-native species at this location. Bare ground footpaths were present throughout the woodland, allowing access through the whole site.
Condition The woodland was assessed as being in poor condition, with a number of the criteria scoring low. The lack of veteran trees, deadwood and the high abundance of non-native ground flora prevents the woodland from achieving a higher condition.

Scrub

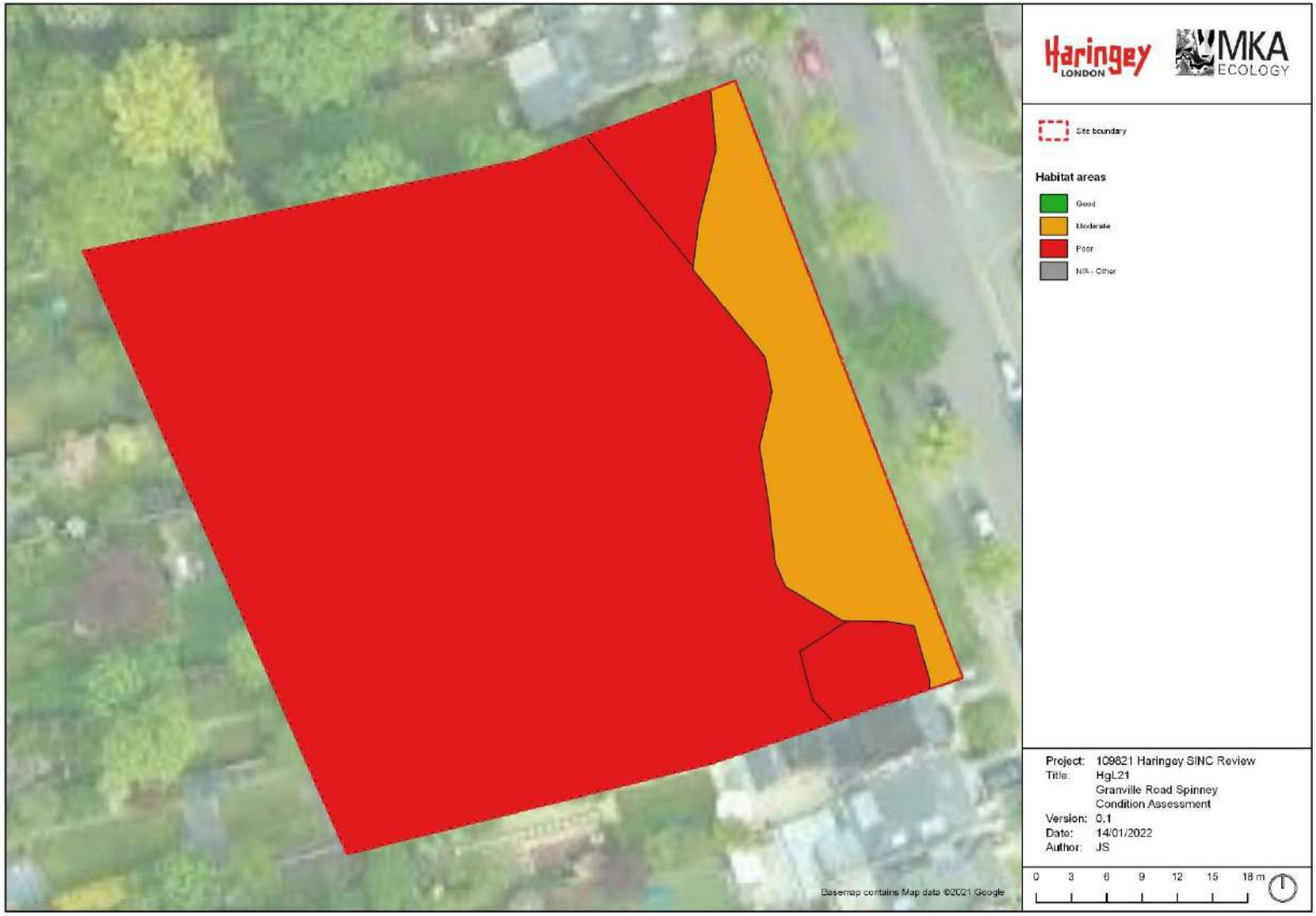
h3d – Bramble scrub
Description Two areas of bramble-dense scrub were present, at the north and south of the site.
Condition Defaults to poor condition due to lack of structural and botanical diversity.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
w1g: Other woodland: broadleaved
Point features
Invasive species
h3d
g4
w1g
A
B
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL21
Granville Road Spinney
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 14/01/2022
Author: JS
0 3 6 9 12 15 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL21
Granville Road Spinney
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 14/01/2022
Author: JS
0 3 6 9 12 15 18 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Green alkanet	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site closely matches the SINC citation, although there is no evidence that the site is used for educational purposes, as no information board was present. The site remains an important remnant of accessible woodland within an urban setting.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (suitable features on mature trees).
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Birds:* • Provision of additional, more general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	

Habitats	*Woodland* • Removal of invasive non-native species. • Introduction of coppicing regimes. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • In addition to coppicing activities, selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (both fallen and standing) to leave within the woodland floor.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD

1. Shepherd's Hill Garden

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Local
- Recommended status: **Retain as Local**

1.2. Site description

Shepherd's Hill Gardens is a small park (6,400m^2), centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29327 88386, and is the south-eastern most SINC within a continuous area incorporating Highgate Wood in the west, Queen's Wood, CREOS (Crouch End Open Space) and Shepherd's Hill Allotments, with which it shares a boundary. The south of the park supports woodland, with amenity grassland in the north. The northern boundary is formed of a mature native, species rich hedgerow.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g6 - Line of trees** **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types (1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description **w1g6 - Line of trees**: Two tree lines are recorded, one of which forms the eastern boundary and is largely formed of non-native species (sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus*). The second is a line of mature ash *Fraxinus excelsior* on the southern boundary of the woodland. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types (1160 - Introduced shrub):** Whilst comprised predominantly of ash, with additional native species including hazel *Corylus avellana*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur,* the understorey contains many introduced shrubs. On this basis, it is not categorsied as a Priority woodland habitat type. The majority of the mature trees present, including in the adjacent tree line to the south were ash.
Condition **w1g6 - Line of trees**: Eastern boundary: Moderate. Presence of non-native species. Southern boundary: Good. The presence of mature and native species at a woodland edge satisfies all condition criteria. **w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types.** Poor. Whilst the canopy was largely comprised of native species, non-native species, including cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* make up the understorey. The woodland also lacks genuinely veteran trees with the associated lack of deadwood features. Disturbance is also an apparently increasing issue, with dead-hedging recently installed to

deter the development of desire-lines. The ground flora is also very poor, with little beside occasional ivy *Hedera helix.*

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g4 - Modified grassland (66 - Frequently mown, 73 Bare ground)

Description

The northern half is an open area of amenity space. Despite being regularly mown, the sward is relatively diverse, with cat's-ear *Hypochaeris radicata* frequent and common sorrel *Rumex acetosa* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium* also present. The grassland is allowed to grow longer around areas of scrub and trees to the east and west. Around the paths that lead through the woodland were areas of less diverse and damaged grassland with greater frequencies of so-called 'undesirable species' such as white clover *Triflolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major.*

Condition

The main area of amenity space is in Moderate condition. Whilst species rich, the lack of variety of sward height constrains the condition to Moderate. Those areas under a relaxed management are also species poor; these too area Moderate. The grass fringing the path also suffers from damage and is correspondingly in Poor condition.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native

Description

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees. This forms the northern boundary. Typical hedgerow species include hawthorn, elder *Sambucus nigra,* hazel and dogwood *Cornus sanguinea.* Occasional immature ash and sycamore *Acer psuedoplatanus* are also present.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native: Ornamental hedgerow along Shepherd's Hill verge.

Condition

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees: Moderate. The hedgerow is structurally sound and is likely to provide opportunities for nesting birds. However, it has a relatively poor ground layer – mown amenity grassland is present at the hedge base.

h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non-Native: Defaults to Poor.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h3d/h3h – Bramble/mixed scrub (1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description Small areas of bramble and mixed scrub are present at the west and east ends of the amenity space. The mixed scrub is dominated by willow *Salix.*
Condition Both areas are in Poor condition by default; these are uniform patches dominated by one species with little botanical and structural diversity.

Urban

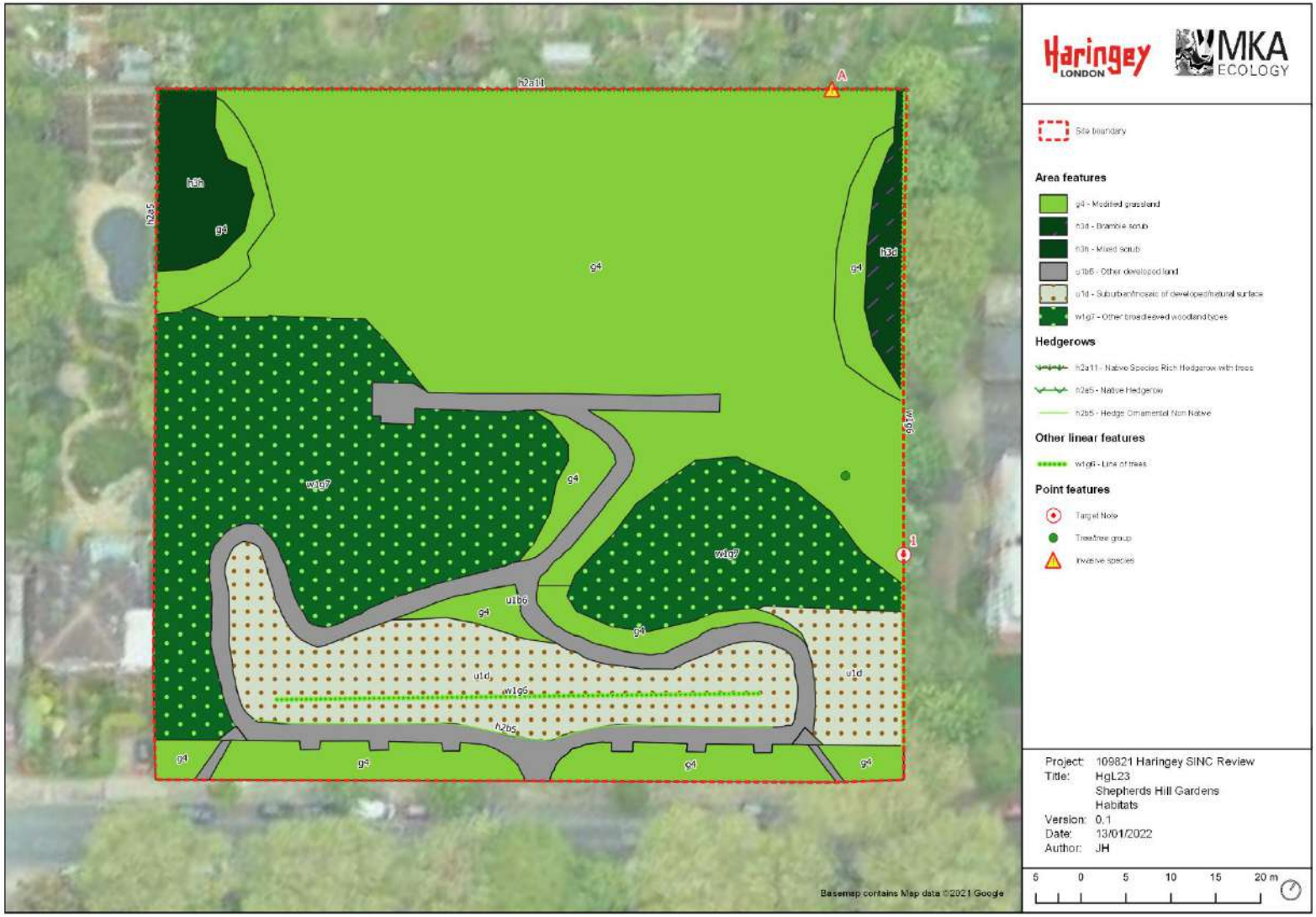
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u – 1170 Urban (street) tree** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (11 - scattered trees, 1160 - Introduced shrub)**
Description **u1b6 - Other developed land.** Paths. **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface.** Introduced shrubs in woodland understorey and at entrance.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero score for condition ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs, which defaults to Poor.

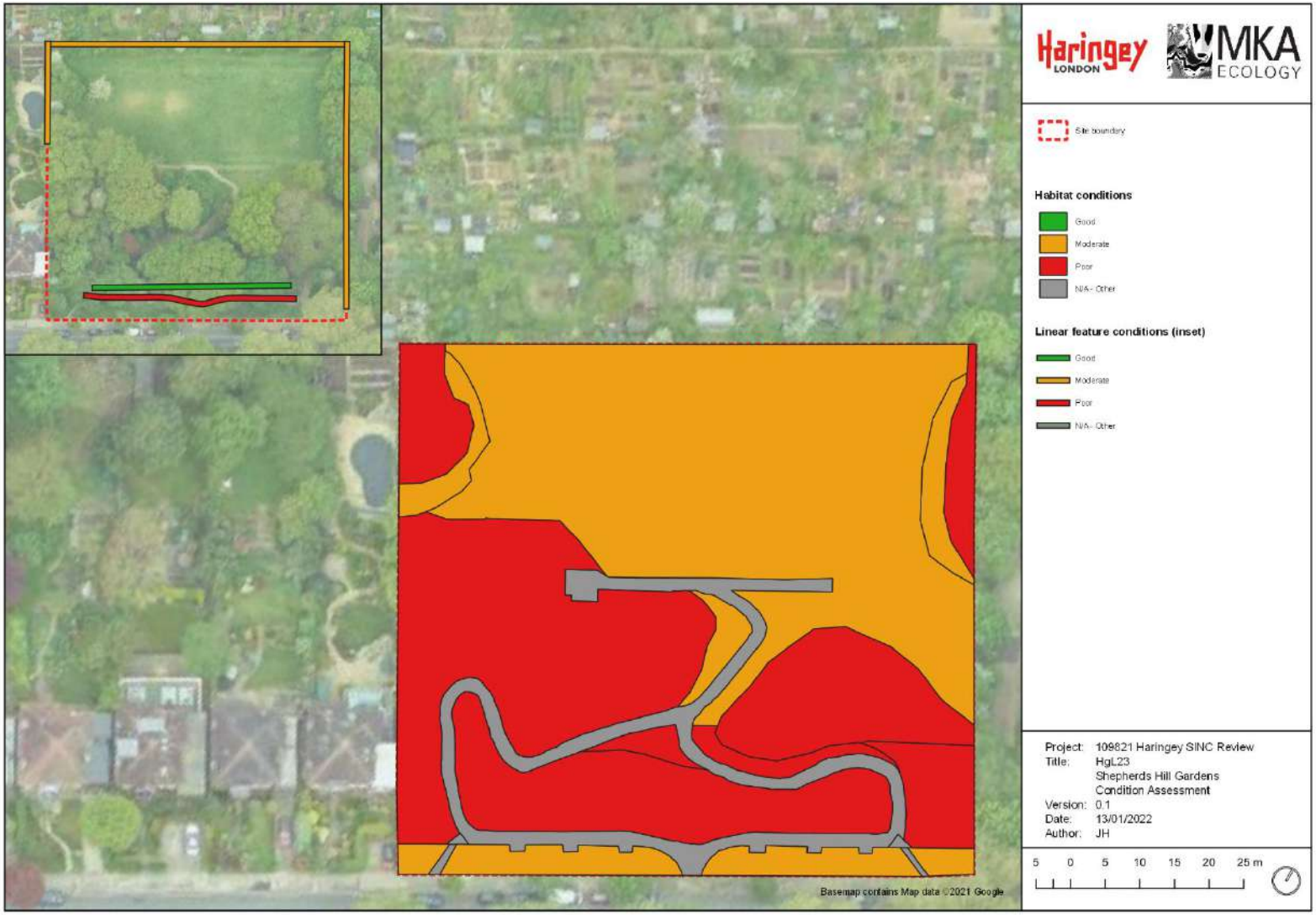
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Hedgerows
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL23 Shepherds Hill Gardens Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
h2a11
h3h
h2a5
g4
h3d
w1g6
w1g7
u1b6
u1d
h2b5
A
1


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: HgL23 Shepherds Hill Gardens Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
5 0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Dead hedge and stump

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Tree cotoneaster	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst small, the site provides a valuable extension to the larger areas of greenspace within this part of the borough. The wooded area on the southern boundary has rather more introduced shrub cover than the citation suggests and the creation of desire lines within the small woodland have caused some damage. In addition to the features listed in the citation, the northern boundary with Shepherd's Hill Allotment is a species-rich hedgerow in good condition. Given the immediacy of access from Shepherd's Hill and attractive vista to the north, this is an important site for local people to enjoy and as such warrants retention as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Likely presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Suitable terrestrial habitat for reptiles and amphibians, with records of slow-worm recorded in adjacent allotments.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature trees (generalist species and spotted flycatcher). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of mature trees.

	Invertebrates: • Additional planting of annual meadow/wildflower seed mix areas, particularly at base of hedgerow (using an appropriate woodland or hedgerow mix). • 'Bee banks': Mound of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance. Valuable to solitary bees. Can be installed near seating or • 'Bee hotels': Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • 'Beetle tower': Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Relaxation of mowing regime, over time allowing for a more tussocky sward structure and increased habitat provision for invertebrates, with small paths and a square retained for sitting/picnicking. Hedgerow base to be left to develop a less disturbed area of grassland. *Woodland:* • Consider gradual replacement of non-native shrubs and herbs within understorey and replacement with native species. • Additional protection (dead-hedging) from recreational damage.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Monitoring and control of Schedule 9 and/or LISI invasive non-native species as required.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Lea Valley

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Metropolitan**
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan**

1.2. Site description

Lea Valley comprises a large linear riverine site which is designated as a Site of Metropolitan Importance, located between National Grid References TQ 35711 91468 and TQ 34450 88297. The large site (947ha.) is designated not only for the river habitats but also the open greenspaces that are spread out along its length. The sections within Haringey are included in this assessment and this stretches approximately 3.5km from the northern edge of Tottenham Marshes in the north, to Markfield Park and West Warwick Reservoir in the south. The Haringey section primarily includes the River Lea Navigation in the north but also includes the confluence of this and the River Lea, and a small section further downstream. Included within the site is The Paddock which is an area of greenspace, managed by the London Borough of Haringey for nature conservation purposes.

The wider Lea Valley is managed by Lea Valley Regional Park Authority. The Authority has published a Biodiversity Action Plan for the park for the period 2019 – 2029 (Lea Valley Regional Park Authority, 2019). Individual Biodiversity Action Plans have been produced for specific habitats (rivers and streams, standing open water, grassland and fen, woodland, built environment and brownfield) and species (bittern *Botaurus stellaris*, water vole *Arvicola amphibius*, early marsh orchid *Dactylorhiza incarnata*, kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, creeping marshwort *Apium repens*, otter *Lutra lutra*, bats, barbel *Barbus barbus*). A number of these habitats and species occur, or have the potential to occur, within this section of the SINC.

The River Lea Navigation and the River Lea are the dominant habitat types through the site. The rivers are largely modified with manmade banks for the majority of their length. Some aquatic vegetation is present but this is limited by boat traffic. Bankside habitats typically comprise footpaths with small adjacent strips of grassland and woodland. Within the centre of the site is The Paddock Community Nature Park which provides the most extensive area of terrestrial habitats. The Paddock contains developing mixed woodland, scrub and grassland habitats and this area has been subject to much positive nature conservation management, including the creation of street side urban wildflower features and scrub/woodland management. This area is being considered for LNR designation. Where The Paddock is enclosed by the River Lea there are naturalised bankside habitats which are rare in the area.

The wider Lea Valley SINC supports a range of notable plant species with river water-dropwort *Oenanthe fluviatilis*, tubular water-dropwort *O. fistulosa*, whorl-grass *Catabrosa aquatica*, arrowhead *Sagittaria sagittifolia*, flowering-rush *Butomus umbellatus* and stream water-crowfoot *Ranunculus penicillatus* in aquatic habitats. Wet marshy grassland supports marsh arrowgrass *Triglochin palustre*, marsh-marigold *Caltha palustris*, adder's-tongue fern *Ophioglossum vulgatum* and the hybrid sedge *Carex x subgracilis*. Drier neutral grassland in the wider SINC supports bee orchid *Ophrys apifera*, grass vetchling *Lathyrus nissolia* and the nationally scarce yellow vetchling *Lathyrus aphaca*. However, few habitats appropriate for these species occur within the Haringey sections of the SINC. There are several records of wall bedstraw *Galium parisiense* within the directly adjacent Markfield Park. In addition, there are several native black poplar *Populus nigra subsp. betulifolia* trees which are of note.

The assemblage of birds is one of the key features of the wider Lea Valley SINC, with species such as shoveler *Spatula clypeata* and gadwall *Mareca strepera* present in internationally important numbers and it is designed for this reason as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Protection Area (SPA). These designated parts of the Lea Valley do not fall within the Haringey sections, however the reservoirs directly to the east are included as part of the SSSI and SPA. GIGL hold records for a number of notable bird species in the area, including Cetti's warbler *Cettia cetti* which has been recorded on a number of occasions within The Paddock and is specially protected on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended. Other species of note also include kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*, grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*, house sparrow *Passer domesticus* and black redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros* (another Schedule 1 listed bird also recorded at The Paddock). Whilst the parts of the Lea Valley SINCs within Haringey do not provide critical habitats for the bird species notified within the SSSI and SPA designations they are a feature of significant importance for local bird populations, particularly when considering connectivity of habitats and populations.

There are a small number of notable invertebrate records associated with the area and these include several damsel and dragonflies (red-eyed damselfly *Erythromma najas,* common emerald damselfly *Lestes sponsa* and common darter *Sympetrum striolatum*). During the site visit Jersey tiger moth *Euplagia quadripunctaria* was recorded at the site. The reedbeds across the wider Lea Valley SINCs are known to support important moths such as dotted fan-foot *Macrochilo cribrumalis*, Webb's wainscot *Globia sparganii* and brown-veined wainscot *Archanara dissoluta*.

There have been several bat species recorded locally and these species are likely to use the river for both commuting and foraging. The unlit area of The Paddock, with its range of habitat types, is also likely to be locally significant for bats. Species recorded in the area include serotine *Eptesicus serotinus*, noctule *Nyctalus noctula*, Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*, common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* and soprano pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*. Some of the mature trees within the site may provide roosting opportunities for these species. Some older records of water vole *Arvicola amphibius* are held by GIGL but these are of a significant age and there is a single record of otter *Lutra lutra* in the neighbouring reservoir. Of note are a number of records of hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus*.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Rivers and streams

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r2a - Rivers (priority habitat)** **r2b - Other rivers and streams (40 - Freshwater - heavily modified)**
Description **r2a - Rivers (priority habitat):** A small section of the River Lea is present to the south of the site, adjacent to the east side of The Paddock. This is the only area with more naturalised bankside habitats and vegetation present such as bulrush *Typha latifolia* and willows *Salix*. Some small reedbed habitats with common reed *Phrapgmites australis* are also present. Other aquatic/marginal vegetation included reed sweet-grass *Glyceria maxima*, water dock *Rumex hydrolapathum*, gypsywort *Lycopus europaeus* and common figwort *Scrophularia nodosa*. **r2b - Other rivers and streams:** The River Lea Navigation, and the lower part of Pymme's Brook are heavily modified with little opportunities for vegetation. Some small areas of marginal vegetation are present alongside the River Lea Navigation but this is limited. Non-native invasive species occur regularly with Himalayan balsam *Impatiens glandulifera*, orange balsam *Impatiens capensis*, floating pennywort *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides* recorded in or directly adjacent to the river.
Condition River condition assessments were not part of the scope of this study but it is feasible to say that due to its modified nature and lack of vegetation the River Lea Navigation is in Poor condition. With its naturalised banks and vegetation, the River Lea itself is in better condition.

Wetland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation** **f2e - Reedbeds**
Description **f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation:** Occasional in small sections alongside the river banks. Species included reed sweet-grass, gypsywort, common figwort and water dock. Non-native species were also present including orange balsam. **f2e – Reedbeds:** A reedbed is present at the confluence of the River Lea and the River Lea Navigation with a smaller riverside reedbed further south (not mapped due to small size). Species include common reed, bulrush and gypsywort.
Condition

f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation: Aquatic marginal vegetation does not have its own set of condition assessment criteria; instead, these areas are included within whichever freshwater habitat condition assessment they are associated with. In this case, this is the Rivers condition, which is not included within the scope of this study.

f2e – Reedbeds

The reedbed was considered to be in Moderate condition because it passes all criteria with the exception of one concerning the presence of non-native invasive species.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g4 - Modified grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral)

g4a - Amenity grassland

Description

g4 - Modified grassland: Modified grassland occurs along the length of the site, typically along the sides of paths and occasionally opening out into more expansive areas, notably in the centre within The Paddock and adjacent to the allotments. A large number of species are dispersed widely through the grassland but typically species such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius*, cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, annual meadow-grass *Poa annua*, and notably perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* are recorded most frequently. Non-native invasive species are also common including Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* and buddleja *Buddleja davidii*. A more expansive area of this habitat type is located south of the allotment which appears to be largely unmanaged with frequent horse-radish *Armoracia rusticana* and other tall herbs, particularly Russian comfrey *Symphytum officinale x asperum = S. x uplandicum*.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Scattered throughout the survey area but infrequent. Atypical composition for this habitat type with annual meadow-grass, perennial rye-grass and occasional forbs such as daisy *Bellis perennis* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

Condition

g4 - Modified grassland: The grass margins alongside the paths are typically in Poor condition, and this is because of a lack of species diversity, damage and bare ground and the presence of non-native and undesirable species. The larger areas of modified grassland close to the allotments are in Good condition because they have a higher species diversity and varied sward height, and they have little damage and few signs of invasive species. The area of modified grassland in The Paddock is in Moderate condition due to the encroaching scrub and the presence of non-native/undesirable species.

g4a - Amenity grassland: The areas of amenity grassland are of Moderate condition and fail on criteria concerning species diversity and sward height diversity.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved (16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral, 37 - Semi-natural woodland, 80 – Unmanaged)

w1g6 - Line of trees

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved (16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ ephemeral, 75 - Active Management)

Description

w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved: This woodland type is present along the riversides where, presumably, former areas of scrub and hedgerow have grown out. As such elder *Sambucus nigra* and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* are common (extensive stands of elder being uncommon in London). Other tree species occur regularly through the woodland and these are typical of the riverine setting including white willow *Salix alba*, goat willow *Salix caprea* and alder *Alnus glutinosa*. More typical woodland species such as field maple *Acer campestre*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* are also present. The ground flora is generally poor and species include common nettle *Urtica dioica*, white dead-nettle *Lamium album*, herb–Robert *Geranium robertianum*, wood dock *Rumex sanguineus* and Russian comfrey. Non-natives are also present including Japanese knotweed, snowberry *Symphoricarpos albus* and buddleja. In addition, it is understood the woodland supports a range of mosses and bryophytes.

w1g6 - Line of trees: A line of trees comprising hazel *Corylus avellana*, field maple, lime *Tilia sp*. and ash is present to the west of Tottenham Lock along Mill Mead Road. These are semi-mature.

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: This woodland type occurs around The Paddock habitats and comprises grown out scrub habitats which naturally colonised the areas after its previous land use as horse paddocks. The composition is similar to the woodland described above although coniferous species (yew *Taxus baccata*) are also present and there is a high proportion of elder. Some parts of the woodland are undergoing active management at the moment with areas of selective thinning close to the entrance of the park. Unfortunately, there are issues with non-native invasive plant species in this area including Japanese knotweed, buddleja and snowberry. Notice boards reference the presence of scarce lichens although no records of such species were present in the GIGL dataset for this location.

Condition

w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved: In Moderate condition as it scores highly on many of the criteria. The woodlands score poorly due to a lack of good woodland ground flora, deadwood, veteran trees and disturbance. In addition the woodland could also get a better score if there was a greater diversity of age structure throughout as it currently lacks older tree specimens.

w1g6 - Line of trees: This is in Moderate condition as it has native trees, good canopy cover and tree health is good. However, there are no mature trees present and there is significant disturbance in the surrounding area.

w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved: This woodland is also in Moderate condition with the exception of the areas of recently managed woodland which are in Poor condition. Condition factors are similar to the woodland described above although non-native species are also present. The area in Poor condition is due to a lack of native species diversity and the disturbance resulting from the recent management. However, it is anticipated that this will improve over time as the ground flora establishes with increased light levels.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3d - Bramble scrub

h3h - Mixed scrub

Description

h3d - Bramble scrub: Forming riverside habitat to the south of Tottenham Lock and in other small scattered section adjacent to the River Lea Navigation. Dominated by bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg*.

h3h - Mixed scrub: Occurring alongside the river, as well as areas in The Paddock. Species are mixed and comprise, amongst others, hawthorn, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, goat willow, bramble and non-natives such as buddleja. Other non-woody species are also present including hop *Humulus lupulus* and tufted vetch *Vicia cracca*.

Condition

h3d - Bramble scrub: Defaults to Poor condition.

h3h - Mixed scrub: The areas of scrub within The Paddock are in Poor condition and this is due to lack of species and age diversity, and also the presence of non-native species. However, it does have a well-developed edge and glades are present. The scrub alongside the river is typically in Moderate condition as this has a greater species diversity but it also fails criteria relating to non-native species and age diversity.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow

h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees (77 – Neglected, 80 – Unmanaged)

Description

h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees: Present around the allotments and also alongside Mill Mead Road. Typical woody species are present and these include hazel, hawthorn, blackthorn, spindle *Euonymus europaeus* and dogwood. Tree species include pedunculated oak *Quercus robur*, sessile oak *Quercus petraea*, ash, sycamore and field maple.

h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: This occurs alongside the southern edge of the allotments although species diversity is lower and there are no trees.
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees: A small low diversity stretch of hedgerow with trees alongside the river and adjacent to Markfield Park.

Condition
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees: Alongside the allotments this is in Moderate condition and alongside Mill Mead Road this is in Good condition. The Good condition hedgerow only fails due to the presence of undesirable species. The Moderate condition hedgerow also fails as it has gaps and invasive species.
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow: This is in Moderate condition and fails criteria concerning canopy cover, disturbance and invasive/undesirable species.
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees: This is in Poor condition failing criteria for gaps, damage, disturbance, undesirable species and poor tree quality.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)
u1a - Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden)

Description
u1a - Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land: A small area of this habitat type has been created close to the entrance of The Paddock and it contains areas of planting, open water and a variety of substrates.
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface : Throughout the site as paths, tracks and road.
u1b5 – Buildings: Occasional through the site.
u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Some the paths are gravel or non-sealed surfaces.
u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: Areas of planting within urban environments. Of note is a very diverse area of planting directly in front of The Paddock along Ferry Lane. This contains a number of pollen and nectar-rich species which will provide forage for invertebrates. These include, amongst many others, wild marjoram *Origanum vulgare*, wild carrot *Daucus carota* and greater knapweed *Centaurea scabiosa*.

Condition
Urban habitats are given a zero score for condition ('N/A – Other'), with the exception of introduced shrub and vegetated gardens, which both default to Poor, and Open Mosaic Habitat which is

considered to be in Moderate condition. This is because it has a diverse structure and flowering species with no invasive species present.

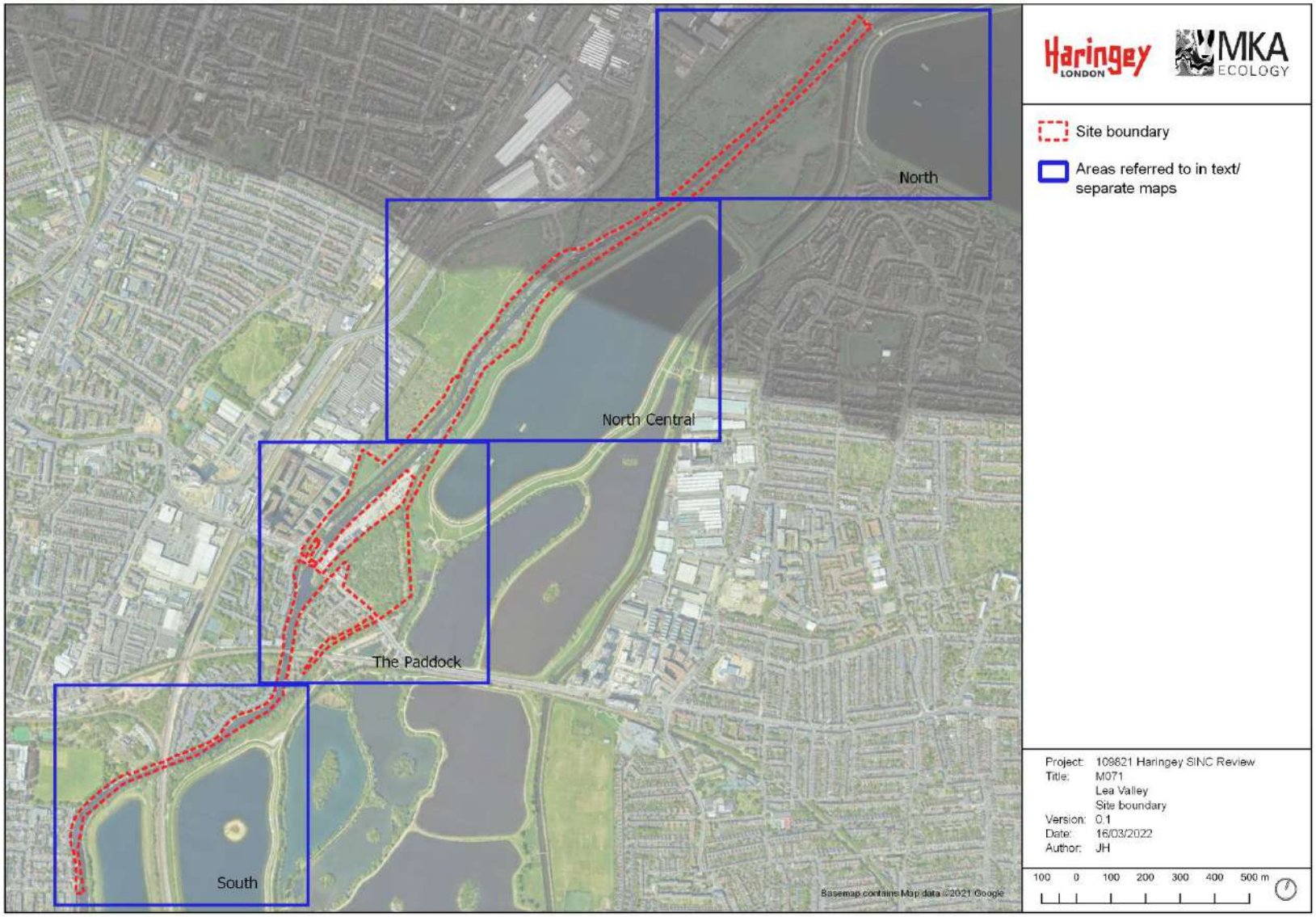
Priority habitats

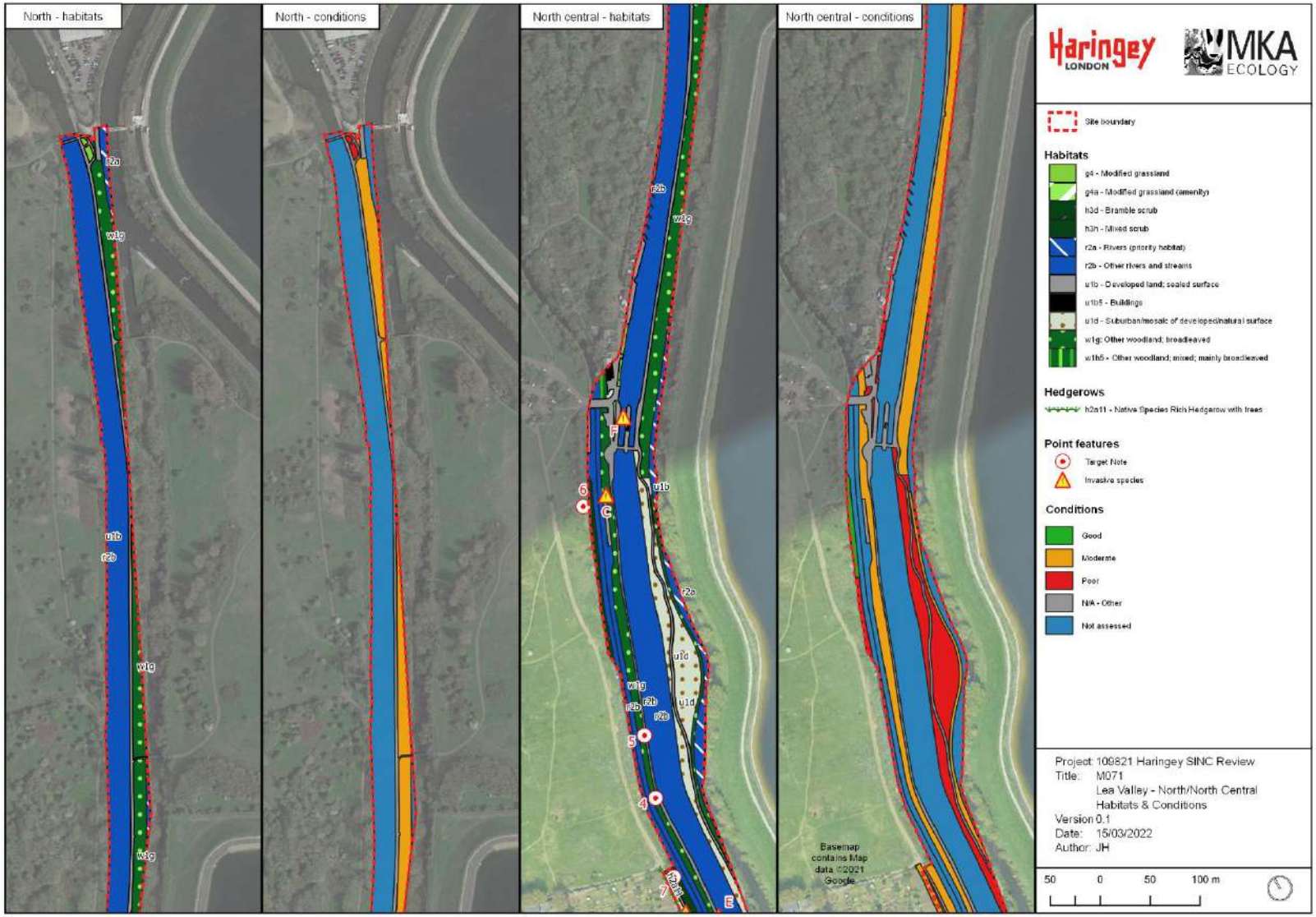
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

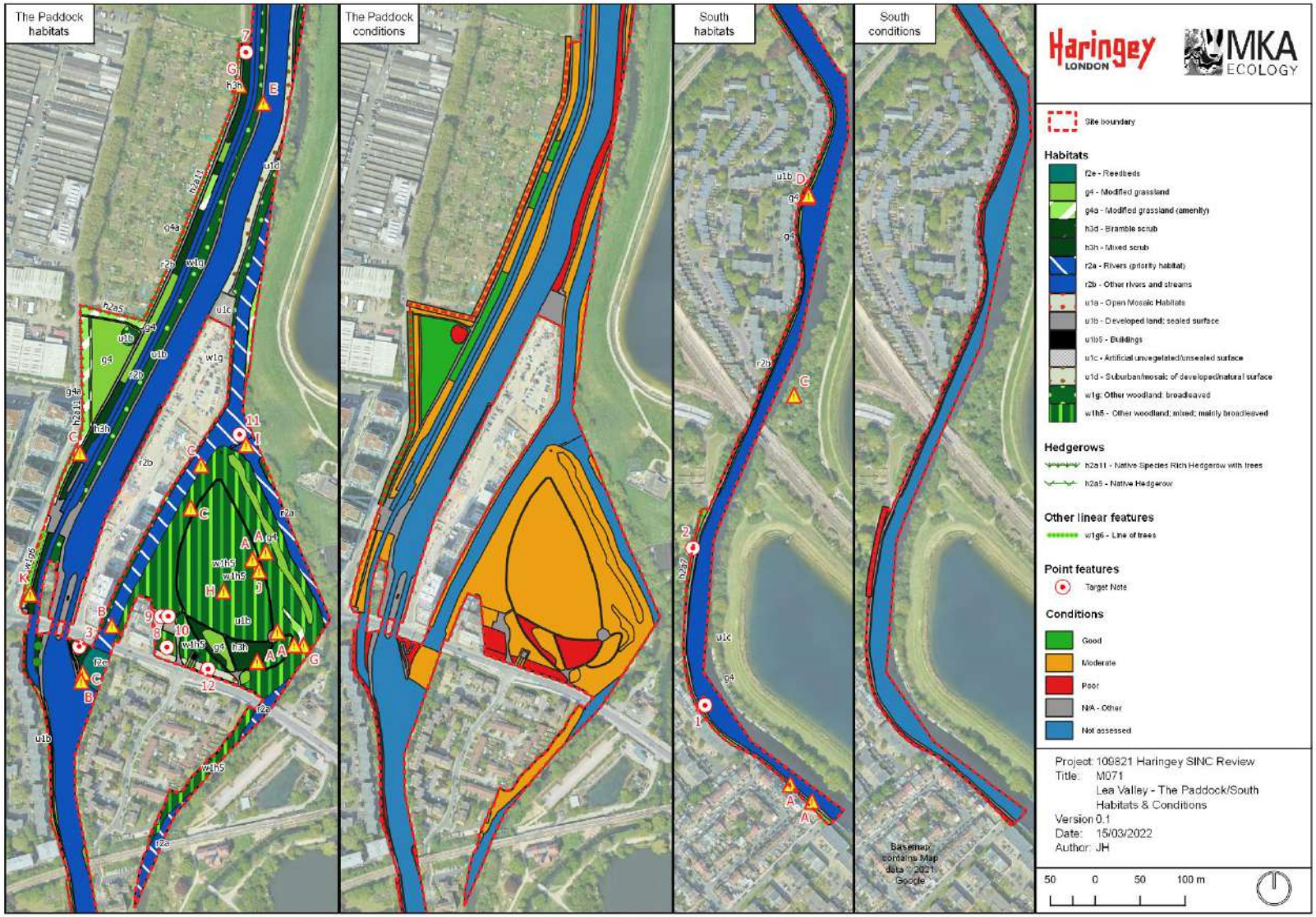
- Priority rivers;
- Reedbed;
- Hedgerows.

