



Ecological Assessment

Land at 12 Sontley Road, Wrexham

Ref: JWE/1516

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THIS REPORT REPRESENTS AN INITIAL ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE. FURTHER SURVEYS, AS DESCRIBED IN THE CONCLUSIONS SECTION, MAY NEED TO BE IMPLEMENTED PRIOR TO THE SUBMISSION OF A PLANNING APPLICATION. ECOLOGICAL ISSUES ARE A MATERIAL CONSIDERATION IN DETERMINING PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ALL RELEVANT SURVEYS MUST BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO APPLYING FOR PLANNING PERMISSION.

PLEASE NOTE THAT WHILST EVERY EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO ENSURE THAT THE CONTENT OF THIS REPORT IS ACCURATE THE SURVEY REPRESENTS ONLY A SNAPSHOT IN TIME AND THE ECOLOGICAL ISSUES ON SITE MAY CHANGE. THE ADDITIONAL SURVEY WORKS RECOMMENDED IN THIS REPORT ARE WHAT IS THOUGHT TO BE REQUIRED IN THE OPINION OF THE SURVEYOR. THE LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY OR NATURAL ENGLAND MAY IN SOME CASES REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION NOT OUTLINED IN THIS REPORT.



1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 J W Ecological Limited were commissioned in May 2014 to undertake a baseline ecological assessment of an area of land at 12 Sontley Road, Wrexham (SJ 33226 49534). The full survey area is shown on the site location plan D/JWE/1516/001 (Appendix 1).
- 1.2 The aims of this ecological assessment were to:
- Assess and describe the Valuable Ecological Components (VECs) of the proposed development site and all land within 250 metres (referred to as “the wider survey area”).
 - Assess the likely ecological impacts of the development.
 - Identify further survey and mitigation requirements
 - Identify ecological features of the site that should be protected
 - Provide guidance as to ecological enhancement of the site
- 1.3 To meet the aims of the ecological assessment the following actions were undertaken:
- Desktop study of all land within 500 metres of the development site
 - Extended phase one habitat survey of the development site and adjacent land
- 1.4 The sites ecological value was assessed in context with current UK planning and legislative policy, including:
- Protected sites (statutory and non-statutory)
 - Statutorily protected species
 - UK and local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species
 - Species and habitats of local concern
 - Local wildlife strategies
- 1.5 Prior to any survey work a health and safety risk assessment of the site was undertaken. Risk assessments are undertaken on a site by site basis in order to identify potential risks with the aim to reduce these as far as is practicable.

2.0 SITE LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 2.1 The site is located to the east of 12 Sontley Road, on the boundary of the property with Erddig Road.
- 2.2 The site comprises an area of mature garden dominated by an area of mature laurel with areas of lawn. Scattered broad-leaved and coniferous trees are present within the site boundary.
- 2.3 The survey area is bordered by residential gardens to the north and east, by Erddig Road to the west and by a school to the south.



3.0 DESKTOP STUDY

- 3.1 Ecological data and records of protected species were requested/gathered from the following sources (Table 1):

Table 1: Desktop Study Sources

Consultee/Source of Information	Information Supplied
NBN Gateway	Protected species and site records within 1 kilometre of the proposed development site.
Cofnod	Protected species records within 1 kilometre of the proposed development site.
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	Protected nature conservation sites within 1 kilometre of the survey area.
UK Biodiversity Action Plan	Identification of national priority species and habitats known to occur in the region.
Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Identification of local priority species and habitats known to occur in the area.

Statutorily Protected Sites

- 3.2 No statutorily designated nature conservation sites are located within 1 kilometre of the survey area.

Non-Statutorily Designated Sites

- 3.3 The Erddig Estate local wildlife site is located approximately 600 metres south of the survey area.

Protected Species

- 3.4 A number of records of reptile species, including grass snake, common lizard and slow worm, exist within 1 kilometre of the survey area. The records are primarily associated with the Erddig Country Park and the Wrexham railway line.

Records of great crested newts exist within 1 kilometre of the site. The nearest record lies within the Erddig Country Park approximately 650 metres west of the survey area.

The full Cofnod search results are provided in Appendix 4.

- 3.5 Based on information gathered from the sources listed above and desk based assessment of the site from OS maps and aerial photographs the following protected species were taken into account during the site assessment:

- Bats (all species);
- Great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*);
- Badger (*Meles meles*);
- Water Vole (*Arvicola terrestris*);
- Otter (*Lutra lutra*);
- Reptiles (all species);



UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UKBAP) Priority Species

3.6 The UKBAP priority species which may potentially use the survey area, based on the results of the desktop study are:

- Mammals – Bats*, Badgers*, Hedgehog, Otter*, Water Vole*
- Birds – Song Thrush, Sky Lark etc.
- Amphibians – Great Crested Newts*, Common Toad

** These species and/or their habitats are also statutorily protected*

Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)

3.7 The Wrexham Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) lists key local species and habitats considered to be rare or declining in the area. Some of these species and habitats may also be of national concern.

3.8 Although local BAP documents have no legal status the Local Planning Authority (LPA) and NRW will expect the listed species and habitats to be taken into account in the overall layout and landscape strategy for the development.

3.9 The species of local concern which may potentially utilise the survey area based on the results of the desktop study are:

- Mammals – Badger*, Otter*, Lesser Horseshoe bat*, Hedgehog;
- Amphibians – Great Crested Newts*;
- Birds – Barn Owl*;
- Reptiles – All species*;
- Invertebrates – Dingy Skipper, Grizzled Skipper.

** These species and/or their habitats are also statutorily protected*



4.0 PLANNING CONTEXT

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 3, July 2010)

- 4.1 This document contains current land use planning policy for Wales. It provides the policy framework for the effective preparation of local planning authorities' development plans. This is supplemented by 21 topic based Technical Advice Notes (TANs). Procedural guidance is given in Welsh Office / National Assembly for Wales / Welsh Assembly Government circulars
- 4.2 Technical Advice Note 5 provides advice about how the land use planning system should contribute to protecting and enhancing biodiversity and geological conservation. This guidance note should be read in conjunction with *Planning Policy Wales (2002)*, in particular with Chapter 5 *Conserving and Improving the Natural Heritage and Coast* which sets out the Assembly Government's objectives for the natural heritage and the land use planning policies which support these.
- 4.3 This TAN brings together advice on sources of legislation relevant to various nature conservation topics which may be encountered by local planning authorities. Chapter 2 sets out the key principles of planning for nature conservation. Chapter 3 provides advice about the preparation and review of development plans, including the relevant statutory requirements. Chapter 4 addresses nature conservation in development control procedures. Chapter 5 deals with the conservation of internationally and nationally designated sites and habitats and also covers local sites. Chapter 6 deals with the conservation of protected and priority species.

