

[REDACTED]

Sent: 01 June 2026 07:52
To: Daniel.Holmes
Subject: DC/25/2114 - Cetti's warbler Schedule 1 species

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Daniel

Thank you for forwarding my comment to Hayley Dean HDC's ecologist at Place Services for them to view.

Please also forward this email to HDC's ecologist.

Following our conversation on Friday 15 May.

Please view records on **iRecord** for Cetti's warbler and other species.

Cetti's warbler is a Schedule 1 species under The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and is frequently heard in the off-site area to the west of the on-site area.

This is the scrub habitat that the Ecology Co-op have defined as recently cleared and flailed, with a condition of N/A - score 1.

This off-site habitat to the west has NOT been recently cleared and flailed.

See my comment: https://iawpa.horsham.gov.uk/PublicAccess_Live/Document/ViewDocument?id=D3F8D0C4E9AB4456AD478FF666E55993

As a Schedule 1 species this requires an ecological assessment to determine impacts.

When you visit the site it is very likely you will hear it in this location.

The male's song is unmistakable but Merlin Bird ID is useful to help with identification.

The loss of the on-site scrub habitat will have a permanent negative impact on this Schedule 1 species in The River Adur Water Meadows and Wyckham Wood Local Wildlife Site.

The clearance of the on-site scrub habitat without prior ecological assessment in 2025 would have been a direct breach of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, Schedule 1 for Cetti's warbler in the River Adur Water Meadows and Wyckham Wood LWS.

The 2025 clearance occurred on the 4th August during the nesting bird season from March to September.

Also as the landowner was warned against clearance prior to ecological survey in 2022 by the Ecology Co-op it cannot be assumed that their actions to clear the site in 2025 were without awareness of the consequences of these actions.

Ongoing disturbance of this species in the western off-site area from a development would be a breach of its Schedule 1 status.

Church Farm's habitats in the River Adur Water Meadows and Wyckham Wood LWS are vital for this species and must not be compromised.

Here are some images taken recently of the off-site area to the west of the on-site area. This is the scrub habitat that the Ecology Co-op have said is recently cleared and flailed bramble scrub with a condition score of N/A - 1.

Clearly this is incorrect!

Therefore the Ecology Co-op's BNG calculation is incorrect!

This is the scrub habitat that Cetti's warbler is regularly heard singing in.

Cetti's warbler is heard in the scrub adjacent to the on-site area.

15/05/2026



The image above was taken from the footpath to the north of the off-site area to the west of the on-site area. It is looking approximately south. It shows the off-site scrub habitat that the Ecology Co-op have described in their report as recently cleared and flailed with a condition of N/A , score 1. Cetti's warbler is regularly heard singing in this off-site scrub habitat.

15/05/2026



The image above shows the western off-site habitat where Cetti's warbler is regularly heard.

Please share this information with your ecologist Hayley Dean at Place Services.

Kind regards

[Redacted signature]