Note that in this instance the Open Mosaic Habitat does not qualify as a priority habitat due to its small scale.

1.4. Maps


North
North Central
The Paddock
South
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Areas referred to in text/ separate maps
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M071 Lea Valley Site boundary
Version: 0.1
Date: 16/03/2022
Author: JH
100 0 100 200 300 400 500 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


North - habitats
North - conditions
North central - habitats
North central - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r2a - Rivers (priority habitat)
r2b - Other rivers and streams
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g: Other woodland; broadleaved
w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved
Hedgerows
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Not assessed
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M071
Lea Valley - North/North Central
Habitats & Conditions
Version 0.1
Date: 15/03/2022
Author: JH
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
50 0 50 100 m


The Paddock habitats
The Paddock conditions
South habitats
South conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
f2e - Reedbeds
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
r2a - Rivers (priority habitat)
r2b - Other rivers and streams
u1a - Open Mosaic Habitats
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g: Other woodland; broadleaved
w1h5 - Other woodland; mixed; mainly broadleaved
Hedgerows
h2a11 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow with trees
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Target Note
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Not assessed
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M071
Lea Valley - The Paddock/South
Habitats & Conditions
Version 0.1
Date: 15/03/2022
Author: JH
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google
50 0 50 100 m

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Small area of marginal vegetation with water dock, gypsywort and common figwort.
2	Small area of reedbed.
3	Area of cleared scrub planted and seeded with cornflower, fruit trees and buckthorn.
4	Some small open areas of grassland, suitable for reptiles. Tansy growing here.
5	Jersey tiger moth recorded here.
6	Sulphur cinquefoil recorded at this location.
7	Pair of black poplar trees.
8	Area of recently managed woodland. Undesirable scrub thinned out.
9	Small pond, included as part of OMH.
10	Hibernacula for amphibians, reptiles and other species.
11	Area of rich aquatic vegetation including Phragmites, Typha and Salix.
12	Roadside area of biodiversity planting with native and non-native species providing an excellent resource.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Japanese knotweed	-
B	Floating pennywort	-
C	Himalayan balsam	-
D	Orange balsam	-
E	Giant hogweed	-
F	Floating pennywort and orange balsam	-
G	Snowberry	-
H	Buddleja throughout Paddocks	-
I	Himalayan balsam, orange balsam, floating pennywort	-
J	Virginia creeper	-
K	Russian vine	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

To be retained as a Metropolitan SINC.

A small proportion (21 ha – 2%) of the wider Lea Valley SINC (947 ha) lies within Haringey. The Haringey parts of the SINC primarily comprise the waterways (River Lea and the River Lea Navigation) and associated bankside habitats or grass margins, scrub and narrow strips of woodland. Well-used towpaths provide excellent access for people to nature. Also included within Haringey is The Paddock

Community Nature Park with developing mixed woodland, scrub and grasslands habitats. This area has been subject to much positive nature conservation management, including the creation of street side urban wildflower features and scrub/woodland management. This area is being considered for LNR designation.

Species records of note within the Haringey sections include a number of native black poplars, numerous bat species as well as aquatic mammals such as otter and water vole. The site is important for its bird populations with species such as kingfisher and grey wagtail recorded in the area. Invertebrates of note include red-eyed damselfly.

Being part of a larger whole, this area of the Lea Valley in Haringey contributes to a significant linear biodiversity resource through London which warrants its inclusion as a Metropolitan SINC. The wider site, and the parts within Haringey, contain valuable natural habitats as well as important species populations. Furthermore, the towpaths and proximity to densely urban areas means that the Lea Valley SINC in Haringey provides a high value resource for people to enjoy the natural environment.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds (including species listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1881, as amended: kingfisher, black redstart, Cetti's warbler).
- Potential for roosting bats (within trees or buildings).
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Native black poplars should be protected.

Opportunities

The habitat enhancement measures that are being undertaken at The Paddock are endorsed. The key aims at The Paddock are to provide a unique ecological setting for educational and community activities, an exemplar site for ecology in the Borough and well-connected green space for people and nature. The proposals include management of invasive species, improving access, new ponds, new woodland edges (particularly alongside the eastern edge of the woodland), enhancing the grassland and profiling the riverbank to allow the creation of a greater diversity of habitats here, including reedbeds. Additional measures for inclusion might include the creation of deadwood features as this is currently lacking in the woodland. Management of this woodland should also focus on promoting a diverse age structure. These measures are not included in the tables below.

The proposal to include The Paddock as a Local Nature Reserve are also supported. This location provides important access to nature for people in the area and is well suited to this designation.

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Wildflower planting* The potential for creation of new habitats outside The Paddock area is restricted at Lea Valley due to the linear nature of the site. However, some wildflower planting could be included alongside the footpaths where there is sufficient width. This could take the form of annual mixes where a temporary cover is required due to damage or overuse. More permanent grassland types could be considered in areas where space permits and damage through trampling is less likely. *Hedgerows* The linear nature of the site does lend itself to the creation of new hedgerow habitats. These could be included south of Tottenham Lock where the path becomes wider in parts. Such habitats would provide nesting bird habitat as well as shelter and resources for a range of invertebrates. *Aquatic planting* Islands of aquatic planting could be considered alongside the River Lea, particularly the River Lea Navigation where very little is currently present.
Species	*Invertebrates:* • Improving structure of scrub (see below) to create micro-climates and improve resource of food plants, nectar and pollen. • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ,* the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. Unless a tree has to be felled to its base for some reason, this should be seen as the default option. o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016).

	○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *TFL vent shaft*: • This large structure adjacent to The Paddock lends itself to the creation of a swift tower. It is recommended that Haringey liaise with TFL to explore opportunities for mounting swift *Apus apus* boxes and bat boxes on the structure to create a unique feature for wildlife in this prominent location. *Bat boxes:* • Bat roosting features on trees, buildings and bridges/riverbanks. *Bird boxes:* • Bird nesting boxes/features. The following types are recommended: ○ 'Standard' hole/cavity nest boxes on trees (e.g., tits). ○ Open fronted cavity boxes on trees along woodland edges (spotted flycatcher). ○ Open fronted cavity boxes around the entrance to The Paddock for black redstart. ○ Kingfisher nesting tunnels. Where works of habitat creation is taking place alongside the river. ○ Sand martin. Where concrete banks are present consider drilling holes for nesting sand martin following the methodology used at Tottenham Marshes. ○ Tawny owl. Nest cavity box in mature woodland trees, particularly at the Paddock. ○ Grey wagtail. Open fronted boxes under bridges. *Water vole:* • Creation of appropriate bankside habitats alongside the River Lea. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') particularly at The Paddock. *Black poplar:* • Opportunities for planting native black poplar of local provenance could be explored at Lea Valley.
Management/restoration of existing features (excluding The Paddock, see above)	
Habitats	*Grasslands:* • Improving the condition of the larger area of the modified grassland close to the allotments at Lea Valley should be a target for this location. In order to

	achieve this, it is recommended that a grassland management strategy, together with monitoring programme, is developed. The aim should be to improve the floristic and structural diversity of the habitat. Initially an appropriate 'cut and collect' mowing regime should be developed and the impacts of this on the grassland diversity should be monitored. Seeding could be considered as a last resort if the diversity of the grassland does not improve, but the preference should always be to allow the existing seedbank to develop. The cutting regime should aim for a diverse sward height and appropriate level of tall herb vegetation (recognising that a certain coverage of this type of vegetation is critical for many species). With a likely increase in recreational pressure it will be important to monitor and damage on the grassland, providing public guidance where appropriate. *Scrub:* • The areas of bramble scrub south of Tottenham Lock could be enhanced. Improving their condition will deliver significant ecological benefits. This can be achieved by increasing the diversity of native species, removal of non-native species and better management of the scrub edges. *Woodland:* • The condition of the woodlands alongside the River Lea should be improved. The deadwood resource throughout the site is poor and attempts should be made to increase the volume of both standing and fallen deadwood. Veteranisation of non-veteran trees would also be beneficial. Management should seek to increase the diversity of age ranges that are present. • The provision of pollard willows alongside the river should be explored. Pollard willows with their deadwood habitats support a very good diversity of invertebrate species as well as providing an attractive landscape feature. It is recommended that pollarding should not be undertaken along the west of the River Lea facing Hale Warf in order to protect the site from light pollution from the new residential housing development in this area.
Species	*Translocations:* • The availability of good quality habitat for, but likely absence of, both reptiles and water vole provide a potential opportunity for translocation projects for these species. The Paddock is an obvious location for the translocation of smaller reptile populations. *Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and other invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- A grassland management strategy and monitoring strategy should be developed.
- This SINC suffers from significant levels of non-native invasive species. Regular monitoring (and remedial works) should be undertaken to minimise the impacts.
- Condition of habitat types should be monitored following any positive interventions to ensure delivery of goals, particularly within The Paddock.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

Lea Valley Regional Park Authority (2019), *Lea Valley Regional Park Biodiversity Action Plan 2019-2029*. Lea Valley Regional Park Authority: Enfield.

PTES (2016) *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. New River

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Metropolitan
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan grade**

1.2. Site description

The section of the New River within Haringey is highly canalised with sheet piling along its length and none of the aquatic/marginal plant species that are listed within the SINC Citation were observed during the field survey. Aquatic plants species were represented by abundant Nuttall's waterweed *Elodea nuttallii* and charophytes. Occasional stands of common reed *Phragmites australis* were present in the south-eastern section, giving some variation. Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* and grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea,* both birds associated with running water, are recorded from the New River. Recent (2017) records of bats also suggest that the SINC provides at least some foraging and commuting value to this group.

Closely mown grass dominates the terrestrial habitats, with some less intensively managed areas south of Turnpike Lane. Scrub is present along the boundaries, especially at the north end within the Bounds Green section. The maps below refer to six arbitrary sections as follows:

A. From borough boundary in north to Myddelton Road (located between National Grid Reference TQ 30584 91638 and TQ 30575 91416).
B. East of Alexandra Palace either side of Station Road (located between National Grid Reference TQ 30468 90438 and TQ 30448 90350).
C. Straight stretch east of Wood Green Reservoir.
D. Between Hornsey High Street and Wightman Road.
E. Hornsey section between Wightman Road (north) and Finsbury Park (inclusive).
F. East of Finsbury Park/Green Lanes (sections C-F located between National Grid Reference TQ 30417 90141 and TQ 32687 87889).

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)
r1e - Canals (39 - freshwater - man-made)
f2e - Reedbeds

Description

r1e - Canals (39 - freshwater - man-made). The dominant habitat and the reason for the site's designation. The New River is sheet piled along its entire length and there is little or no aquatic vegetation. That present is either dominated by rigid hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* or the invasive non-native Nuttall's waterweed. The only records of aquatic plants attributable to the Haringey section are of river water-dropwort *Oenanthe fluviatilis* (1986), galingale *Cyperus longus* (1986) and water-soldier *Stratiotes aloides* (2006).

f2e – Reedbeds. Two small areas of common reed *Phragmites australis* dominated vegetation in section F. Other marginal species include gypsywort *Lycopus europaeus* and water mint *Mentha aquatica*.

Condition

r1e - Canals (39 - freshwater - man-made). Using the 'Ditch' condition assessment (noting that, whilst the New River is >5m in width, it does in every other respect qualify under this habitat type), all sections are in Poor condition. The absence of any marginal plants, the widespread presence of invasive species and occasional damage (i.e., tipping and/or aggregation of rubbish at bottlenecks or weirs) all lead to a Poor condition assessment.

f2e – Reedbeds. Moderate condition.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g4 - Modified grassland (16 - Tall herb, 64 - Mown)

Description

The majority of the bankside habitats consist of regularly mown grass of typical species, with rye-grass *Lolium* dominant and other grasses such as creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* frequent. Areas with tall herbs and ruderal species were occasionally present at the margins, with patches of common nettle *Urtica dioica* the most frequent example. All the grassland was mown frequently, with an exception of the eastern bank, south of Hornsey high street, which was managed less intensively. Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica* was found at the boundary of a grass verge along section D.

Condition

Poor condition. Most areas of grassland are managed intensively, are species poor. Only the aforementioned area with a less intensive mowing regime was in Good condition.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3d - Bramble scrub

h3h - Mixed scrub
Description Scrub forms a relatively minor habitat type within the Haringey New River, accounting for only small patches in the north (sections A and B) and along the boundaries to the south (section F). Scrub consists of both native (e.g., bramble *Rubus fruticosus,* hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and elder *Sambucus nigra*) and non-native (e.g., firethorn *Pyracantha coccinea* and *Buddliea*).
Condition Most scrub is in Poor condition, being either bramble dominated stands (which default to Poor), or mixed scrub with little botanical or structural diversity. Where Moderate (section B), only the presence of non-native and undesirable species within the field layer (common nettle was dominant) prevent Good condition.

Woodland (lines of trees)

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g6 - Line of trees**
Description Tree lines are relatively rare, being present only along the section east and south of Wood Green Reservoir and along the south boundary east of Finsbury Park (section F). These consist largely of immature-mature hybrid black poplar *Populus nigra x deltoides = P. x canadensis*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior,* hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* with rare occurrences of sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and the invasive tree-of-heave *Ailanthus altissima.*
Condition Poor or Moderate. Non-native, immature tree lines with broken canopies are Poor. Only where native species are present is a Moderate condition achieved. The SINC does not support a semi-natural habitat, which is necessary for Good condition.

Urban

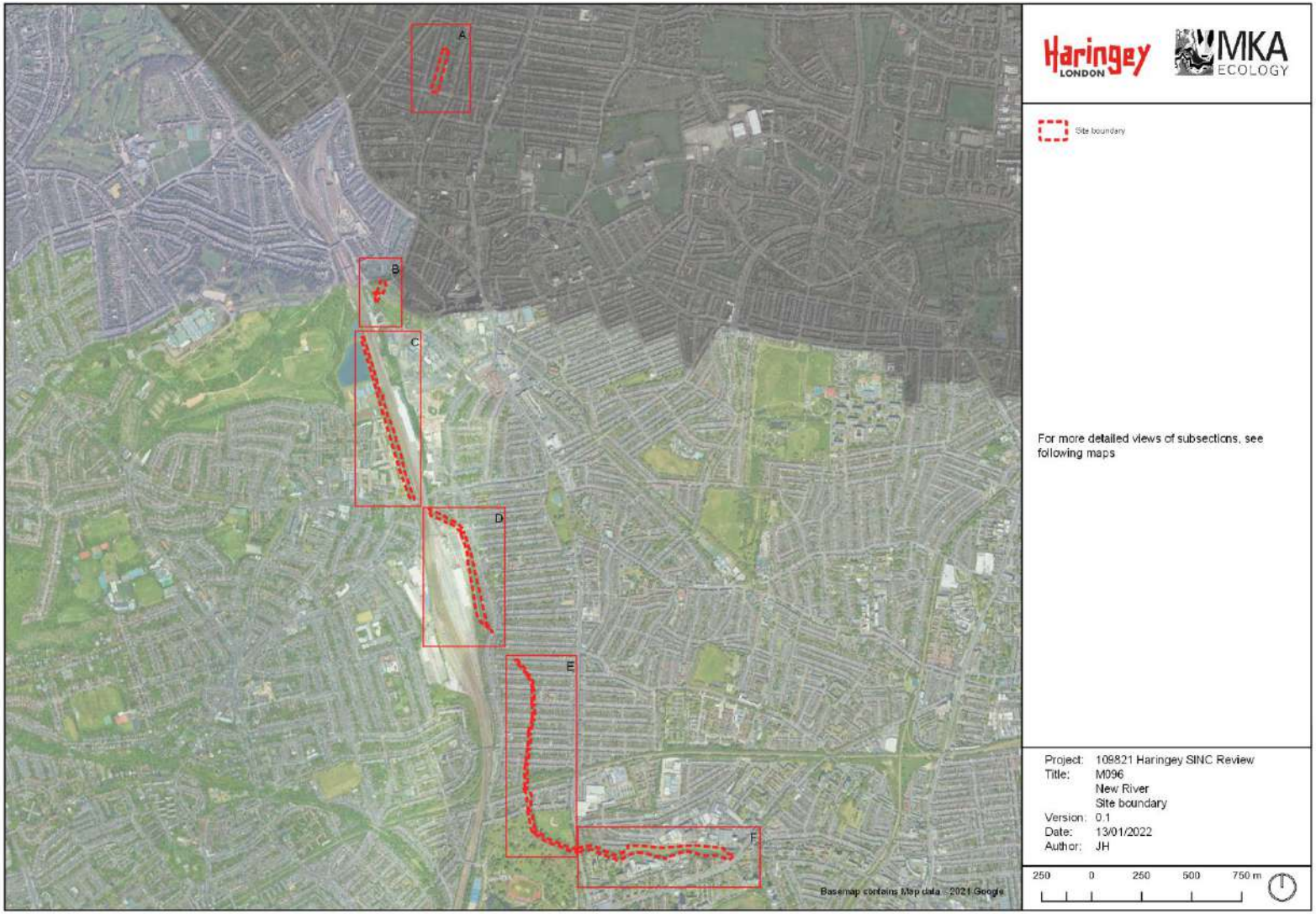
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u - Urban (1170 urban tree/street tree)** **u1b5 - Buildings** **u1b6 - Other developed land** **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated Garden)**
Description

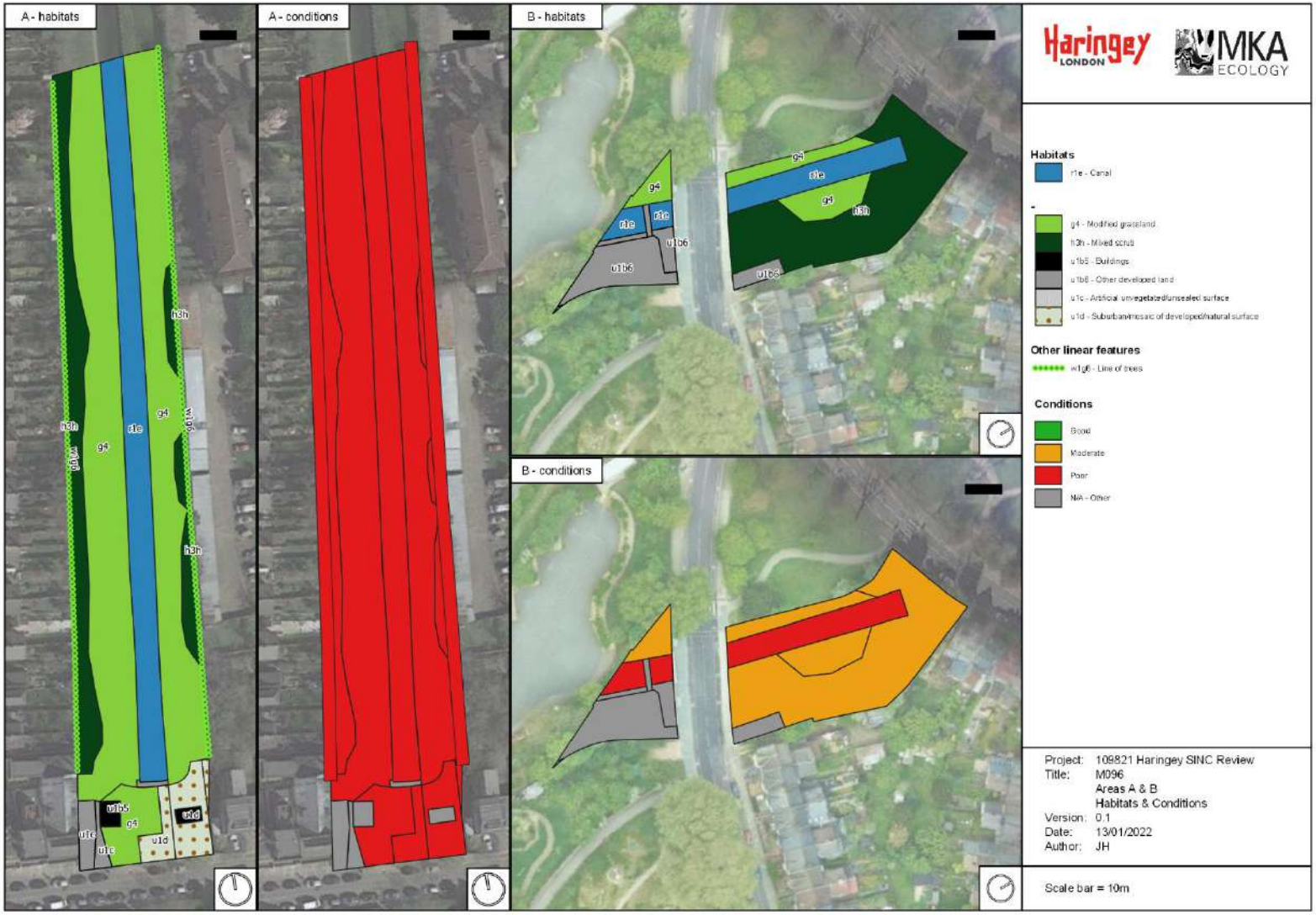
u - Urban (1170 urban tree/street tree). Isolated canal side trees. **u1b5 - Buildings:** Thames Water buildings. **u1b6 - Other developed land.** Other canal infrastructure. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface.** Untarmacked paths. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated Garden).** Ornamental shrubs and back gardens where these appeared to fall within the SINC boundary, possibly through illegal 'land-take'.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of Introduced shrub and vegetated gardens which default to Poor.

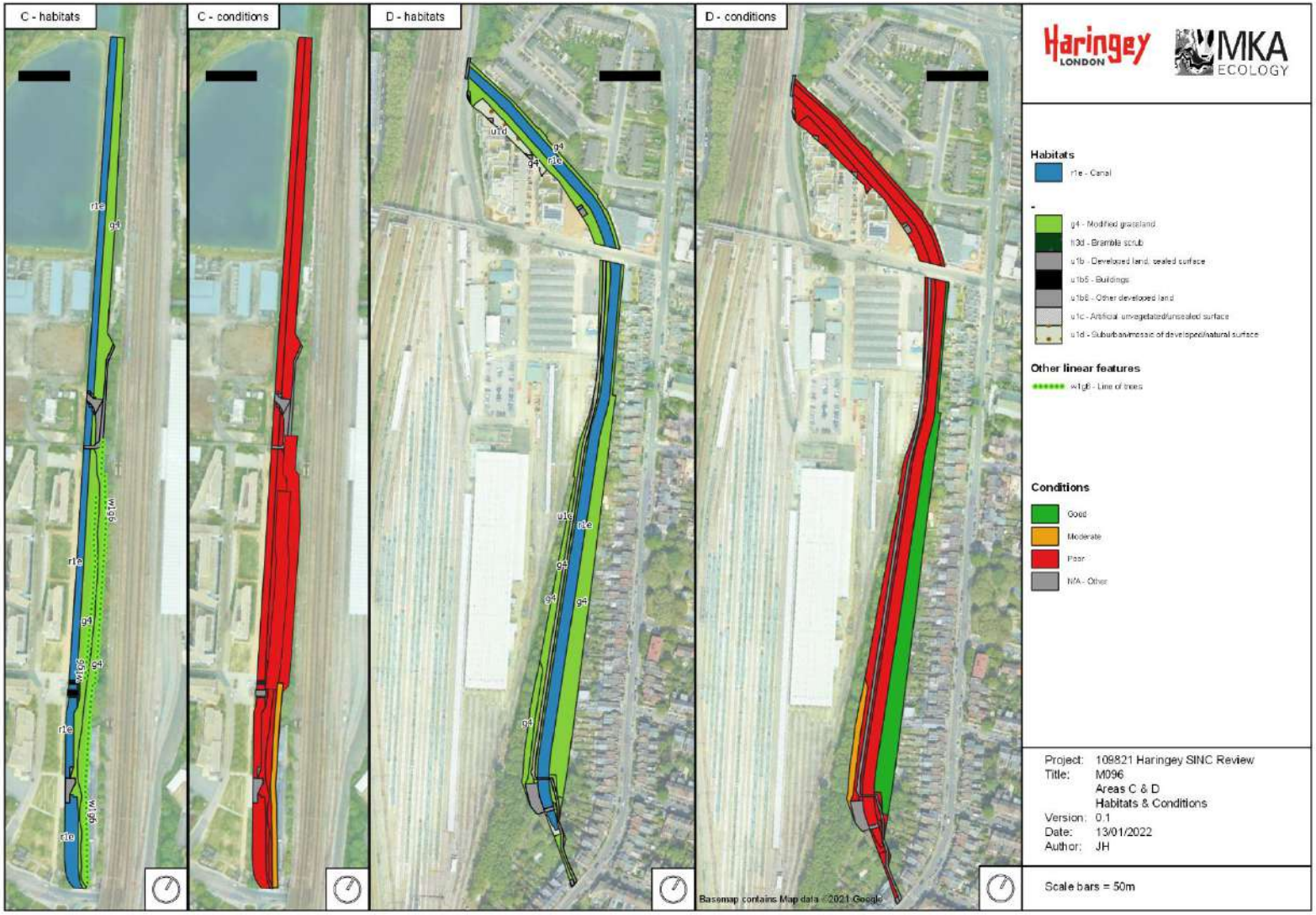
Priority habitats

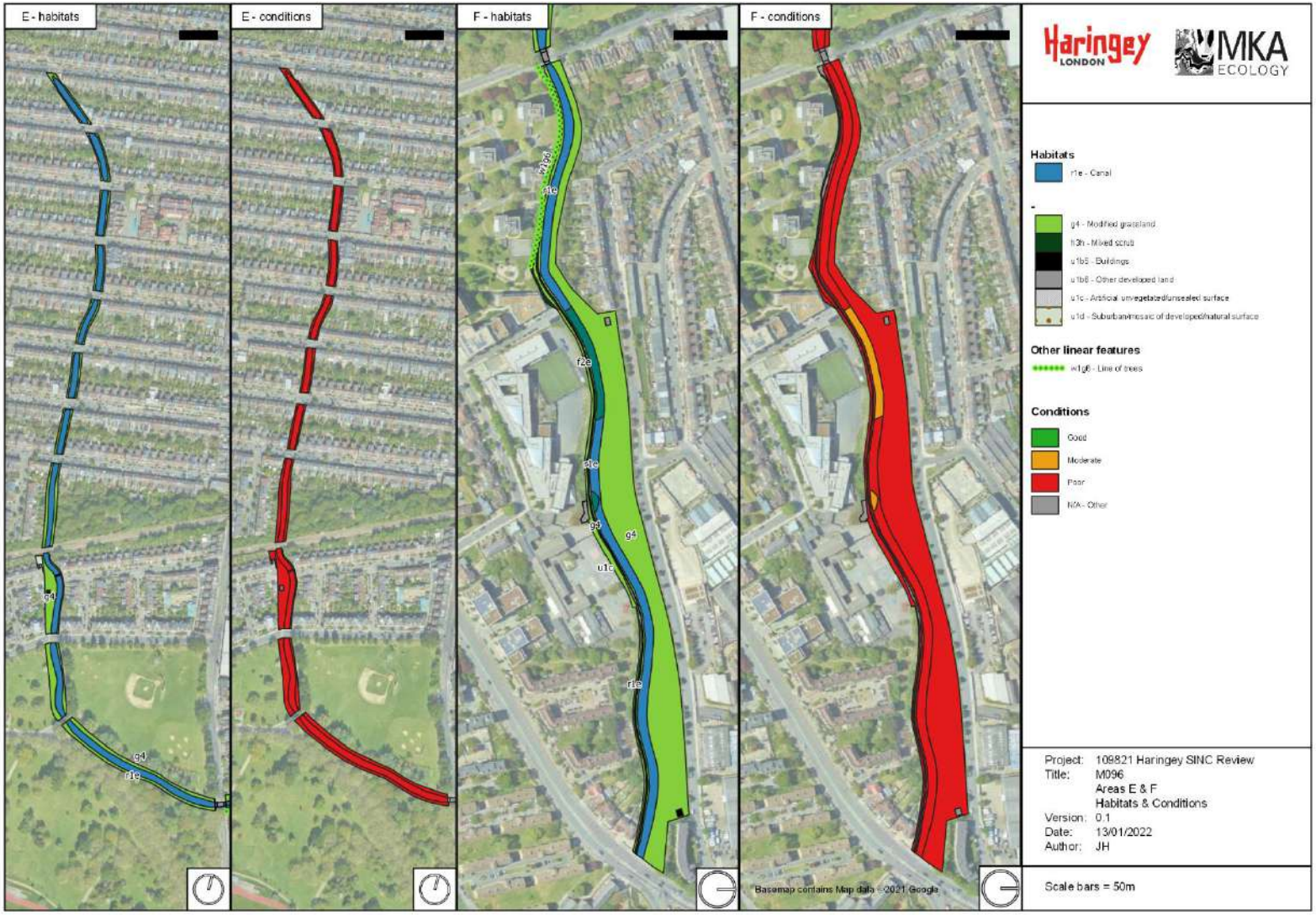
- Reedbeds

1.4. Maps


A
B
C
D
E
F
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
For more detailed views of subsections, see following maps
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M096 New River Site boundary
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
250 0 250 500 750 m
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google


A - habitats
A - conditions
B - habitats
B - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Habitats
r1e - Canal
g4 - Modified grassland
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M096
Areas A & B
Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
Scale bar = 10m


C - habitats
C - conditions
D - habitats
D - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Habitats
r1e - Canal
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b - Developed land: sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M096
Areas C & D
Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
Scale bars = 50m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


E - habitats
E - conditions
F - habitats
F - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Habitats
r1e - Canal
g4 - Modified grassland
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Other linear features
w1g6 - Line of trees
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M096
Areas E & F
Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Scale bars = 50m

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Section dominated by rigid hornwort

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Virginia creeper	-
B	Stagshorn sumach	-
C	Buddleia	-
D	Buddleia	-
E	Goat's rue	-
F	Tree of heaven	-
G	Nuttall's waterweed	Widespread throughout canal system – added here as a placemarker.
H	Buddleia	-
I	Buddleia	-
J	Nuttalls waterweed	Widespread throughout canal system – added here as a placemarker.
K	Buddleia	-
L	Nuttalls waterweed	Widespread throughout canal system – added here as a placemarker.
M	Japanese knotweed	-
N	Buddleia	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

Whilst the New River that flows through Haringey does not hold the same intrinsic biodiversity value as sections in other boroughs might, and is dominated by invasive non-native species, its role as part of a 'Blue Corridor' within and through the borough warrants retention as a Metropolitan Site of Importance.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential for roosting bats (potential for suitable features on bridges and other hard infrastructure, isolated bank side trees.
- Potential presence of Schedule 1 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) nesting birds (kingfisher) which are afforded a higher level of protection during the breeding season.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows:* • Planting of native, species rich hedgerows along the New River boundaries.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of kingfisher tunnels. These can be sited within soft or hard banks, with even walls set back from the immediate canal side. • Open fronted boxes for grey wagtail. Best sited under bridges or on adjacent hard structures. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees or bridge supports.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Freshwater:* • Developing additional reedbed and marginal aquatic vegetation. The sheet piling walls offer little opportunity for marginal vegetation, however, 'floating ecosystem' systems provide an opportunity (see MKA Ecology Ltd., 2021). • Increase tree planting alongside canal bank to add diversity of shade regime, overhanging branches providing refugia for fish and other aquatic fauna. • Creation of 'shallow water zones' along wider stretches, though choice of material should be carefully considered to avoid the development of thick sediment build up (e.g., van Kerckvoorde *et al.,* 2013). *Grassland:* • Relaxation of management frequency and intensity, with a focus on deriving a larger area of more botanically and structurally rich grassland. This may also require additional seeding with herbaceous species and removal of arisings from periodic mowing.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

- Control and/or monitoring of invasive species (though it recognised that the sheer scale of the problem may make this an unrealistic objective).

- Botanical monitoring. Biannual botanical surveys to assess the efficacy of terrestrial and aquatic plant diversity and abundance following measures to enhance grassland and aquatic marginal habitats.
- Monitoring for aquatic invertebrates, particularly Odonata. Dragonflies represent a useful marker of the health of a waterway. Dragonflies (e.g. red-eyed damselfly *Erythromma najas* a London rarity) are included within the SINC citation. As well providing updated information on species distribution, monitoring will help to establish the success of other management options, should they be adopted.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

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1. Highgate Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Metropolitan (part of M116: Highgate Wood, Queen's Wood & Parkland Walk)
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan - Split into three separate SINCS:**

    - Highgate Wood - retain as Metropolitan
    - Queen's Wood - retain as Metropolitan
    - Parkland Walk - retain as Metropolitan

1.2. Site description

For convenience, each of Highgate Wood (M116a), Queen's Wood (M116b) and Parkland Walk (M11bc) are given their own site description report.