5.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

- 5.1 This is a brief summary of the ecological legislative context in Wales. This is general advice only and does not relate specifically to the site being assessed.

Ecological Assessments

- 5.2 Ecological assessments have now become an important part of the planning process. This initial assessment is used as a means of identifying any specific interests of the site in question which are in turn used to assess suitability for protected species and to make recommendations for further survey work and mitigation.

Statutory Designated Sites

- 5.3 Sites with Statutory designations receive varying degrees of legal protection under UK law and European Directives. A number of statutory designations are used for sites of high conservation value in the UK dependent on the importance of the site at a local, regional, national and international level. These designations are:
 - Special Area of Conservation (SACs)
SACs are sites of European importance for nature conservation. These receive legal protection under the EC Habitats Directive (1992) which was incorporated into UK legislation through the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c) Regulations 1994. In the UK all SACs are also designated as SSSIs.



- Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
SPAs are sites of European importance for birdlife as designated under the Birds Directive. As with SACs all SPAs in the UK will also be designated as SSSIs.
- Ramsar Sites
These sites are wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention 1971. In most cases these sites are also designated as SPAs or Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and receive legal protection in the UK through these designations.
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
SSSIs are UK sites of national importance for nature conservation. These sites may be designated as a result of the habitats present or for the presence of rare species or species assemblages. SSSIs receive some legal protection through the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. This protection was recently extended through the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000.
- National Nature Reserves (NNR)
NNRs are nationally important nature reserves designated by CCW under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. These sites will either be managed by CCW or an approved body and are often designated as SSSIs.
- Local Nature Reserves (LNR)
Local Nature Reserve is a statutory designation made by local authorities under the Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to Countryside Act 1949. These sites may or may not be SSSIs.

Non-Statutory Designated Sites

- 5.4 Non-statutory sites are afforded no statutory legal protection but are in most cases recognised by local planning authorities and statutory agencies as being of local conservation value. The protection of these sites is usually afforded through Local Plan Policies (county, district and Unitary Development Plans) and these sites will in most cases be taken into account as a material consideration by the local authority when deciding planning applications. These sites are designated by the local authority (usually in consultation with the local Wildlife Trust and other agencies).

Protected Species and their Habitats

- 5.5 In the majority of cases relevant to planning applications protected species are those listed in Schedules 1, 5 and 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended), the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Habitats & Species Regulations 2010. The extent of legal protection varies between species, as do the implications for developments where these species are to be affected.



5.6 Great Crested Newts

Great Crested Newts (*Triturus cristatus*) are protected under Regulation 41 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and Section 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), being listed in Schedule 5 of the act. Under the legislation it is an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, take or injure a great crested newt;
- Damage, destroy or obstruct a place a great crested newt uses for breeding, resting, shelter or protection or to disturb a great crested newt in such a place.
- Possess or control a great crested newt alive or dead, or any part of them, or anything derived from them.
- Sell, offer for sale, advertise for sale or offer to buy a great crested newt, or a part of them or anything derived from them.
- Deliberately disturb or deliberately take or destroy the eggs of a great crested newt.

Offences under Section 9 carry a maximum penalty of a fine up to £5000, imprisonment for up to six months, or both, for each animal in respect of which an offence is committed.

Licenses can be issued in order to allow activities that would constitute an offence under the legislation. Licenses can be issued for specific purposes including scientific study, photography, conservation management and development.

It is important to identify the presence of great crested newts as early as possible in a development so that the legal obligations regarding this species can be observed. If surveys identify the presence of great crested newts on site a mitigation scheme must be developed in consultation with the local NRW team. This mitigation scheme must minimise direct threats to newts and compensate for any habitat loss. A licence issued by the Welsh Assembly is required before the mitigation scheme can be legally implemented. Mitigation licence applications require full Method Statements and a Reasoned Statement of Application. The method statement contains details of the proposed mitigation works whilst the Reasoned Statement must provide justification as to how the proposed development meets the requirements of the legislation.

5.7 Bats

All species of bat and their breeding sites or resting places (roosts) are protected under Regulation 41 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and Section 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under the legislation it is an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or handle a bat;
- to possess a bat (whether live or dead)
- disturb a roosting bat;
- sell or offer a bat for sale without a licence;
- damage, destroy or obstruct access to any place used by bats for shelter, whether they are present or not.

The potential fine for each offence is £5,000. If more than one bat is involved, the fine is £5,000 per bat. An offender can also be imprisoned for up to six months.

Where bats are found to occur on a development site, and there is considered to be a reasonable possibility that a roost may be damaged or destroyed or that bats using a roost will be disturbed, a licence must be obtained from NRW.



5.8 Badgers

Badgers (*Meles meles*) and their habitat are protected under The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and are also included on Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, and Appendix III of the Bern Convention. The legislation affords badgers protection against deliberate harm or injury making it an offence to:

- wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill-treat a badger (or attempt to do so)
- to interfere with a sett by damaging or destroying it
- to obstruct access to, or entrance of, a badger sett
- to disturb a badger whilst it is occupying a sett

Penalties for offences include fines of up to £5000, plus up to six months imprisonment, for each illegal sett interference, badger injury or death.

Works that disturb badgers whilst they are occupying a sett are illegal without a licence. Disturbance can occur even without direct interference or damage to the sett in question. In general, the following activities are likely to require a licence:

- Use of heavy machinery or significant earth moving within 30m of a sett
- Use of lighter machinery (usually any wheeled vehicles) within 20m of a sett
- Any digging, chain saw use or scrub clearance within 10m of a sett

5.9 Reptiles

All species of British reptile are protected against intentional killing, injury or sale under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The Sand Lizard and the Smooth Snake are afforded a higher degree of protection under Regulation 41 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 making it an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, take or injure these species of reptile;
- Damage, destroy or obstruct a place a these species use for breeding, resting, shelter or protection or to disturb these species in such a place;
- Possess or control these species alive or dead, or any part of them, or anything derived from them;
- Sell, offer for sale, advertise for sale or offer to these species, or a part of them or anything derived from them;
- Deliberately disturb or deliberately take or destroy the eggs of these species.

The distribution of Smooth Snakes and Sand Lizards is limited to heathland habitats in Surrey, Dorset, Hampshire and Sussex. The Sand Lizard is also known to occur on sand dune habitats in Merseyside and has recently been introduced to some areas of North Wales.

Licenses can be issued in order to allow activities that would constitute an offence under the legislation. Licenses can be issued for specific purposes including scientific study, photography, conservation management and development.

In England and Wales a development license must be obtained from Natural England or NRW before undertaking any works that will affect Sand Lizards or Smooth Snakes or their habitat. A license is not required to carry out surveys or mitigation for other reptile species.



