Site:	Platts Roundabout, Billingshurst
Client:	Sexton Holdings Ltd
Job Number:	784-B033054
Survey Type:	Update Ecological Walkover and Ecology Review
Date of Survey:	12th January 2024
File Location:	\\lds-dc-vm-101\Data\Projects\784-B033054 Platts Roundabout, Billingshurst\60 Project Output\61 Work in Progress\

INTRODUCTION

Background

Tetra Tech was commissioned by Sexton Holdings Ltd in December 2023 to undertake an updated site visit to assess the conditions on site in relation to previous walkover (WYG, 2020[1]), and to review the updated plans and subsequent impacts to the ecology on site.

This report has been prepared by Tetra Tech Principal Ecologist Frankie McDowell BSc (Hons) ACIEEM and the conditions pertinent to it are provided in Appendix A.

Site Location

The site is located at Billingshurst in West Sussex and is centred at Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference TQ 07911 25822. The survey area, hereafter referred to as the site, is shown by red line boundary on Figure 1. The site is located within a previously arable field with a hedgerow boundary to the north. The A272 road is to the north and the A29 is to the east.

Development Proposals

Planning permission has been approved by Horsham District Council in January 2020 (Planning Rerefence: DC/19/0295) for a petrol filling station and a car showroom site '*The erection of petrol filling station with convenience store and sandwich bar, car wash, jet wash and car parking; motorcycle showroom and workshop with associated car parking*' See Figure 1 for wider site boundary.

Some minor changes are proposed to the motorcycle showroom and workshop element of the approved scheme. These amendments have been submitted as a variation under planning reference DC/23/1892: "*Variation of condition 1... to increase size of building for the provision of additional display space, and two car park spaces revised to electric charging spaces".* See Appendix B for updated Site Plan showing increase of the building footprint to Showroom 1.

Previous Ecological Reporting

This report should be read in conjunction with the Ecological Appraisal Report (WYG, 2019a[2]), the Dormouse Survey Report (WYG, 2019b[3]), the Bat Activity Survey Report (WYG, 2019c[4]), the Report

[1] WYG (2020) Ecological Walkover Letter Report: Triumph Showroom, Platts Roundabout, Billingshurst. Report on behalf of Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates, Project number A101561-1.
[2] WYG (2019a) Ecological Appraisal: Platts Roundabout Site, Newbridge Road, Billingshurst. Report on behalf of Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates, Project number A101561-1.
[3] WYG (2019b) Dormouse Survey Report: Platts Roundabout Site, Newbridge Road, Billingshurst. Report on behalf of Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates, Project number A101561-1.
[4] WYG (2019c) Bat Activity Survey: Platts Roundabout Site, Newbridge Road, Billingshurst. Report on behalf of Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates, Project number A101561-1.

to Inform Habitats Regulations Assessment (WYG, 2019d[5]) and the Ecological Walkover Letter Report (WYG, 2020).

SITE ASSESSMENT

An ecological walkover survey was conducted within the site on the 12h January 2024 by Tetra Tech Principal Ecologist Frankie McDowell BSc (Hons) ACIEEM and Associate Director Felicity Andruszko MSc MCIEEM. The vegetation and broad habitat types within the site were noted during the survey in accordance with the categories specified for a Phase 1 vegetation and habitat survey (JNCC, 2010[6]). Dominant plant species were recorded for each habitat present using nomenclature according to Stace (2019[7]). The site was also appraised for its suitability to support notable flora and fauna, with regard to the Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (CIEEM, 2017[8]).

The site was found to comprise of improved grassland (TN1 on Figure 2 and in Appendix C) and species-rich native hedgerow with trees (TN2 on Figure 2 and in Appendix C). No evidence of protected species was recorded during the walkover.

Previously the main habitat recorded on site in 2018 and 2020 (WYG, 2019a; WYG, 2020) was arable cropland. The site now comprises improved grassland, whereby the site has been left neglected and early colonisation of grassland and waste ground species have established over formerly ploughed land.

IMPACT ASSESMENT FOR AMENDED SITE PLANS

Although grassland has now established on the previously arable land, the overall suitability for protected species previous reported remains the same except for potential additional impact pathways from what was previously consented to bats and reptiles (see Appendix D). Relevant legislation and planning policy pertaining to the site can be found in Appendix E.