Highgate is the largest individual block of ancient woodland within Haringey, with the woodland area occupying nearly 25 hectares. With Queen's Wood occupying nearly 20 hectares, and the CREOS (Crouch End Open Space) woodland further to the east, together these woodlands, separated only by the Muswell Hill Road, form a continuous swathe of oak-hornbeam woodland across the west of the borough.

Highgate Wood (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28293 88679) is owned and managed by the City of London Corporation. The comparatively poor state of the woodland's ground flora (see below) can be dated back to the initial acquisition of the wood in 1886, which was managed more as an urban park, rather than as a site for nature conservation (Bevan, 1992). Many of the sedges recorded in the early 1900s have since disappeared following drainage efforts. Ornamental confers were also planted, many of these, or their progeny, are still present in the southern tip of the SINC. A comparative study was made between Highgate and Queen's Wood (Latimer, 1984) and the resulting recommendations for management were put in place, including the installation of fencing and retention of dead wood. Areas of fencing remain (both permanent, and temporary dead hedges) and the retention of deadwood continues. The wood is subject to an ongoing management plan which retain many of these principles (City of London Corporation, 2013, LUC, 2012).

The wood is one of the most studied and recorded areas in Haringey, with many long-term monitoring surveys being undertaken. There are records of eight species of bat from surveys undertaken by the Bat Conservation Trust and London Bat Group and the Friends of Highgate Wood Group within the last fifteen years, including Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri* and Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leiseri,* though the latter has not been recorded since 2009. These also include records from the BCT National Bat Monitoring

Program Hibernation Survey 2017 – 2020, with records of Daubenton's bat *M. daubentonii,* Natterer's bat and brown long-eared bat *Plecotus auritus.* Bat boxes are present throughout the woodland.

Surveys for lepidopterans include the Butterfly Conservation Herts & Middx Surveys, where white-letter hairstreak *Satyrium w-album* and small heath *Coenonympha pamphilus* (both Priority Species under Section 41, NERC Act, 2006) have been recorded within the last 20 years. Regular moth surveys have been undertaken at the site for the past 37 years, recording approximately 450 species, including a number of Priority Species. Stag beetle *Lucanus cervus* has been recorded as recently as 2019.

The wood supports a number of breeding birds, including stock dove *Cloumba oenas* (BoCC Amber List, Stanbury *et al.,* 2021) and mistle thrush *Turdus viscivorus* (Red list). The wood is also an important resource for winter migrants, with redwing *T. iliacus* and fieldfare *T.pilaris* both being recorded in large flocks. Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla* has also been recorded in recent years during the winter months. This species is listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981, as amended) which affords it additional protection during the breeding season. The breeding range of this species is increasing in the UK, with records across southern England; there is therefore potential for this as a breeding species in Highgate Wood. Of increasing concern is increase in population and distribution of ring-necked parakeets *Psittacula krameria* which nest in tree cavities and are likely to be limiting nest sites of other cavity nesting birds and bats (e.g., noctule *Nycatlus noctula).*

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests (1160 - Introduced shrub, 33 - Ancient woodland site, 48 Non-native, 73 - Bare ground, 191 – ditch, 136 - Compacted substrate, 147 - Fallen dead wood abundant, 33 - Ancient woodland site, 47 – Native, 48 - Non-native, 49 - Veteran Trees, 52 - Coppice with standards)** **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (119 - Seasonally wet)**
Description **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests**: Nearly all of the 25 hectares of woodland is considered as oak-hornbeam woodland. Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* is now the dominant oak species, with sessile oak *Q. petraea* much less frequent, both largely as mature standards. Hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* is abundant within the secondary canopy, but as larger mature specimens. Beech *Fagus sylvaticus* was also frequent. Where a ground flora was present, this was usually dominated by ivy *Hedera helix* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus agg.,* though large areas, particularly in the south east (near access to Muswell Hill Road and close to the sports pitches) and north-west (adjacent to the path leading to the Lanchester Road/Capital Ring access) were largely devoid of ground cover. This is likely to be due to [a] the present of high forest with low light levels and [b] increased disturbance from pedestrians

and dog walking, the latter likely to have increased markedly in 2020 and 2021. This starkly contrasts to the rich understorey observed in the south-west corner, this being fenced off.

As in other ancient woodland sites in the borough, ancient woodland indicator understorey species are increasingly marginalised to small, isolated areas. Native bluebell *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* (Schedule 8, Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 as amended) is present within a northern section of the wood, with dead hedging employed to act as a deterrent. Creeping soft-grass *Holcus mollis*, another Ancient Woodland Indicator (Rose, 1999) is found throughout the wood in patches. Wild service tree *Sorbus torminalis* is also present.

Invasive, non-native species (both Schedule 9, Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 as amended, and LISI) are present and include cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus,* variegated yellow archangel *Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum* and montbretia *Crocosmia pottsii x aurea = C. x crocosmiiflora* are all found, predominantly towards the southern half of the wood.

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: A relatively small section to the south-west of the cricket ground is considered as a non-specific lowland mixed-deciduous woodland. Here, alder *Alnus glutinosa* and willows *Salix* were more frequent, though the area is not a wet woodland. Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* was more common than elsewhere, as it was too within a separate fenced area east of the railway. Another species of interest was alder buckthorn *Frangula alnus,* with the shrub layer mainly comprised of bramble and elder *Sambucus nigra.*

Condition

w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests: All woodland is considered to be in Good condition, with the exception of areas to the north (not including the bluebell area) which are in Moderate condition. These poorer condition areas were usually so due to the presence of invasive species, higher levels of disturbance and a lack of regeneration (holly was the only species within the shrub layer and regrowth of other species was not evident). Elsewhere, the scores of Good condition should not mask the fact that there is still considerable ground disturbance and the presence of invasive species. These alone will not result in a score of Good, but these areas are at the lower end of this category. The 'conservation area – coppiced 2007-2017' is considered one of the better areas, with a more evident ground flora afforded by additional light. Deadwood is a feature throughout the woodland.

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Moderate. Medium scores for deadwood, vertical structure, deadwood and disturbance were recorded here, each reflecting the different species composition and relative immaturity of this section compared to the main oak-hornbeam sections.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g3c - Other neutral grassland

g4a - Amenity grassland (500 - Outdoor sports facilities)

Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland: A rectangular, fenced block measuring approximately 600m^2 occupies the southern area of the sports grounds. Here, a seed 'wildflower mix' with a more traditional, i.e. low intensity management regime is found. Grasses such as a Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* were abundant, but there was also reasonable diversity of herbaceous species (20 species recorded), including common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* and lady's bedstraw *Galium verum* (both frequent), common bird's-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus* and field scabious *Knautia arvensis* (occasional) along with yarrow *Achillea millefolium* and wild carrot *Daucus carota* (Rare).

g4a - Amenity grassland: A cricket ground and other sports pitches are present in a large clearing within the wood. Rye-grass *Lolium* is dominant with annual meadow grass *Poa annua* also abundant. White clover *Trifolium repens* and greater plantain *Plantago major* were the only obvious herbaceous species.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland: Good. Whilst grasses were still the more prevalent, species richness was still good and wildflowers were easily visible. Whilst common nettle *Urtica dioca* and creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense* were present, these so called 'undesirables' accounted for less than 5% of the total area.

g4a - Amenity grassland: Poor (species poor, nitrophilous species dominate and with an unsympathetic management regime).

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters

Description

A single pond is found within a fenced area of woodland to the south-west of the wood. Duckweed *Lemna* covered the surface of the pond. Pendulous sedge Carex pendula, rosebay willowherb Chamerion angustifolium, water-plantain Alisma plantago-aquatica and yellow water-lily *Nuphar lutea* were all present as marginal or floating plants.

Condition

Moderate. The pond only fails on account of the covering of duckweed.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b5 - Buildings

u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space)

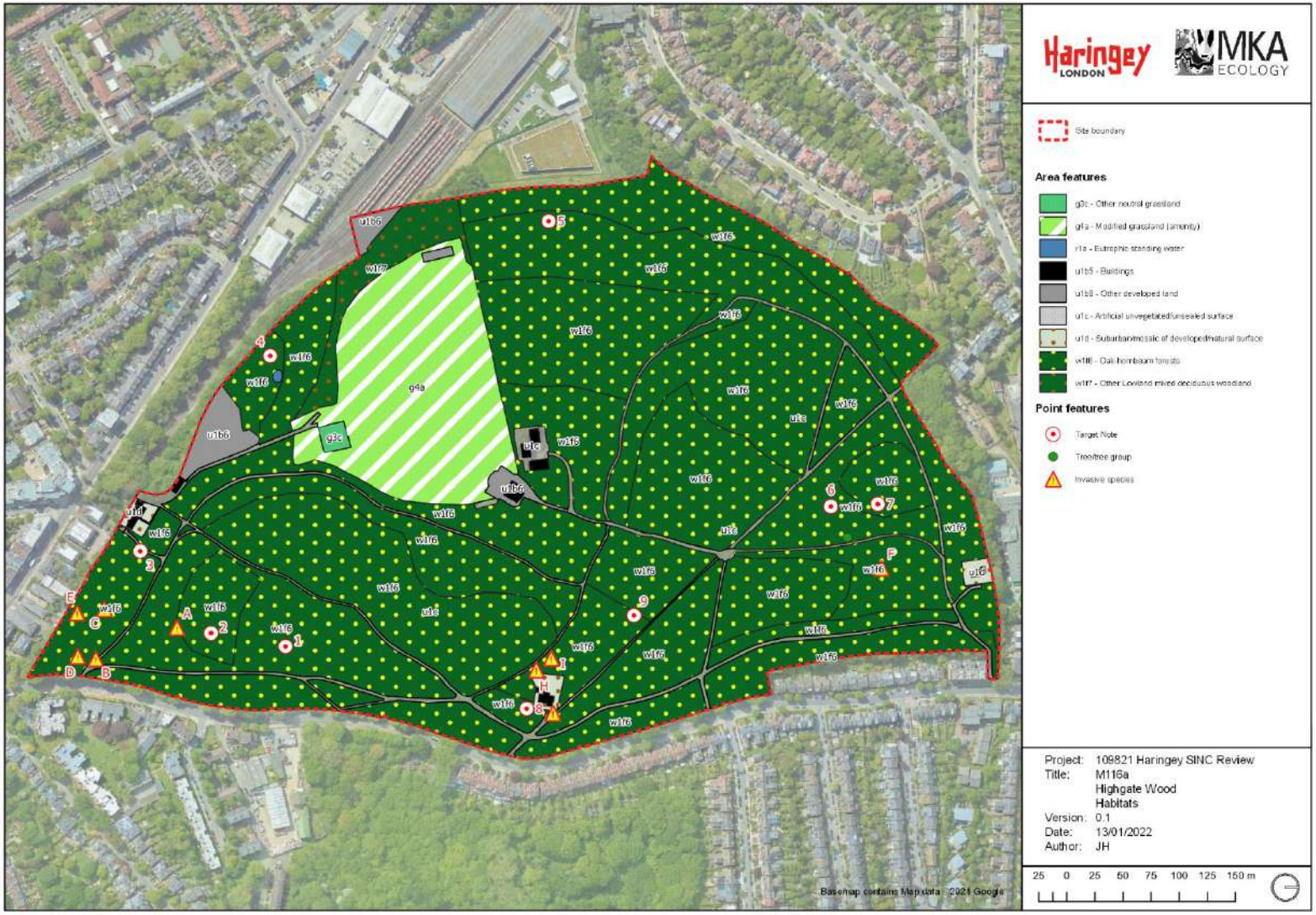
u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (115 - Track) **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden)**
Description **u1b5 – Buildings**: Warden's accommodation, public toilets and other buildings. **u1b6 - Other developed land**: Tarmacked paths, playgrounds. **u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface**: Untarmacked paths. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface**: Associated with residential properties within the SINC.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated gardens which default to Poor.

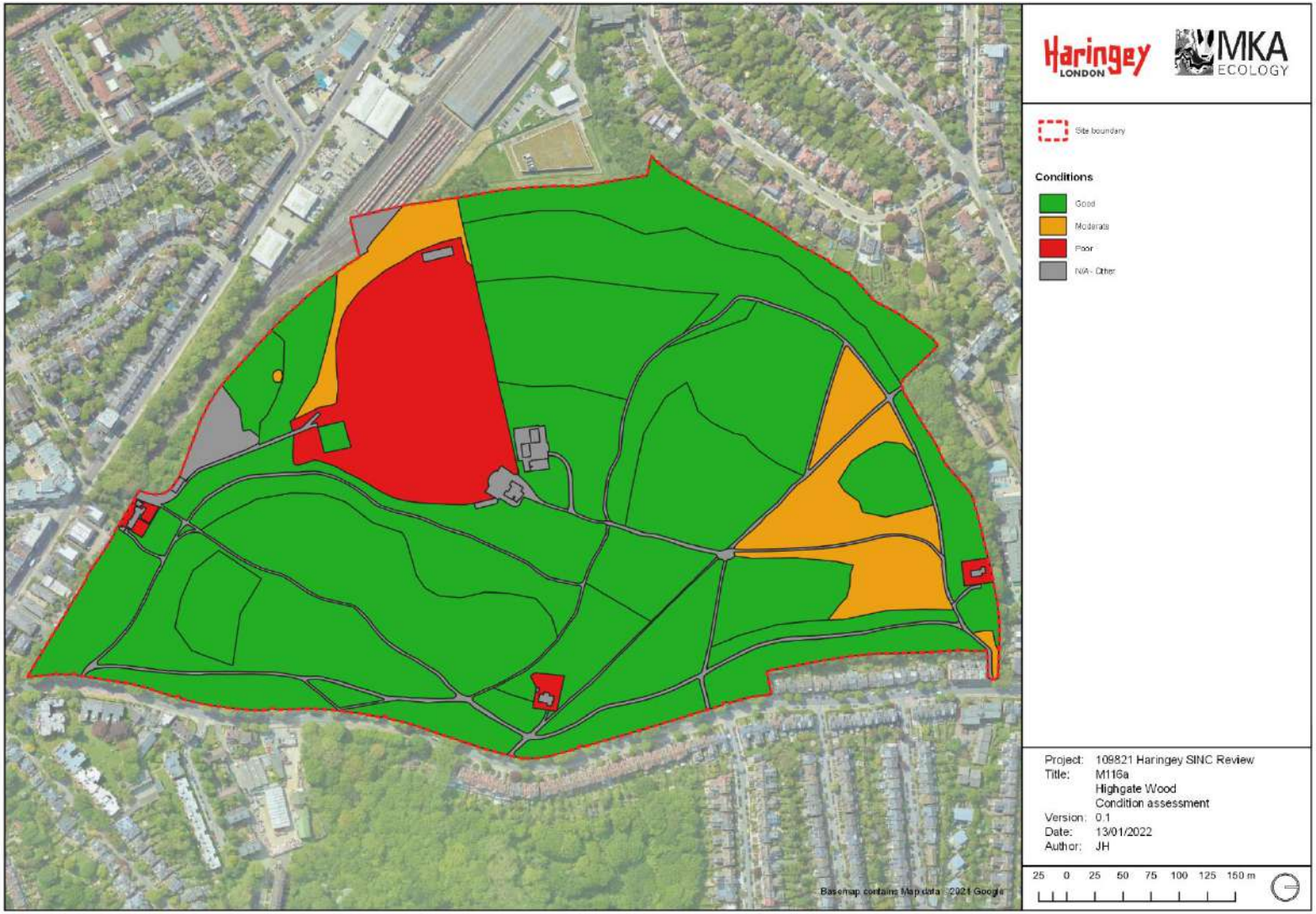
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Ponds

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116a
Highgate Wood
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 125 150 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116a
Highgate Wood
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
25 0 25 50 75 100 125 150 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Bat box - H9
2	Fox earth/former sett
3	Large volume deadwood following felling
4	Bat box
5	Bat box
6	Den building and dismantling
7	Information boards for bluebells and dead hedging
8	Bluebells
9	Den building/outdoor play area. Localised damage

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Variagated yellow. archangel	-
B	Cherry laurel	-
C	Cherry laurel	-
D	Portugual Laurel	-
E	A bamboo	Garden waste fly tipping.
F	Cherry laurel	-
G	Montbretia	-
H	Cherry laurel	-
I	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

In spite of the declining condition of much of the woodland within Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood, the continuous swathe of ancient and secondary woodland of Parkland Walk is extremely rare (both within a City and, increasingly, in a National context) and provides enormous opportunities for conservation of a wide range of taxonomic groups and habitats.

Given their different origins, histories and habitat types, it is recommended that **splitting of this SINC** be considered, in particular that Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood be considered together as a site of Ancient Woodland, with Parkland Walk as secondary woodland, scrub and grassland.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Likely presence of roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees or buildings).
- Potential presence of Schedule 1, Wildlife & Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) protected bird species (e.g firecrest).
- Presence of Schedule 8, Wildlife & Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) protected plant species.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryide Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Habitat enhancements and restoration are already detailed within the site's Conservation Management Plan. The objectives set therein are endorsed here. The term of the current plan is due to come to an end in 2023.

Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ* as outlined in the site's management plan, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. • Extension of planned areas of coppicing. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of

	coppicing regimes in other woodlands. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • *Protection.* In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to additional protection areas of woodland. Existing fencing and dead-hedging is seen to be effective and is recommended in areas immediately adjacent to access points. Here, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage. • Limits to dog-walking: Dog walking was evident as a major source of recreational pressure. Consider limiting dog walking (maximum number of dogs, leads only during spring and summer). *Grassland:* • Expansion of areas of reduced management (with or without additional seeding) to around the perimeters of the cricket and football pitch areas (as per existing management plan 'Master Plan'.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: o Nest box creation within living trees. o 'Woodpecker hole' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended beyond what is already recommended within the current Conservation Management Plan (City of London Corporation, 2013).

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Chronic Oak Decline – COD, oak processionary moth; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Continued development of 'high forest' with no coppicing or equivalent processes to introduce disturbance to the canopy and increase or reintroduce light levels.

- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

2. REFERENCES

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1. Queen's Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Metropolitan (part of M116: Highgate Wood, Queen's Wood & Parkland Walk)
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan - Split into three separate SINCS:**
    - Highgate Wood - retain as Metropolitan
    - Queen's Wood - retain as Metropolitan
    - Parkland Walk - retain as Metropolitan

1.2. Site description

For convenience, each of Highgate Wood (M116a), Queen's Wood (M116b) and Parkland Walk (M11bc) are given their own site description report.

Queen's Wood (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28812 88581) is the second largely individual block of ancient woodland within Haringey, occupying nearly 20 hectares. With Highgate Wood occupying nearly 25 hectares, and the CREOS (Crouch End Open Space) woodland further to the east, together these woodlands, separated only by the Muswell Hill Road, form a continuous swathe of oak-hornbeam woodland across the west of the borough.

As with other neighbouring woodlands within the borough, Queen's Wood is a remnant of the original 'Forest of Middlesex'. During the mediaeval period, it is likely that the present site was covered by a habitat type more akin to wood pasture (Hacker, 2017). Following enclosure, a closed woodland returned, with oak *Quercus* and hazel *Corylus avellana* dominating. From the sixteenth century, hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* replaced hazel. The wood is considered to be more botanically and structurally diverse wood compared with neighbouring Highgate Wood (Bevan, 1992) on account of less intensive management since the later 1900s. In more recent times, ecological studies have been conducted by Bevan (1992, 2011) with botanical surveys also undertaken by Bevan in 2007 and 2016 (Bevan, 2010). Surveys of fungi (Overall, 2015) and breeding birds (Darrell-Lambert, 2014) have also been undertaken in recent years. A management plan was detailed in 2000 (Game, 2000), whereby the wood was into compartments (compartment map reproduced below). The wood is strongly supported by the Friends of Queen's Wood, a volunteer group dedicated to the conservation of the woodland and the species it supports.

The wood is one of the most studied and recorded areas in Haringey, with many long-term monitoring surveys being undertaken. The wood is much studied botanically, particularly by the botanist and conservationist David Bevan. Plant records are considered below. There are records of eight species

of bat from surveys undertaken by the London Bat Group as recently as 2018, including Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri,* Nathusius' pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii* and Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leiseri,* A number of bat boxes are present throughout the woodland and the veteran trees possess features that are typically adopted by roosting bats.

The wood supports a number of breeding birds, including typical woodland species (e.g. nuthatch *Sitta europaea*, treecreeper *Certhia familiaris* and tawny owl *Strix aluco*). Twenty-five breeding species were recorded in 2013 (Darrell-Lambert, 2014). Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla* has also been recorded in recent years during the winter months. This species is listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981, as amended) which affords it additional protection during the breeding season. The breeding range of this species is increasing in the UK, with records across southern England; there is therefore potential for this as a breeding species in Queen's Wood in the future. Another Schedule 1 species that has been confirmed as breeding within recent years (2017) is hobby *Falco subbuteo*. Of increasing concern is increase in population and distribution of ring-necked parakeets *Psittacula krameria* which nest in tree cavities and are likely to be limiting nest sites of other cavity nesting birds and bats (e.g., noctule *Nyctalus noctula).*

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forest (125 - Soil erosion, 136 - Compacted substrate, 147 - Fallen dead wood abundant, 157 - Shallow pools, 33 - Ancient woodland site, 37 - Semi-natural woodland, 47 – Native, 48 - Non-native, 49 - Veteran Trees, 52 - Coppice with standards, 611 - Children's Play Space; natural, 73 - Bare ground)**
Description Pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and hornbeam naturally dominate the canopy across the entire woodland. Sessile oak, *Q. petraea* was somewhat rarer. Oaks remain as mature standards with hornbeam as a secondary layer. However, in many areas (e.g., compartments N and V), hornbeam has grown to large sizes and the understorey is nearly non-existent. Holly *Ilex aquifolium* and the more invasive Highclere holly hybrid Ilex aquifolium x perado = I. x altaclerensis (a LISI, category 5 species) is abundant in the shrub layer. Other shrubs include blackthorn *Prunus spinosa,* hazel *Corylus avellana,* hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and rowan *Sorbus acuparia.* Rare woody ancient woodland indicator species were also observed, namely wild service-tree *Sorbus torminalis* in compartment G and Midland hawthorn *C. laevigata.* Within the ground layer, which in large areas of the wood was either marginalised or entirely absent, some ancient woodland indicators remain in as isolated fragments. Wood anemone *Anemone nemorosa* was recorded mostly in compartment A (and was frequent in this area in 2020, MKA Ecology Ltd (2000). Other indicators recorded include pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* (though some, particularly towards the edges, are likely to have arrived from

gardens – cf Rose, 1999), broad-leaved helleborine *Epipactis helleborine,* common cow-wheat *Melampyrum pratense,* remote sedge *Carex remota,* wood sedge *C.sylvaticum.* Wood melick *Melica uniflora* was rather more prevalent in compartments A and G and creeping soft-grass *Holcus mollis* was present in several compartments. Thin-spiked wood sedge *C. strigosa* has been recorded in compartment N near the stream.

As highlighted by Bevan (2007) neophytes and invasive non-native species are prevalent in nearly all areas of the wood. Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* is present throughout, with larger, suckering stands in compartment C. The east end of compartment Y supports a number of non-native shrubs, including *Buddliea* and Himalayan honeysuckle *Leycesteria Formosa.* This area, at lowest point of the wood, also supports grey and goat willow *Salix cinerea* and *S.caprea*. Cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* is present throughout and Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, whilst not seen in 2021, was observed in compartment A in 2020 (MKA Ecology, Ltd, 2020).

Condition

The majority of the wood is in Good condition, though this is an over simplification (see Condition plan below). Areas of Moderate condition are in compartments U, V and C, as well as the south-east most sections of compartments A and B. In the former case, the condition reflects a more recent coppice (2012/13 – Bevan, 2016); each of woodland vertical structure, veteran trees, deadwood and disturbance are themselves scored at 'moderate' and there are invasive species, as is the case in nearly all compartments. Other areas that are in Good condition, yet only score slightly higher are found in a central band from west to east (compartments H, I, J, K, L and M). These areas suffer particularly from heavy disturbance and a relatively poor ground flora; being nearer main paths, are more prone to physical damage from dog-walkers.

It is understood that, like many open spaces, Queen's Wood has suffered from additional recreational pressure during 2020 and 2021. Dog walking is seen as a particular threat and professional dog-walkers with many animals (up to seven were seen on one visit) off lead a considerable problem. Elsewhere, higher scores in Good condition (compartment N) are perhaps artificially so; for the most part, a high canopy and relatively depauperate ground flora were not 'downgraded' on account of the presence of rare or isolated ancient woodland indicators. A further feature of many compartments, particularly those north of Queenswood Road is the damage caused by flash flooding events. The site is, at the time of writing, subject to proposals for a flood mitigation scheme whereby leaky dams will be created to slow the flow of large water volumes.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation (16 - Tall herb)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (Ponds - 39 – freshwater, manmade; 48 – non-native)

r2b - Other rivers and streams

Description

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (ponds): Four ponds are found within Queen's Wood. The largest ('frog pool') lies at the centre and is surrounded by fencing. Here, marginal aquatic vegetation (f2d, see above) was at its most evident and formed a near continuous margin. Greater duckweed *Spirodela polyrhiza* forms a complete and unbroken mat across the surface. Gipsywort *Lycopus europaeus* and brooklime *Veronica beccabunga* were frequent, as too was floating pennywort *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*, which is listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife ad Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Small balsam *Impatiens parviflora* is also present within this margin.

Other ponds are not fully enclosed, though some are partially protected by dead hedging. These small ponds are heavily disturbed, especially by dogs, and possess little aquatic marginal vegetation. That present was largely yellow iris *Iris pseudacorus* and pendulous sedge. The frog pool has, at least in the past, supported common frog *Rana temporaria;* the most recent records of this species date from 1999.

r2b - Other rivers and streams: Two streams flow in a west to east direction through the site. These were largely dry at the time of survey and supported very little marginal plants.

Condition

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters: All ponds are in poor condition. Either, ponds were covered with duckweed (frog pool) or they are subjected to heavy disturbance (others), with little vegetation.

r2b - Other rivers and streams: Poor (using 'ditch' condition assessment). With very little water and near absence of marginal vegetation, the streams in their current state are constrained to being in Poor condition.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b5 - Buildings

u1b6 - Other developed land - (111 - Road)

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (421 - Walking/cycling route)

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden)

Description

u1b5 – Buildings: Café.

u1b6 - Other developed land: Road, pavement, tarmacked paths.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Untarmacked paths.

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface: Associated with café.

Condition

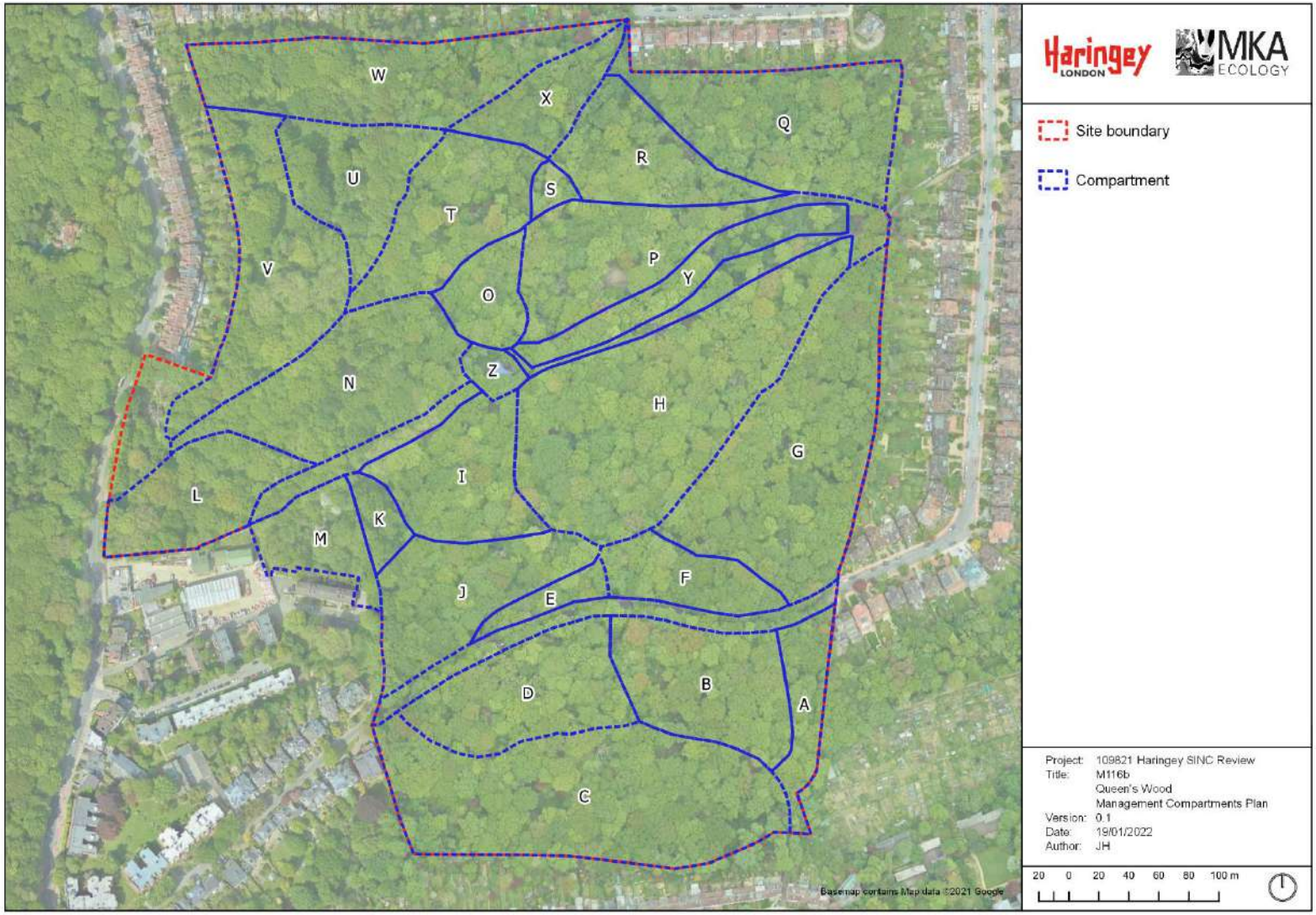
Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated gardens which default to Poor.

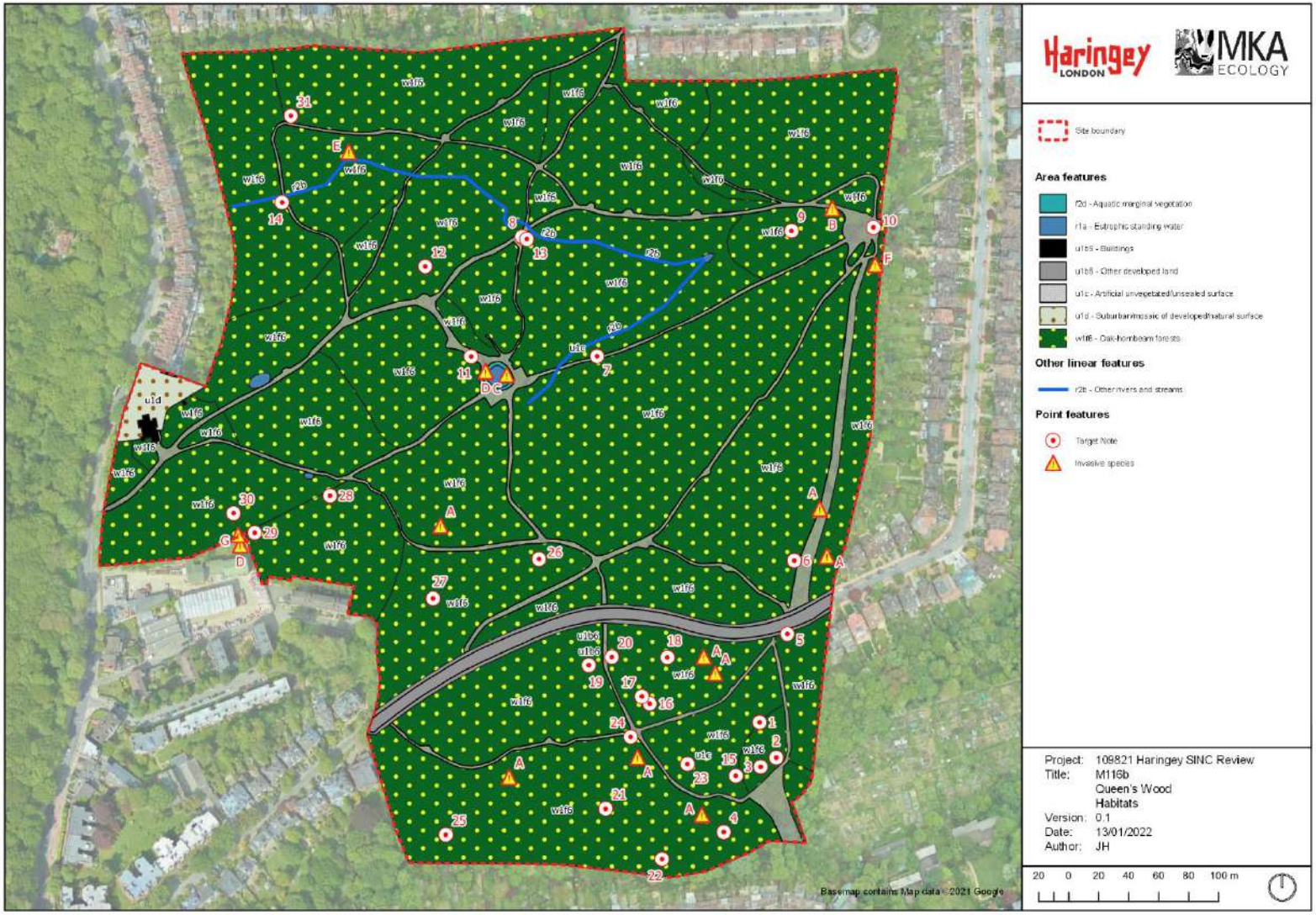
Priority habitats

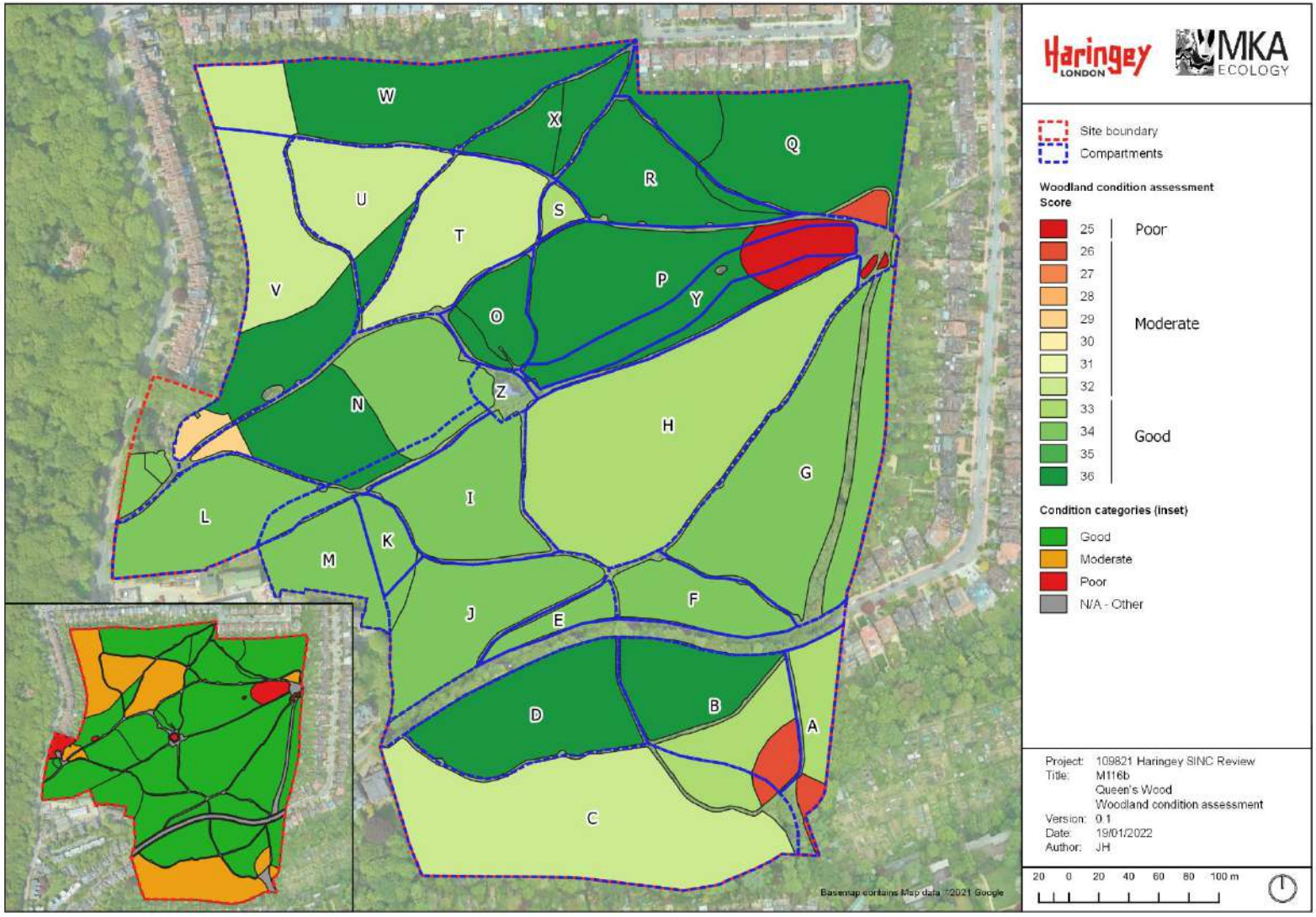
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Compartment
W
X
Q
R
U
S
T
V
P
Y
O
Z
N
H
G
I
L
K
M
J
E
F
D
B
A
C
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116b
Queen's Wood
Management Compartments Plan
Version: 0.1
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JH
20 0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forests
Other linear features
r2b - Other rivers and streams
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116b Queen's Wood Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
20 0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Compartments
Woodland condition assessment
Score
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
Poor
Moderate
Good
Condition categories (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
W
X
Q
R
U
S
T
V
P
Y
O
Z
N
H
G
I
L
K
M
J
E
F
D
B
A
C
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116b
Queen's Wood
Woodland condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JH
20 0 20 40 60 80 100 m

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Den building.
2	Fallen deadwood at entrance, with some used as seats.
3	Veteran oaks with dead wood and some wildlife features.
4	Small stand of sycamore.
5	Wood melick.
6	Common cow wheat.
7	Brash path sides.
8	Mature ash with several weep holes and ring necked parakeet calling in vicinity.
9	Open clearing with *Buddliea* and hornbeam.
10	Surface drain.
11	Bay laurel.
12	Rope swings.
13	Potential sap run. Bird, bat, and invertebrate interest.
14	Leaky dam.
15	Bat boxes (5-6) on trees.
16	Hurdle.
17	Water damage.
18	Patch of wood melick.
19	Areas of brash and fallen deadwood.
20	Common cow wheat.
21	Area of high disturbance.
22	Logs – opportunity to bury vertically instead of lying horizontal.
23	Bat boxes.
24	Bark damage – squirrel.
25	Bmx/pump track- damage.
26	Water erosion
27	Water erosion
28	Wet area/seepage.
29	Common figwort.
30	Wood anemone.
31	Approximately ten oak saplings

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Laurel	-
B	Pheasant berry	-
C	Small balsam	-
D	Buddliea	-
E	Himalayan honeysuckle	-
F	Variegated yellow archangel	Recorded in 2020
G	Japanese knotweed	Recorded in 2020

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

In spite of the declining condition of much of the woodland within Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood, the continuous swathe of ancient and secondary woodland of Parkland Walk is extremely rare (both within a City and, increasingly, in a National context) and provides enormous opportunities for conservation of a wide range of taxonomic groups and habitats.