5.10 Otters

The Eurasian Otter is protected under Regulation 41 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 and Section 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), being listed in Schedule 5 of the act. Under the legislation it is an offence to:

- Deliberately, capture, injure or kill an Otter;
- Damage, destroy or obstruct their breeding or resting places;
- Disturb otters in their breeding or resting places.

Offences under Section 9 carry a maximum penalty of a fine up to £5000, imprisonment for up to six months, or both, for each animal in respect of which an offence is committed.

There is, however, provision within the legislation to kill, take, disturb or possess otters or to use prohibited methods to kill or take under a licence in certain defined circumstances, if the issue cannot be resolved by any alternative means. Licenses can be granted for a variety of purposes, including development.

5.11 Water Vole

Water Voles and their habitats are afforded protection under Section 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under the legislation it is an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take (capture) a water vole;
- Possess or control a live or dead water vole, or any part of a water vole or anything derived from a water vole;
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place which a water vole uses for shelter or protection
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a water vole while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection;
- Sell, offer or expose for sale, or have in one's possession or transport for the purpose of sale, any live or dead water voles, or any part of a water vole or anything derived from a water vole;
- Publish any advertisement, or cause any advertisement to be published, which is likely to be understood as conveying that a person buys or sells, or intends to buy or sell, any of the above things.

Offences under Section 9 carry a maximum penalty of a fine up to £5000, imprisonment for up to six months, or both, for each animal in respect of which an offence is committed.

There is no provision under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 for licences to be issued for the purpose of development



5.12 Birds

Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside act 1981 makes it an offence to intentionally kill, injure, handle or remove any wild bird (with the exception of some pest species), to take or damage a nest whilst it is in use or being built and to take or destroy eggs.

Species listed in Schedule 1 of the Act (see Table 1), including the Little Ringed Plover, Barn Owl and Kingfisher, are afforded an even higher level of protection. In addition to the offence of taking, damaging or destroying nests or eggs it is also an offence to disturb Schedule 1 species whilst they are building or sitting on nests.

Whilst it is not an offence to disturb non-Schedule 1 species whilst they are building or sitting on a nest an offence may occur if the bird is permanently driven away from its nesting site by prolonged disturbance which leads to the failure of eggs or the death of young.

Surveys for the presence of breeding birds are required if any nesting habitat is to be removed during the breeding season (March to August inclusive).

Invasive Plant Species

- 5.13 Under Section 14 (2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) it is illegal to spread the invasive non-native plants Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*), Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) and Giant Hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*). At present no requirement exists to eradicate these plants from sites where they are already established
- 5.14 Environment Agency guidance also exists for the aquatic weeds Australian swap stonecrop (*Crassula helmsii*), Floating pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*) and Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*). Although no legal obligation exists it is considered good practice to avoid spreading these invasive plants when working in infested areas.



6.0 HABITAT SURVEY

Extended Phase One Methods

- 6.1 An extended phase one habitat survey of the site was undertaken by Joe Whittick BSc (Hons.) MCIEEM on the 7th May 2014.
- 6.2 The extended phase one habitat survey is a standard method of survey widely used as the basis of ecological assessments (JNCC, 1993). The phase one survey covers the footprint of the proposed development and descriptions of the immediate surrounding area (up to 100 metres). A habitat map is prepared to show the locations and extent of habitats. Detailed descriptions of important plant communities, other valuable ecological components (e.g. protected species potential) and invasive plant species are provided as target notes.
- 6.3 The phase one habitat survey is not intended to provide a comprehensive list of species. Plant species lists have been compiled with the aim of characterising habitats in order to assess their importance for nature conservation.
- 6.4 Incidental observations of birds and mammals were also made during the phase one habitat survey.

Results

- 6.5 The habitat survey is illustrated on Drawing D/JWE/1516/002 (Appendix 1). Target Notes are presented in Appendix 2.
- 6.6 The following habitats were recorded within the survey area and adjacent land:
- Buildings
 - Amenity grassland
 - Introduced shrubs
 - Scattered broad-leaved trees
 - Scattered coniferous trees
 - Hedgerows
 - Dry pond



6.7 Habitats within the proposed development site and wider survey area:

- Buildings
A small timber shed with a felt roof is located to the south of the survey area (see photograph 1, Appendix 3). The building is open to the underside of the roof on the interior.
- Amenity grassland
Mown amenity grassland lawn areas are located to the east of the survey area (see photograph 2, Appendix 3). Species in these areas include perennial ryegrass (*Lolium perenne*), daisy (*Bellis perennis*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) and white clover (*Trifolium repens*).
- Introduced shrubs
An area of dense mature laurel is located along the western boundary of the survey area (see photograph 3, Appendix 3). A second smaller area of laurel is located on the northern site boundary (see photograph 4, Appendix 3).
- Scattered broad-leaved trees
Scattered mature and semi-mature broad-leaved trees are located throughout the survey area (see photograph 5, Appendix 3). These include a large mature horse chestnut (see photograph 6, Appendix 3) and two mature sycamores on the western site boundary (see photograph 7, Appendix 3) and a mature oak tree located in the lawn area to the east of the site (see photograph 8, Appendix 3).
- Scattered coniferous trees
Occasional scattered conifers are located on site (see photograph 9, Appendix 3).
- Hedgerows
A mature elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) hedgerow extends along the northern site boundary (see photograph 10, Appendix 3).
- Dry Pond
A dry shallow man-made pond is located to the south of the survey area (see photograph 11, Appendix 3). The pond basin has grassed over and it appears that the waterbody has been dry for some time.



6.8 Extended Phase One Habitat Survey Overview

- Great crested newts – A dry man-made pond is located to the south of the survey area. The pond basin has grassed over and it appears that it has been dry for some time. As the pond is fully dry in May it is not thought to be suitable as a breeding site for amphibians. No other ponds are shown on OS maps within 250 metres of the site boundary.
- Bats – A small timber shed with a felt roof is located to the south of the survey area. The building is thought to have negligible potential as a roosting site for bats and an interior and exterior inspection revealed no evidence of this species.

All trees on site were assessed for their potential to support roosting bats including:

- Features suitable as roosting sites (natural holes, woodpecker holes, cracks/splits in major limbs, loose bark, dense ivy, hollows, bird and bat boxes);
- Signs indicating possible use by bats (scratches around entry points, staining around entry points, bat droppings, smell of bats, smoothing of surfaces around cavity).

Trees were categorised for their potential to support roosting bats using the Bat Conservation Trust (BCT, 2012) survey guidelines (see Appendix 5 for the definition of the categories used). The majority of the trees on site were classed as Category 3 in terms of their roosting potential (ie. no/negligible potential to support bats). The exceptions are a mature sycamore and a mature horse chestnut located on the western site boundary which were classed as Category 1 (ie. good potential to support bats). These trees have a covering of dense ivy and could have splits/cavities which could be used by bats. The mature oak tree located in the lawn area to the east of the site was also classed as Category 1 due to the presence of a number of splits and cavities in the main trunk and limbs. A mature cherry tree located to the north of the site was also classed as Category 2. Category 1 and Category 2 trees are marked as C1 and C2 respectively on drawing number D/JWE/1516/002 (Appendix 1).

