

Wildlife site resource map and species information for neighbourhood planning – Farringdon



June 2018

Guidance notes:

1 Introduction

Any development, from a loft conversion to a housing estate has the potential to affect wildlife. By wildlife we mean the whole range of plants and animals found in Devon (also referred to as biodiversity). Sites that are important for their geology can also be affected.

With a Neighbourhood Plan, communities are able to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood. They will be able to say, for example, where new homes and offices should be built, and what they should look like. Neighbourhood Plans should take into account local need, housing targets identified by the local authority and the mitigation hierarchy. This is important, as where the local authority says that an area needs to grow, then communities can use neighbourhood planning to influence the type, design, location and mix of new development. They cannot however use neighbourhood planning to block the building of new homes and businesses.

The information below is provided to assist you in designing a neighbourhood plan, however the information DBRC holds on biodiversity can be enhanced by additional survey or species recording within the area and you may want to consider how more information could be gathered by the community. For further information on how to record biodiversity where you live, go to <http://www.dbrc.org.uk>

2.1 Sites important for wildlife

There are several designations that cover sites of wildlife and geological value in Devon. These include sites with international and national statutory designation and local non-statutory designation and are shown on your map. **The best practice approach is to avoid locating development on designated sites as they have already been recognised for their high biodiversity value.**

Designated sites generally contain **semi-natural habitats**; these are areas which are not highly modified for example; rough grassland, woodland, traditional orchards, scrub, hedges, marshes and ponds, heathland, coastal habitats and old quarries and mine sites. Semi-natural habitats provide food and shelter for plants and animals, so tend to be richer in species than other areas. Some areas of semi-natural habitat are designated as **Habitats of Principle Importance** which are recognised nationally as being important for wildlife. However, many areas of semi-natural habitat lie outside designated areas and are not classed as habitats of principle importance. These areas are nonetheless important for the plant and animal species they contain and as a link between other areas important for wildlife. Ideally **development will be sited to avoid areas of semi-natural habitat.**

Site Designations in Farringdon

Non-Statutory Sites:

County Wildlife Sites (CWS): these are sites of county importance for wildlife, designated on the basis of the habitat or the known presence of particular species. This is not a statutory designation like SSSIs, and does not have any legal status. The National Planning Policy framework (NPPF) requires local authorities to identify and map locally designated sites of biodiversity importance (such as County Wildlife Sites) as part of the Local Plan process and to draw up criteria based policies against which proposals for development affecting them will be judged. CWS recognition does not demand any particular actions on the part of the Landowner and does not give the public rights of access. However, it may increase eligibility for land management grants.

Other Sites:

Unconfirmed Wildlife Sites (UWS): these are sites identified as having possible interest but not fully surveyed. Some of these sites will be areas of significant wildlife interest. The UWS dataset may also contain **Proposed County Wildlife Sites (pCWS):** these are usually sites that have been surveyed but are awaiting consideration from the CWS Designation Panel, or sites that have been surveyed at an unfavorable time of year and are awaiting a re-survey.

What about the white areas?

The areas shown white on the map may still have wildlife value, as explained in section 2.2 below. Your map gives an indication of where the most sensitive wildlife areas are located, however, when looking at the white areas you should still consider features such as hedgerow and streams, as they provide important corridors or habitats for wildlife.