Commuting and foraging bats

As a result of the increased showroom footprint (see Site Plan in Appendix B), there is potential impact of increased light spill towards nearby habitat however this has been addressed by the updated lighting assessment ((Tetra Tech, 2024[9]). The updated lighting scheme has been designed so that no light trespass associated with the overall site exceeds 1 lux and the ecological receptors located along the northern hedgerow boundary (near TN2 on Figure 2) do not exceed 0.4 lux, as recommended by the Bat Conservation Trust for light sensitive species (BCT and ILP 2023[10]). Therefore, the proposed development is not predicted to result in any significant impact with respect to light adverse species such as barbastelle and other bats that were previously recorded using this hedgerow.

The conditions on site for bats have marginally changed whereby the once arable field has changed from being a monoculture to having an increase in early colonising species present. the overall species diversity of the grassland is low averaging less than five species per m^2 and it is unlikely that

[5] WYG (2019d) Report to Inform Habitats Regulations Assessment: Platts Roundabout Site, Newbridge Road, Billingshurst. Report on behalf of Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates, Project number A101561-1

[6] JNCC, (2010), Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit, JNCC: Peterborough.

[7] Stace, C., (2019), New Flora of the British Isles, 4th Edition, C&M Floristics Middlewood Green, Suffolk.

[8] CIEEM, (2017), Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd Edition, CIEEM: Winchester.

[9] Tetra Tech (2024), Lighting Assessment

[10] BCT and ILP (2023), Guidance Note 8 Bats and Artificial Lighting, [online] Available at: https://theilp.org.uk/publication/guidance-note-8-bats-and-artificial-lighting/

the use of the site by bats has significantly changed due to this change in habitat condition. The conditions of the boundary hedgerow, remains the same.

Additionally, the increased footprint of the showroom does not warrant an update of the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) as the original conclusions of the impact assessment are unaffected by the update of conditions on site, and review of amended site plan. As per the HRA (WYG, 2019), taking into account the following measures as part of the project, the proposed development when considered alone and in combination with other relevant plans and projects would not result in any adverse effect on the integrity of The Mens Special Conservation Area (SAC):

- Loss of hedgerow for visibility splays kept to a minimum;
- Retention of hedgerow and 25m buffer along western boundary;
- Sensitive lighting on site, and no new lighting to be installed along new public footpath;
- Hedgerow planting, to create a new dark corridor for commuting and foraging bats;
- Construction activity to be timed during daylight hours;
- Enhancement of habitats, such as hedgerows and field margins; and,
- The installation of four bat boxes within the existing hedgerow.

These above measures combined with the lighting scheme, and enhancements approved as previous consented application (below), will ensure the increased footprint of the showroom will not cause a significant impact of bats using the site:

- Native planting alongside boundary of site to increase dark corridor provided by north and western hedgerow;
- Improvement of the existing hedgerow by creating a buffer zone, planted with native wild flowers; and
- Installation of bat boxes within the new hedgerow or on posts where required.

Change in site suitability for reptiles

The improved grassland present on site is now suitable for reptiles as it provides a less disturbed habitat with opportunities for both shelter and basking. However, the site has limited connectivity to the wider landscape being bordered by roads which will act as a significant dispersal barrier for such animals directly to the north, east and west, with an additional barrier to dispersal at the bottom boundary of the wider site being Newbridge Road. Additionally, the improved grassland is a relatively new habitat having only established since the site ceased to be arable and therefore reptiles are less likely to have colonised the site in this short time-period, especially when considered alongside the limited connectivity with other suitable habitats. It has been assessed that the site now holds a 'low' suitability for reptiles. The following mitigation measures are proposed to avoid killing and injury of reptiles during site clearance:

- Removal of improved grassland habitat should be carried out in a two stage cut. If carrying out grassland removal during the reptile active season (April – October) the grass should be cut down to 150mm, with arisings removed from the site and area left for a 24-hour period. It should then be cut down to ground level in the presence of an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW).
- If carrying out vegetation removal during the reptile hibernation period (November – March) the grass should be cut down to 150mm during the hibernation period and then to ground level during the reptile active season (April – October) in the presence of an ECoW;

- Ensure any excavations and trenches are not left uncovered overnight or else have a ramp at either side so any animals (such as reptiles and small mammals) that fall in can escape; and
- Check any trenches for trapped animals before starting works.