Given their different origins, histories and habitat types, it is recommended that **splitting of this SINC** be considered, in particular that Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood be considered together as a site of Ancient Woodland, with Parkland Walk as secondary woodland, scrub and grassland.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Likely presence of roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Potential presence of Schedule 1, Wildlife & Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) protected bird species (e.g hobby).
- Potential presence of Schedule 8, Wildlife & Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) protected plant species.
- Presence of Locally rare plant species (e.g., thin-spiked wood sedge, scarce in Middlesex).
- Presence of widespread, but highly localised other ancient woodland indicators.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Presence of Locally rare fungi and bryophytes.
- Presence of Nationally Notable spider *Coelotes Atropos,* scarce within the London area. Habitats include rotting wood and arboreal rot holes.
- Potential presence of reptiles.

Opportunities

Queen's Wood will be subject to a new Habitat Management Plan and detailed opportunities for restoration and enhancement will be included therein. Below represents a summary.

Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • *Extension/re-introduction of coppicing regimes*. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. • *Protection.* In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to protecting areas of woodland. The use of dead-hedging is preferrable in all instances and is seen to work (e.g. central coppice area) but in areas immediately adjacent to access points, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage. • *Coppicing & fencing, together with education.* Where areas of new coppice are adjacent to access points, this presents both a risk (increased damage) but also an opportunity to provide education to the role of coppicing and the reason for fencing certain areas. An area of coppice and protection is mostly likely to be needed and effective close to the Beech Drive entrance off Creighton Avenue. • *Limits to dog-walking:* Dog walking was evident as a major source of recreational pressure. Consider limiting dog walking (maximum number of dogs, leads only) and subsequent enforcement measures. • *Flood management:* Adopt proposals for flood mitigation; this will require sensitive treatment, particularly to mitigate for potential losses of rare ground flora. • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ* as outlined in the site's management plan, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding*

	○ *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.* ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Ponds:* • Enhancement to ponds. Given the scale of disturbance around most ponds, more permanent fencing (as seen around the 'frog pond') may be required. • Targeted planting of marginal aquatic plants. • Removal and appropriate disposal of invasive species.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

A regime for further monitoring work will be detailed in an accompanying management plan for Queen's Wood. However, these are likely to include:

- Regular botanical surveys to record botanical species diversity against coppicing regimes.
- Invertebrate surveys, particularly focussing on the impact of measures to increase habitat for saproxylic invertebrates.
- Surveys to determine uptake of artificial nesting/roosting provisions.
- Breeding bird surveys. To update the results of Darrell-Lambert (2014), with a particular focus on identifying the success of any additional features and the potential spread of invasive parakeets.
- Monitoring and control of invasive species.
- eDNA surveys of all ponds – establish presence/absence of all amphibian species.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Chronic Oak Decline – COD, oak processionary moth; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Continued development of 'high forest' with no coppicing or equivalent processes to introduce disturbance to the canopy and increase or reintroduce light levels.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from invasive parakeets.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

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1. Queen's Wood

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Metropolitan (part of M116: Highgate Wood, Queen's Wood & Parkland Walk)
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan**

1.2. Site description

For convenience, each of Highgate Wood (M116a), Queen's Wood (M116b) and Parkland Walk (M11bc) are given their own site description report.

Queen's Wood (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 28812 88581) is the second largely individual block of ancient woodland within Haringey, occupying nearly 20 hectares. With Highgate Wood occupying nearly 25 hectares, and the CREOS (Crouch End Open Space) woodland further to the east, together these woodlands, separated only by the Muswell Hill Road, form a continuous swathe of oak-hornbeam woodland across the west of the borough.

As with other neighbouring woodlands within the borough, Queen's Wood is a remnant of the original 'Forest of Middlesex'. During the mediaeval period, it is likely that the present site was covered by a habitat type more akin to wood pasture (Hacker, 2017). Following enclosure, a closed woodland returned, with oak *Quercus* and hazel *Corylus avellana* dominating. From the sixteenth century, hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* replaced hazel. The wood is considered to be more botanically and structurally diverse wood compared with neighbouring Highgate Wood (Bevan, 1992) on account of less intensive management since the later 1900s. In more recent times, ecological studies have been conducted by Bevan (1992, 2011) with botanical surveys also undertaken by Bevan in 2007 and 2016 (Bevan, 2010). Surveys of fungi (Overall, 2015) and breeding birds (Darrell-Lambert, 2014) have also been undertaken in recent years. A management plan was detailed in 2000 (Game, 2000), whereby the wood was into compartments (compartment map reproduced below). The wood is strongly supported by the Friends of Queen's Wood, a volunteer group dedicated to the conservation of the woodland and the species it supports.

The wood is one of the most studied and recorded areas in Haringey, with many long-term monitoring surveys being undertaken. The wood is much studied botanically, particularly by the botanist and conservationist David Bevan. Plant records are considered below. There are records of eight species of bat from surveys undertaken by the London Bat Group as recently as 2018, including Natterer's bat *Myotis nattereri,* Nathusius' pipistrelle *Pipistrellus nathusii* and Leisler's bat *Nyctalus leiseri,* A number of bat boxes are present throughout the woodland and the veteran trees possess features that are typically adopted by roosting bats.

The wood supports a number of breeding birds, including typical woodland species (e.g. nuthatch *Sitta europaea*, treecreeper *Certhia familiaris* and tawny owl *Strix aluco*). Twenty-five breeding species were recorded in 2013 (Darrell-Lambert, 2014). Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla* has also been recorded in recent years during the winter months. This species is listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981, as amended) which affords it additional protection during the breeding season. The breeding range of this species is increasing in the UK, with records across southern England; there is therefore potential for this as a breeding species in Queen's Wood in the future. Another Schedule 1 species that has been confirmed as breeding within recent years (2017) is hobby *Falco subbuteo*. Of increasing concern is increase in population and distribution of ring-necked parakeets *Psittacula krameria* which nest in tree cavities and are likely to be limiting nest sites of other cavity nesting birds and bats (e.g., noctule *Nyctalus noctula).*

The site is also designated as a Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS) (see Appendix 1 for citation).

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f6 - Oak-hornbeam forest (125 - Soil erosion, 136 - Compacted substrate, 147 - Fallen dead wood abundant, 157 - Shallow pools, 33 - Ancient woodland site, 37 - Semi-natural woodland, 47 – Native, 48 - Non-native, 49 - Veteran Trees, 52 - Coppice with standards, 611 - Children's Play Space; natural, 73 - Bare ground)**
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Melampyrum pratense, remote sedge *Carex remota,* wood sedge *C.sylvaticum.* Wood melick *Melica uniflora* was rather more prevalent in compartments A and G and creeping soft-grass *Holcus mollis* was present in several compartments. Thin-spiked wood sedge *C. strigosa* has been recorded in compartment N near the stream.

As highlighted by Bevan (2007) neophytes and invasive non-native species are prevalent in nearly all areas of the wood. Sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* is present throughout, with larger, suckering stands in compartment C. The east end of compartment Y supports a number of non-native shrubs, including *Buddliea* and Himalayan honeysuckle *Leycesteria Formosa.* This area, at lowest point of the wood, also supports grey and goat willow *Salix cinerea* and *S.caprea*. Cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus* is present throughout and Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica*, whilst not seen in 2021, was observed in compartment A in 2020 (MKA Ecology, Ltd, 2020).

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r2b - Other rivers and streams

Description

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (ponds): Four ponds are found within Queen's Wood. The largest ('frog pool') lies at the centre and is surrounded by fencing. Here, marginal aquatic vegetation (f2d, see above) was at its most evident and formed a near continuous margin. Greater duckweed *Spirodela polyrhiza* forms a complete and unbroken mat across the surface. Gipsywort *Lycopus europaeus* and brooklime *Veronica beccabunga* were frequent, as too was floating pennywort *Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*, which is listed on Schedule 9 of the Wildlife ad Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Small balsam *Impatiens parviflora* is also present within this margin.

Other ponds are not fully enclosed, though some are partially protected by dead hedging. These small ponds are heavily disturbed, especially by dogs, and possess little aquatic marginal vegetation. That present was largely yellow iris *Iris pseudacorus* and pendulous sedge. The frog pool has, at least in the past, supported common frog *Rana temporaria;* the most recent records of this species date from 1999.

r2b - Other rivers and streams: Two streams flow in a west to east direction through the site. These were largely dry at the time of survey and supported very little marginal plants.

Condition

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters: All ponds are in poor condition. Either, ponds were covered with duckweed (frog pool) or they are subjected to heavy disturbance (others), with little vegetation.

r2b - Other rivers and streams: Poor (using 'ditch' condition assessment). With very little water and near absence of marginal vegetation, the streams in their current state are constrained to being in Poor condition.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b5 - Buildings

u1b6 - Other developed land - (111 - Road)

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (421 - Walking/cycling route)

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden)

Description

u1b5 – Buildings: Café.

u1b6 - Other developed land: Road, pavement, tarmacked paths.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Untarmacked paths.

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface: Associated with café.

Condition

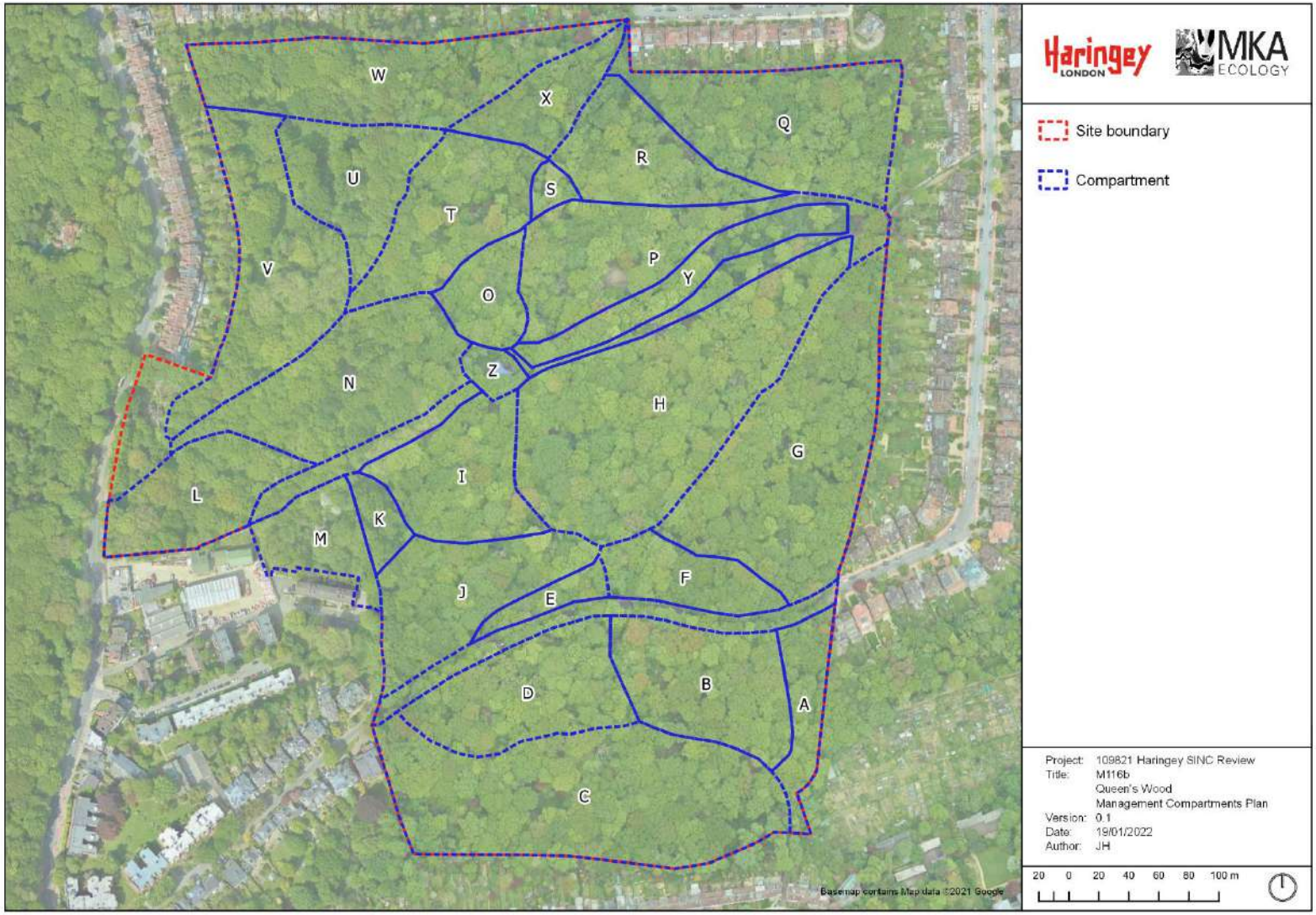
Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated gardens which default to Poor.

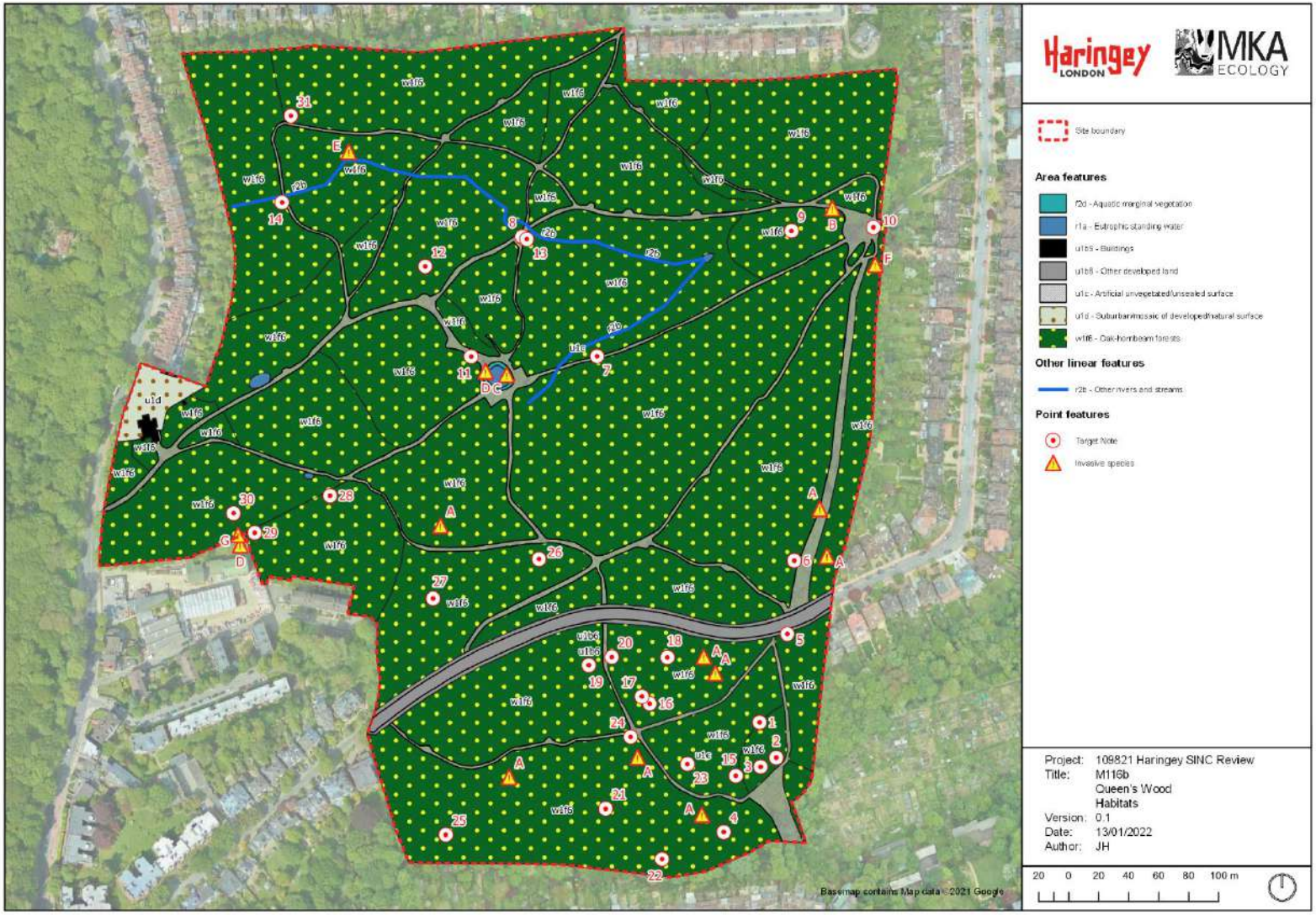
Priority habitats

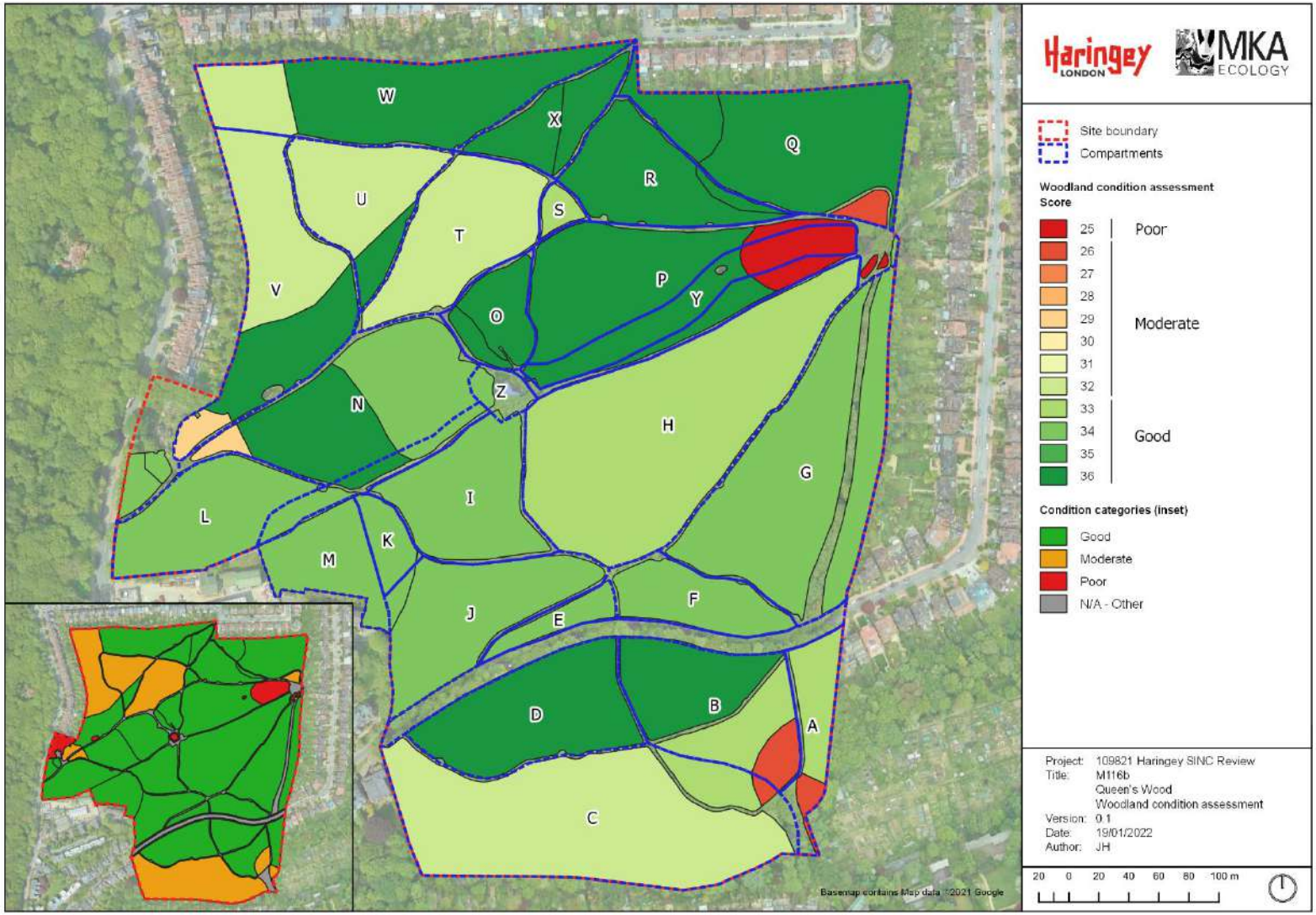
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


W
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C
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Compartment
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116b
Queen's Wood
Management Compartments Plan
Version: 0.1
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JH
20 0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w16 - Oak-hornbeam forests
Other linear features
r2b - Other rivers and streams
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116b Queen's Wood Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
20 0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Compartments
Woodland condition assessment
Score
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
Poor
Moderate
Good
Condition categories (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116b
Queen's Wood
Woodland condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JH
20 0 20 40 60 80 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
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Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Den building.
2	Fallen deadwood at entrance, with some used as seats.
3	Veteran oaks with dead wood and some wildlife features.
4	Small stand of sycamore.
5	Wood melick.
6	Common cow wheat.
7	Brash path sides.
8	Mature ash with several weep holes and ring necked parakeet calling in vicinity.
9	Open clearing with *Buddliea* and hornbeam.
10	Surface drain.
11	Bay laurel.
12	Rope swings.
13	Potential sap run. Bird, bat, and invertebrate interest.
14	Leaky dam.
15	Bat boxes (5-6) on trees.
16	Hurdle.
17	Water damage.
18	Patch of wood melick.
19	Areas of brash and fallen deadwood.
20	Common cow wheat.
21	Area of high disturbance.
22	Logs – opportunity to bury vertically instead of lying horizontal.
23	Bat boxes.
24	Bark damage – squirrel.
25	Bmx/pump track- damage.
26	Water erosion
27	Water erosion
28	Wet area/seepage.
29	Common figwort.
30	Wood anemone.
31	Approximately ten oak saplings

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Laurel	-
B	Pheasant berry	-
C	Small balsam	-
D	Buddliea	-
E	Himalayan honeysuckle	-
F	Variegated yellow archangel	Recorded in 2020
G	Japanese knotweed	Recorded in 2020

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

In spite of the declining condition of much of the woodland within Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood, the continuous swathe of ancient and secondary woodland of Parkland Walk is extremely rare (both within a City and, increasingly, in a National context) and provides enormous opportunities for conservation of a wide range of taxonomic groups and habitats. Queen's Wood, Parkland Walk and Highgate wood from an ecologically contiguous habitat, and these sites should be retained as a single Metropolitan SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Likely presence of roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees).
- Potential presence of Schedule 1, Wildlife & Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) protected bird species (e.g hobby).
- Potential presence of Schedule 8, Wildlife & Countryside Act, (1981 as amended) protected plant species.
- Presence of Locally rare plant species (e.g., thin-spiked wood sedge, scarce in Middlesex).
- Presence of widespread, but highly localised other ancient woodland indicators.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Presence of Locally rare fungi and bryophytes.
- Presence of Nationally Notable spider *Coelotes Atropos,* scarce within the London area. Habitats include rotting wood and arboreal rot holes.
- Potential presence of reptiles.

Opportunities

Queen's Wood will be subject to a new Habitat Management Plan and detailed opportunities for restoration and enhancement will be included therein. Below represents a summary.

Management/restoration of existing features	

Habitats	*Woodland:*
	• *Extension/re-introduction of coppicing regimes*. Previous reports (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates.
	• *Protection.* In addition to coppicing activities, consideration should be given to protecting areas of woodland. The use of dead-hedging is preferrable in all instances and is seen to work (e.g. central coppice area) but in areas immediately adjacent to access points, more robust fencing types are likely to be needed as these are the areas experiencing the greatest damage.
	• *Coppicing & fencing, together with education.* Where areas of new coppice are adjacent to access points, this presents both a risk (increased damage) but also an opportunity to provide education to the role of coppicing and the reason for fencing certain areas. An area of coppice and protection is mostly likely to be needed and effective close to the Beech Drive entrance off Creighton Avenue.
	• *Limits to dog-walking:* Dog walking was evident as a major source of recreational pressure. Consider limiting dog walking (maximum number of dogs, leads only) and subsequent enforcement measures.
	• *Flood management:* Adopt proposals for flood mitigation; this will require sensitive treatment, particularly to mitigate for potential losses of rare ground flora.
	• As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ* as outlined in the site's management plan, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed.
	  ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
	  ▪ *Ring-barking*
	  ▪ *Branch breaks*
	  ▪ *'Horse – damage'*
	  ▪ *Pollarding*
	  ○ *'Monolith stumps': Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.*

	○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Ponds:* • Enhancement to ponds. Given the scale of disturbance around most ponds, more permanent fencing (as seen around the 'frog pond') may be required. • Targeted planting of marginal aquatic plants. • Removal and appropriate disposal of invasive species.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole' *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Invasive species:* • Continued control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

A regime for further monitoring work will be detailed in an accompanying management plan for Queen's Wood. However, these are likely to include:

- Regular botanical surveys to record botanical species diversity against coppicing regimes.
- Invertebrate surveys, particularly focussing on the impact of measures to increase habitat for saproxylic invertebrates.
- Surveys to determine uptake of artificial nesting/roosting provisions.
- Breeding bird surveys. To update the results of Darrell-Lambert (2014), with a particular focus on identifying the success of any additional features and the potential spread of invasive parakeets.
- Monitoring and control of invasive species.
- eDNA surveys of all ponds – establish presence/absence of all amphibian species.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Chronic Oak Decline – COD, oak processionary moth; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Continued development of 'high forest' with no coppicing or equivalent processes to introduce disturbance to the canopy and increase or reintroduce light levels.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from invasive parakeets.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

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3. Appendices

3.1. Regionally Important Geological Site Citation

GLA 44 Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood

Grid Reference: Highgate Wood TQ 280 885 Queen's Wood TQ 285 885	Site Type: Natural Landform
Site Area (hectares): 51.16 (HW c.28; QW c.21)	Current use: Recreational land
Site ownership: Highgate Wood is City of London Corporation and Queen's Wood is LB Haringey	Borough: London Borough of Haringey
Field surveyors: Peter Collins, Diana Clements and Mike Hacker	Date: 2011
Current geological designation: RIGS	Other designation: LNR; Metropolitan SINC (Parkland Walk, queen's Wood and Highgate Wood)

Site Map

OS Topography © Crown Copyright



Stratigraphy and Rock Types

Time Unit: Pleistocene-Holocene	Rock Unit: Head, solifluction and glacigenic deposits
Rock Type: Sand and gravel	Details: Polymict comprising poorly sorted silt, sand and gravel, with some pebbles, probably glacigenic deposits formed by fluvio-glacial processes
Time Unit: Eocene	Rock Unit: London Clay Formation with Claygate member at the top, Thames Group
Rock Type: Clay, silt, sand	Details: Fine, sandy, silty clay/ clayey silt, clay.

Site Description

Two wooded areas with London Clay underlying the hillocks of the Claygate member on higher land (Highgate Wood). Archaeological linked excavation in Highgate Wood found Claygate Member deposits extending beyond the limit shown in BGS maps. There are deeply cut ravines in Queen's Wood that may be related to the Anglian and later glaciations. There is a key north-south interfluve dividing the watershed to the Brent in the west and the Lea in the east. It is an important site located between the glacial till to the north and the Bagshot Formation and Stanmore Gravel Formation on the higher land of Highgate and Hampstead Heath to the south. There is potential for research into composition of the gravels found on and near the surface which could give more information on the provenance of the gravels and therefore

possible glaciogenic processes that deposited them. There is also potential for research into the fluvial or glacial processes causing the formation of the deeply-cut gorges in Queen's Wood.		
Assessment of Site Value		
Geodiversity topic: lithostratigraphy, sedimentology; geomorphology.		
Access and Safety		
Aspect	**Description**	
Safety of access	Footpaths through woodlands with areas of open grassland. Two woods divided by main road. Some step slopes	
Safety of exposure	Observe general safety in woodlands.	
Permission to visit	Open access.	
Current condition	Very good. Highgate Wood well looked after by City of London Corporation. Includes Visitor Centre. Cafés in both woods.	
Current conflicting activities	None.	
Restricting conditions	Trees and leaf cover in autumn.	
Nature of exposure	Exposures in woodland.	
Culture, Heritage & Economic		
Aspect	**Description**	Rating
Historic, archaeological & literary associations	Mesolithic/Neolithic flint surface finds Romano-British pottery kilns utilising Claygate member, quarrying of sands and gravels (formerly named Gravel Pit Wood). Over 800 fragments of worked flint have been found in Highgate and Queen's Wood. Though many of these are waste flakes known as 'debitage', they include a number of scrapers, blades and points. They date from the late Mesolithic or early Bronze Age, between 7,000 and 4,000 years ago.	9
Aesthetic landscape	Footpaths through woods used by local community.	9
History of Earth Sciences	.	2
Economic geology	Extraction of clay, sand and gravels. Over-burnt bricks in local garden walls	7
GeoScientific Merit		
Geomorphology	Gorges within Queen's Wood.	6
Sedimentology	Detailed analysis of the clay in Highgate Woods indicates that it belongs to the Claygate Member of the London Clay Formation	4
Palaeontology	None observed but the Highgate railway tunnel runs beneath the SW corner where Whitaker (1889) found fossils of the 'Highgate Fauna' in Division E2 of King (1981) which underlies the Claygate Member of the London Clay.	(6)
Igneous/mineral/ Metamorphic Geology	None.	0
Structural Geology		0
Lithostratigraphy	Revision of surface London Clay as mapped by BGS to Claygate Member (pers. comm. with Don Aldiss BGS)	6
Potential use	Research; further education; on-site interpretation.	
Fragility	Natural overgrowing; weathering/erosion.	
Current Site Value		
Community	Valuable woodland and green space.	8
Education	Visitors centre in Highgate Wood has a display on the geology. The story boards are reproduced on LGP website. See: https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/things-to-do/green-spaces/highgate-wood and	4
Geodiversity value		
RIGS: Well-maintained woodlands with much research potential on Claygate Member, gravel exposures and deeply-cut gorges; excellent access for local community. Described in LGP Bus Pass Geology 1, *Round the southern limits of the Anglian Ice Sheet*		6

GLA 44 Highgate Wood and Queen's Wood



Making bricks.
Photo: Cindy Blaney



Small exposures of Claygate Member.
Photo: Diana Clements





Gorges in Queen's Wood

1. Parkland Walk

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Metropolitan (part of M116: Highgate Wood, Queen's Wood & Parkland Walk
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan - Split into three separate SINCS:**

    - Parkland Walk - retain as Metropolitan.
    - Highgate Wood - retain as Metropolitan.
    - Queen's Wood - retain as Metropolitan.
    - Cede easternmost section (east of mainline railway) to HgBII09 – Finsbury Park.
    - Consider review of site boundary: several private properties and gardens thereof appear to fall within the SINC boundary.

1.2. Site description

The Parkland Walk is the remnant of the course of the former Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace Railway Line. It is nearly four kilometres in length, the majority of which is in the London Borough of Haringey, with a short but relatively broad section in the London Borough of Islington. The site is oriented approximately southeast to northwest. The site is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR), designated as such in 1990. Two distinct sections are recognised; Parkland Walk North between Muswell Hill and Muswell Hill Road (between National Grid References TQ 28481 89165 and TQ 28908 89608), and Parkland Walk South between Highgate station and Finsbury Park (between National Grid References TQ 28512 88200 and TQ 31432 87085). The latter section is the longer of the two and is further split for the purposes of this report into West, Central and East (see Section 1.4, Maps).

Secondary woodland dominates, particularly along areas where the former line is set within a cutting. Embanked areas support small patches of scrub and grassland, with a larger area of neutral grassland south of the Lancaster Road and a remnant acid grassland area south of Mount View Road. At the time of writing, several of the bridges along the walk are under going restoration work. These present opportunities for biodiversity enhancement which are discussed below.

At the western end of Parkland Walk South is relatively small area or 'Nature trail' managed by the Friends of Parkland Walk. Whilst still woodland, it contains a diverse, if perhaps eclectic ground flora which has arisen from deliberate introduction, sowing as 'wildflower seed mixes' or were present within the seed bank from the time of railway where gardens of railway employee dwellings once existed (P. Mercer, pers. comm.).

A botanical survey of Parkland Walk was conducted in 2015 recorded 291 species, 46% of which were non-native, 86% of which are classed as neophytes (Bevan, 2015). Species records, and the compartments in which they were found can be accessed via Table 1, Bevan (2015). The present survey and report do not attempt to supersede the findings of that survey, which still represents the most thorough and up to date botanical survey of Parkland Walk.

The reserve supports a range of breeding birds, predominantly those typically associated with woodland, parks and gardens. Song thrush *Turdus philomelos* sparrowhawk *Accipter nisus* and dunnock *Prunella modularis* (all BoCC Amber list; Stanbury 2021), were all seen or heard during the survey. Grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* (Red list) is a regular breeding species, as too is spotted flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* and the combination of meadow and tall trees has potential to support mistle thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. It is understood that tawny owl *Strix aluco* have been recorded during the breeding season in the past, but not in recent years.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland** **g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ephemeral)** **g4 - Modified grassland (16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ephemeral)** **g4a - Amenity grassland**
Description **g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland:** An area of grassland approximately 800m^2 in area occupies a south facing bank on the north side of the track within the L.B. Islington section. Common bent *Agrostis capillaris* was the dominant species, with frequent rye-grass *Lolium.* Typical indicators of acid grassland were present, with sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella* locally frequent to the south-west and mouse-ear hawkweed *Pilosella officinarum* rare. Common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* and meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis* were present in locally dominant clumps. Greater plantain *Plantago major* and white clover *Trifolium repens* were also occasional, but locally abundant. Acid grassland has the potential to support a range of rare invertebrate species. **g3c - Other neutral grassland:** Neutral grassland is found in two main areas. The first is likely to have arisen from deliberate seeding and is associated with the cutting bank north of Crouch Hill Park. Whilst ruderal and nitrophilous species (broad leaved-dock *Rumex* obtusifolius, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*) were patchily present, herbaceous species typical of seed-mixes were also present (e.g. common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris* and meadow vetchling). A more representative area lies to the east of the reserve, occupying a 2,500m^2 area within the embanked section east of Finsbury Park (compartment 3 in TEC, 2010). This is a grass dominated area, with cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* the most frequent, dominating locally. As reported by Bevan

(2015), rosebay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium* was locally abundant, as too was Canadian goldenrod *Solidago canadensis*, particularly on the north slope and at the slope bases. Meadow vetchling, as in other parts of the reserve, was locally dominant. Bramble was also prevalent within the ground layer and was the subject of active management by a The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) work party at the time of the survey. This area was particularly highlighted by Bevan (2015) as an example of what was more prevalent at the time of the railway and, along with mosaics of scrub, should be a primary object to maintain and potentially expand.

g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland: Lawns within the grounds of Crouch Hill Park, 'verges' either side of and on St James' Lane Viaduct and Finsbury Park grassland.