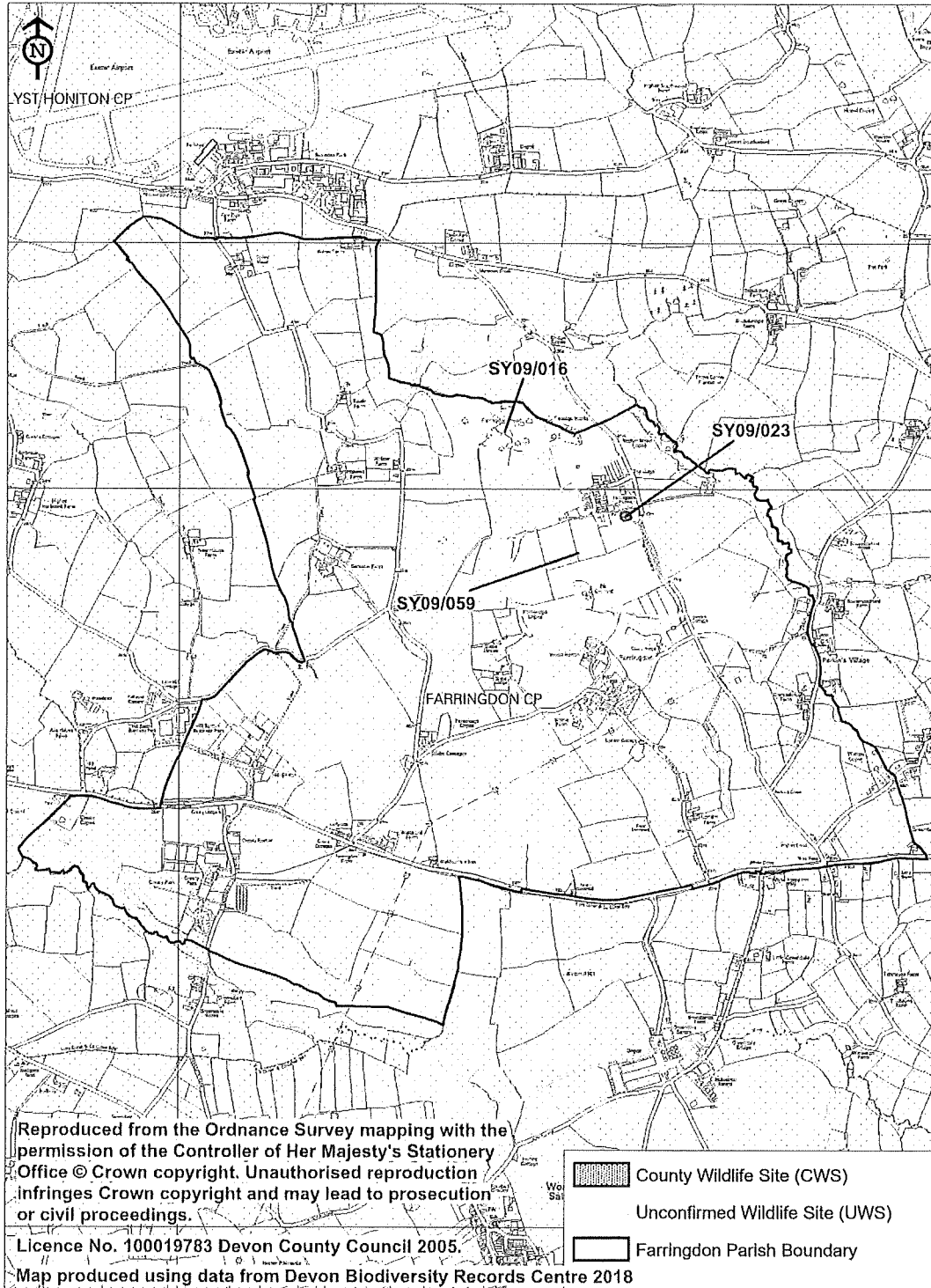
How you can use your local knowledge to add to the map?

The semi-natural habitat information on your map is derived from a range of sources including aerial photographs, for this reason it is worth you **checking this information** on the ground as there may be patches of semi-natural habitat that have been missed.

You may have people in the Parish who can add information to the map. For example, surveys of road verges or hedges may highlight particular stretches that are very important for wildlife due to their function of linking areas of semi-natural habitats, their structure, age or the animal and plant species they contain.

This data search has been undertaken using data held by DBRC at the time of the enquiry. Please be aware that a lack of species records does not necessarily mean that a species is absent from an area, just that it has not been recorded. Detailed species information and surveys will be required by developers when they are drawing up individual planning proposals. More detailed species information would be available from the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (DBRC) on a site specific basis at that time. For more information go to <http://www.dbrc.org.uk/data-search-2/>

Non-statutory sites within the
Parish of Farrington June 2018



Statutory & non-statutory sites within the Parish of Farringdon (June 2018)

Non-statutory sites within Farringdon parish

File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Reason for Designation	Status
SY09/023	Farringdon School	SY018919	0.1	Abandoned swimming pool with amphibian interest	CWS

Other Sites within Farringdon parish

File Code	Site Name	Grid Reference	Area (ha)	Reason for Designation	Status
SY09/016	Farringdon Wood	SY014922	8.3	Secondary woodland	UWS
SY09/059	Farringdon	SY017919	40.9	Parkland with veteran trees	UWS

2.2 Species information

There is a whole range of animal and plant species in Devon that are protected under national and/or international species protection legislation. Designated sites and other areas of semi-natural habitat are particularly rich in protected species but protected species are also often found outside designated sites. There are many other species which have no legal protection and **a best practice approach would be to aim to enhance wildlife generally** as part of a development, not just protected species.