If there is any delay to starting the works on site following any vegetation removal, the grassland should be regularly mown to ensure conditions remain unsuitable for reptiles and nesting birds.

The post development landscaping proposals will provide suitable habitat for reptiles on site in the form of the native planting to extend the hedgerow corridor to the north.

CONCLUSION

Providing the mitigation measures previously consented (Planning Reference: DC/19/0295) as well as additional mitigation measures outlined in this report, are followed, the amendment of the site plan to increase the showrooms footprint will not have an adverse impact sensitive ecological receptors on site.

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location Plan

Figure 2: Phase 1 Habitat Plan

Document Control			
Revision:	**1**	**Status:**	**Final**
Date:	19/01/2024		
Prepared by: Frankie McDowell BSc (Hons) ACIEEM Principal Ecologist [redacted]		**Checked / Approved by:** Felicity Andruszko MSc BSc (Hons) MCIEEM Associate Director [redacted]	

Site Location Plan

Platts Roundabout, Billingshurst

Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates

Legend

- Site boundary
- Wider site boundary
- Site boundary 500m buffer

Notes:

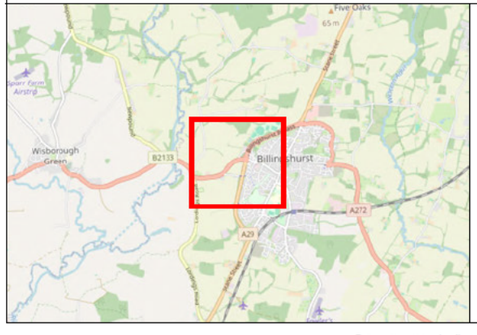
Drawn by: M.COLLISHAWLOCK
Checked by: FM
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 1
Revision No. A
16 January 2024

0 50 100 150 200 Meters
Scale 1:5,000 @A3

British National Grid
NGR: 507902E 125901N

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The Pavilion, 1st Floor
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Phase 1 Habitat Plan

Platts Roundabout, Billingshurst

Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates

Legend

- Site boundary
- Wider site boundary
- As surveyed in 2020
- Hardstanding
- Improved grassland
- Semi-improved neutral grassland
- Dry ditch
- Hedge and trees (species-rich)
- Intact hedge (species-poor)
- Target note

Notes:

Drawn by: M.COLLISHAWLOCK
Checked by: FM
Office: Southampton

Figure No. 2
Revision No. A
16 January 2024

0 10 20 30 40 Meters
Scale 1:1,500 @A3

British National Grid
NGR: 507908E 125859N

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Appendix A – Report Conditions

This Report has been prepared using reasonable skill and care for the sole benefit of Arunway Ltd and Forelle Estates ("the Client") for the proposed uses stated in the report by Tetra Tech Limited ("Tetra Tech"). Tetra Tech exclude all liability for any other uses and to any other party. The report must not be relied on or reproduced in whole or in part by any other party without the copyright holder's permission.

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The report refers, within the limitations stated, to the environment of the site in the context of the surrounding area at the time of the inspections'. Environmental conditions can vary and no warranty is given as to the possibility of changes in the environment of the site and surrounding area at differing times. No investigative method can eliminate the possibility of obtaining partially imprecise, incomplete or not fully representative information. Any monitoring or survey work undertaken as part of the commission will have been subject to limitations, including for example timescale, seasonal and weather-related conditions. Actual environmental conditions are typically more complex and variable than the investigative, predictive and modelling approaches indicate in practice, and the output of such approaches cannot be relied upon as a comprehensive or accurate indicator of future conditions. The "shelf life" of the Report will be determined by a number of factors including; its original purpose, the Client's instructions, passage of time, advances in technology and techniques, changes in legislation etc. and therefore may require future re-assessment.

The whole of the report must be read as other sections of the report may contain information which puts into context the findings in any executive summary.