Condition

g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland: Moderate; the grassland is evidently, both from current species composition and from historical records, an acid grassland. However, indicator herbs were rare and 'undesirable' species such as greater plantain and white clover were locally abundant.

g3c - Other neutral grassland: The sown area in Crouch Hill Park is Moderate (sown grasslands often do not fill traditional descriptions of many grassland types). The eastern 'meadow' is also Moderate. Here, wildflowers/sedges were not 'clearly and easily visible' throughout the sward, and scrub cover was greater than 5%.

g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland: Moderate. Whilst species poor, these small areas were usually not subject to much damage or scrub incursion.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees

Description

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Recent secondary woodland is present throughout but there is considerable variation in dominant species. The most frequently occurring tree species along the entire SINC is sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus,* with other occasional areas dominated by ash *Fraxinus excelsior* (the most prevalent native tree) and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, the former often with extensive arboreal ivy *Hedera helix.* Stands of cherry *Prunus* are also present, most notably close to the entrance on Holmesdale Road, and stands of silver birch *Betula pendula* are occasionally present, including in the area of Parkland Walk North immediately north of Muswell Hill Road. The woodland shrub layer is usually poorly developed but there are some sections where it is dense or species-rich. Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, elder *Sambucus nigra*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, garden privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium,* bay *Laurus nobilis* and English elm *Ulmus procera* (which has supported white-letter hairstreak *Satyrium w-album*) are also present. Ash

is present as saplings in some sections, as too are sycamore suckers and elm suckering within the L.B. Islington section. As reported by Bevan (2015), hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* was rare. At the time of survey, the ground flora appeared to mainly species-poor and dominated by ivy, bramble, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris.* Ancient woodland indicators were rare within the ground flora, but included the occasional pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* and a single observation of giant fescue *Schedonorus gigantea*. The former is likely to be present in many cases from garden escape (see Rose, 1999). Coralroot *Cardamine bulbifera* a scare native woodland plant was also recorded in compartment 7 by Bevan (2015). Whilst many of the conditions and plant distributions appear generally similar to that reported in TEC (2010), two aspects appear notably different: [1] Invasive species such as cherry laurel, *Buddliea* are widespread, as too are an increasing number of invasive bamboos from garden waste tipped over boundary fences. Ground elder *Aegopodium podagraria,* Oregon-grape *Mahonia aquifolium* and tree cotoneaster *Cotoneaster frigidus* were also recorded. [2] The area occupied by the central gravel/bare-ground track has substantially widened within the last two years (pedestrian use and concerns over social distancing have widened paths since March 2020, D.Theakston, pers. comm.).

Secondary woodland also forms the dominant habitat in the Parkland Walk North between Muswell Hill Road and Muswell Hill. Close to Muswell Hill Road the canopy comprises sycamore. The woodland to the north of St. James' viaduct is dominated by sycamore with occasional ash and with a shrub layer comprising largely of elder and a ground flora of ivy.

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: The woodland immediately south of St James' Lane is more varied and includes a number of mature pedunculate oak with an understorey of elder, hawthorn, and young specimens of yew and sycamore. Also present are small stands of silver birch, ash and wild cherry.

w1g6 - Line of trees: Two lines of immature planted trees are present within Crouch Hill Park.

Condition

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Moderate. Whilst this area scores highly for cover and presence of native species, presence of deadwood and veteran features (cf. presence of pedunculate oaks as above), invasive species, the presence of only two size classes (seedlings were not observed), some observations of ash-die back and heavy disturbance (compaction around veteran trees, fly-tipping and a myriad of desire-lines/paths from assumed illegitimate back gates) all contribute to a Moderate score.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: With the exception of the western most (Holmesdale Road entrance) and eastern most (Finsbury Park) sections, which are in Good condition, all woodland is in either Moderate or Poor condition. Given the woodland is largely comprised of non-native species, invasive species are widespread and mature/veteran trees are largely absent, Moderate condition can be seen as the 'default' condition for a woodland of this type. Where very heavy disturbance is seen, this can result in a near absent ground flora and no obvious signs of regeneration, which contribute to a further lessening of condition to 'Poor'. The areas of Poor condition were largely localised to the Central area. The western half of the L.B. Islington section (that associated with Crouch

Hill Park suffers from being heavily disturbed, as well as low in native-species diversity. West of this area and within L.B. Haringey is a section 'high forest' dominated by sycamore, a poor, disturbed understorey. The two areas of Good condition woodland reflect their relatively low levels (west) or absent disturbance (rail side areas adjacent to Finsbury Park); whilst non-native species are present, woodland regeneration is enabled and damage limited by a lack of footfall.

w1g6 - Line of trees: Poor. Largely non-native and immature, with no adjacent natural vegetation.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3a - Blackthorn scrub

h3d - Bramble scrub (16 - Tall herb)

h3h - Mixed scrub

Description

h3a - Blackthorn scrub/h3d - Bramble scrub/h3h - Mixed scrub. Scrub is a relatively small component of the SINC, accounting for only 2.5% of the total area. These areas are invariably found around bridges, particularly on Parkland Walk South, forming an ecotone between ruderal tall herbs and/or grassland, and woodland. The dominant species varied, with bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. accounting for 60% of the total scrub area. These areas tended to be large, dense stands.

Condition

Bramble scrub defaults to Poor condition. Only where mixed scrub (Parkland Walk North), present on a south-east facing cutting had sufficient species diversity (sliver birch, hawthorn and elder were all present) and structural diversity with a fringe of grassland was scrub in Moderate condition. Elsewhere, scrub was either uniform in age and structure (which is invariably the case with bramble), was accompanied by 'undesirables' such as common nettle *Urtica dioica* or invasive *Buddliea.*

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (39 - Freshwater - man-made)

Description

A pond is present within the 'Nature trail'. Rigid Hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* dominates the surface waters, with almost no clear water areas present. Bog bean *Menyanthes trifoliata* was also present, with marsh marigold *Caltha palustris,* hard rush *Juncus inflexus* and galingale *Cyperus longus.* The pond is man-made, the bank being raised on the east side, to provide a viewing platform and seating area. Water tanks are located to the rear of the pond, which collect rainwater from nearby roofs and are used to supplement the pond water level. The pond supports smooth newt *Lissotriton vulgaris* (P. Mercer, pers. comm.) and records of common frog *Rana temporaria* date back to 1999.

Condition

Moderate. The artificial construction and presence of a 'dam' constrains the pond to a Moderate condition; it is in Good condition in all other respects.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b5 – Buildings.

u1b6 - Other developed land.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground).

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden, 232 - Un-vegetated garden)

Description

u1b5 - Buildings: Those of Crouch Hill Park and retained railway buildings and bridges.

u1b6 - Other developed land: Roads/paths in Crouch Hill Park, retained railway infrastructure (platforms) and tarmacked paths on Finsbury Park. At the time of the survey and throughout 2021, several of the bridges were subject to restoration work. Planning applications for these projects were supported by ecological appraisals within their immediate vicinity (e.g., WSP, 2021; MKA Ecology Ltd., 2021). The Highgate Tunnel (west) is known to support roosting bats at all times of the year. Seven species of bat have been recorded in or near the entrances to these tunnels from either dedicate Bat Conservation Trust or London Bat Group hibernation site surveys or from surveys using automated detectors.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Six percent of the total area is mapped as such, this being accounted for by the central track. Whilst this might arguably be mapped as a linear feature in places, it was felt appropriate to map it as an area throughout as [a] in many places it is greater than five metres in width and [b] to highlight that, in places, it has become substantially wider due increase pedestrian pressure since March 2020.

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: Vegetated gardens are present within the site boundary. Some of these instances may be due to illegitimate 'land grab' from adjacent properties; The large number of back garden access gates into the reserve was noteworthy, as too was the amount of rubbish thrown over/left from back gardens as fly-tipping.

Condition

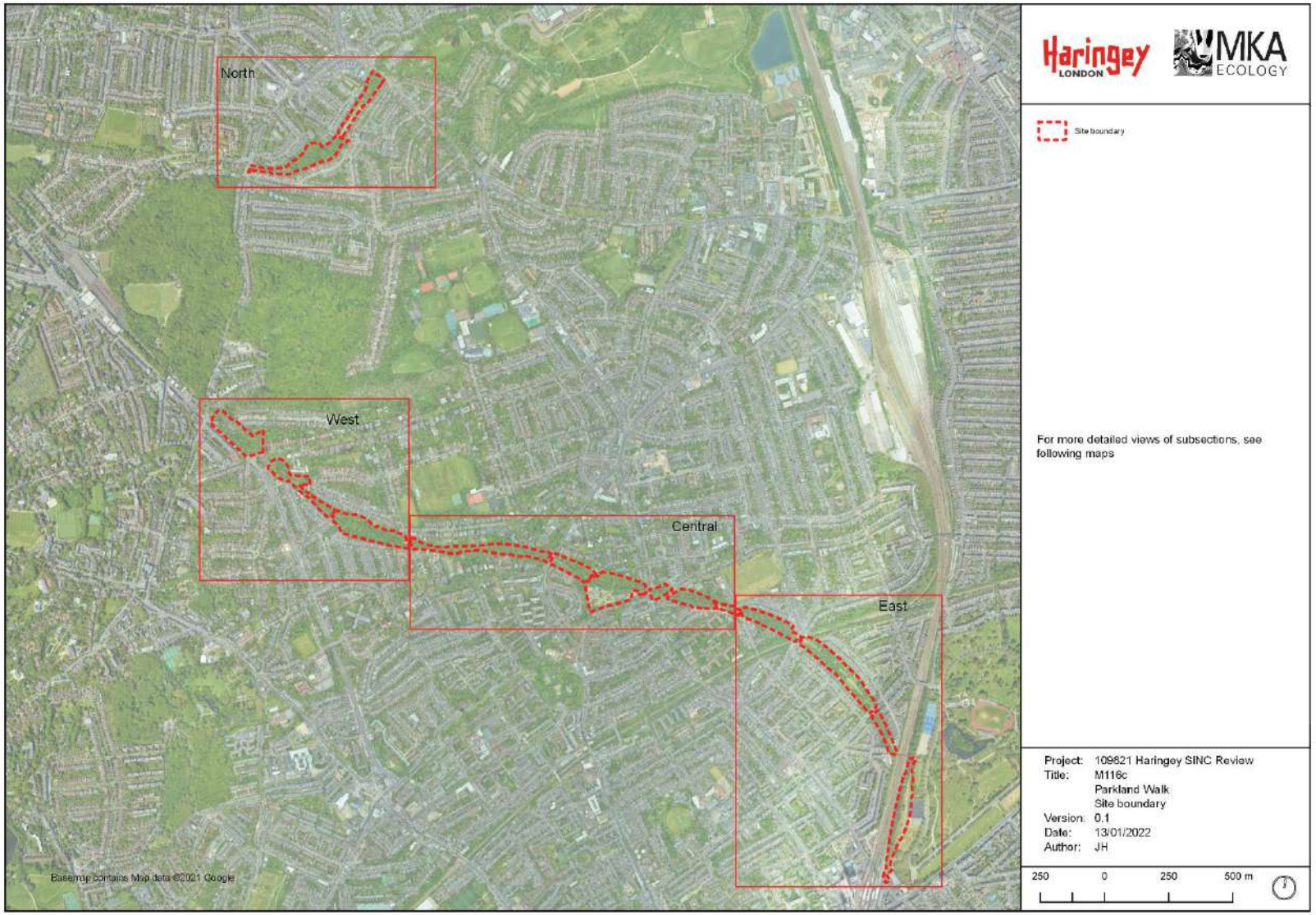
Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs and vegetated gardens which default to Poor.

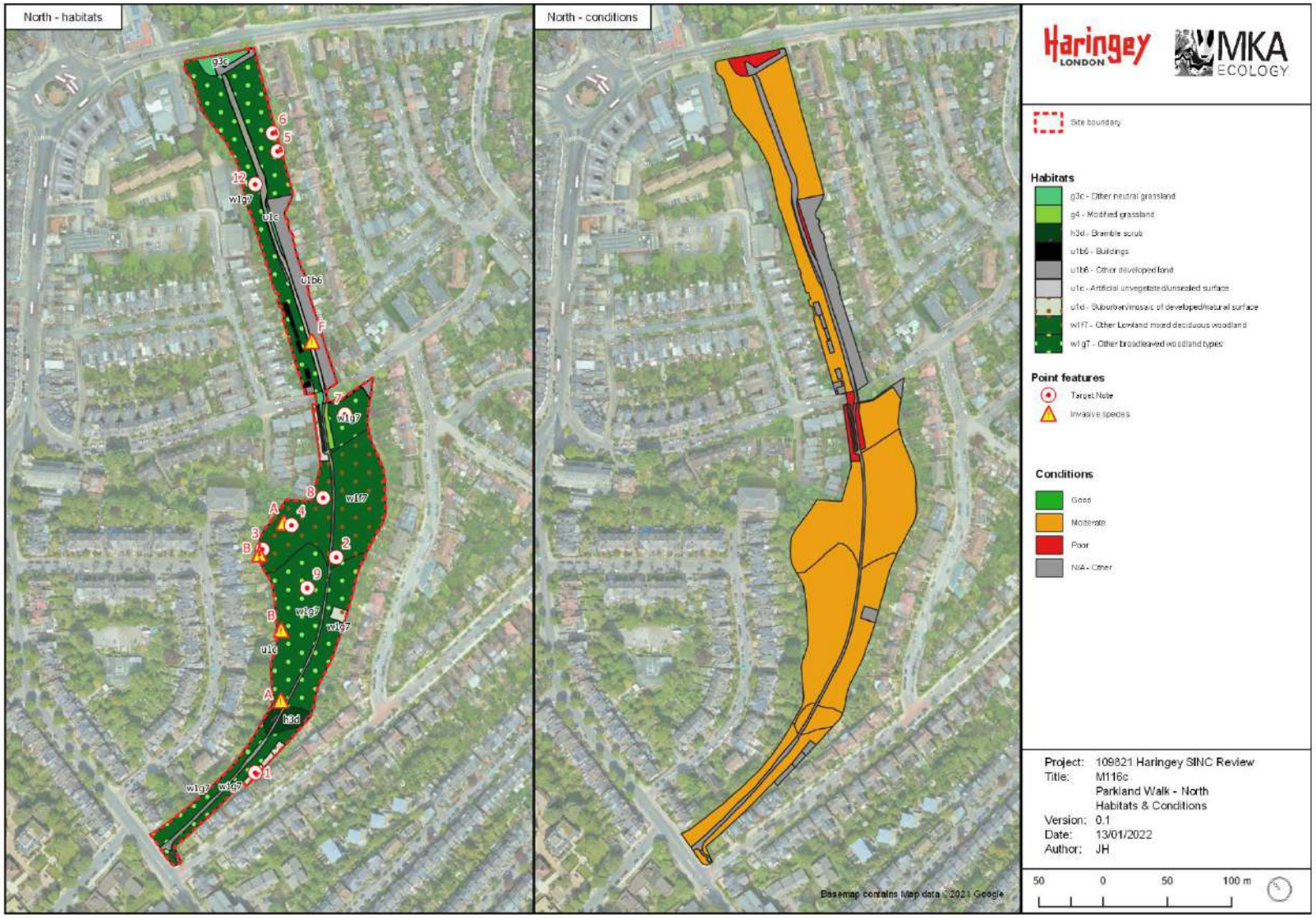
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

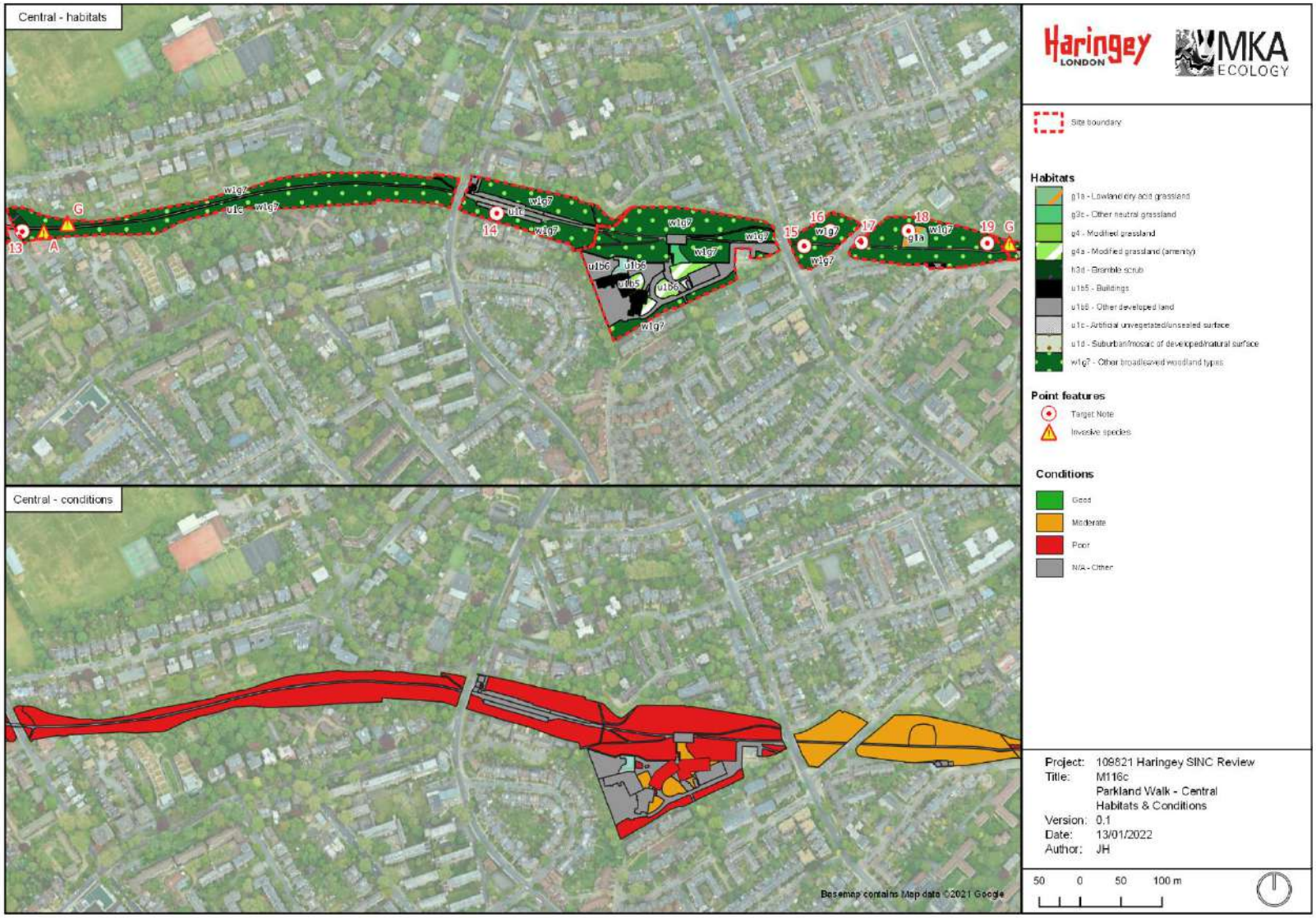
- Lowland dry acid grassland
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

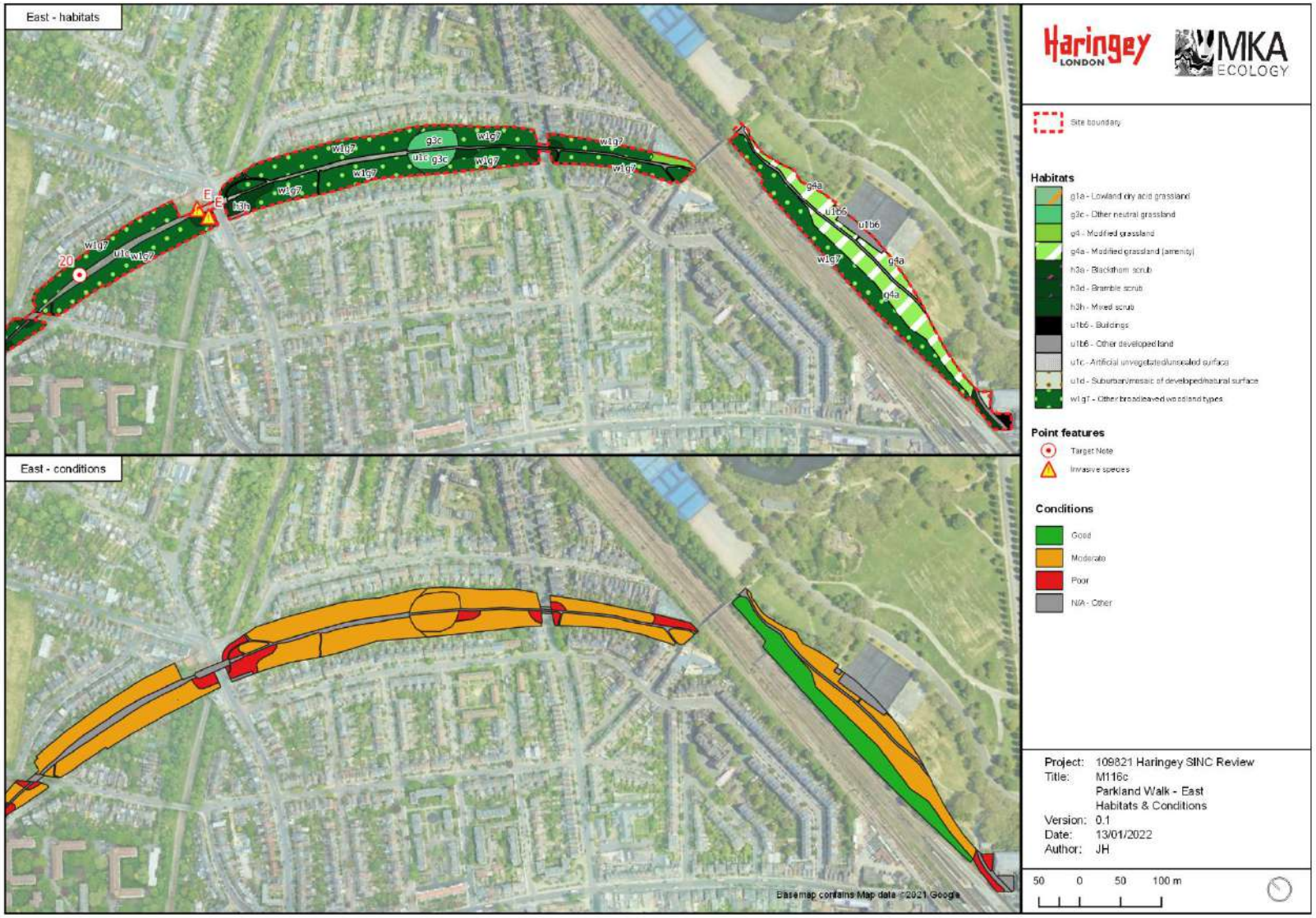
1.4. Maps


North
West
Central
East
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
For more detailed views of subsections, see following maps
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c
Parkland Walk
Site boundary
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
250 0 250 500 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


North - habitats
North - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c Parkland Walk - North Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google


West - habitats
West - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
r1e - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c Parkland Walk - West Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Central - habitats
Central - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c
Parkland Walk - Central
Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


East - habitats
East - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3a - Blackthorn scrub
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c
Parkland Walk - East
Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Many gardens within site boundary. Consider change to SINC boundary.
2	'Beetle tower' stumperies.
3	Damage & rubbish.
4	Tawny owl box.
5	Former pond.
6	Rubbish/cuttings from gardens.
7	Potential location for pond.
8	Bramble dominated understorey.
9	Area of sycamore that may be targeted for canopy reduction.
10	Bat roost in tunnel.
11	Dumped garden waste.
12	Tree management works with no attempt to create appropriate enhancements.
13	Opportunity for opening out to create scrub/mosaic
14	Ash regeneration.
15	Elm suckering visible.
16	Existing glade from fallen tree - opportunity to further open.
17	Opportunity for brick bat boxes on bridge refacing.
18	Strimming activity.
19	Fox earth.
20	Bat boxes.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	Widespread.
B	Bamboo indet	Unidentified bamboos from back gardens.
C	Rhododendron	Unable to identify whether *R.ponticum* or sterile cultivar.
D	A variegated Laurel	-
E	*Buddliea*	Widespread
F	Virginia creeper	-
G	Robinia	-

A number of other Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species were recorded by Bevan (2015). They include, but are not limited to Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica,* over four species of *Cotoneaster,* montbretia *Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora* and Highclere holly *Ilex x altaclerensis.*

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The reserve is approximately four kilometres in length and is either directly connected to or within close proximity to six other SINCs within and beyond the borough boundary. This 'green corridor' provides a vital resource to wildlife within the city. Even if split from the ancient woodland sites with which Parkland Walk currently shares this SINC status, the role it plays, both in supporting sometimes rare species (especially for London) and in its ability to connect people to nature warrants it being retained as a Metropolitan grade SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Confirmed bat roost of multiple species in Highgate tunnels.
- High potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees, and buildings and bridges).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryide Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles (historical records of slow-worm recorded to south of Northwood Road bridge and suitable habitat present).
- Potential for a range of Priority Species (e.g., white-letter hairstreak).

Opportunities

Parkland Walk will be subject to a new Habitat Management Plan and detailed opportunities for restoration and enhancement will be included therein. Below represents a summary and encompasses features of the existing management plan as well as recommendations made subsequent to this (Bevan, 2015).

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds* • That present within the Nature trail is testament to the ease and value that ponds can bring. Identification of suitable sites.
Species	*Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees, buildings and bridges. Restoration of bridge works provide an opportunity for the integration of such features within brick fascias. *Birds:*

	• Bird nesting boxes/features. The following types are recommended:
	  ○ 'Standard' hole/cavity nest boxes on trees (e.g., tits).
	  ○ Treecreeper boxes (side facing slot mimicking peeling bark/cracks on trees.
	  ○ Open fronted cavity boxes on trees (spotted flycatcher).
	  ○ Swift boxes. Where height is afforded on Parkland Walk bridges, including St James' Lane viaduct, swift box installation in clusters. A range of products are available to mimic bricks and so brick fascias of bridge supports, if being restored may present an additional opportunity.
	  ○ House martin: A bespoke 'primer' nest cup mimicking natural mud-made nest sites. Under bridges, as per swift.
	  ○ Tawny owl. Nest cavity box in mature woodland trees.
	  ○ Grey wagtail. Open fronted boxes under bridges.
	Hedgehog:
	• Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
	• Creation of fence base-board gaps ('hedgehog highways') to enable access to more garden habitats along Parkland Walk's boundaries.
	Invertebrates:
	• As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ,* the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed.
	  ○ *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
	  ▪ *Ring-barking*
	  ▪ *Branch breaks*
	  ▪ *'Horse – damage'*
	  ▪ *Pollarding*
	  ○ *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. Unless a tree has to be felled to its base for some reason, this should be seen as the default option.
	  ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016)

	○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*General:* • Protection of woodland from recreational disturbance. Narrowing of paths and return to 'pre-Covid' path extents. This may require the installation of wooden bollards to dissuade cyclists from taking 'desire lines' along the path edge where ground is less stony, horizontally placed tree trunks/branches or semi-permanent hurdle style fencing, with use of dead-hedging throughout. • Measures to reduce fly-tipping and unwarranted access from adjoining properties. In the case of the latter, this may not necessarily require removing and policing access, but instead channelling existing access along dedicated paths. *Woodland:* • Measures to reduce the density and cover of areas of 'high forest'. Selective thinning or coppicing. Bevan (2015) recommends the selective removal of sycamore across the reserve where it is shading out native species. • Previous reports from ancient woodlands (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Existing open areas of grassland and tall herb (e.g. compartment 1, east; compartment 10 or 'Highgate Bowl', west) to remain open. • Removal of scrub within compartment 3 and other grassland areas (both current and created), with an objective to restore 'lost native species', as per Bevan (2015). • Development of a rough grassland along St James' Lane viaduct. This open area has recently been subject to clearance of holm oak and other woody species due to the needs to reduce the impact of tree roots on bridge structures. Management as grassland of value to invertebrates (encouraging nectar/pollen rich herbaceous species and tussock forming grasses). *Scrub:* • Reduction of dense bramble stands (to ~30% of current cover) to increase opportunities for ground flora and increase structural diversity for invertebrates by providing a mosaic of sunny and shady aspects within a small scale.

	• Where bridge restoration work demands the clearance of trees, the expansion of these felled areas should be considered, thus providing many 'stepping stones' of rough grassland and scrub. Where such existing areas are dominated by single species, the planting of individual trees of hawthorn, elder or similar is encouraged. *Nature trail:* • Retention of the Nature trail and defining its role as one of a 'demonstration area' for wildlife gardening.
Species	*Invasive species* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

The above recommendations and management plan that is to be drafted in the early part of 2022 may involve some substantial changes to habitat types, particularly the greater extent of scrub/grassland mosaics at the expense of woodland, and the introduction of woodland thinning/coppicing measures. Many of the monitoring activities proposed are

- A repeated botanical survey as per Bevan (2015). Identification of a full inventory as a baseline prior to introduction of scrub/grassland expansion and woodland thinning. Repeated at regular intervals.
- Breeding bird survey of the reserve. Identification of a breeding bird baseline, prior to habitat changes and installation of any additional nest box features.
- Reptile surveys. To establish presence or absence of slow-worm along the reserve.
- Butterfly surveys. Several of the management recommendations should favour a range of butterflies (as well as other invertebrates), particularly those associated with woodlands and their clearings.
- Invasive species monitoring and control.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Continued secondary growth of woody species, particularly non-natives such as sycamore and holm oak to the exclusion of native trees and/or ground flora.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

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1. Parkland Walk

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Metropolitan Grade** (part of M116: Highgate Wood, Queen's Wood & Parkland Walk
- Recommended status: **Retain as Metropolitan Grade**

    - Cede easternmost section (east of mainline railway) to HgBII09 – Finsbury Park.
    - Consider review of site boundary: several private properties and gardens thereof appear to fall within the SINC boundary.

1.2. Site description

The Parkland Walk is the remnant of the course of the former Finsbury Park to Alexandra Palace Railway Line. It is nearly four kilometres in length, the majority of which is in the London Borough of Haringey, with a short but relatively broad section in the London Borough of Islington. The site is oriented approximately southeast to northwest. The site is a Local Nature Reserve (LNR), designated as such in 1990. Two distinct sections are recognised; Parkland Walk North between Muswell Hill and Muswell Hill Road (between National Grid References TQ 28481 89165 and TQ 28908 89608), and Parkland Walk South between Highgate station and Finsbury Park (between National Grid References TQ 28512 88200 and TQ 31432 87085). The latter section is the longer of the two and is further split for the purposes of this report into West, Central and East (see Section 1.4, Maps).

Secondary woodland dominates, particularly along areas where the former line is set within a cutting. Embanked areas support small patches of scrub and grassland, with a larger area of neutral grassland south of the Lancaster Road and a remnant acid grassland area south of Mount View Road. At the time of writing, several of the bridges along the walk are under going restoration work. These present opportunities for biodiversity enhancement which are discussed below.

At the western end of Parkland Walk South is relatively small area or 'Nature trail' managed by the Friends of Parkland Walk. Whilst still woodland, it contains a diverse, if perhaps eclectic ground flora which has arisen from deliberate introduction, sowing as 'wildflower seed mixes' or were present within the seed bank from the time of railway where gardens of railway employee dwellings once existed (P. Mercer, pers. comm.).

A botanical survey of Parkland Walk was conducted in 2015 recorded 291 species, 46% of which were non-native, 86% of which are classed as neophytes (Bevan, 2015). Species records, and the compartments in which they were found can be accessed via Table 1, Bevan (2015). The present

survey and report do not attempt to supersede the findings of that survey, which still represents the most thorough and up to date botanical survey of Parkland Walk.

The reserve supports a range of breeding birds, predominantly those typically associated with woodland, parks and gardens. Song thrush *Turdus philomelos* sparrowhawk *Accipter nisus* and dunnock *Prunella modularis* (all BoCC Amber list; Stanbury 2021), were all seen or heard during the survey. Grey wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* (Red list) is a regular breeding species, as too is spotted flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* and the combination of meadow and tall trees has potential to support mistle thrush *Turdus viscivorus*. It is understood that tawny owl *Strix aluco* have been recorded during the breeding season in the past, but not in recent years.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland** **g3c - Other neutral grassland (10 - Scattered scrub, 16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ephemeral)** **g4 - Modified grassland (16 - Tall herb, 17 - Ruderal/ephemeral)** **g4a - Amenity grassland**
Description **g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland:** An area of grassland approximately 800m^2 in area occupies a south facing bank on the north side of the track within the L.B. Islington section. Common bent *Agrostis capillaris* was the dominant species, with frequent rye-grass *Lolium.* Typical indicators of acid grassland were present, with sheep's sorrel *Rumex acetosella* locally frequent to the south-west and mouse-ear hawkweed *Pilosella officinarum* rare. Common knapweed *Centaurea nigra* and meadow vetchling *Lathyrus pratensis* were present in locally dominant clumps. Greater plantain *Plantago major* and white clover *Trifolium repens* were also occasional, but locally abundant. Acid grassland has the potential to support a range of rare invertebrate species. **g3c - Other neutral grassland:** Neutral grassland is found in two main areas. The first is likely to have arisen from deliberate seeding and is associated with the cutting bank north of Crouch Hill Park. Whilst ruderal and nitrophilous species (broad leaved-dock *Rumex* obtusifolius, creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*) were patchily present, herbaceous species typical of seed-mixes were also present (e.g. common bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, meadow buttercup *Ranunculus acris* and meadow vetchling). A more representative area lies to the east of the reserve, occupying a 2,500m^2 area within the embanked section east of Finsbury Park (compartment 3 in TEC, 2010). This is a grass dominated area, with cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata* the most frequent, dominating locally. As reported by Bevan (2015), rosebay willowherb *Chamerion angustifolium* was locally abundant, as too was Canadian goldenrod *Solidago canadensis*, particularly on the north slope and at the slope bases. Meadow vetchling, as in other parts of the reserve, was locally dominant. Bramble was also prevalent within

the ground layer and was the subject of active management by a The Conservation Volunteers (TCV) work party at the time of the survey. This area was particularly highlighted by Bevan (2015) as an example of what was more prevalent at the time of the railway and, along with mosaics of scrub, should be a primary object to maintain and potentially expand.

g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland: Lawns within the grounds of Crouch Hill Park, 'verges' either side of and on St James' Lane Viaduct and Finsbury Park grassland.

Condition

g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland: Moderate; the grassland is evidently, both from current species composition and from historical records, an acid grassland. However, indicator herbs were rare and 'undesirable' species such as greater plantain and white clover were locally abundant.

g3c - Other neutral grassland: The sown area in Crouch Hill Park is Moderate (sown grasslands often do not fill traditional descriptions of many grassland types). The eastern 'meadow' is also Moderate. Here, wildflowers/sedges were not 'clearly and easily visible' throughout the sward, and scrub cover was greater than 5%.

g4 - Modified grassland/g4a - Amenity grassland: Moderate. Whilst species poor, these small areas were usually not subject to much damage or scrub incursion.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

w1g6 - Line of trees

Description

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: Recent secondary woodland is present throughout but there is considerable variation in dominant species. The most frequently occurring tree species along the entire SINC is sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus,* with other occasional areas dominated by ash *Fraxinus excelsior* (the most prevalent native tree) and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, the former often with extensive arboreal ivy *Hedera helix.* Stands of cherry *Prunus* are also present, most notably close to the entrance on Holmesdale Road, and stands of silver birch *Betula pendula* are occasionally present, including in the area of Parkland Walk North immediately north of Muswell Hill Road. The woodland shrub layer is usually poorly developed but there are some sections where it is dense or species-rich. Holly *Ilex aquifolium*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, elder *Sambucus nigra*, cherry laurel *Prunus laurocerasus*, garden privet *Ligustrum ovalifolium,* bay *Laurus nobilis* and English elm *Ulmus procera* (which has supported white-letter hairstreak *Satyrium w-album*) are also present. Ash is present as saplings in some sections, as too are sycamore suckers and elm suckering within the L.B. Islington section. As reported by Bevan (2015), hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* was rare. At the time of survey, the ground flora appeared to mainly species-poor and dominated by ivy, bramble, wood

avens *Geum urbanum* and cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris.* Ancient woodland indicators were rare within the ground flora, but included the occasional pendulous sedge *Carex pendula* and a single observation of giant fescue *Schedonorus gigantea*. The former is likely to be present in many cases from garden escape (see Rose, 1999). Coralroot *Cardamine bulbifera* a scare native woodland plant was also recorded in compartment 7 by Bevan (2015). Whilst many of the conditions and plant distributions appear generally similar to that reported in TEC (2010), two aspects appear notably different: [1] Invasive species such as cherry laurel, *Buddliea* are widespread, as too are an increasing number of invasive bamboos from garden waste tipped over boundary fences. Ground elder *Aegopodium podagraria,* Oregon-grape *Mahonia aquifolium* and tree cotoneaster *Cotoneaster frigidus* were also recorded. [2] The area occupied by the central gravel/bare-ground track has substantially widened within the last two years (pedestrian use and concerns over social distancing have widened paths since March 2020, D.Theakston, pers. comm.).

Secondary woodland also forms the dominant habitat in the Parkland Walk North between Muswell Hill Road and Muswell Hill. Close to Muswell Hill Road the canopy comprises sycamore. The woodland to the north of St. James' viaduct is dominated by sycamore with occasional ash and with a shrub layer comprising largely of elder and a ground flora of ivy.

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: The woodland immediately south of St James' Lane is more varied and includes a number of mature pedunculate oak with an understorey of elder, hawthorn, and young specimens of yew and sycamore. Also present are small stands of silver birch, ash and wild cherry.

w1g6 - Line of trees: Two lines of immature planted trees are present within Crouch Hill Park.