The protected species groups that are particularly relevant to development in Devon are:

Bats - are present across the county and have international protection. They feed on insects so are more likely to be found where there is **semi-natural habitat**. Bats also use linear features such as **hedges** and **streams** as navigation routes to travel to and from feeding areas and summer and winter roost sites. A whole range of **buildings and structures** can be used for breeding roosts and hibernation roosts. Bats are affected indirectly by **lighting associated with new developments** and some will desert roosts and foraging areas when there is light pollution.

Greater Horseshoe Bat Consultation Zones:

Farringdon Parish is not within a greater horseshoe bat Strategic Flyway or Sustenance Zone.

Dormice - are found within areas of Devon, they are particularly associated with woodland, scrub and hedge habitats, especially old or ancient boundaries.

Otters - are present across the whole county, are associated with rivers and streams and have international protection. Otters will cross roads where their passage is blocked by culverts or flooding under bridges. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes.

Badgers - have national protection. They are found across the county in many habitats, they are often affected by developments. A licence is required if badgers are likely to be disturbed as part of a development.

Birds - have differing levels of protection depending on the species. They must not be disturbed during the nesting season from early spring through the summer. New developments can include enhancements for birds such as nesting sites and appropriate planting schemes. In winter birds can congregate in large numbers on agricultural grassland that has no designation and little semi-natural habitat.

There are barn owl records within your search area. Many of these records come from the Barn Owl Trust, and only have a four-figure grid reference. To get more detailed information on the location, and to find out more information on these records (e.g. if they are records of breeding barn owls) please contact the Barn Owl Trust on (01364) 653026 or e-mail info@barnowltrust.org.uk

Amphibians and Reptiles - some amphibians and all reptiles have some protection. They are generally associated with semi-natural habitats and gardens. Hibernation sites are important in the winter months.

Great Crested Newt Consultation Zones:

The whole of Farringdon Parish is within a Great crested newt consultation zone. These are five kilometre buffers around existing and historical (post 1970) great crested newt records. You may need to carry out great crested newt survey if your site is within one of these zones.

For more information please go to:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/environmentplanning/natural_environment/wildlife.htm.

Invertebrates - rare and protected insects and other invertebrates are generally associated with designated sites and semi-natural habitats.

Flowering plants, fungi, lichens, liverworts, mosses and stoneworts - Many species in these groups are protected but these are generally associated with designated sites and semi-natural habitats so impacts can often be avoided by careful site selection.

Invasive species

Non-native invasive species such as **Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam** may be present and are likely to have a cost implication for developers since they may need to be removed from a site. Removal of invasive species could be carried out as an enhancement for biodiversity either on or off-site.

Development control species* within Farringdon parish

Common Name	Scientific Name	UK protection	International protection	Status
Barn Owl	Tyto alba	WCA 1, 9		DBAP
Brown Long-eared Bat	Plecotus auritus	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	UKBAP (P)
Common Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pipistrellus	WCA 5, 6	EC IVa; Bern III, Bonn II	
Eurasian Badger	Meles meles	WCA 6, BA	Bern III	
European Otter	Lutra lutra	WCA 5; NERC 41	EC IIa, IIIa; Bern II	UKBAP (P); DBAP
Great Crested Newt	Triturus cristatus	WCA 5; NERC 41	EC IIa, IVa; Bern II	UKBAP (P)



Common Name	Scientific Name	UK protection	International protection	Status
Greater Horseshoe Bat	Rhinolophus ferrumequinum	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IIa, IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	UKBAP (P); DBAP
Hazel Dormouse	Muscardinus avellanarius	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IIa; Bern III	UKBAP (P); DBAP; Vul
Hoopoe	Upupa epops	WCA 1		
Lesser Horseshoe Bat	Rhinolophus hipposideros	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IIa, IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	UKBAP (P)
Nathusius's Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus nathusii	WCA 5, 6	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	
Natterer's Bat	Myotis nattereri	WCA 5, 6	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	
Noctule Bat	Nyctalus noctula	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	UKBAP (P)
Redwing	Turdus iliacus	WCA 1	Red	
Serotine	Eptesicus serotinus	WCA 5, 6	EC IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	Vul
Slow-worm	Anguis fragilis	WCA 5 (KIS); NERC 41	Bern III	UKBAP (P)
Soprano Pipistrelle	Pipistrellus pygmaeus	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IVa; Bern III, Bonn II	UKBAP (P)
Western Barbastelle	Barbastella barbastellus	WCA 5, 6; NERC 41	EC IIa, IVa; Bern II; Bonn II	UKBAP (P); Vul

*Development control species

These are species that are considered most important by local authorities in the planning process. They include certain species on the NERC Act (2006) Section 41, those that have European protection and those on the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) 1, 5, 5 (KIS), 8 and Japanese Knotweed.