Bats use linear habitat features, such as lines of trees and hedgerows, as navigational markers allowing them to commute between roosting and foraging sites. The band of mature shrubs and trees on the western site boundary adjacent to Erddig Road could be used by bats in this way. Bats could also forage over the site.

- Badgers – No badger setts, or other evidence of badger activity (latrines etc.), were identified on site or within 30 metres of the site boundary. Dense scrub and trees did however restrict access to some parts of the site.
- Reptiles – Suitable refuge areas for species such as slow worm exist throughout the site in the form of dense shrubs.
- Water Voles – No habitats with potential to support water voles are located on or adjacent to the site.



- Otters – No habitats with potential to support otters are located on or adjacent to the site.
- Birds – Birds are likely to nest in the trees, shrubs and hedgerows located on and adjacent to the survey area. Birds could also potentially nest in/on the shed building to the south of the site.
- Invasive Species – No Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam or Giant Hogweed were identified on site during the survey. Dense vegetation did however restrict the survey in some areas.

6.9 **Other Observations**

The dense shrub areas on site offer suitable refuge opportunities for Hedgehog, a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species.



7.0 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Protected Sites

No statutorily designated nature conservation sites are located within 1 kilometre of the survey area.

The Erddig Estate local wildlife site is located approximately 600 metres south of the survey area. No impacts on this designated area are predicted as it is separated from the survey area by extensive residential development.

7.2 Habitats

The site comprises an area of mature garden with areas of mature tree and shrub planting. These habitats will have value to a variety of species, particularly birds, and existing trees, shrubs and hedgerows should wherever possible be retained as part of any proposals for the site. Retained trees and shrubs should be protected during any construction works using temporary fencing. The dense vegetation adjacent to Erddig Road represents a linear corridor for wildlife and particular consideration should be given to retaining as much vegetation as possible along this boundary.

7.3 Great Crested Newts

A dry man-made pond is located to the south of the survey area. The pond basin has grassed over and it appears that it has been dry for some time. As the pond is fully dry in May it is not thought to be suitable as a breeding site for amphibians. No other ponds are shown on OS maps within 250 metres of the site boundary. Given the lack of nearby ponds the likelihood that the dry pond on site would have been colonised by great crested newts is thought to be low. No further surveys for this species are recommended however as a precaution a watching brief is recommended during site clearance works. If any great crested newts are identified during these works then all works should cease and further guidance should be sought from a licensed great crested newt ecologist.

7.4 Bats

The single small shed building within the survey area is not thought to have suitability as a roosting site for bats.

Three mature trees on site (a mature sycamore and a mature horse chestnut on the western site boundary and a mature oak tree in lawn area) were classed as Category 1 in terms of their roosting potential. These trees should if possible be retained as part of the proposals. If this is not possible, further dusk/dawn bat activity surveys are thought to be required in order to confirm the presence/absence of roosting bats (surveys from May to September only). A mature cherry tree to the north of the survey area was also classed as Category 2 in terms of its roosting potential. This tree should be removed using Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) for bats. All works should cease and appropriate advice should be sought if any bats are found.

Bats use linear habitat features, such as lines of trees and hedgerows, as navigational markers allowing them to commute between roosting and foraging sites. The mature trees and shrubs on the western site boundary could be used by bats in this way. Tree and shrub removal on this boundary should be minimised as far as possible. The removal of some vegetation is however unlikely to result in the loss of the commuting route given the extensive areas of trees and shrubs on the opposite side of Erddig Road. New external lighting on site has the potential to disrupt bat commuting and foraging activity. In order to minimise impacts light levels should be kept as low as possible and light should be directed towards the centre of the site and away from potential bat commuting routes at the site boundaries (particularly the western site boundary).



7.5 Badgers

No badger setts, or other evidence of badger activity, were identified on site during the phase one survey. Dense shrubs did however restrict access to some parts of the site. Whilst the presence of badgers is considered to be unlikely, it is however recommended that as a precaution any clearance of dense vegetation is undertaken with care and with badgers in mind. If any large mammal holes are identified then all works should cease and an experienced badger ecologist should be contacted for further guidance.

7.6 Reptiles

The shrubs areas on site have suitability as refuge areas for common reptile species. Any clearance of these habitats should be undertaken with care in order to allow any reptiles that may be present to disperse.

7.7 Water Voles

No habitats with potential to support water voles are located on or adjacent to the site. No water vole issues are thought to exist for the proposals.

7.8 Otters

No habitats with potential to support otters are located on or adjacent to the site. No otter issues are thought to exist for the proposals.

7.9 Birds

Birds could nest in the trees, shrubs and hedgerows on site and these habitats should wherever possible be retained as part of any proposals. Where removals are unavoidable, works to remove/manage potential nesting habitat should where possible be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (the nesting season runs from March to August inclusive). If clearance/management works are to take place during the nesting season a recheck of the site should be undertaken by an experienced surveyor immediately prior to the start of works. If breeding birds are found during the survey the nest should not be disturbed and works should be delayed until nesting is complete and young birds have fledged. The installation of a number of bird boxes onto retained trees or new buildings would be desirable as part of the proposals in order to compensate for the loss of nesting sites as a result of tree/shrub removal. The shed building to the south of the site also has some limited potential to be used as a nesting site and a check of this building should also be undertaken if it will be removed during the nesting season.

7.10 Hedgehog

Any clearance of potential hedgehog refuge areas (for example dense shrubs, wood piles) should be undertaken with care and preferably by hand in order to avoid harm to any hedgehogs which may be present. Where possible, clearance of potential refuge areas should also be avoided during the winter months when hedgehogs may be hibernating.

7.11 Invasive Species

No Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan Balsam or Giant Hogweed were identified on site during the phase one survey. The survey was however restricted by dense vegetation in some areas. As a precaution, any clearance of dense vegetation from the site should be undertaken with care as stands of invasive species could be concealed within these areas.



THESE SURVEY RESULTS ARE VALID FOR UP TO 1 YEAR AFTER WHICH RE-SURVEYS ARE RECOMMENDED

8.0 REFERENCES

Wrexham Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

NATURE CONSERVANCY COUNCIL (1990) Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey. NCC. Peterborough.

STACE, C. A. (1997) *Flora of the British Isles, 2nd edition*. Cambridge University Press

ENGLISH NATURE (2001) *Great crested newt mitigation guidelines*. English Nature, Peterborough.

Mitchell-Jones, A.J, & McLeish, A.P. Ed. 2004. *Bat Workers Manual*

ENGLISH NATURE 2004. *Bat Mitigation Guidelines*.