Condition

w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland: Moderate. Whilst this area scores highly for cover and presence of native species, presence of deadwood and veteran features (cf. presence of pedunculate oaks as above), invasive species, the presence of only two size classes (seedlings were not observed), some observations of ash-die back and heavy disturbance (compaction around veteran trees, fly-tipping and a myriad of desire-lines/paths from assumed illegitimate back gates) all contribute to a Moderate score.

w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types: With the exception of the western most (Holmesdale Road entrance) and eastern most (Finsbury Park) sections, which are in Good condition, all woodland is in either Moderate or Poor condition. Given the woodland is largely comprised of non-native species, invasive species are widespread and mature/veteran trees are largely absent, Moderate condition can be seen as the 'default' condition for a woodland of this type. Where very heavy disturbance is seen, this can result in a near absent ground flora and no obvious signs of regeneration, which contribute to a further lessening of condition to 'Poor'. The areas of Poor condition were largely localised to the Central area. The western half of the L.B. Islington section (that associated with Crouch Hill Park suffers from being heavily disturbed, as well as low in native-species diversity. West of this area and within L.B. Haringey is a section 'high forest' dominated by sycamore, a poor, disturbed understorey. The two areas of Good condition woodland reflect their relatively low levels (west) or

absent disturbance (rail side areas adjacent to Finsbury Park); whilst non-native species are present, woodland regeneration is enabled and damage limited by a lack of footfall.
w1g6 - Line of trees: Poor. Largely non-native and immature, with no adjacent natural vegetation.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)
h3a - Blackthorn scrub
h3d - Bramble scrub (16 - Tall herb)
h3h - Mixed scrub

Description
h3a - Blackthorn scrub/h3d - Bramble scrub/h3h - Mixed scrub. Scrub is a relatively small component of the SINC, accounting for only 2.5% of the total area. These areas are invariably found around bridges, particularly on Parkland Walk South, forming an ecotone between ruderal tall herbs and/or grassland, and woodland. The dominant species varied, with bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. accounting for 60% of the total scrub area. These areas tended to be large, dense stands.

Condition
Bramble scrub defaults to Poor condition. Only where mixed scrub (Parkland Walk North), present on a south-east facing cutting had sufficient species diversity (sliver birch, hawthorn and elder were all present) and structural diversity with a fringe of grassland was scrub in Moderate condition. Elsewhere, scrub was either uniform in age and structure (which is invariably the case with bramble), was accompanied by 'undesirables' such as common nettle *Urtica dioica* or invasive *Buddliea.*

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)
r1a - Eutrophic standing waters (39 - Freshwater - man-made)

Description
A pond is present within the 'Nature trail'. Rigid Hornwort *Ceratophyllum demersum* dominates the surface waters, with almost no clear water areas present. Bog bean *Menyanthes trifoliata* was also present, with marsh marigold *Caltha palustris,* hard rush *Juncus inflexus* and galingale *Cyperus longus.* The pond is man-made, the bank being raised on the east side, to provide a viewing platform and seating area. Water tanks are located to the rear of the pond, which collect rainwater from nearby roofs and are used to supplement the pond water level. The pond supports smooth newt *Lissotriton vulgaris* (P. Mercer, pers. comm.) and records of common frog *Rana temporaria* date back to 1999.

Condition

Moderate. The artificial construction and presence of a 'dam' constrains the pond to a Moderate condition; it is in Good condition in all other respects.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b5 – Buildings.

u1b6 - Other developed land.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface (73 - Bare ground).

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 - Introduced shrub, 231 - Vegetated garden, 232 - Un-vegetated garden)

Description

u1b5 - Buildings: Those of Crouch Hill Park and retained railway buildings and bridges.

u1b6 - Other developed land: Roads/paths in Crouch Hill Park, retained railway infrastructure (platforms) and tarmacked paths on Finsbury Park. At the time of the survey and throughout 2021, several of the bridges were subject to restoration work. Planning applications for these projects were supported by ecological appraisals within their immediate vicinity (e.g., WSP, 2021; MKA Ecology Ltd., 2021). The Highgate Tunnel (west) is known to support roosting bats at all times of the year. Seven species of bat have been recorded in or near the entrances to these tunnels from either dedicate Bat Conservation Trust or London Bat Group hibernation site surveys or from surveys using automated detectors.

u1c - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface: Six percent of the total area is mapped as such, this being accounted for by the central track. Whilst this might arguably be mapped as a linear feature in places, it was felt appropriate to map it as an area throughout as [a] in many places it is greater than five metres in width and [b] to highlight that, in places, it has become substantially wider due increase pedestrian pressure since March 2020.

u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: Vegetated gardens are present within the site boundary. Some of these instances may be due to illegitimate 'land grab' from adjacent properties; The large number of back garden access gates into the reserve was noteworthy, as too was the amount of rubbish thrown over/left from back gardens as fly-tipping.

Condition

Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs and vegetated gardens which default to Poor.

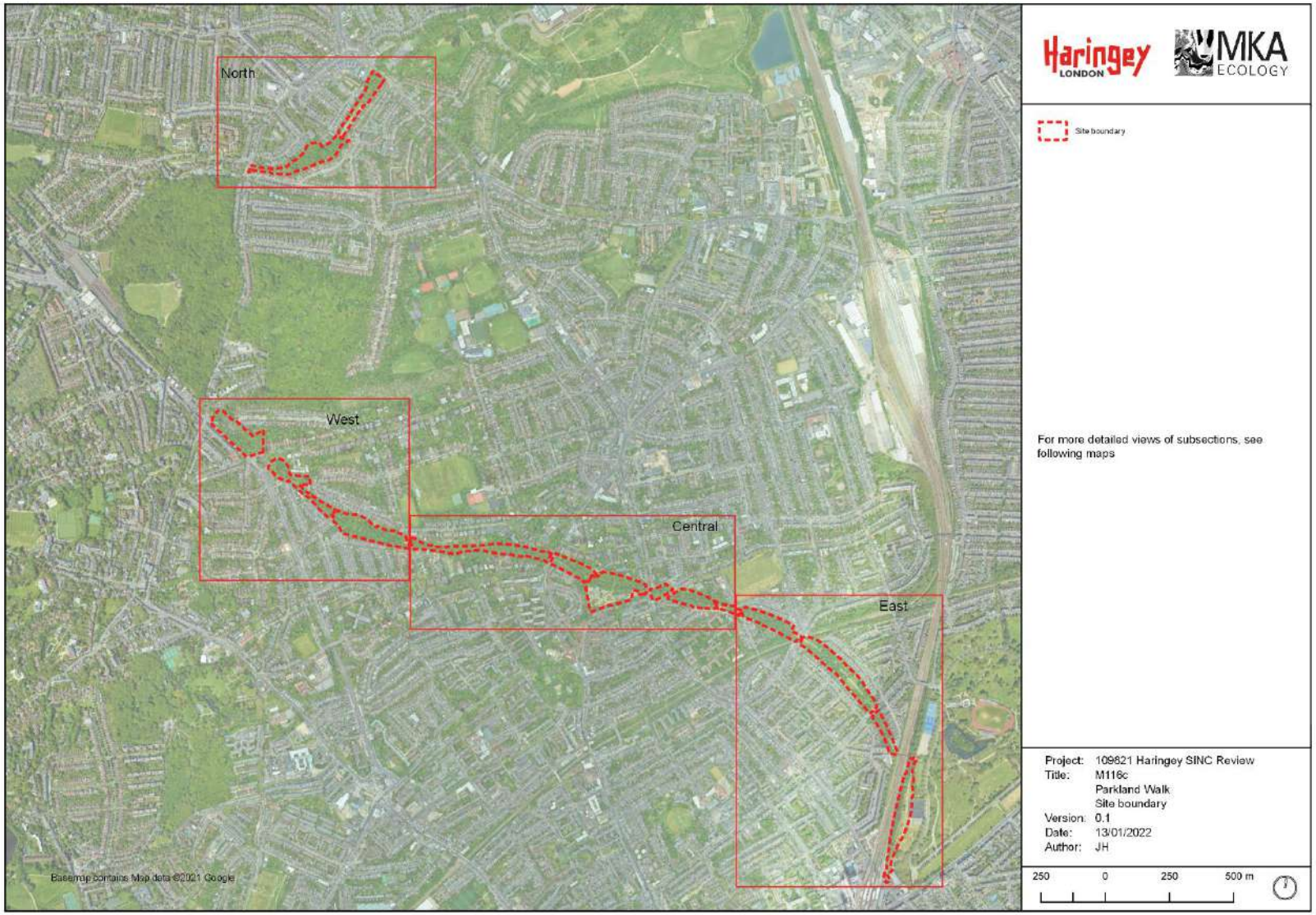
Priority habitats

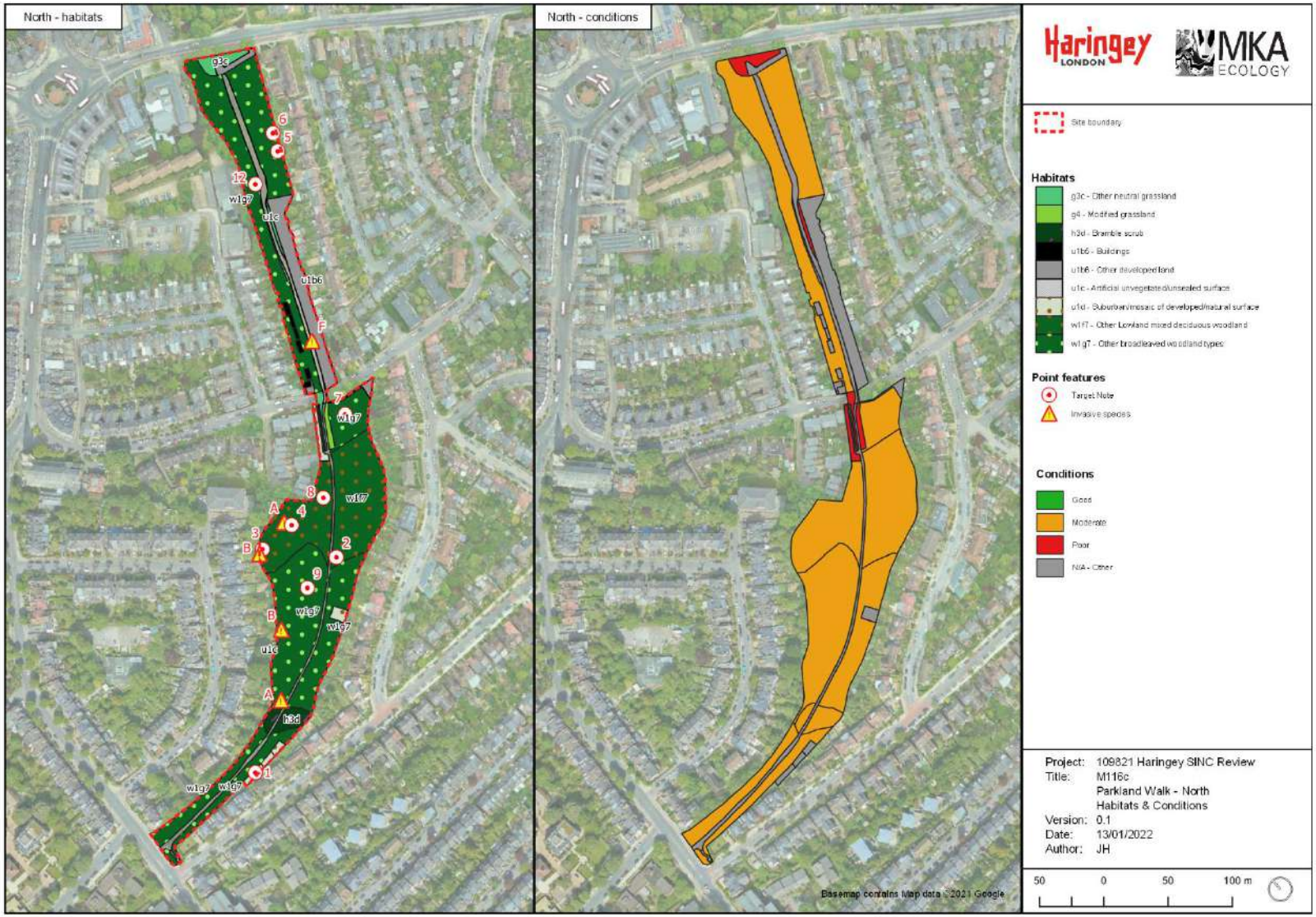
The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland dry acid grassland

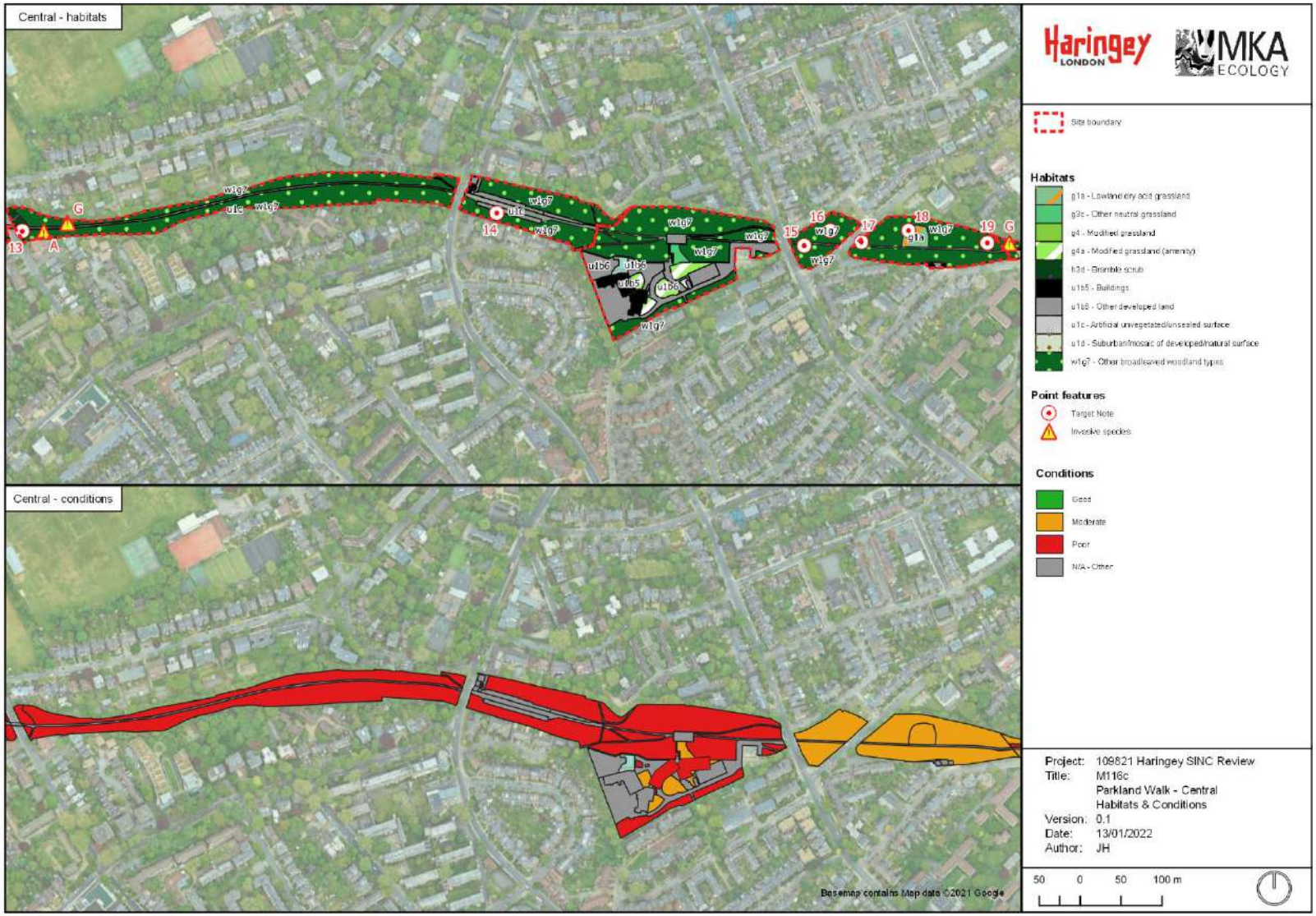
- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

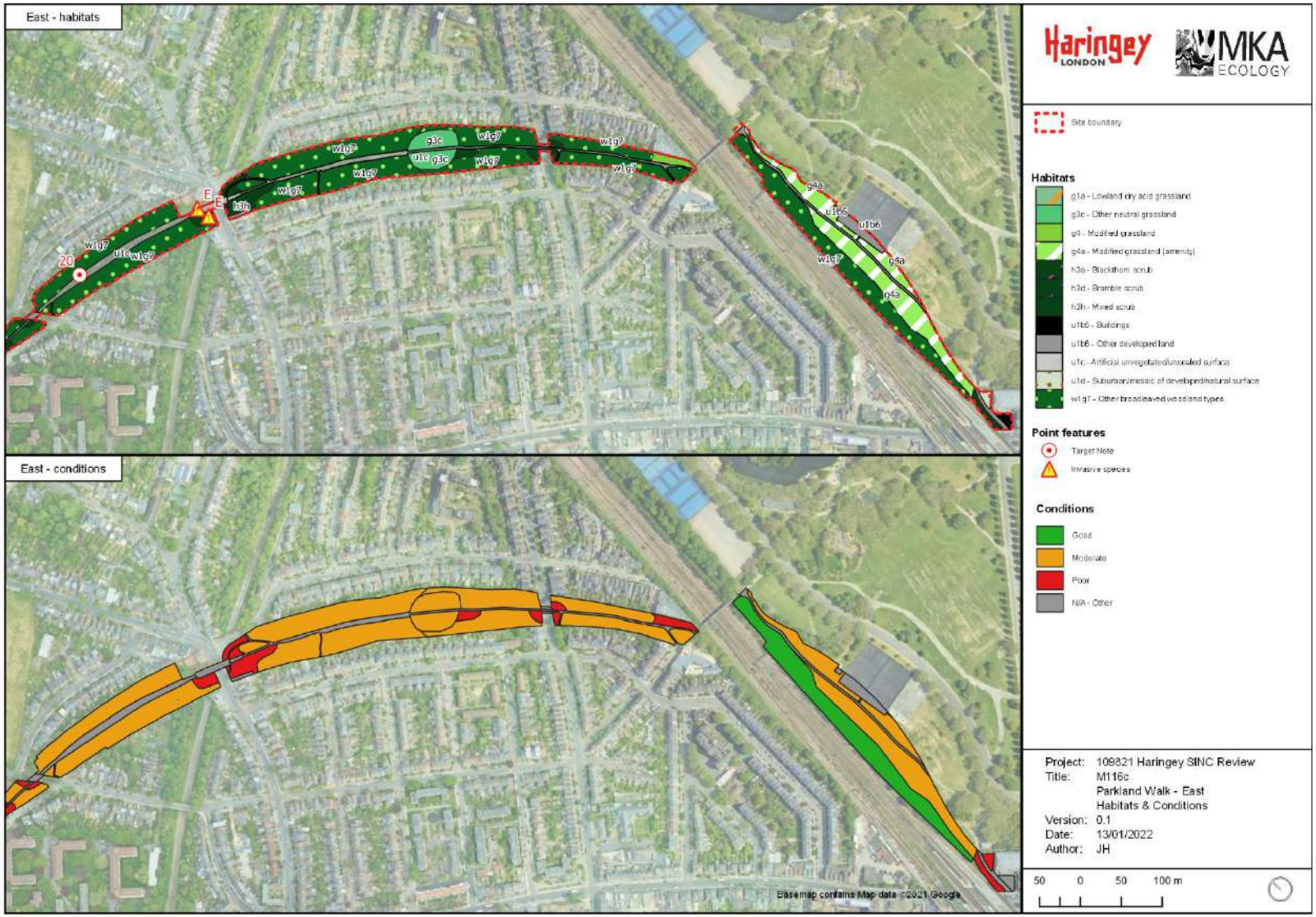
1.4. Maps


North
West
Central
East
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
For more detailed views of subsections, see following maps
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c
Parkland Walk
Site boundary
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
250 0 250 500 m


North - habitats
North - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c Parkland Walk - North Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data © 2021 Google


West - habitats
West - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
h3d - Bramble scrub
r1e - Eutrophic standing water
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c Parkland Walk - West Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Central - habitats
Central - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b8 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c Parkland Walk - Central Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


East - habitats
East - conditions
Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g1a - Lowland dry acid grassland
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3a - Blackthorn scrub
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g7 - Other broadleaved woodland types
Point features
Target Note
Invasive species
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: M116c
Parkland Walk - East
Habitats & Conditions
Version: 0.1
Date: 13/01/2022
Author: JH
50 0 50 100 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Many gardens within site boundary. Consider change to SINC boundary.
2	'Beetle tower' stumperies.
3	Damage & rubbish.
4	Tawny owl box.
5	Former pond.
6	Rubbish/cuttings from gardens.
7	Potential location for pond.
8	Bramble dominated understorey.
9	Area of sycamore that may be targeted for canopy reduction.
10	Bat roost in tunnel.
11	Dumped garden waste.
12	Tree management works with no attempt to create appropriate enhancements.
13	Opportunity for opening out to create scrub/mosaic
14	Ash regeneration.
15	Elm suckering visible.
16	Existing glade from fallen tree - opportunity to further open.
17	Opportunity for brick bat boxes on bridge refacing.
18	Strimming activity.
19	Fox earth.
20	Bat boxes.

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	Widespread.
B	Bamboo indet	Unidentified bamboos from back gardens.
C	Rhododendron	Unable to identify whether *R.ponticum* or sterile cultivar.
D	A variegated Laurel	-
E	*Buddliea*	Widespread
F	Virginia creeper	-
G	Robinia	-

A number of other Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species were recorded by Bevan (2015). They include, but are not limited to Japanese knotweed *Fallopia japonica,* over four species of *Cotoneaster,* montbretia *Crocosmia x crocosmiiflora* and Highclere holly *Ilex x altaclerensis.*

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The reserve is approximately four kilometres in length and is either directly connected to or within close proximity to six other SINCs within and beyond the borough boundary. This 'green corridor' provides a vital resource to wildlife within the city, and in combination with Queen's Wood and Highgate wood from an ecologically contiguous habitat within the borough. Together these sites support sometimes rare species (especially for London) and play an important role in connecting people to nature, which warrants it being retained as a Metropolitan grade SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Confirmed bat roost of multiple species in Highgate tunnels.
- High potential for roosting bats (bat boxes and/or suitable features on mature trees, and buildings and bridges).
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryide Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles (historical records of slow-worm recorded to south of Northwood Road bridge and suitable habitat present).
- Potential for a range of Priority Species (e.g., white-letter hairstreak).

Opportunities

Parkland Walk will be subject to a new Habitat Management Plan and detailed opportunities for restoration and enhancement will be included therein. Below represents a summary and encompasses features of the existing management plan as well as recommendations made subsequent to this (Bevan, 2015).

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Ponds* • That present within the Nature trail is testament to the ease and value that ponds can bring. Identification of suitable sites.
Species	*Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees, buildings and bridges. Restoration of bridge works provide an opportunity for the integration of such features within brick fascias. *Birds:*

- Bird nesting boxes/features. The following types are recommended:
    - 'Standard' hole/cavity nest boxes on trees (e.g., tits).
    - Treecreeper boxes (side facing slot mimicking peeling bark/cracks on trees.
    - Open fronted cavity boxes on trees (spotted flycatcher).
    - Swift boxes. Where height is afforded on Parkland Walk bridges, including St James' Lane viaduct, swift box installation in clusters. A range of products are available to mimic bricks and so brick fascias of bridge supports, if being restored may present an additional opportunity.
    - House martin: A bespoke 'primer' nest cup mimicking natural mud-made nest sites. Under bridges, as per swift.
    - Tawny owl. Nest cavity box in mature woodland trees.
    - Grey wagtail. Open fronted boxes under bridges.

Hedgehog:

- Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
- Creation of fence base-board gaps ('hedgehog highways') to enable access to more garden habitats along Parkland Walk's boundaries.

Invertebrates:

- As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ,* the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed.
    - *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014):
        - *Ring-barking*
        - *Branch breaks*
        - *'Horse – damage'*
        - *Pollarding*
    - *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. Unless a tree has to be felled to its base for some reason, this should be seen as the default option.
    - *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016)

	○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*General:* • Protection of woodland from recreational disturbance. Narrowing of paths and return to 'pre-Covid' path extents. This may require the installation of wooden bollards to dissuade cyclists from taking 'desire lines' along the path edge where ground is less stony, horizontally placed tree trunks/branches or semi-permanent hurdle style fencing, with use of dead-hedging throughout. • Measures to reduce fly-tipping and unwarranted access from adjoining properties. In the case of the latter, this may not necessarily require removing and policing access, but instead channelling existing access along dedicated paths. *Woodland:* • Measures to reduce the density and cover of areas of 'high forest'. Selective thinning or coppicing. Bevan (2015) recommends the selective removal of sycamore across the reserve where it is shading out native species. • Previous reports from ancient woodlands (e.g. Bevan 1992, 2011) highlight the benefits to overall plant diversity by the introduction of coppicing regimes. These too will lead to an increase in the availability of deadwood and a greater diversity of habitat, especially for invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Existing open areas of grassland and tall herb (e.g. compartment 1, east; compartment 10 or 'Highgate Bowl', west) to remain open. • Removal of scrub within compartment 3 and other grassland areas (both current and created), with an objective to restore 'lost native species', as per Bevan (2015). • Development of a rough grassland along St James' Lane viaduct. This open area has recently been subject to clearance of holm oak and other woody species due to the needs to reduce the impact of tree roots on bridge structures. Management as grassland of value to invertebrates (encouraging nectar/pollen rich herbaceous species and tussock forming grasses). *Scrub:* • Reduction of dense bramble stands (to ~30% of current cover) to increase opportunities for ground flora and increase structural diversity for invertebrates by providing a mosaic of sunny and shady aspects within a small scale.

	• Where bridge restoration work demands the clearance of trees, the expansion of these felled areas should be considered, thus providing many 'stepping stones' of rough grassland and scrub. Where such existing areas are dominated by single species, the planting of individual trees of hawthorn, elder or similar is encouraged. *Nature trail:* • Retention of the Nature trail and defining its role as one of a 'demonstration area' for wildlife gardening.
Species	*Invasive species* • Continued control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

The above recommendations and management plan that is to be drafted in the early part of 2022 may involve some substantial changes to habitat types, particularly the greater extent of scrub/grassland mosaics at the expense of woodland, and the introduction of woodland thinning/coppicing measures. Many of the monitoring activities proposed are

- A repeated botanical survey as per Bevan (2015). Identification of a full inventory as a baseline prior to introduction of scrub/grassland expansion and woodland thinning. Repeated at regular intervals.
- Breeding bird survey of the reserve. Identification of a breeding bird baseline, prior to habitat changes and installation of any additional nest box features.
- Reptile surveys. To establish presence or absence of slow-worm along the reserve.
- Butterfly surveys. Several of the management recommendations should favour a range of butterflies (as well as other invertebrates), particularly those associated with woodlands and their clearings.
- Invasive species monitoring and control.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- Continued secondary growth of woody species, particularly non-natives such as sycamore and holm oak to the exclusion of native trees and/or ground flora.
- Loss of sites for cavity nesting birds and roosting bats due from ring-necked parakeet *Psittacula krameria*

- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

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1. Lordship Recreation Ground

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Not currently designated
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Borough Grade II – include within the existing Lordship Lane Recreation Ground SINC**

1.2. Site description

A large area (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32576 90296) located to the north of the existing SINC, which supports areas of grassland and scrub, with a pond in the south western corner. A section of the relocated Moselle River runs along the southern boundary of this Site, providing a diversity in an area of relatively common habitats.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c6 – Lolium-Cynosurus neutral grassland (10 Scattered scrub, 11 Scattered trees, 161 Tall or tussocky sward, 330 Scrub) **g4a – Amenity grassland (11 Scattered trees)**
Description **g3c6 – Lolium-Cynosurus neutral grassland:** Sections of the grassland in various sizes had been left intentionally unmanaged, with a long, mixed height sward which showed a higher species diversity in both grass and herbaceous species. These appeared to have a varied management schedule, with sections being managed at different intervals. As defined in the habitat description, white clover *Trifolium repens* and perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* were present, with high abundances of bent grass *Agrostis* sp., crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, selfheal *Prunella vulgaris* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium*. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** Large areas of the site were given over to managed grassland. These areas had short swards with evidence of recent management. These were grass dominant, with perennial rye-grass, bent grass and annual meadow grass *Poa annua* abundant within the sward. A few hardwearing species were also present, such as bristly oxtongue *Picris echioides*, chickweed *Stellaria* sp. and white clover. The area to the east appeared to be used as a football pitch, with no general public access.
Condition

All areas of grassland were in Moderate condition. Amenity grassland areas lacked a varied sward height and had high abundances of undesirable species, whilst the neutral grassland had <5% cover of undesirable species, preventing these areas from achieving a Good condition.

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description Trees lined the footpaths to the east and east of the park. The line on the east of the park were semi-mature horse chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, with a number of newly planted fruit bearing trees at the north end of the line. Those to the west were a variety of species, including common lime *Tilia × europaea,* hornbeam *Carpinus betulus*, London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and *Prunus* species.
Condition All lines of trees were in Poor condition, lacking connected canopies, mature trees and undisturbed ground due to being in a parkland setting.

Hedgerows

h2a5 – Native species hedgerow **h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees** **h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow**
Description **h2a5 – Native species hedgerow:** Situated on the northern boundary of the main area of park, this hedgerow is dominated by hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, with ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and hornbeam *Carpinus betulus* occasionally present. **h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees:** Present along the western boundary, these acted as a screen between the park and the neighbouring residential housing. They were dominated by hawthorn, with instances of wych elm *Ulmus glabra* and elder *Sambucus nigra*. Ash standards were present within these sections of hedgerow. **h2a9 – Native species rich hedgerow:** he western and southern boundaries of the football pitch. These were hawthorn dominant, with a diverse range of species, including blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, privet *Ligustrum* sp. and field maple *Acer campestre*.
Condition All hedgerows were in Moderate condition but unable to achieve good condition due to being situated within a managed parkland.

Scrub

h3h – Mixed scrub
Description Two areas of dense scrub to the south west of the park had appeared to be unmanaged. One of these sections was protected by fencing. These comprised a variety of species, including blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and hawthorn as the more abundant species, with holly *Ilex aquifoium* and rose *Rosa* sp. occasionally seen.
Condition In Moderate condition, lacking a well-developed edge due to management of the adjacent grassland.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree):** A number of trees present within the grassland areas. These were either newly planted or semi-mature. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Hardstanding footpaths. **u1b5 – Buildings:** A single brick-built building at the northern entrance. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental shrub planting at the north entrance of the park.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with exception of introduced shrub which defaults to poor.

Lakes/ ponds

r1a – Eutrophic standing waters (39 Freshwater – man-made)
Description A large pond is present in the south western corner of the site, connected on the eastern end to the Moselle River. The banks are lined with semi-mature willows *Salix* spp., mainly white willow *Salix alba*. There were no emergent or submerged vegetation and no cover of filamentous algae.
Condition

This was in Moderate condition, lacking any emergent and submerged vegetation and being within a parkland setting.

Rivers

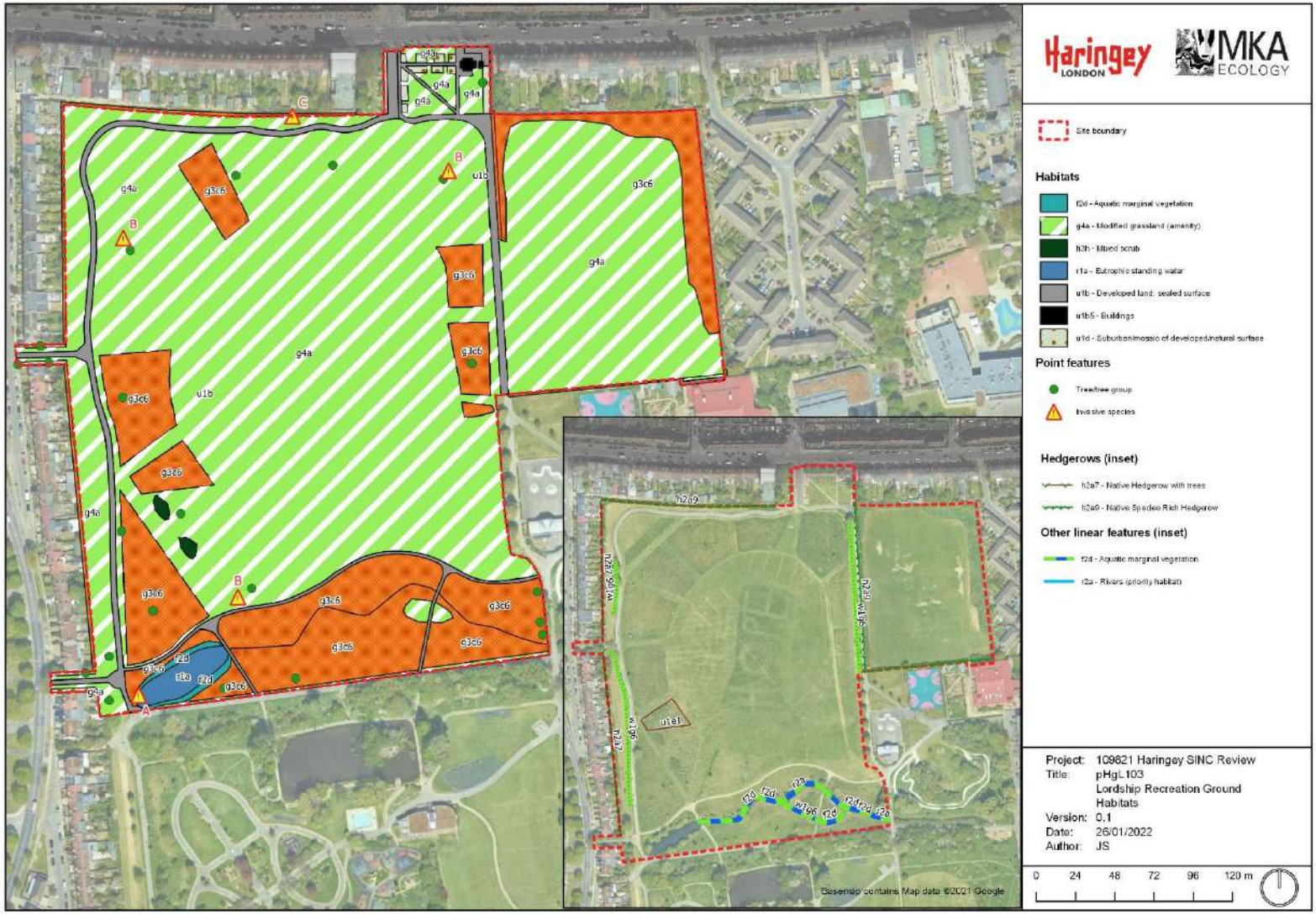
r2a – Rivers (priority) (39 Freshwater – man-made)
Description A section of the Moselle River runs through the site, connected the Moselle River in the existing Lordship Lane SINC. Historical evidence states that, within the park, the river was relocated slightly north of its original location in 2012 as part of a restoration project. The water levels were shallow at the time of the survey, with less than 30cm in the majority of places. This section has low banks lined with young willows *Salix* spp. and a number of herbaceous species are present along the banks, including loosestrife *Lythrum* sp., flag iris *Iris pseudoacorus* and greater bird's-foot trefoil *Lotus pedunculatus*. A number of rushes and reeds were also present. There are records from 2011 of common frog *Rana temporaria* in the area.
Condition In Moderate condition, due to having low water levels and lacking required coverage of emergent and submergent vegetation (assessed using the 'Ditch' condition assessment).