Other legally protected and notable species within Farringdon parish

Common Name	Scientific Name	UK protection	International protection	Status
Common Bullfinch	Pyrrhula pyrrhula	NERC 41		UKBAP (P); Amber
Common Frog	Rana temporaria	WCA 5 (S)	EC Va; Bern III	
Common Toad	Bufo bufo	WCA 5 (S); NERC 41	Bern III	UKBAP (P)
Eurasian Common Shrew	Sorex araneus	WCA 6	Bern III	
Eurasian Pygmy Shrew	Sorex minutus	WCA 6	Bern III	
Eurasian Water Shrew	Neomys fodiens	WCA 6	Bern III	
House Martin	Delichon urbicum			Amber
Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus			Amber
Purple Hairstreak	Quercusia quercus			Decline
Pyramidal Orchid	Anacamptis pyramidalis			DN2
Red Deer	Cervus elaphus	DA	Bern III	
Small Heath	Coenonympha pamphilus	NERC 41		UKBAP (P)
Smooth Newt	Lissotriton vulgaris	WCA 5 (S)	Bern III	



Common Name	Scientific Name	UK protection	International protection	Status
Song Thrush	Turdus philomelos			UKBAP (P); Red
West European Hedgehog	Erinaceus europaeus	WCA 6; NERC 41	Bern III	UKBAP (P); Vul

- NERC 41** **NERC Act (2006) Section 41:** Species listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). These are the species found in England which have been identified as requiring action under the UK BAP. All local authorities and other public authorities in England and Wales have a duty to promote and enhance biodiversity in all of their functions.
- WCA 1** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 1:** birds which are protected by special penalties at all times.
- WCA 5** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5:** species protected against killing, injury, disturbance and handling.
- WCA 5 (S)** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5: (sale):** species protected against sale only.
- WCA 5 (KIS)** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5: (killing & injury):** species protected against killing, injury and sale only.
- WCA 6** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 6:** animals (other than birds) which may not be killed or taken by certain methods
- WCA 8** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 8:** plants which are protected.
- WCA 8 (S)** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 8: (sale):** plants protected against sale only.
- WCA 9** **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 9:** animals and plants for which release into the wild is prohibited.
- BA** **Protection of Badgers Act 1992:** badgers may not be deliberately killed, persecuted or trapped except under licence. Badger setts may not be damaged, destroyed or obstructed.
- DA** **Deer Act 1991:** deer protected under the Deer Act.
- CSA** **Conservation of Seals Act 1970:** Seals may not be killed, injured or taken by certain methods. Seals may not be killed, injured or taken during the closed season.
- Bern I** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix I:** Special protection for listed plant species and their habitats.

- Bern II** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix II:** Special protection for listed animal species and their habitats.
- Bern III** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix III:** Exploitation of listed animal species to be subject to regulation
- ECIIa, IIb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex IIa and IIb:** Designation of protected areas for animal and plant species listed.
- ECIIIa, IIIb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex IIIa and IIb:** Species used as criteria for designating Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).
- ECIVa, IVb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex IVa:** Exploitation of listed animals and plants to be subject to management if necessary.
- ECVa, Vb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex Va and Vb:** Exploitation of listed animals and plants to be subject to management if necessary.
- Bonn I** **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention) Appendix I:** Strict protection provided for endangered migratory species and their habitats listed under Appendix 1
- Bonn II** **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention) Appendix II:** Range states encouraged to conclude international agreements to benefit species listed.
- UKBAP(P)** **UK Priority Species (Short and Middle Lists - UK Biodiversity steering Group Report 1995)** i.e. species that are globally threatened and rapidly declining in the UK (by more than 50% in the last 25 years). Has a Species Action Plan.
- DBAP** **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan species:** these have been identified as species of key conservation concern in Devon.
- NR** **Nationally Rare:** 1-15 10km squares in Atlas of British Flora 1962.
- NS** **Nationally Scarce:** 15-100 10km squares in Atlas of British Flora 1962.
- Devon Notable Species:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2km squares in the Atlas of Devon Flora 1984 (R.B. Ivimey-Cook, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Exeter).
- DN1** **Devon Notable¹:** 1-25 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.
- DN2** **Devon Notable²:** 26-50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.