Bat Conservation Trust (BCT), 2012. *Bat Surveys – Good Practice Guidelines, Version 2*



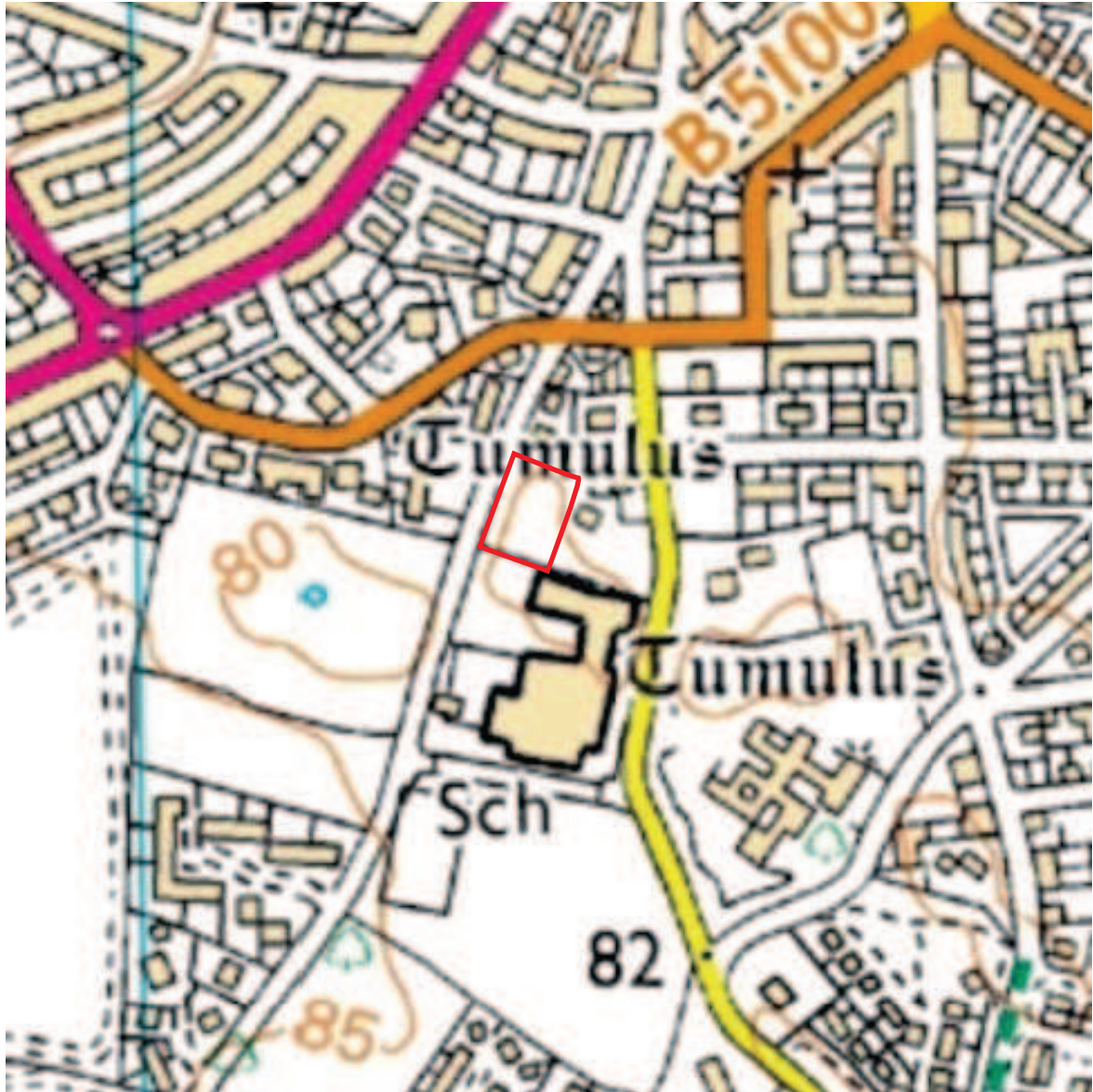
APPENDIX 1

Drawings:

Site Location Plan - D/JWE/1516/001

Extended Phase One Habitat Plan - D/JWE/1516/002





 = Site Location



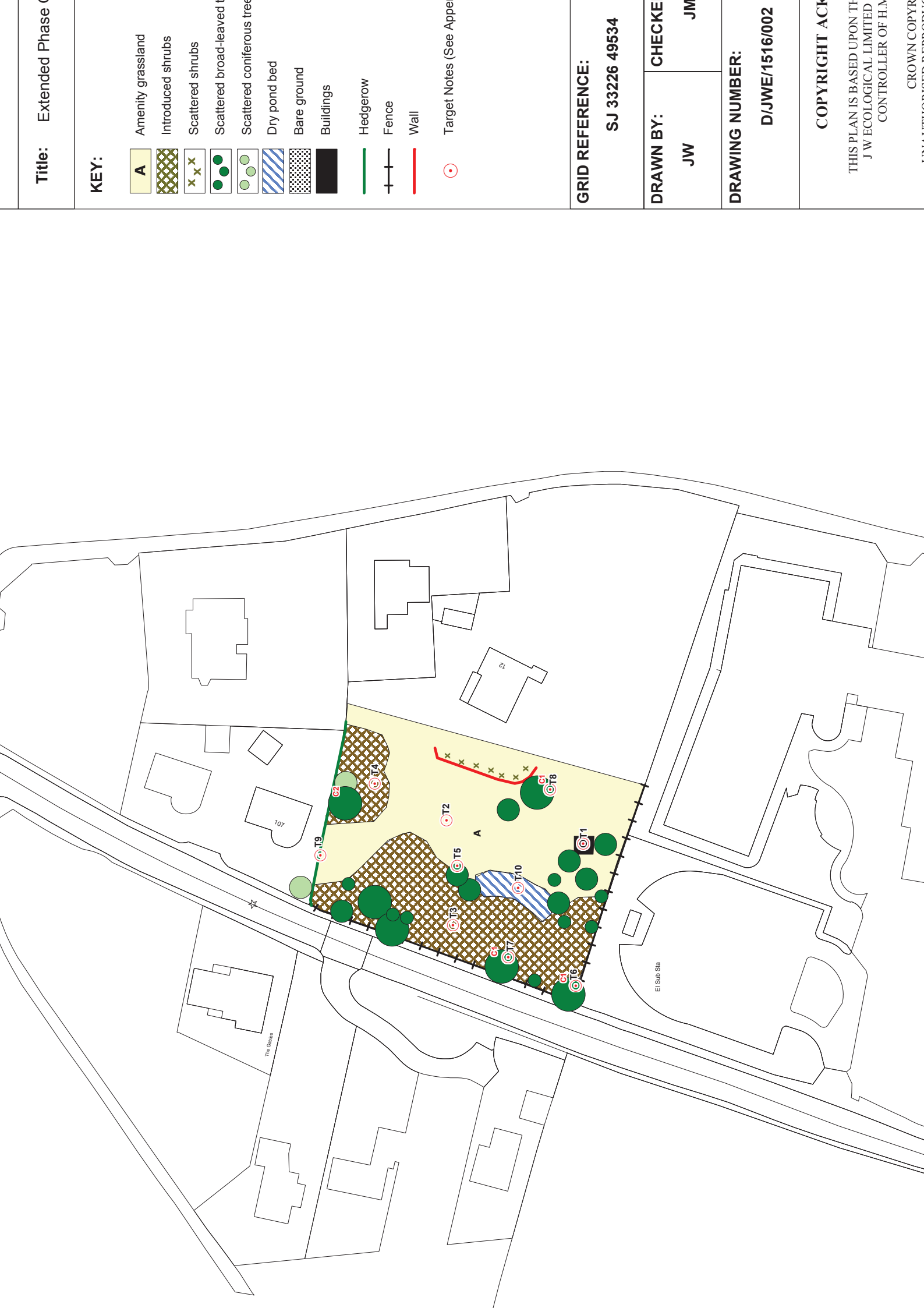
J W ECOLOGICAL LTD

TITLE: Site Location Plan

SITE: Land at 12 Sontley Road

NGR: SJ 33226 49534

DRAWING NUMBER: D/JWE/1516/001



Title: Extended Phase C

KEY:

- Amenity grassland
- Introduced shrubs
- Scattered shrubs
- Scattered broad-leaved trees
- Scattered coniferous trees
- Dry pond bed
- Bare ground
- Buildings
- Hedgerow
- Fence
- Wall
- Target Notes (See Appendix)

GRID REFERENCE:

SJ 33226 49534

DRAWN BY:

JW

CHECKED BY:

JM

DRAWING NUMBER:

D/JWE/1516/002

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APPENDIX 2

Target Notes



The target notes listed below relate to drawing number D/JWE/1516/002 (Appendix 1):

Target Note 1 (T1)

Small timber shed with a felt roof located to the south of the survey area.

Target Note 2 (T2)

Mown amenity grassland lawn. Species in these areas include perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), daisy (*Bellis perennis*), dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) and white clover (*Trifolium repens*).

Target Note 3 (T3)

Area of dense mature laurel located along the western boundary of the survey area.

Target Note 4 (T4)

Area of dense laurel located on the northern site boundary.

Target Note 5 (T5)

Scattered mature and semi-mature broad-leaved trees.

Target Note 6 (T6)

Mature horse chestnut with bat roosting potential.

Target Note 7 (T7)

Mature sycamore with bat roosting potential.

Target Note 8 (T8)

Mature oak tree with bat roosting potential.

Target Note 9 (T9)

Mature elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) hedgerow extending along the northern site boundary.

Target Note 10 (T10)

Dry shallow man-made pond located to the south of the survey area. The pond basin has grassed over and it appears that the waterbody has been dry for some time.



APPENDIX 3

Photographs





Photograph 1 – Shed building



Photograph 2 – Lawn areas



**Photograph 3 – Area of dense laurel
on the western site boundary**



**Photograph 4 – Area of dense laurel
on the northern site boundary**





Photograph 5 – Scattered broad-leaved trees



Photograph 6 – Mature horse chestnut on the western site boundary



Photograph 7 – Mature sycamore on the western site boundary



Photograph 8 – Mature oak tree in lawn area





Photograph 9 – Scattered conifers



Photograph 10 – Hedgerow on the northern site boundary



Photograph 11 – Dry pond



APPENDIX 4

Record search results



Site Name				Grid Reference				Site Reference			
Sontley Road								SJ3322549531			
An and/or UK Legal Protection, Section 42 [NERC] Species or UK BAP Priority Species) within 1000m - 78 records											
	Grid Reference	Date	Recorder(s)	Abundance	Record Type	Site Name	Comments	Dataset ID			
	SJ329495	25/07/2007	Graham Evans			81 Ruabon Road, Wrexham	Garden Wildlife Record. Grid reference calculated from post code LL13 7PU, using Streetmap.	D1117/001/01 (2100213)			
	SJ334492	3 records, between 27/05/1991 and 14/06/1991	Dr Mary Swan			Erddig Country Park		D0035/002/01			
	SJ3249	12/07/1994	Anon	2		Site Name Withheld		D1486/001/01 (4092875)			
iaf Cyffredin)	SJ3249	25/08/1999	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld		D1486/001/01 (4095402)			
iaf Cyffredin)	SJ3349	31/08/1999	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld		D1486/001/01 (4095342)			
	SJ326495	1990	Mark Lee			Cemetery, Wrexham		D0035/002/01 (2502252)			
	SJ326495	1990	Anon			Cemetery, Wrexham		D1076/001/01 (450894)			
	SJ326495	1990	Anon			Cemetery, Wrexham		D1076/001/01 (451943)			
	SJ326495	1990	Mark Lee			Cemetery, Wrexham		D0035/002/01 (2502527)			
nyll)	SJ326494	15/08/2010	Justin Williams	2 Adult	Daytime observation	Felin Pulston	Substrate:Grassland.	D1285/001/01 (3053558)			
	SJ3348	14/01/2002	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld		D1486/001/01 (4092992)			
	SJ3350	12/07/1999	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld		D1486/001/01 (4092878)			
	SJ33425013 (Estimated (Centroid of Site Name))	Mar 1996	Anon	1		Wrexham; Gwenfro, Bridge Street		D0285/138/01 (2720782)			
iaf Cyffredin)	SJ3248	03/06/1993	Anon	27		Site Name Withheld		D1486/001/01 (4095159)			
in)	SJ32584935 (Estimated (Centroid of Site Name))	~ Aug 1988	Anon	20		Erddig; Felin Puleston	Translocated here from pool in quarry at Standard Landfill site; SJ290650.	D0269/029/01 (2697770)			
ribog)	SJ32584935 (Estimated (Centroid of Site Name))	~ Aug 1988	Anon	100		Erddig; Felin Puleston	Translocated here from pool in quarry at Standard Landfill site; SJ290650.	D0269/029/01 (2702020)			
	SJ325494	1990	Mark Lee			Felin Puleston		D0035/002/01 (2502533)			
	SJ325494	1990	Anon			Felin Puleston		D1076/001/01 (451948)			
	SJ324496	1990	Anon			Railway track, Wrexham		D1076/001/01 (450908)			