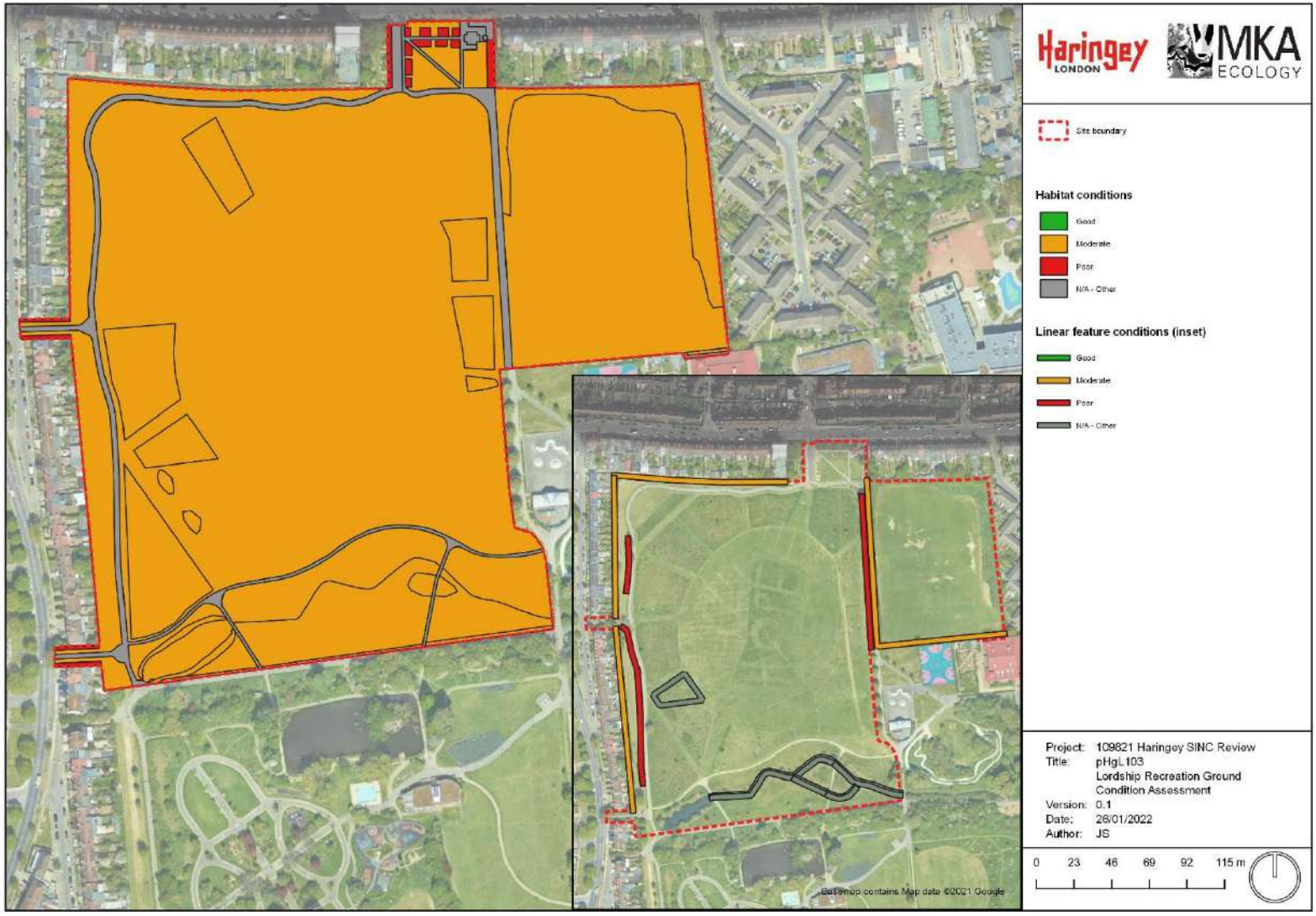
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Ponds
- Rivers
- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3h - Mixed scrub
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
h2a9 - Native Species Rich Hedgerow
Other linear features (inset)
f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation
r2a - Rivers (priority habitat)
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL103 Lordship Recreation Ground Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/01/2022
Author: JS
0 24 48 72 96 120 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL103
Lordship Recreation Ground
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/01/2022
Author: JS
0 23 46 69 92 115 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleia	-
B	Turkey oak	-
C	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The natural (albeit from restoration activities) bankside vegetation is a rare habitat within Haringey, present only in a small number of other SINCs. It is also contiguous with a wider area of meadow grassland. As such, it is recommended that this site be included within the existing Lordship Lane Recreation Ground SINC, which is recommended to be upgraded to a Borough Grade I SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of amphibians.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’) *Birds:* • Provision of general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within woodland and on tree lines. *Bats:* • Additional bat roosting features on trees and within woodland blocks. *Invertebrates:* • ‘Bee hotels’: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees’ nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs).

	• 'Beetle tower': Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs
Management/restoration of existing features	
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Downhills Recreational Ground

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Not currently designated
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local Grade – include within the existing Downhills Park SINC**

1.2. Site description

A large playing field often used for sports (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 32341 89570), with lines of mature London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and hedgerows bounding the majority of the park. Relatively species rich grasslands have developed beneath the tree lines. Located on the western boundary of the existing Downhills Park SINC, this recreational ground provides opportunities for recreational sports not currently available within the existing SINC.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (16 Tall herb, 161 Tall or tussocky sward, 17 Ruderal/ ephemeral) **g4a – Amenity grassland**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** Around the external margins of the footpaths, the grassland had a less rigorous management regime, as evidenced by a varied, tussocky sward. This had also resulted in a higher species diversity, although with very common species. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** The majority of the site was comprised of a large area of well managed grass. The grassland was regularly managed, with a short, uniform sward, and relatively species poor. However, there was little evidence of pressure from recreational use.
Condition **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** In moderate condition, only failing to achieve a good condition due to high abundances of undesirable species, including white clover *Trifolium repens*, greater plantain *Plantago major* and creeping thistle *Cirsium arvense*. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** In moderate condition, being regularly managed and species poor, with high abundances of undesirable species.

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description Three lines of trees were present along the western boundaries and partly along the eastern boundary of the site. These were mainly mature London plane with rare instances of sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and silver birch *Betula pendula*.
Condition The southern tree line was recorded in moderate condition, and the northern and eastern in poor condition. These all failed due to being dominant in a non-native species, whilst also being located at the edge of a well-managed park.

Hedgerows

h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees **h2b5 – Hedge ornamental, non-native (190 Hedgerow with trees)**
Description **h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees:** The western hedgerow was species poor, with spindle *Euonymus europaeus* and holly *Ilex aquifolium* comprising the woody species, and London plane and field maple *Acer campestre* the standards within the hedgerow. **h2b5 – Hedge ornamental, non-native:** Although there are a number of UK native species within the hedgerow, including dogwood, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, elder *Sambucus nigra* and holly, more than 20% of the hedgerow was non-native species, including lilac *Syringa vulgaris* and Portuguese laurel *Prunus lusitanica*.
Condition The hedgerows were both in moderate condition, both failing criteria related to undisturbed ground and undesirable ground vegetation.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree):** Trees had been planted at the western entrance to the park, along Belmont Road. These were semi-mature specimens, including Lombardy poplar *Populus nigra 'Italica'*, rowan *Sorbus aucuparia* and wych elm *Ulmus glabra*. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Concrete footpaths.

u1b5 – Buildings: A single storage building.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other')

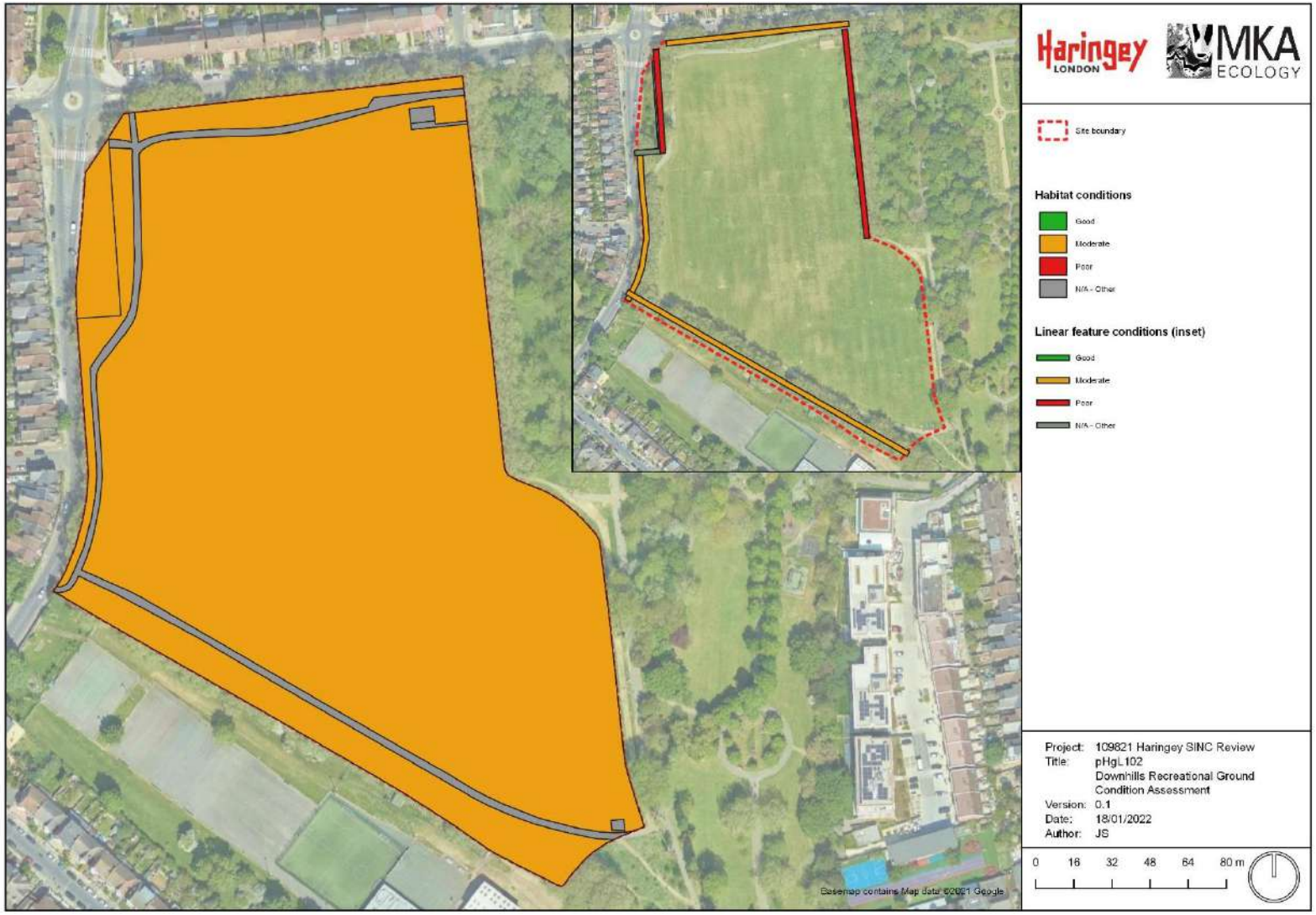
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
u1b - Developed land: sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
h2b5 - Hedge Ornamental Non Native
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL102 Downhills Recreational Gradoun Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JS
0 16 32 48 64 80 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
g3c
g4a
u1b
h2b5
w1g6
w1g7
u1b5


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL102
Downhills Recreational Ground
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JS
0 16 32 48 64 80 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

This site provides a large area of connected grassland habitats which are freely accessible to the public, providing a valuable resource as available greenspace for the local community. This site, alongside the existing SINC, hold considerable opportunity for enhancement. The site warrants raising to Local grade to be included within the existing SINC boundary.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows:* • Plant additional species rich hedgerows along the south western boundary, adjacent to the school.
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes') *Birds:* • Provision of general boxes for woodland species, particularly open-fronted boxes for spotted flycatcher. • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) within tree lines and buildings. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on trees and or buildings. *Invertebrates:*

	• Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • Consider the relaxation of mowing regime and seeding with additional grassland species around the edges of the park. This will provide additional shelter for invertebrates. *Hedgerows:* • Remove invasive non-native species from the existing hedgerows and infill with additional native species.
Species	*Invasive species* • Control of LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Westbury Banks Nature Reserve

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Not currently designated**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

This neglected site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 31741 89925), formerly used as a dumping ground for fly-tippers, has been reclaimed via community action and now forms an impressively diverse wild space within an Area of Deficiency. A variety of tree species have been planted within the site, with instances of uncommon species such as wild service tree *Sorbus torminalis* being of particular note.

The site comprises four different banks with a variety of plants, a natural walkway, a rockery, and a small pond, understood to support smooth newt *Lissotriton vulgaris*. The site is considered to provide some beneficial habitat for breeding and foraging birds and supports numerous opportunities for amphibians, reptiles and invertebrates, including log piles and bug hotels.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f7 – Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (38, secondary woodland)**
Description This young, secondary woodland has been created via community action and supports a diverse range of canopy tree species. Canopy species include pedunculate oak *Quercus robur,* ash *Fraxinus excelsior,* wild service tree *Sorbus torminalis,* blackthorn *Prunus spinosa,* crab apple *Malus sylvestris,* elm *Ulmus* sp., sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus and* rowan *Sorbs aucuparia*. The understorey comprises predominately of elder *Sambucus nigra* and dense bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, with a ground flora comprising areas of bare ground, ivy *Hedera helix* and wood avens *Geum urbanum*.
Condition The woodland habitat is considered to be of in moderate condition but lacking veteran trees, woodland flora and deadwood.

Lakes

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (366, Artificial pond, 39 Freshwater – man-made)**
Description A small artificial pond has been created within the site. This pond supports an impressive variety of marginal plants were present, including marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* and yellow flag iris *Iris pseudacorus*. Anecdotal evidence of smooth newt has also been reported for this pond.
Condition The presence of good quality water, the lack of significant pond weed coverage, stocked fish and invasive species, coupled with its location with a woodland environment and the allowance for water levels to naturally fluctuate result in this pond being considered to be in Good condition.

Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location:

- Other lowland mixed deciduous woodland

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Point features
Treetree group
Invasive species
1
2
w1f7
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL101 The Westbury Banks Nature Reserve
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 5 10 15 20 25 m


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Conditions
Good
Moderate
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL101 The Westbury Banks Nature Reserve Condition assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Green alkanet	-
B	Tree of heaven	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site is in regular use by the community and volunteers, whilst also functioning as an important educational resource to a local community through the provision of bird watching opportunities, guided tours, workshops and events. The site is also a great example of a diverse woodland habitat within an urban area. The site therefore warrants designation as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of amphibians.
- Potential presence of retiles.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows:* • Creation of hedgerows along site boundaries, comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on semi-mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles.

	• Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes')
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. o *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) o *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: o Nest box creation within living trees.

	○ 'Woodpecker hole'. *Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.
- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Duckett's Common and Green Gate Common

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Not currently designated
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local Grade SINC**

1.2. Site description

Duckett's Common is a sizable area of open greenspace, centred on National Grid reference TQ 31571 89457, with sports pitches, exercise area and children's play area. Lines of London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and common lime *Tilia × europaea* are present around the perimeter of the park and along various footpaths.

Green Gate Common is located across Green Lanes from Duckett's Common and is a mosaic of grassland, scattered trees, areas of shrub and lines of mature London plane.

This site has also been awarded a Green Flag Award.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description Mature trees lined the majority of the boundaries of both areas of the site. These were primarily London plane and common lime.
Condition All tree lines were either in moderate or poor condition, due to lack of native species and being within a managed parkland setting.

Grassland

g4 – Modified grassland (161 Tall or tussocky sward) **g4a – Amenity grassland**
Description **g4 – Modified grassland (161 Tall or tussocky sward):** Around the edges of the amenity grassland to the south of Duckett's Common beneath the trees, there was a longer sward which was tussocky

in places. There was a slightly higher species diversity than the amenity grassland, with species such as lady's bedstraw *Galium verum* and common toadflax *Linaria vulgaris* present. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** The majority of the site is amenity grassland, with a short, uniform sward and lacking in species diversity. Large areas of bare ground were present across both areas.
Condition The amenity grassland was in poor condition and the modified was in moderate condition with both habitats lacking in species diversity and undesirable species, with amenity grassland areas also lacking in sward variety.

Hedgerows

h2a5 – Native hedgerow
Description A hedgerow bound the entirety of Duckett's Common, with the exception of the northern boundary. There were gaps within the hedgerow at the park entrances. Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* was the dominant species, with rare instances of rose *Rosa* sp. and ash *Fraxinus excelsior.*
Condition All areas of the hedgerow were in poor condition, failing the majority of the assessment criteria likely due to the high levels of management.

Scrub

h3d – Bramble scrub
Description A single stand of dense bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. scrub was present within in Green Gate Common.
Condition Defaults to poor condition due to lack of structural and botanical diversity

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings** **u1b6 – Other developed land** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub)**

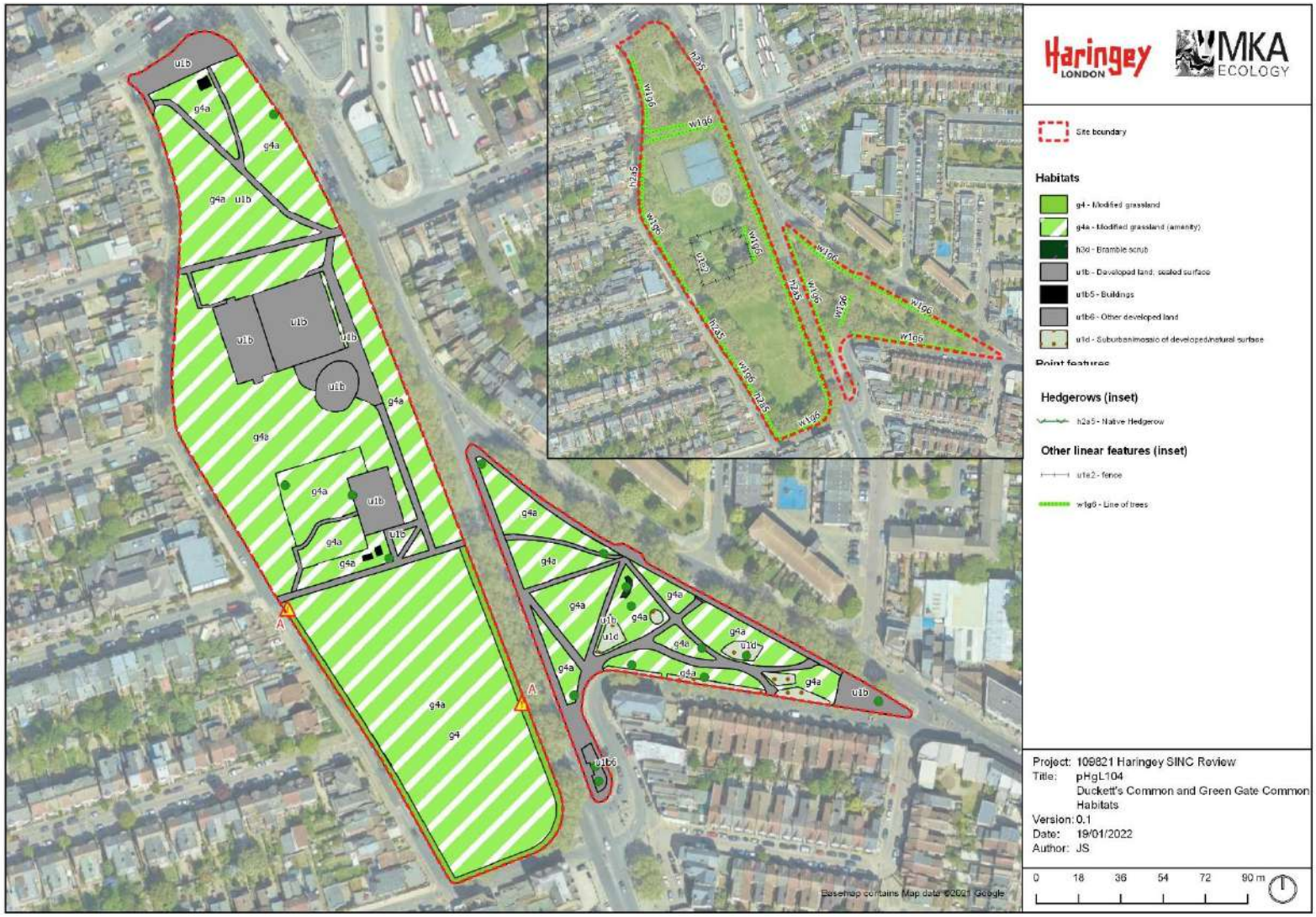
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree):** A small number of induvial trees were present, with more located in Green Gate Common. There was a variety different species, including a number of *Prunus* sp. and pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*. These were a mixture of mature and semi-mature specimens. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Pathing and footpaths. **u1b5 – Buildings:** Three small brick structures, one housing a small café. **u1b6 – Other developed land:** This area was under construction. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental planting.
Condition Urban habitats are given a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub habitats which default to Poor.

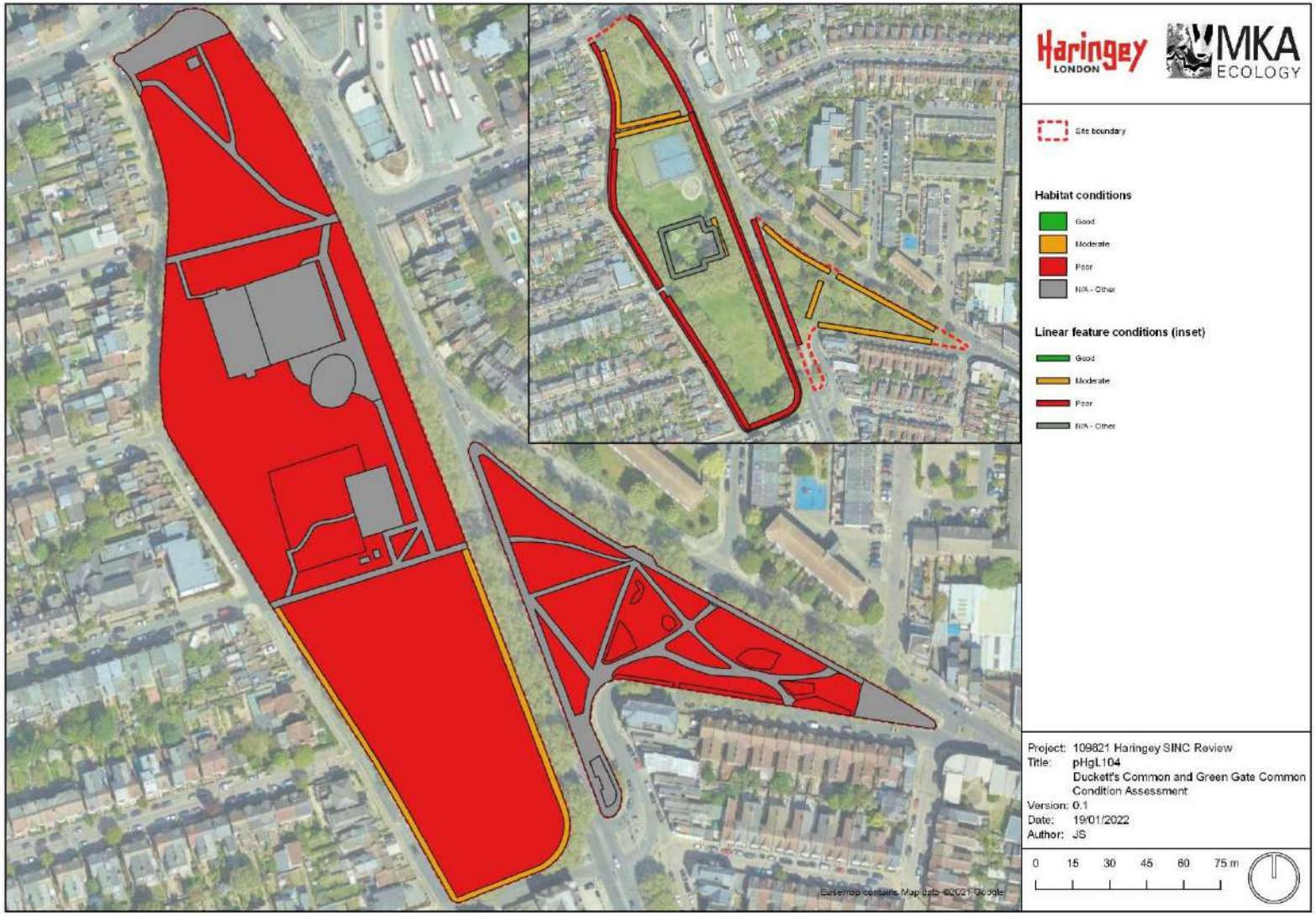
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Hedgerows (inset)
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
Other linear features (inset)
u1e2 - fence
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL104
Duckett's Common and Green Gate Common
Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JS
0 18 36 54 72 90 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL104
Duckett's Common and Green Gate Common
Condition Assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 19/01/2022
Author: JS
0 15 30 45 60 75 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Green alkanet	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

These areas provide important, accessible greenspace within a heavily urban area. They sit within a priority area for increasing the provision of parks & gardens and amenity green space. As such, it is recommended that these areas are designated as a Local grade SINC to enable greater access to nature in this part of the borough.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Birds:* • Provision of generalist boxes for on mature trees. *Bats:* • Provision of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of mature trees.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Relaxation of mowing regime, over time allowing for a more tussocky sward structure and increased habitat provision for invertebrates, with small paths and areas retained for sitting/picnicking. Hedgerow base to be left to develop a less disturbed area of grassland. • Overseed the existing modified grassland areas with wildflower seeds, to increase species diversity. *Hedgerows:* • Enhancing the exiting hedgerows with additional native species. • Reducing existing management to alternate years, to allow rejuvenation of the hedgerows.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Muswell Hill (aka Golf Course) Allotments

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Not currently designated**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

The site comprises a large greenspace (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29240 91142) with low levels of disturbance, forming one of the larger allotment sites within the borough. The site is well used by the community and provides a number of social and health benefits for the allotment users. The majority of the allotment plots are in current use and support a variety of plant species, including fruit trees, and so provides opportunities for invertebrates.

This site forms part of a continuous block of green space in this area providing a link between Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works, Tunnel Gardens, Rhodes Avenue Spinney, Albert Road Recreation Ground, Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill Golf Course.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4a - Amenity grassland (115 track)**
Description Along a portion of the central pathway and along the north western and northern boundaries, the hardstanding path gives way to areas of modified grassland. This grassland appears to be subject to management and supports a varying sward, with short mown sections within its centre and longer sward at its edges. The grassland was dominated by grass species, such as false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* and cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, with white clover *Trifolium repens* also abundant within the sward.
Condition The grassland is considered to be in Moderate condition, despite the high proportion of white clover within the sward, as in many places the grassland paths had a varied sward height.

Hedgerow

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **h2a5 – Native hedgerow** **h2a7 – Native hedgerow with trees**
Description Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* dominated hedgerows are present along the pathway in the centre and the southern boundary of the site. The central hedgerow also supports a small number of pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* trees.
Condition The hedgerows are in Good condition, passing the majority of the condition criteria, failing only one criteria due to the presence of invasive on-native species and undesirable perennial vegetation.

Urban

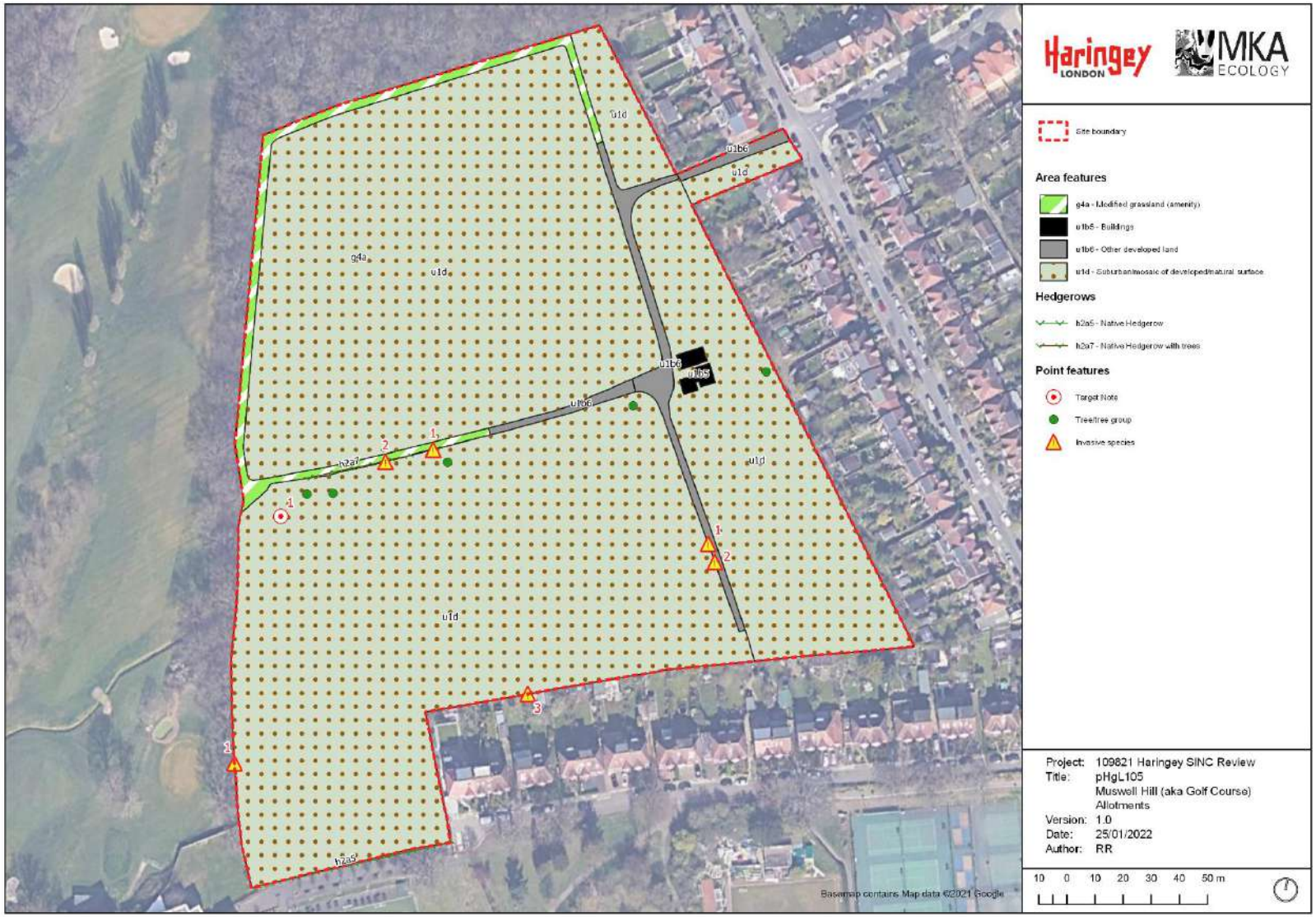
UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1d - Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments)** **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree))** **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1b5 – Buildings**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** Individual mature scattered trees within the allotments. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Hardstanding and paved areas. **u1b5 – Buildings:** The allotment market and community buildings. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (910 Allotments):** The site is dominated by allotment plots in varying levels of usage. These had a good diversity of flowering species that are beneficial to wildlife.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of Allotments habitats which has been assigned a Moderate condition due to the diversity of its vegetation structure and the pollen rich species that it supports. It has not achieved Good condition as the pollen rich plants include non-native species.

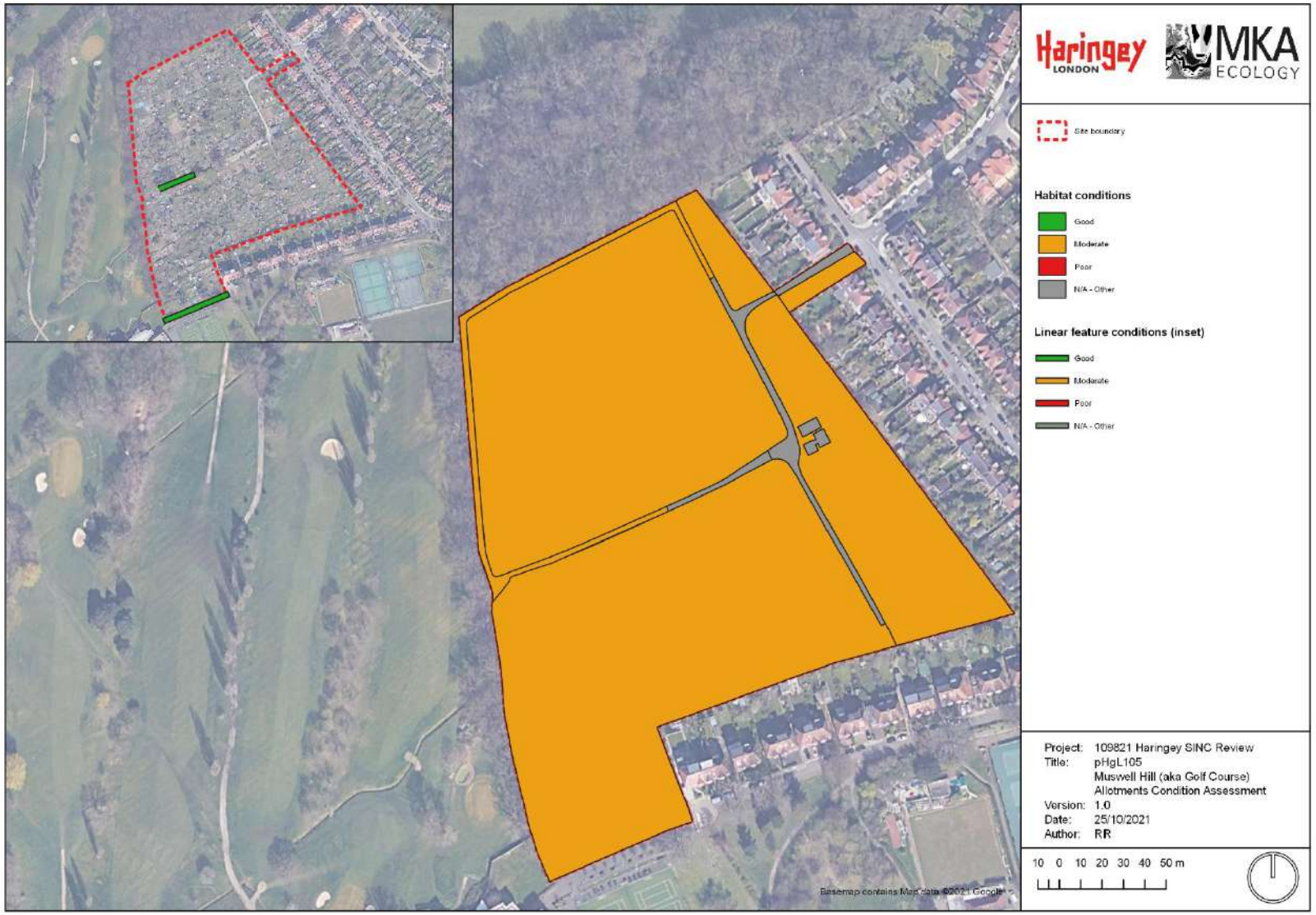
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Hedgerows.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
u1b5 - Buildings
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Hedgerows
h2a5 - Native Hedgerow
h2a7 - Native Hedgerow with trees
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL105 Muswell Hill (aka Golf Course) Allotments
Version: 1.0
Date: 25/01/2022
Author: RR
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL105
Muswell Hill (aka Golf Course)
Allotments Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 25/10/2021
Author: RR
10 0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
1	Butterfly bush	-
2	Wall cotoneaster	-
3	Virginia creeper	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

An allotment with an active community who are sympathetic to and actively encourage wildlife where possible. As such, this site is likely to have particular benefit for wildlife. This allotment is very well used by the allotment holders. The allotment continues to provide access to greenspace to keyholders, and therefore warrants continued designation at the Local grade.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.
- Potential presence of reptiles.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Allotment:* • Allow for a dedicated wildlife plot, including log piles and a wildlife pond where feasible. This could be created within one of the existing neglected allotment plots. *Trees:* • Additional UK native tree planting *Community orchard:* • The creation of a community orchard, through the planting of a high density of fruit and nut bearing trees, would be of value to fauna, as well as providing additional opportunities for the users of the allotments. This could be achieved within a neglected allotment plot, similar to the proposed wildlife plot. The grassland below the orchard trees should be allowed to develop a varied

	sward height through a relaxed mowing regime, however developing scrub should be more regularly managed. *Hedgerows:* • Planting of additional UK native species hedgerows along the site boundary. • Enhance the existing hedgerow, by infilling at the base and reducing cutting regime to allow regeneration. *Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond within communal areas will add further diversity to the site.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on semi-mature trees (generalist species). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’)
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Allotments:* • Where possible, designate areas dedicated to wildlife.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 invasive non-native species and other LISI species

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD.

1. Weir Hall Road Community Open Space

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Not currently designated**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

This site (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 33017 91652) has three distinct sections; the majority of the site is part of the Devonshire Hill Nursery and Primary School, the community open space which is accessible to the public and the Twelve Apostles Church in Christ outside space. While the church and school grounds are well managed with areas dedicated either planted or outdoor education, the community open space is predominantly unmanaged areas of scrub to the west, with a developing community allotment to the east. A large area of grassland with a high diversity of both grasses and herbaceous species runs the length of the site. This open space is regularly used as a cut through from Weir Hall Road to Bull Lane.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (10 Scattered scrub, 11 Scattered trees, 17 Ruderal/ ephemeral, 161 Tall or tussocky sward) **g4 – Modified grassland (10 Scattered scrub)** **g4a – Amenity grassland**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** A large area of the outside space for the primary school, not accessible during the survey, was dedicated to educational purposes, with a number of beneficial enhancements present, including tree planting and reduced mowing regime which has likely resulted in a higher species diversity within the sward. The grassland within the community open space was unmanaged, which had resulted in a high species diversity with no one species dominant and a highly varied sward height. Grasses such as wall barley *Hordeum murinum* and common couch *Elytrigia repens* were abundant, with numerous herbaceous species recorded, including chickweed *Stellaria* sp., speedwell *Veronica* sp. and two deadnettle *Lamium* species recorded regularly. **g4 – Modified grassland:** An area of grassland had less active management, resulting in a longer, more varied sward with patches of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** A large area of amenity grassland was dedicated to the outside space for the primary school, not accessible during the survey. Two smaller areas of amenity grassland

were present within the church grounds, also not accessible during the survey, and adjacent a public footpath. These areas all supported uniform, short swards with typical grassland species, including perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata* and dandelion *Taraxacum officinale* agg.
Condition **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** The assessed area was in good condition, passing all criteria. **g4 – Modified grassland:** In poor condition, with high abundances of undesirable species and a large amount of bramble present. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** In moderate condition, assessed based on the accessible amenity grassland area.