Tetra Tech reserves the right to share this Report and any related materials, surveys, drawings and/or documents at any time with the relevant Local Ecological Records Centre (LREC), any relevant statutory body or any equivalent organisation as Tetra Tech may reasonably require from time-to-time.

The performance of environmental protection measures and of buildings and other structures in relation to acoustics, vibration, noise mitigation and other environmental issues is influenced to a large extent by the degree to which the relevant environmental considerations are incorporated into the final design and specifications and the quality of workmanship and compliance with the specifications on site during construction. Tetra Tech accept no liability for issues with performance arising from such factors.

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Appendix B – Updated Site Plan

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1 Site Plan
1 : 200

TRIUMPH SHOWROOM, BILLINGSHURST

APPLICATION SITE AREA			0.34Ha
AREAS			**GIA Sq m**
Showroom		Showroom 1	890
		Showroom 2	202
		TOTAL	1092
PARKING			
Showroom		Parking Spaces (including 2no. Accessible) & 2 Electric Vehicle	42
		Motorcycle	6
		Cycle Parking	10

AREA CHANGES

GIA Sq m	Extg.	Prop.	Gain
Showroom 1 - FF Upper Level	235	270	35
Showroom 1 - GF Lower Level	475	620	145
TOTAL	710	890	180
	Extg.	**Prop.**	**Loss**
External display - Lower Level	476	394	82
External display - Upper Level	306	198	108

Note - 2 Car spaces revised to electric charging spaces.

Car Park spaces, motor cycles & bicycles - Same as Approved

Rev	Date	Version Description	Drn	Chk
A	23/03/19	Drawing updated		
B	29/03/19	Drawing updated	EY	AS
C	02/04/20	Workshop relocated, external showroom extended & parking reconfigured	JW	MRA
D	20/04/20	Access added to low level vehicle display area	MRA	MRA
E	20/07/23	Showroom area increased	JW	SB
F	23/07/23	Bicycle rack added.	JW	SB

0m 5m 10m 15m 20m 25m

SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

In addition to the hazards/risks normally associated with the types of work detailed on this drawing, refer to Designers Risk Assessment, note the following :

It is assumed that all works will be carried out by a competent contractor working, where appropriate, to an approved method statement

Contractors Must Verify All Dimensions On Site Before Starting Work

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Client Logo

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Client: Triumph

Project Name: Triumph Showroom Billingshurst

Drawing Title: Proposed Site Plan

Drawing Details

Drawing Status: PLANNING

North

DMWR Job No.: 3492

Drawn By	Drawn Date	Checked By	Scale @ A1
JW	14/07/23	SB	1 : 200

Drawing Number: 3492-DMWR-RF-A-PL099

Status: P Revision: F

ISO A1 Landscape

Appendix C – Habitats Recorded on Site

Table 1: Habitats identified within the site.

Habitat type	Target Note	Description	Photograph(s)
Improved Grassland	TN1	This habitat on site was previously recorded in 2018 and 2020 (WYG, 2019) as arable being planted with wheat crop land in active use. The site now comprises improved grassland, whereby previous recorded arable land has been left neglected, and early colonisation of grassland and waste ground species have established over formerly ploughed land. Species diversity is low with abundant species of bristly oxtongue *Helminthotheca echioides* and spear thistle *Cirsium vulgare* dominating the sward. Grass species present include red fescue *Festuca rubra*, creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera,* cocks-foot *Dactylis glomerata,* soft brome *Bromus hordaceus,* Yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus*. Other species included consisted of cat's ear *Hypochaeris radicata*, ragwort *Jacobaea vulgaris*, field mustard *Sinapis arvensis* and creeping buttercup *ranunculus repens*.	 

Habitat type	Target Note	Description	Photograph(s)
Species-rich hedgerow with trees	TN2	Since the previous survey the boundary habitat north and west of the of the site had not changed and still consisted of a species-rich hedgerow with trees. The hedgerow was dominated by hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and blackthorn *Prunus spinosa*, with frequent dog rose Rosa canina, goat willow *Salix caprea* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*. Frequent ground forbs and flora included bristly oxtongue, cow parsley *Anthiscus sylvestris* and common vetch *Vicia sativa*.	 