	SJ325500	2003	Anon	1			Brymbo Road, Wrexham	Alive.	D091/001/01 (4148165)
	SJ327502	2004	Pete Lancashire	100+			Wrexham	On railway triangle site.	D0035/002/01 (2502644)
	SJ331486	12/07/1996	Mrs P Clarke				Erddig Country Park		D0035/002/01 (2502129)
	SJ3249 <i>(Selected from Interactive Map)</i>	09/07/2013	Philip Oliver	1 Droppings	Dung/Droppings/ Frass/Pellet, etc.	Site Name Withheld		Comments Withheld	D1339/001/01 (4165117)
	SJ333486	1990	Anon			Coed y Glyn Lake, Erddig NT			D1076/001/01 (451944)
	SJ333486	1990	Mark Lee			Coed y Glyn Lake, Erddig NT			D0035/002/01 (2502532)
	SJ3248	2 records, on 31/05/1996 and 28/07/1999	Anon			Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01
	SJ3449	14/08/1986	Anon			Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4094878)
	SJ335486	02/07/1996	Mrs P Clarke			Sontley Road car park			D0035/002/01 (2502130)
	SJ3350	03/10/1990	Anon			Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4094602)
ch)	SJ324501	1982	M.Newstead	1 Adult	Attracted to a lighted window	Wrexham hospital		Substrate:Garden: rural.	D1285/001/01 (3057189)
	SJ324501	2 records, on 17/05/1978 and 11/05/1982	M.Newstead	1 Adult, 1 Adult	Daytime observation; MV Light	Wrexham hospital		Substrate:Garden: rural	D1285/001/01
	SJ3249	26/06/2003	Anon	0		Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4093792)
	SJ3350	01/10/1998	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4092057)
	SJ3449	30/12/1999	Anon						D1486/001/01 (4094937)
iaf Cyffredin)	SJ3249	16/07/1997	Anon			Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4095240)
	SJ3449 <i>(Estimated Centroid of Site Name))</i>	22/07/2004	Matthew Ellis	1 Adult Male	Bat Rescue	Site Name Withheld		Comments Withheld	D1306/001/01 (2665854)
	SJ3250	05/09/2002	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4094892)
iaf Cyffredin)	SJ3449	12/07/1999	Anon	1		Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4095403)
iaf Cyffredin)	SJ3248	02/09/1987	Anon			Site Name Withheld			D1486/001/01 (4095157)
	SJ3249	20/12/1988	Anon			Site Name			D1486/001/01

	<i>SJ3349</i>		09/04/2002		Clwyd Badger Group (CBG)				Badger Sett			CBG Ref: B47.0. Please contact CBG for more details.	D0059/001/01 (4886763)
	<i>SJ3349</i>		1883 - 1903		Anon						Wrexham		D1076/001/01 (450691)
	<i>SJ3249</i>		2 records, on 01/01/2003 and 19/04/2007		Clwyd Badger Group (CBG)				Badger Sett			CBG Ref: B40.0. Please contact CBG for more details.; CBG Ref: B1.0.	D0059/001/01
	<i>SJ3348</i>		6 records, between 28/12/2002 and 06/06/2005		Clwyd Badger Group (CBG)				Badger Sett			CBG Ref: B2.0. Please contact CBG for more details.; CBG Ref: B2.1; CBG Ref: B2.2; CBG Ref: B62.3; CBG Ref: B73.0; CBG Ref: B62.1.	D0059/001/01
	<i>SJ3250</i>		30/04/2002		Clwyd Badger Group (CBG)				Badger Sett			CBG Ref: A76.0. Please contact CBG for more details.	D0059/001/01 (4872064)
	<i>SJ3248</i>		5 records, between 28/12/2002 and 06/06/2005		Clwyd Badger Group (CBG)				Badger Sett			CBG Ref: B3.4. Please contact CBG for more details.; CBG Ref: B3.5; CBG Ref: B6.0; CBG Ref: B62.2; CBG Ref: B62.0.	D0059/001/01
ffredin)	<i>SJ3248</i>		1987		Anon						Erddig		D1072/001/01 (408470)
	<i>SJ3248</i>		1987		Anon						Erddig Hall		D1072/001/01 (409857)
	<i>SJ3248</i>		1966		Anon						Wrexham,Erddig Park		D1076/001/01 (450437)
	<i>SJ3448</i>		3 records, all on 28/12/2002		Clwyd Badger Group (CBG)				Badger Sett			CBG Ref: B81.0. Please contact CBG for more details.; CBG Ref: B81.1; CBG Ref: B48.0.	D0059/001/01

h Red Data Book, Nationally Rare & Scarce, Welsh Red and Amber Birds & Welsh Vascular Plant Red Data List, where these are not identified in Category 1) within 1000m - 40 records							
Grid Reference	Date	Recorder(s)	Abundance	Record Type	Site Name	Comments	Dataset ID
SJ3336499	03/04/2008	Emma Broad	1		R Gwenfro, Wrexham Town	Dipper seen on exposed rocks on R Gwenfro just before it goes into culvert under the road, by Lidel traffic lights.	D1117/001/01 (2101096)
SJ3334487	21/06/1993	Keith Alexander	1 Female	Field Observation	Erddig Estate	Area 15.	D0217/001/01 (1030948)
SJ3335487	09/06/1994	Formstone, J.B.			Erddig Estate		D1094/001/01 (470333)
SJ327487	1975 - 1979	Anon		Field Observation	Erddig Park, Afon Clywedog		D0217/001/01 (1079550)
SJ32314925	08/05/2002	Whild, S.J. & Lockton, A.J.			Rhostyllen	Associated species with Senecio cambrensis.	D1169/001/02 (4442183)
SJ3331485	06/12/2012	Martyn Harris	2		Lake in Erddig Park, Denbighshire	field record.	D0969/001/04 (4878104)
SJ330485	24/06/1993	Keith Alexander	Present	Field Observation	Big Wood, Erddig		D0217/001/01 (1084997)
SJ330485	24/06/1993	Anon			Erddig		D1084/001/01 (463113)
SJ3349	2 records, on 15/08/2010 and 14/08/2011	Norman Hallas	1, 1		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack Poss juv.; Birdtrack:. Breeding code: H.	D1297/005/01
SJ3349	3 records, between 11/06/2011 and 14/08/2011	Norman Hallas	2, 2, 6		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack Pair with 4 young still.; Birdtrack:. Breeding code: P.; BirdTrack Pair feeding 4 cygnets.	D1297/005/01
SJ32240	2 records, on 02/10/2010	Norman Hallas	1, 20		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack Flying around houses in Hightown, Wrexham.;	D1207/005/01

SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre	D1297/002/01 (4430983)	WB
SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre	D1297/002/01 (4431023)	BDil GW
SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre	D1297/002/01 (4431066)	BDil
SJ3350	11/05/2007	Peter Lawton	2		Wrexham, centre	D1297/002/01 (4431343)	Beri GW
SJ3350	18/02/2007	Peter Lawton	1		Wrexham, centre	D1297/002/01 (4434235)	BDil
SJ3248	4 records, between 18/02/2007 and 22/05/2011	Peter Lawton; Andrew Thomas; ND Rawlings	2, 1+, 2, 8		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/002/01 D1297/005/01	BDil GW
SJ3248	22/05/2011	ND Rawlings	1+		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/005/01 (4608947)	WB
SJ3248	2 records, on 18/02/2007 and 06/03/2011	Peter Lawton	2, 15		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/005/01 D1297/002/01	BDil
SJ3248	1989	Anon			Erddig	D0216/001/03 (4000600)	RD22
SJ3248	06/03/2011	Peter Lawton	2		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/005/01 (4611280)	BDil
SJ3248	2 records, on 22/05/2011 and 29/05/2011	ND Rawlings	1+, 1+		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/005/01	Beri GW
SJ3248	07/04/2007	Andrew Thomas	1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/002/01 (4434333)	Beri FLI
SJ3248	18/02/2007	Peter Lawton	1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	D1297/002/01 (4434298)	BDil DEN

Identified under Categories 1 & 2, Locally Important species as specified by local experts) within 1000m - 47 records							
	Grid Reference	Date	Recorder(s)	Abundance	Record Type	Site Name	Comments
	SJ325493	2 records, on 02/08/2010 and 15/08/2010	Sue Loose; Bryan Formstone	1 Adult (Estimate), 1 Adult (Estimate)		Denbighshire - Felin Puleston NT car park pond, Erddig	Also noted by Bryan Formstone who was leading NWWT walk.
	SJ325493	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	1 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig pond	Grid reference type: Imported.
(Gyffredin)	SJ325493	15/08/2010	Sue Loose	1 Adult (Estimate)		Denbighshire - Felin Puleston NT car park pond, Erddig	Also noted by Bryan Formstone who was leading NWWT walk. Grid reference type: Imported.
(Goch)	SJ325493	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	1 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig pond	Grid reference type: Imported.
	SJ325493	15/08/2010	Sue Loose	1 Adult (Estimate)		Denbighshire - Felin Puleston NT car park pond, Erddig	Also noted by Bryan Formstone who was leading NWWT walk. Grid reference type: Imported.
	SJ335487	24/05/2004	J.B. Formstone	1 Adult	Field record / observation	Coed y Glyn, Erddig	Substrate:Unknown.
	SJ330486	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	Present Copulating pair 8 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig by Lake	Grid reference type: Imported.
	SJ330486	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	Present Copulating pair 24 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig by Lake	Grid reference type: Imported.
(Gyffredin)	SJ330486	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	1 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig by Lake	
(r Nod)	SJ330486	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	1 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig by Lake	
	SJ330486	20/06/2012	Sue Loose	1 Adult		Denbighshire - Erddig by Lake	

	SJ3349	10/10/2010	Norman Hallas	1		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack:.	(46)
	SJ3349	10/10/2010	Norman Hallas	1		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack:.	D1. (46)
Fraith Fwyaf	SJ3349	10/10/2010	Norman Hallas	1		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack:.	D1. (46)
	SJ3349	11/06/2011	Norman Hallas	3		Wrexham, Centre, S	BirdTrack 2 seen together sev sightings in other areas.	D1. (46)
	SJ3350	22/05/2011	ND Rawlings	1		Wrexham, centre	BirdTrack.	D1. (46)
	SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre		D1. (44)
	SJ3350	2 records, on 03/01/2007 and 07/08/2007	Anthony Britner; Ian Newberry	1+, 2		Wrexham, centre		D1.
	SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre		D1. (44)
	SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre		D1. (44)
	SJ3350	03/01/2007	Anthony Britner	1+		Wrexham, centre		D1. (44)
	SJ3348 (Estimated (Centroid of Site))	Sep 1981	Alexander, KVA			Erddig Park		D0 (25)
	SJ3248	07/04/2007	Andrew Thomas	1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park		D1. (44)
	SJ3248	3 records, between 07/04/2007 and 22/05/2011	Andrew Thomas; ND Rawlings	3, 1, 1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	BirdTrack.; BirdTrack singing male.	D1. (44)
	SJ3248	29/05/2011	ND Rawlings	1+		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	BirdTrack.	D1. (46)
	SJ3248	07/04/2007	Andrew Thomas	1+		Wrexham, Erddig, Park		D1. (44)
	SJ3248	2 records, on 18/02/2007 and 06/03/2011	Peter Lawton	1, 3		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	BirdTrack.	D1. (44)
	SJ3248	25/05/1994	Paul Beuk		Field Observation	Erddig Park		D0 (10)
	SJ3248	3 records, between 07/04/2007 and 29/05/2011	Andrew Thomas; ND Rawlings	1, 1+, 1+		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	BirdTrack.	D1. (44)
	SJ3248	1833	Bowman, J.E.			Erddig Park		D1 (17)
	SJ3248	07/04/2007	Andrew Thomas	1+		Wrexham, Erddig, Park		D1. (44)
	SJ3248	2 records, on 07/04/2007 and 22/05/2011	Andrew Thomas; ND Rawlings	1, 1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park	BirdTrack heard singing.	D1. (44)
	SJ3248	07/04/2007	Andrew Thomas	1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park		D1. (44)
	SJ3248	07/04/2007	Andrew Thomas	1		Wrexham, Erddig, Park		D1. (44)

APPENDIX 5

Categorisation of trees for their potential to support roosting bats



Categorisation of trees for their potential to support roosting bats as per the Bat Conservation Trust Bat Surveys - Good Practice Guidelines (2012):

Tree Category and Description	Likely Mitigation Requirements
Known or confirmed roost	The tree can only be felled under EPS license following the installation of appropriate habitat as a replacement.
Category 1* Trees with multiple highly suitable features capable of supporting larger roosts	Further dusk/dawn bat activity surveys required to confirm the presence/absence of bats (May to September only). If bats are found refer to "Known or confirmed roost" above. If no bats are found roosting then the tree should be treated as Category 2 and felled using Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs).
Category 1 Trees with definite bat potential, supporting fewer suitable features than category 1* trees or with potential to be used by single bats	Further dusk/dawn bat activity surveys required to confirm the presence/absence of bats (May to September only). If bats are found refer to "Known or confirmed roost" above. If no bats are found roosting then the tree should be treated as Category 2 and felled using Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs).
Category 2 Trees with no obvious potential, although the tree is of an age and size that elevated surveys may result in cracks or crevices being found; or the tree supports some features which may have some limited potential to support roosting bats.	Trees may be felled using Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs). All works should cease and appropriate advice should be sought if any bats are found.
Category 3 Trees with no potential to support roosting bats.	No mitigation for bats required.