- DN3** **Devon Notable³:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.
- DR** **Devon Rarity:** native species recorded from 3 or fewer localities within Devon.
- Na** **Nationally Notable A:** known from 30 or fewer 10km squares. Taken from the Invertebrate Site Register.
- Nb** **Nationally Notable B:** known from 100 or fewer 10km squares. Taken from the Invertebrate Site Register.
- Decline** Substantial local decline in Devon
- Red List** Bird species of high conservation concern, such as those whose population or range is rapidly declining, recently or historically, and those of global conservation concern.
- Amber List** Bird species of medium conservation concern, such as those whose population is in moderate decline, rare breeders, internationally important and localised species and those of unfavourable conservation status in Europe.
- KeyD (I)** **Internationally Important Key Dragonfly Species:** those which are rare in Great Britain (RDB3 and found in less than 1% of the 10km squares in Britain) i.e. Southern damselfly (*Coenagrion mercuriale*).
- KeyD (N)** **Nationally Important Key Dragonfly Species:** those which have been recorded in less than 10% of 10km squares in Britain. Those occurring in Devon are White-legged damselfly (*Playcnemis pennipes*) Scarce blue-tailed damselfly (*Ischnura pumilio*) Small red damselfly (*Ceragrion tenellum*) Hairy dragonfly (*Brachytron pratense*) Downy emerald (*Cordulia aenea*) and Keeled skimmer (*Orthoetrum coerulescens*).
- KeyD (R)** **Regionally Important Key Dragonfly Species:** those which have been recorded in 10-20% of the 10km squares in Britain: Red-eyed damselfly (*Erythromma najas*) and Ruddy darter (*Sympetrum sanguineum*).
- EX** **A taxon is Extinct** when there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. A taxon is presumed Extinct when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.
- EW** **A taxon is Extinct in the Wild** when it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range. A taxon is presumed Extinct in the Wild when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

- CR** **A taxon is Critically Endangered** when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Critically Endangered (see Red List Categories and Criteria booklet for details) and it is therefore considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.
- EN** **A taxon is Endangered** when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Endangered (see Red List Categories and Criteria booklet for details), and it is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.
- VUL** **A taxon is Vulnerable** when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Vulnerable (see Red List Categories and Criteria booklet for details), and it is therefore considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

As well as incidental records and records from consultants, our data search includes data from: the Botanical Society for the British Isles (BSBI); British Dragonfly society; Butterfly Conservation; Cetacean recording network; Devon Bird Watching and Preservation Society (only 2001, 2006 records at moment), Devon Mammal Group; Devon Reptile and Amphibian Group; Devon Moth group; Devon Wildlife Trust nature reserves; Environment Agency (fish and invertebrate records); Natural England (bat records); Seasearch and the MNCR database; Seawatch foundation. Please note we do not hold information for the Devon Bat Group (<http://www.dbg.me.uk/>) or Devon Invertebrate Forum. For more information on the species records we hold. See our website <http://www.dbrc.org.uk/species-datasets/>.

DBRC have provided this report in PDF format and are unable to provide it in GIS or other formats.

3. Key principles to protect wildlife and geology in Neighbourhood Plans- These can be written into Development Policies in your plan

- Avoid both **statutory** and **non-statutory designated** sites
- Avoid non-designated areas which contain large or linked areas of **semi-natural habitat**
- Consider the potential **protected species implications** of sites before finalising plans-it is far better to scope these at the outset to prevent costly delays later
- Where sites contain patches of **semi-natural habitat** make sure these can be **retained and ideally linked** together as part of the intended end land use.
- Ensure there is potential to retain, restore and re-create **habitat linkages such as hedges** as part of developments
- Look for **enhancement** opportunities to **create, expand, buffer and link semi-natural habitats** on-site
- Consider the potential for **creating new semi-natural habitat off-site** if opportunities on-site are limited, this is known as 'biodiversity offsetting'. It may be possible to pool contributions from several developments.

An ecological consultant can help to interpret data from DBRC and give recommendations for your neighbourhood plan. You can find an Ecological consultant here: www.cieem.net/members-directory/search .

The information within this report is provided for use within the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. The information contained within can be used for this sole purpose and should not be copied, republished or passed on to third parties without DBRC's consent