Scrub

h3d – Bramble scrub **h3h – Mixed scrub**
Description **h3d – Bramble scrub:** A patch of dense bramble scrub was present along the northern boundary. **h3h – Mixed scrub:** Two areas of mixed scrub were present. The northern area was had no dominant species and comprised a number of semi-mature trees, including white willow *Salix alba* and elder *Sambucus nigra*, alongside Portuguese laurel *Prunus lusitanica*. The eastern mixed scrub was dominated by common nettle *Urtica dioica* and hedge bindweed *Calystegia sepium*.
Condition **h3d – Bramble scrub:** Defaults to poor condition due to lack of structural and botanical diversity. **h3h – Mixed scrub:** The northern area was in moderate condition, while the eastern was in poor condition failing all but one assessment criteria.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface** **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (231 Vegetated garden, 910 Allotments)**
Description **u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)):** A small number of saplings had been planted along the fence line separating the community open space and the school grounds, with two semi-mature trees on the northern boundary. **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface:** Areas of paving within the church outside space.

u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface: A developing allotment in the community open space and planted garden within the church grounds.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated garden habitat which default to Poor. The allotment area was in moderate condition, however, lacked species diversity.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats were recorded at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
h3h - Mixed scrub
u1b - Developed land: sealed surface
u1d - Suburban mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Target Note
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
h3h
h3d
g3c
g4a
g4
u1d
u1b
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL106 Weir Hall Community Open Space Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 18/01/2022
Author: JS
0 9 18 27 36 45 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
No condition assigned (no access)
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL106 Weir Hall Road Community Open Space
Version: Condition Assessment
Date: 0.1
Author: 19/01/2022
0 9 18 27 36 45 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

Target Notes:

Ref	Target note
1	Shipping containers

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Buddleja	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The use of the site for environmental education by the Devonshire Hill Nursery and Primary School provides a valuable semi-natural environmental resource to a local community. The northern portion dedicated to the community open space provides an important resource for the local community for both food growing and access to nature. This site warrants designation as a Local grade SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows:* • Creation of hedgerows along the boundary fence between the school grounds and public space. *Ponds:* • Creation of a simple pond within the Site will add further diversity to the site and add additional educational opportunities within the forest school.
Species	*Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures (‘hedgehog domes’) *Birds:* • Provision of bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) on suitable trees.

	Bats: • Provision of pole mounted bat boxes. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Increase extent of grassland by removal of scrub, especially uniform blocks of poor condition bramble. • Improved management of existing grassland habitats to raise condition levels *Trees:* • Introduce UK native fruit trees within the allotment areas
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of LISI species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Loss of habitat due to potential introduction of a new cycle path.
- Introduction and continued spread of invasive, non-native species.

1. Springfield Community Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Not currently designated**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

The site comprises an amenity grassland field with a children's play area, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 29902 91213. A young woodland is present in the north of the site, with a man-made pond and information boards throughout. The woodland itself supports a diverse tree assemblage of native species and, whilst lacking a distinct understorey, it does support some limited instances of standing deadwood and log piles which provide opportunities for invertebrates, such as stag beetle *Lucanus cervus*.

The site functions as a good environmental educational source for the local community, with information boards available on pond life, common birds and trees.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park)**
Description The amenity grassland within the site is well managed to a short 5cm sward height throughout. The grass species were dominated by perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, with rare incidences of cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*. The herbaceous species comprised common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp.*
Condition Moderate. The grassland does not achieve Good condition as it is subject to an unsympathetic management regime and supports a limited diversity of species.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (38 - secondary woodland)**

w1g6 – Line of trees
Description **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (38 - secondary woodland):** The onsite woodland is dominated by young tress, along with some more mature specimens, and supports a diverse assemblage of canopy species, including native species such as oak *Quercus robur*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, field maple *Acer campestre*, hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, willow *Salix* sp. and silver birch *Betula pendula*. The woodland supports a partially closed canopy, however, the understory is limited to self-seeded saplings whilst the ground flora is dominated by bare ground and ivy *Hedera helix*. **w1g6 – Line of trees:** Two lines of trees are present within the site, comprising largely young to semi-mature oak, ash, willow and cherry *Prunus* sp.
Condition **w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland (38 - secondary woodland):** The woodland habitat is considered to be in Poor condition, largely due to the young age structure, limited vertical structure, the presence of invasive species and the absence of a distinct ground flora due to the heavy disturbance and usage the woodland receives. **w1g6 – Line of trees:** The tree lines within the site are considered to be in Poor condition, due to the absence of undisturbed ground vegetation and mature trees, along with the numerous gaps within the canopy coverage.

Freshwater

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **r1a6 – Other eutrophic standing waters (366 - Artificial pond, 39 - Freshwater – man-made)**
Description A small dipping pond is present within a fenced area of the woodland. The pond was noted to be surrounded by wooden decking and benches, as well as information boards. Duckweed *Lemna* covered the surface of the pond such that the pond lacked emergent vegetation of note, however marsh marigold *Caltha palustris* and yellow flag iris *Iris pseudacoru* are present as marginal vegetation.
Condition Poor. The pond fails a number of criteria due to the heavy covering of duckweed and the complete shading of the waterbody by the oversailing trees.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space, 1232 – Non-permeable paving)**
Description **u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space, 1232 – Non-permeable paving):** Tarmacked paths and playgrounds.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other').

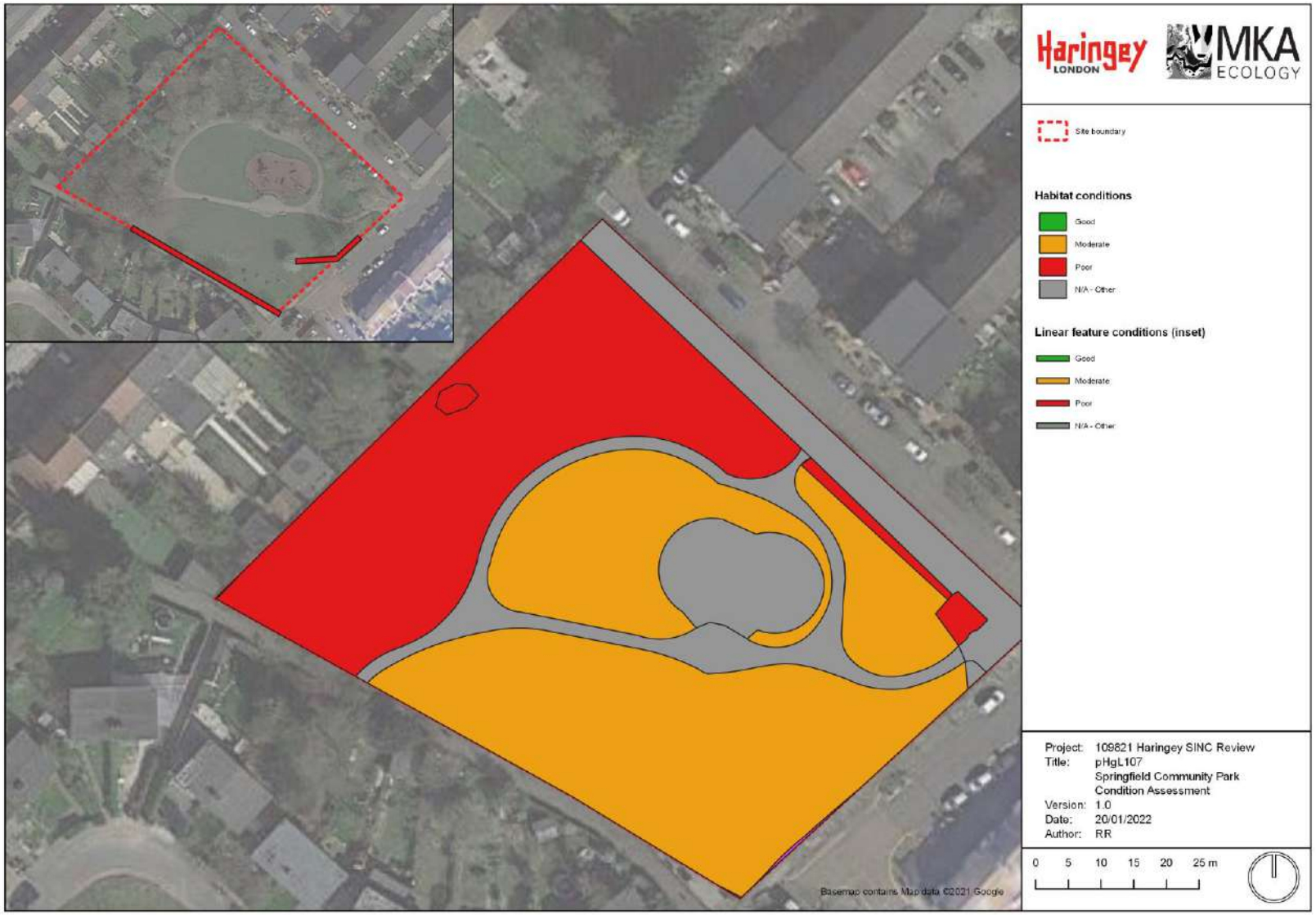
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Lowland mixed deciduous woodland.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g4 - Modified grassland
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
w1f7 - Other Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
Other/not surveyed
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL107 Springfield Community Park Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google
r1a
w1f7
u1b
u1c
g4
w1g6


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL107
Springfield Community Park
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
1	Butterfly-bush	-
2	Cherry laurel	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site is in regular use by the community and volunteers, whilst also functioning as an important educational resource to a local community. This site also forms part of a continuous mass of green space in this area providing a link between Former Friern Barnet Sewage Works, Tunnel Gardens, Rhodes Avenue Spinney, Albert Road Recreation Ground, Bluebell Wood and Muswell Hill Golf Course. The site therefore warrants designation as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Potential presence of amphibians.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Hedgerows*: • Creation of hedgerows along site boundaries, pathways and the woodland edge comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. *Shrub planting*: • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow). *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:*

	• Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Woodland:* • Selective felling and or 'artificial aging' of trees to create both more open areas within the woodland for ground flora and create more deadwood (both fallen and standing) to leave within the woodland floor. • Develop a more diverse assemblage of species within the ground flora through the sowing of a woodland seed mix. • Develop understorey by planting native species of local provenance • As well as the general benefits of leaving dead wood *in situ*, the following actions are recommended as to provide additional benefits to invertebrates and other taxa, many of which are specialists and rely on specific conditions/micro habitats to breed. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e., for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.

	○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Grassland:* • Include areas of reduced management to diversify sward length. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding. *Pond:* • Increase the frequency of pond management to remove duckweed from the waterbody. • Selective thinning of the woodland canopy oversailing the pond to increase light fall ono the waterbody.
Species	*Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole' *Invasive species:* • Control of LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure on the woodland habitat.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD and ash die-back.
- Continued establishment and spread of non-native invasive plant species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Armadale Green

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Not currently designated**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

The site comprises areas of amenity grassland and a children's play area, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 34615 89111, providing accessible greenspace to the local community for recreational use. A large number of trees are present within the site, which form a continuous, mostly closed canopy and provides a dark corridor to faunal groups such as bats in conjunction with the adjacent Tottenham Railsides site. Bat and bird boxes have been installed on trees within the site which provide roosting opportunities to these species' groups. It is understood that blackcaps *Sylvia atricapilla*, great spotted woodpecker *Dendrocopos major* breed in the vicinity of the park, and mistle thrush *Turdus viscivorus* have been recorded on the grassland and in the adjacent trees.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **w1g6 – Line of trees** **w1g6ii – Line of trees (ecologically valuable)**
Description **w1g6 – Line of trees:** A number of lines of trees are present across the site, comprising prominent, semi-mature to mature specimens and formed a largely continuous closed canopy. These trees included species such as London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, common lime *Tilia x europaea*, ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, horse-chestnut *Aesculus hippocastanum*, poplar *Populus* sp., sycamore *Acer psedoplatanus* and walnut *Juglans regia.* **w1g6ii – Line of trees (ecologically valuable):** A single line of trees is considered to be ecologically valuable due to the large number of nest boxes that have been installed.
Condition All tree lines except two are considered to be in Moderate condition, as these tree lines did support a number of mature trees with continuous canopies and were dominated by native species, however they lacked undisturbed ground vegetation. The Poor condition tree lines fail to achieved Moderate condition due to their gappy nature and composition of only semi-mature specimens.

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 – Tall herb communities)

g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park)

Description

g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 – Tall herb communities): Where management of the grassland habitat has been relaxed along the peripheries of the site, the grassland sward has been colonised by a more diverse variety of species, including black horehound *Ballota nigra,* broad-leaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius,* cleavers *Galium aparine,* common nettle *Urtica dioca,* cow parsley *Anthriscus sylvestris,* goat's-beard *Tragopogon pratensis* and violet *Viola* sp.

g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park): The amenity grassland within the site is well managed to a short 5cm sward height within the recreation area to the east, however the remainder of the site is subject to reduced management such that the sward height is more varied. The recreational area of grass was dominated by perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and white clover *Trifolium* repens, along with common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp.* The less heavily managed area to the west comprised a greater diversity of grasses, including annual meadow-grass *Poa annua*, wall barley *Hordeum murinum* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum,* along with species such as bristly oxtongue *Picris echioides*, Canadian fleabane *Conyza canadensis*, dove's-foot crane's-bill *Geranium molle*, herb-Robert *Geranium robertianum*, common mallow *Malva sylvestris*, mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium*.

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 – Tall herb communities): Moderate. Grasses were still the more prevalent, but species richness was good and wildflowers were easily visible. Whilst 'undesirables' accounted for less than 5% of the total area, the overshading trees have resulted in areas of bare ground cover.

g4a - Amenity grassland: The heavily managed area of grassland is considered in Moderate condition due to its limited species composition, its unsympathetic management regime and the presence of green alkanet *Pentaglottis sempervirens*. The remaining areas of grassland are in Good condition as they support a more diverse species assemblage and sward structure.

Scrub

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

h3d Bramble scrub (330 scrub)

Description

An area of bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. scrub is present along the northern site boundary, below the oversailing tree canopy cover.

Condition The bramble scrub defaults to Poor condition due to its lack of structural and botanical diversity.

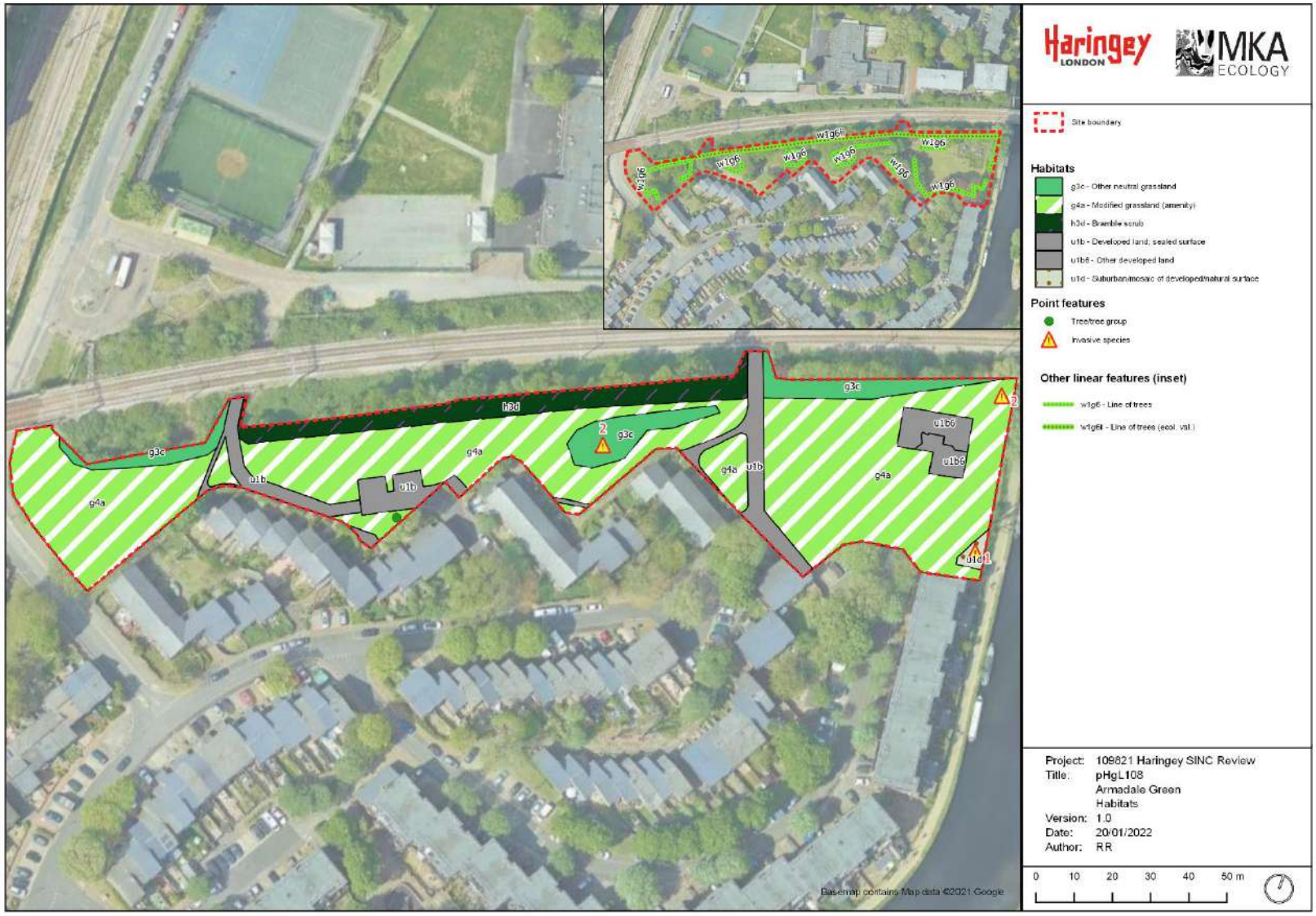
Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface (232 – Non-permeable paving)** **u1b6 - Other developed land (610 - Children's Play Space, 611 - Children's Play Space; natural)** **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (1160 – Introduced shrubs)**
Description **u1b – Developed land; sealed surface / u1b6 - Other developed land:** Tarmacked and grassed playgrounds. **u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface:** Small area of ornamental planting
Condition Urban habitats have a zero condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrubs which default to Poor.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats are present at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
h3d - Bramble scrub
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b6 - Other developed land
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
w1g6i - Line of trees (ecol. val.)
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL108 Armadale Green Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey
LONDON
MKA
ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL108
Armadale Green
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
1	Cherry laurel	-
2	Green alkanet	

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site is in regular use by the community, with local residents installing a number of bird boxes on trees within the site. The site also functions as an effective widening of the existing green infrastructure present and contributes to the extensive green corridor within the area, linking the southern portion of the Lea Valley with the Tottenham Railsides site. The site therefore warrants designation as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.
- Potential presence of hedgehog.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond within communal areas will add further diversity to the site. *Hedgerows*: • Creation of hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. *Shrub planting*: • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on additional mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow).

	• Periodic maintenance and cleaning of existing bird boxes, ideally in October to prevent the build-up of nest parasites in the boxes whilst avoiding the risk of disturbing birds that may use the boxes as a roost site during the cold winter months. All nesting material and other debris should be removed from the box. Boxes should then be scrubbed clean with boiling water to kill any parasites (avoid using any chemicals). Once the box is clean, it should be left to dry out thoroughly. *Bats:* • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Include areas of reduced management to diversify sward length. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding.
Species	*Invertebrates.* • As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended when routine tree management works are required, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking*

	▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* ○ *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ. ○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole' *Invasive species:* • Control of LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of invasive plant species.
- Tree disease. e.g. ash die-back.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Brunswick Road Open Space

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: **Not currently designated**
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

Brunswick Road Open Space (centred on National Grid Reference TQ 33423 88912) provides an area of accessible greenspace within a heavily urban area and affords the local community a number of social and health benefits as it supports a children's play area, an outdoor gym, table tennis tables and a multi-use sports court. The site is dominated by amenity grassland areas, which appear to be subject to less intensive management than elsewhere within the borough, along with scattered trees and tree lines.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets) **g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 – Tall herb communities)** **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park)**
Description **g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 – Tall herb communities):** An area of neglected grassland habitat is present behind railway security fencing within the site, which has been colonised by ephemeral and scrub species, including common nettle *Urtica dioca,* field bindweed *Convolvulus arvensis* and bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. **g4a - Amenity grassland (210 – Urban park):** The amenity grassland within the site appears to be subject to a less intensive management regime as is seem elsewhere within the borough. The grassland was noted to be managed in rotation, with areas of longer sward present, along with areas of tall grasses at the western boundary. The grass area is dominated by perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and white clover *Trifolium* repens, along with common and widespread species such as ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, daisy *Bellis perennis* and dandelion *Taraxacum sp.* In the areas of longer sward, such as at the Roslyn Road entrance to the site, a greater diversity of grass species is present, including cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*, wall barley *Hordeum murinum* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum,* along with species such as cut-leaved crane's-bill *Geranium dissectum*, cow parsley *Anthriscus,* creeping cinquefoil *Potentilla repens,* common *mallow Malva sylvestris*, mugwort *Artemisia vulgaris*, wood avens *Geum urbanum* and yarrow *Achillea millefolium.*

Condition

g3c - Other neutral grassland (16 – Tall herb communities): Moderate. Does not achieve Good condition due to the prevalence of bramble scrub.

g4a - Amenity grassland: The grassland is considered to be in Good condition due to its diverse species composition (including the area of wildflower seeding), its sympathetic management regime resulting in varying sward heights.

Woodland

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

w1g6 – Line of trees

Description

A number of lines of trees are present within the site, comprising largely young to semi-mature London plane *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica*, cherry *Prunus* sp., common lime *Tilia x europaea*, elm *Ulmus* sp., crab apple *Malus sylvestris* and silver maple *Acer saccharinum*, along with a single mature sycamore *Acer psedoplatanus.*

Condition

A single tree line within the site is considered to be in Good condition due to the presence of a mature specimen. The remaining tree lines within the site are considered to be in Moderate condition, due to the absence of mature trees.

Urban

UKHabs habitat types present (secondary codes in brackets)

u1b6 - Other developed land (611 - Children's Play Space; natural, 620 – Outdoor gym, 512 – Artificial sports pitches, 1232 – non-permeable paving)

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden, 1160 – Introduced shrub)

u1e – Built linear features

Description

u1b6 - Other developed land (611 - Children's Play Space; natural, 620 – Outdoor gym, 512 – Artificial sports pitches, 1232 – non-permeable paving): Tarmacked play areas, an outdoor gym, a children's natural play space, a multi-sports pitch and hardstanding paths.

u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface (231 - Vegetated garden, 1160 – Introduced shrub): Ornamental planting within the park and a residential garden within the SINC.

u1e – Built linear features: Part of Seven Sisters train station.

Condition

Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of vegetated gardens and introduced shrub which default to Poor.

Priority habitats

No Priority Habitats are present at this location.

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitats
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
u1e - Built linear features
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Other linear features (inset)
w1g6 - Line of trees
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL109
Brunswick Road Open Space
Habitats
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Habitat conditions
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear feature conditions (inset)
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL109
Brunswick Road Open Space
Condition Assessment
Version: 1.0
Date: 20/01/2022
Author: RR
0 5 10 15 20 25 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
1	Virginia creeper	-
2	Butterfly-bush	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The inaccessible area of unmanaged ruderal vegetation and scrub within the east of the site adds to the ecological value of the site and functions, to a limited extent, as part of the existing green infrastructure present and contributes to the linking the extensive green corridor within the area, such as is present at the Tottenham Railsides site and to the undesignated railsides within South Tottenham. The park also functions as a good community hub, with local residents providing value through the area of wildflower seeding. The park continues to provide important access to nature for the local community. The site therefore warrants designation as a Local SINC.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Habitats	*Pond:* • Creation of a simple pond within communal areas will add further diversity to the site. *Hedgerows*: • Creation of hedgerows along site boundaries and pathways comprising of at least five native species to form species rich features. *Shrub planting*: • It is recommended that any shrubs planted aim to increase habitat diversity and structural heterogeneity. Species to be planted should be selected to provide a year-round source of nectar and pollen for invertebrates.
Species	*Birds:* • Installation of bird boxes on mature and semi-mature trees (generalist species such as house sparrow).

	Bats: • Installation of bat boxes on south-facing aspects of suitable trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee banks: Create earth bunds to create mounds of compacted soil kept bare by occasional disturbance, which will be valuable to solitary bees. When provided as part of a mosaic with short and tall herbaceous perennials, this provides wider value to invertebrates and reptiles. • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs. • Retention/creation of nettle and bramble patches. *Hedgehog:* • Provision of hedgehog hibernation structures ('hedgehog domes').
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland:* • Include areas of reduced management to diversify sward length. • Provide more diverse grassland swards through wildflower seeding.
Species	*Invertebrates.* • As well as the general benefits offered above, the following specific measures are recommended where tree management works are required, particularly targeting saproxylic invertebrates. These should be considered when trees have developed into more mature specimens, but the opportunity existing to undertake the below to the semi-mature trees and mature sycamore. o *Veteranisation of non-veteran trees:* Measures to increase the volume of deadwood habitat in living trees is particularly appropriate in cases where there are large generation gaps (as often present in 'high forest' with little understorey, e.g. (Woodland Trust, 2014): ▪ *Ring-barking* ▪ *Branch breaks* ▪ *'Horse – damage'* ▪ *Pollarding* o *'Monolith stumps':* Soft/selective felling of limbs where necessary (i.e. for safety) to leave tall trunks in situ.

	○ *Standing deadwood piles:* Seen in other parts of the Borough (e.g. Parkland Walk), the creation of 'stumperies' with large volume wood (as generated by coppicing) dug into the soil (eg: PTES, 2016) ○ *Artificial rot-holes:* Cavities cut into stumps to mimic rot holes. These often fill with water and provide habitat for the larvae of a range of specialist invertebrates. *Birds/bats* • Consider a range of semi-artificial features as specified in guidelines for tree veteranisation as above (e.g., Woodland Trust, 2014) also include the creation of artificial nest sites/roosting sites for birds using arboricultural techniques: ○ Nest box creation within living trees. ○ 'Woodpecker hole' *Invasive species:* • Control of LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued establishment and spread of invasive plant species.

2. REFERENCES

PTES (2016). *Build a log pile for stag beetles.* People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES). Available at https://ptes.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Build-a-log-pile-for-stag-beetles.pdf. Accessed 12/10/2021

Woodland Trust (2014) *Ancient Trees and special interest trees.* Woodwise. Woodland Conservation News, **Spring 2014.** Available at: https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/media/1798/wood-wise-ancient-trees.pdf Accessed 12/10/2021

1. Stationers Park

1.1. SINC status

- Current status: Not currently designated
- Recommended status: **Upgrade to Local grade**

1.2. Site description

A small park, located within a residential area, centred on National Grid Reference TQ 30921 88422. It supports a mosaic of amenity grassland, introduced shrubs and small pockets of woodland. Two ponds are in the northern section of the park, linked by a small drain from the upper pond. There are two children's play areas in the southern section of the park. This site is closely situated to a number of other SINCs, including Crouch End Playing Fields, Parkland Walk and Finsbury Park.

1.3. Habitat descriptions and conditions

Grassland

g3c – Other neutral grassland (73 Bare ground; 161 Tall or tussocky sward) **g4 – Modified grassland** **g4a – Amenity grassland (73 Bare ground)**
Description **g3c – Other neutral grassland:** The grassland around the northern pond had a higher diversity, with species such as timothy grass *Phleum pratense*, crested dog's-tail *Cynosurus cristatus* and false oat-grass *Arrhenatherum elatius* present, along with a number of herbaceous species including willow-herb *Epilobium*, ragwort *Senecio* sp. and chicory *Cichorium intybus*. **g4 – Modified grassland:** The grassland around the southern pond was limited in diversity, comprising predominantly bent *Agrostis* sp., cock's foot *Dactylis glomerata* and common nettle *Urtica dioica*, but had a varied sward height from less regular management. **g4a – Amenity grassland:** Much of the site was maintained for recreational use, as evidenced by a short sward of the majority of the grassland. Grass dominated, with bent *Agrostis* sp and perennial rey-grass *Lolium perenne*, few other species were present that are resistant to heavy usage, such as pineappleweed *Matricaria discoidea*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata* and common daisy *Bellis perennis*. Large areas of bare ground covered the northern section of the park, likely resulting from recreational pressure related to the playgrounds.
Condition

g3c – Other neutral grassland: This area was in moderate condition, failing to achieve good condition due to recreational pressure causing areas of bare ground.
g4 – Modified grassland: In moderate condition, with a low species diversity and high abundance of common nettle present.
g4a – Amenity grassland: Lacking in species diversity and with heavy recreational use resulting in a large amount of bare ground, this was given poor condition.

Woodland

W1g7 – Other broadleaved woodland types

Description

Three small, relatively thin linear pockets of woodland bordered sections within the north of the park. These were predominately semi-mature trees, with both native and non-native frequently within the canopy. Ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and silver birch *Betula pendula* were both abundant within the canopy, with sycamore *Acer pseudoplatanus* and Norway maple *Acer platanoides* also frequently seen. Understorey was fairly sparce surrounding the baseball court and the eastern area, with occasional instances of dogwood *Cornus sanguinea* and firethorn *Pyracantha coccinea*. In the south western block, apple *Malus* sp. trees provided a more substantial understorey. The ground flora was lacking in all areas, dominated by bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. and ivy *Hedera helix*.

Condition

The eastern block is in poor condition, lacking any significant understorey and ground flora. Additionally, being adjacent to an area of grassland used for recreation has likely resulted in damage to these areas. The remaining areas are in moderate condition, lacking features seen in mature woodland block, such as veteran trees and associated deadwood, along with a higher proportion of invasive non-native species within the understorey.

Urban

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree))
u1b – Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 – Buildings
u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface (1160 Introduced shrub, 73 Bare ground)

Description

u – Urban (1170 Tree (urban tree)): Native and non-native trees, primarily semi-mature with a few mature London plan *Platanus occidentalis x orientalis = P. x hispanica* and alder *Alnus* sp.

u1b – Developed land; sealed surface: Footpaths, children's play areas and hardstanding basket-ball courts. **u1b5 – Buildings**: A small structure housing a café **u1c – Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface:** A rockery joining the upper pond to the small stream. **u1d – Suburban/ mosaic of developed/ natural surface:** Areas of ornamental planting.
Condition Urban habitats have a zero-condition score ('N/A – other'), with the exception of introduced shrub. which defaults to poor.

Lakes/ ponds

r1a – Eutrophic standing waters
Description Two ponds present in the park. The southern pond, approximately 195m^2 had very little emergent species, with some yellow flag iris along the banks. Duckweed *Lemna* was present, with approximately 30% cover. A small island sits to the north of this pond, with a single tree and no ground flora present. The northern pond, approximately 245m^2 had significantly higher diversity of emergent plant species, including yellow iris and reedmace *Typha* sp., with rare instances of common reed *Phragmites australis*. This pond has 85% cover of duckweed.
Condition The southern pond was assessed in moderate condition, appearing to have naturally fluctuating water levels and a significant coverage of emergent and submerged plant species. The southern pond was in poor condition, lacking aquatic vegetation, appearing to be intentionally connected to the northern pond and having high turbidity.

Rivers

r1e – Canal or ditch (39 Freshwater – man-made)
Description A man-made link between the two ponds. A small amount of water was present within this ditch. In the southern portion, there was very little vegetation cover and this was comprised predominantly of grass and common nettle. The northern portion was directly connected to the pond had a greater range of marginal and wetland vegetation, but still lacked any significant standing water.
Condition This was in poor condition, failing many of the condition criteria including the presence of significant levels of emergent, submergent and marginal vegetation and the very low water levels.

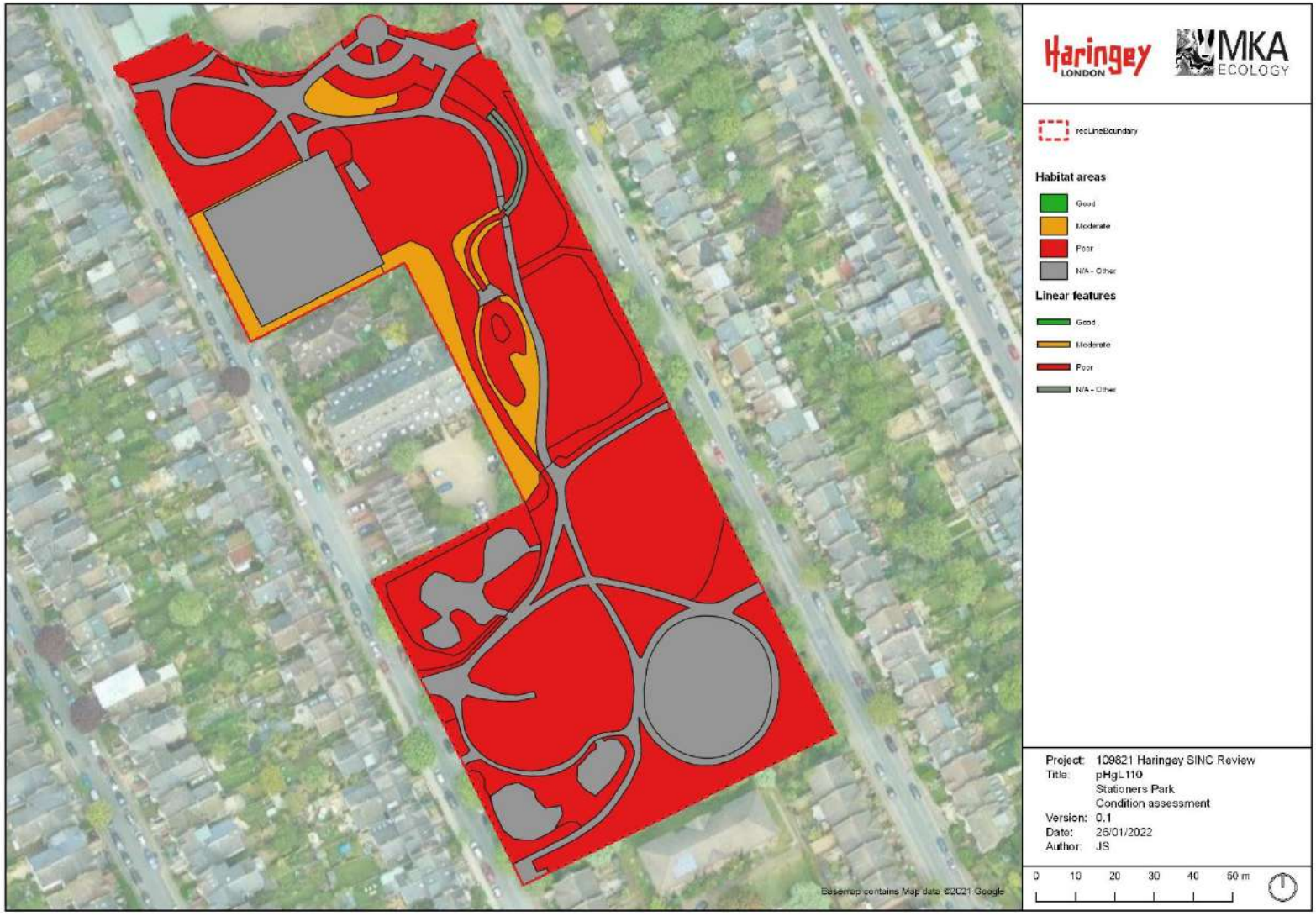
Priority habitats

The following Priority Habitats are present at this location;

- Ponds

1.4. Maps


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
Site boundary
Area features
g3c - Other neutral grassland
g4 - Modified grassland
g4a - Modified grassland (amenity)
r1a - Eutrophic standing water
u1b - Developed land; sealed surface
u1b5 - Buildings
u1c - Artificial unvegetated/unsealed surface
u1d - Suburban/mosaic of developed/natural surface
w1g - Other woodland; broadleaved
Other linear features
f2d - Aquatic marginal vegetation
r1e - Canal or ditch
Point features
Tree/tree group
Invasive species
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL110 Stationers Park Habitats
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/01/2022
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google


Haringey LONDON
MKA ECOLOGY
redLineBoundary
Habitat areas
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Linear features
Good
Moderate
Poor
N/A - Other
Project: 109821 Haringey SINC Review
Title: pHgL110
Stationers Park
Condition assessment
Version: 0.1
Date: 26/01/2022
Author: JS
0 10 20 30 40 50 m
Basemap contains Map data ©2021 Google

1.5. Invasive non-native species

Ref	Species	Notes
A	Himalayan balsam	-
B	Buddleja	-
C	Russian vine	-
D	False acacia	-
E	Tree cotoneaster	-
F	Bamboo	-
G	Snowberry	-

1.6. Assessment against selection criteria

The site supports a number of habitats and species uncommon within the borough, which are also likely to provide opportunities for a number of taxa, such as birds, invertebrates, bats and mammals. The habitats, their benefits to both wildlife and the local community are sufficiently valued and varied to make this site suitable for a local SINC designation.

1.7. Constraints and opportunities

Constraints:

- Presence of nesting birds.
- Presence of Schedule 9 (Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981, as amended) and LISI species.

Opportunities

Creation of features	
Species	*Birds:* • Bird boxes (open fronted and hole/cavity nest boxes) on mature trees. *Bats:* • Bat roosting features on mature trees. *Invertebrates:* • Bee hotels: Structures that mimic the cavities where solitary bees' nest. Characterised by tubes of between 2 and 13 mm in diameter designed for bees to lay eggs (e.g., hollow garden canes or holes drilled into logs). • Beetle tower: Some types of beetle, including lesser and grater stag beetles lay eggs in rotting wood, especially underground. A collection of logs or wood buried

	vertically in the ground to encourage the wood to rot, providing a habitat for beetles to lay eggs.
Management/restoration of existing features	
Habitats	*Grassland* • Consider the relaxation of mowing regimes, particularly the grassland in the northern area, and seeding with additional grassland species. This will provide additional shelter for invertebrates. *Ponds:* • Planting of additional emergent and submerged species within the upper pond. *River:* • Restoration of the existing ditch that connects the two ponds.
Species	*Invasive species:* • Control of Schedule 9 and/or LISI invasive non-native species.

1.8. Further monitoring work/other activities

No further monitoring activity is recommended.

1.9. Future risks to condition

- Continued and potentially increased levels of recreational pressure.
- Tree disease. e.g. Acute Oak Decline – AOD; particularly where this results in the rapid loss of several trees and where few individuals exist for replacement.
- High intensity rainfall and damage from flooding and high-water flow.