Appendix D – Habitat Suitability

Since the previous survey in 2020 and 2018 (WYG, 2020 and WYG 2019a) it is considered that the site holds the levels of suitability summarised below:

Table 2: Suitability of the site for protected species in 2020 compared to updated assessment in 2024

Species	2020 results	2024 results	Justification
Great crested newt	Negligible	Negligible	Change from arable to grassland has caused reduced disturbance and increased area of suitable habitat however significant barriers to dispersal remain between the site and ponds within 500m
Reptiles	Negligible	Low	Increased suitability due to once arable land becoming improved grassland (see further detail below).
Roosting bats	Negligible	Negligible	No change to habitat conditions.
Commuting and foraging bats	Low	Low	Change from arable to grassland may encourage marginal increase in invertebrate prey availability however overall the species diversity is low. No change to hedgerow habitat and so previous assessment remains valid.
[redacted]	Negligible	Negligible	No change to habitat conditions.
Dormouse	Negligible	Negligible	No change to habitat condition – nil dormouse survey results from previous survey and significant barriers to dispersal remain valid.
Breeding birds	Moderate	Moderate	Change from arable to grassland will have reduced disturbance making it more suitable for ground nesting birds however hedgerow conditions remain the same.
Otter and water vole	Negligible	Negligible	No change to habitat conditions.
Invertebrates	Negligible	Negligible	No change to habitat conditions.
Other mammals	Low	Low	No change to habitat conditions.
Notable plants	Low	Low	No change to habitat conditions.

Appendix E – Planning Policy and Legislation

Planning Policy

A revised NPPF was updated in December 2023 (Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, 2023[11]) and currently supplements government Circular *06/2005, Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System* (Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, 2005[12]).

The relevant planning policy for this site is the Horsham District Planning Framework (HDPF), which replaces the policies contained within the Horsham District Core Strategy and General Development Control Policies. The policies of relevance within the HDPF are:

Policy 25 – The Natural Environment and Landscape Character

The Natural Environment and Landscape Character of the District, including the landscape, landform and development pattern, together with protected landscapes and habitats will be protected against inappropriate development. The Council will support development proposals which:

1. *Protects, conserves, and enhances the landscape and townscape character, taking into account areas identified as being of landscape importance, the individual settlement characteristics, and maintains settlement separation.*
2. *Maintain and enhances the Green Infrastructure Network and addresses any identified deficiencies in the District.*
3. *Maintain and enhances the existing network of … biodiversity, including safeguarding designated sites and species, ensures not net loss of wider biodiversity and provides net gains in biodiversity where possible. …*

Policy 26 – Countryside Protection

Outside built-up area boundaries, the rural character and undeveloped nature of the countryside will be protected against inappropriate development. Any proposals must be essential to its countryside location…

In addition, proposals must be of a scale appropriate to its countryside character and location. Development will be considered acceptable where it does not lead, either individually or cumulatively, to a significant increase in overall level of activity in the countryside, and protects, and/or conserves, and/or enhances, the key features and characteristics of the landscape character area in which it is located, including;

1. *The development pattern of the area, its historical and ecological qualities, tranquillity and sensitivity to change;*
2. *The pattern of woodlands, fields, hedgerows, trees, waterbodies and other features; and*
3. *The landform of the area.*

Policy 31 – Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity

[11] Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government, (2023), National Planning Policy Framework, [online] Available at National Planning Policy Framework - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

[12] ODPM, (2005), Government Circular: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System, [online] Available at https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7692/147570.pdf

1. *Developments will be supported where it can demonstrate that it maintains or enhances the existing network of green infrastructure. Proposals that would result in the loss of existing green infrastructure will be resisted unless it can be demonstrated that the new opportunities will be provided that mitigates or compensates for this loss, and ensures that the ecosystem services of the area are retained.*
2. *Development proposals will be required to contribute to the enhancement of existing biodiversity, and should create and manage new habitats where appropriate. The Council will support new development which retains and/or enhances significant features of nature conservation on development which makes positive contribution to biodiversity through the creation of green spaces, and linkages between habitats to create local and regional ecological networks.*
3. *Where felling of protected trees is necessary, replacement planting with a suitable species will be required.*
4.
    a. *Particular consideration will be given to the hierarchy of sites and habitats in the district as follows:*
        i. *Special Protection Area (SPA) and Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)*
        ii. *Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs)*
        iii. *Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs), Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) and any areas of Ancient woodland, local geodiversity or other irreplaceable habitats not already identified in i & ii above.*
    b. *Where development is anticipated to have a direct or indirect adverse impact on sites or features for biodiversity, development will be refused unless it can be demonstrated that:*
        i. *The reason for the development clearly outweighs the need to protect the value of the site; and,*
        ii. *That appropriate mitigation and compensation measures are provided.*
5. *Any development with potential to impact Arun Valley SPA or the Mens SAC will be subject to a HRA to determine the need for an Appropriate Assessment. In addition, development will be required to be in accordance with the necessary mitigation measures for development set out in the HRA of the plan.*

It should be noted that section 9.34 within policy 31 states: *In the case of the Mens, development must not impact on bat flight paths in the district. As recommended in the Council's Habitat Regulations Assessment of this plan, a 'bat sustenance zone' has been identified and is shown on the Policies Map. Within this area, it may be necessary for compensatory measures such as hedgerow enhancement to be undertaken prior to any development*.

Legislation

Based on the findings of our assessment, it is considered that the proposals need to consider the following legal provisions under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (WC&A) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (habitat Regs):

- Disturbance of nesting wild birds (WC&A);
- Killing and injury of common reptiles (WC&A); and.
- Killing, injury, and disturbance to bats (Habitat Regs).

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1982 (as amended)

This is the principal mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in the UK. This legislation is the chief means by which the 'Bern Convention' and the Birds Directive are implemented in the UK. Since it was first introduced, the Act has been amended several times.

The Act makes it an offence to (with exception to species listed in Schedule 2) intentionally:

- kill, injure, or take any wild bird;
- take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use; or
- take or destroy an egg of any wild bird.

Or to intentionally do the following to a wild bird listed in Schedule 1:

- disturbs any wild bird while it is building a nest or is in, on or near a nest containing eggs or young; or
- disturbs dependent young of such a bird.

In addition, the Act makes it an offence (subject to exceptions) to:

- intentionally or recklessly kill, injure or take any wild animal listed on Schedule 5;
- interfere with places used for shelter or protection, or intentionally disturbing animals occupying such places; and
- The Act also prohibits certain methods of killing, injuring, or taking wild animals.

Finally, the Act also makes it an offence (subject to exceptions) to: intentionally pick, uproot or destroy any wild plant listed in Schedule 8, or any seed or spore attached to any such wild plant; unless an authorised person, intentionally uproot any wild plant not included in Schedule 8; or sell, offer or expose for sale, or possess (for the purposes of trade), any live or dead wild plant included in Schedule 8, or any part of, or anything derived from, such a plant.

Following all amendments to the Act, Schedule 5 'Animals which are Protected' contains a total of 154 species of animal, including several mammals, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates. Schedule 8 'Plants which are Protected' of the Act, contains 185 species, including higher plants, bryophytes and fungi and lichens. A comprehensive and up-to-date list of these species can be obtained from the JNCC website.

Part 14 of the Act makes unlawful to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild any plant which is listed in Part II of Schedule 9.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

Regulations place a duty on the Secretary of State to propose a list of sites which are important for either habitats or species (listed in Annexes I or II of the Habitats Directive respectively) to the European Commission. These sites, if ratified by Ministers, are then designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) within six years. Public bodies must also help preserve, maintain and re-establish habitats for wild birds.

The 2018 amendments mainly related to the impact of the *People Over Wind* decision and some implications arising for neighbourhood plan development and a range of other planning tools including Local Development Orders and Permission in Principle – see here for full details:

https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1307/note/made

The 2019 amendments related to the EU exit. Most of these changes involved transferring functions from the European Commission to the appropriate authorities in England and Wales. All other processes or terms in the 2017 Regulations remain unchanged and existing guidance is still relevant. The obligations of a competent authority in the 2017 Regulations for the protection of sites or species do not change.– see here for full details: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573

Countries The Regulations make it an offence to deliberately capture, kill, disturb or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2 such as bats, dormouse and great crested newt.