2543 Tesco, Wrexham, LL13 8HF

Ecological Method Statement

On Behalf of

McDonald's Restaurants Ltd

Version 1 | March 2026

This Method Statement is in relation to reptiles, nesting birds, small mammals, common amphibians, invasive species, badger, bats and trees and hedgerows. Refer to additional documents accompanying this application for information with regards to other protected species. This document forms part of the works package for the Site and should be issued and adhered to by all contractors and site personnel. Deviation from the methods and control measures as set out in this document could result in a breach of wildlife legislation and violation of planning policy.

Document Control

Version	Date	Prepared by	Reviewed by	Notes
V1	25th March 2026	Victoria Shone-Silk MSc, Ecologist	Sara Curtis MSc, Principal Ecologist M:CIEEM	

	Name	Email	Phone
Ecological Clerk of Works	TBC	TBC	TBC



Northern and Eastern Boundary of the Site.

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1. Preface

1.1 Project Background

Practical Ecology Ltd were commissioned by McDonald's Restaurants Ltd to undertake a Site walkover and to produce a letter report[1] for the proposed development at Tesco, Wrexham, herein referred to as the 'Site'. A red line boundary for the Site is shown in **Figure 1**.

To inform the planning application, the Site walkover letter report was prepared in December 2025 by Practical Ecology Ltd[1]. The letter report identified the potential for badger (*Meles meles*), nesting birds, small mammals such as hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), invasive non-native species, and reptiles to be present with the proposed development Site and foraging bats present in habitats on and adjacent to the Site.

The majority of the Site comprises hardstanding, with introduced shrub in the north of the Site, dense scrub in the east, ruderal vegetation in the west, and scattered trees throughout the Site. The introduced shrub and dense scrub provide foraging and refuge habitat for reptiles, small mammals, common amphibians, nesting habitat for birds as well as trees. Onsite habitats also provide foraging and commuting habitat for bats and foraging for badger.

The letter report recommended precautionary measures of working to mitigate the very low residual risk of reptiles being encountered during the pre-construction phase of the development. The letter report also recommends that the clearance of the introduced shrubs, dense scrub and scattered trees should be undertaken outside of nesting bird season and if this is not possible then clearance should be undertaken 24-48 hours of a nesting bird check.

This Ecological Method Statement provides information on the species mentioned above as well as set out timings, methods of clearance and supervision by an Ecological Clerk of Works (EcCoW). This document can help to negate the low residual risk to reptiles, nesting birds, small mammals and common amphibians, alongside other considerations such as badger, invasive species spread, tree protection and lighting impacts on foraging and commuting bats.

1.2 The Site

The Site is approximately 0.66 ha (postcode LL13 8HF, central OS grid reference SJ 34135 50466) and is located in the car park of an existing Tesco, located approximately 600 m northwest of the centre of Wrexham. The majority of the Site comprises hardstanding, with introduced shrub in the north of the Site, dense scrub in the east, ruderal vegetation in the west, and scattered trees throughout the Site. The Site is surrounded by commercial and residential infrastructure including roads, commercial buildings and residential dwellings with enclosed gardens. A Site boundary (red line) is provided in **Figure 1**.

[1] L251216 McDonalds Wrexham Letter Report V1 Dec25

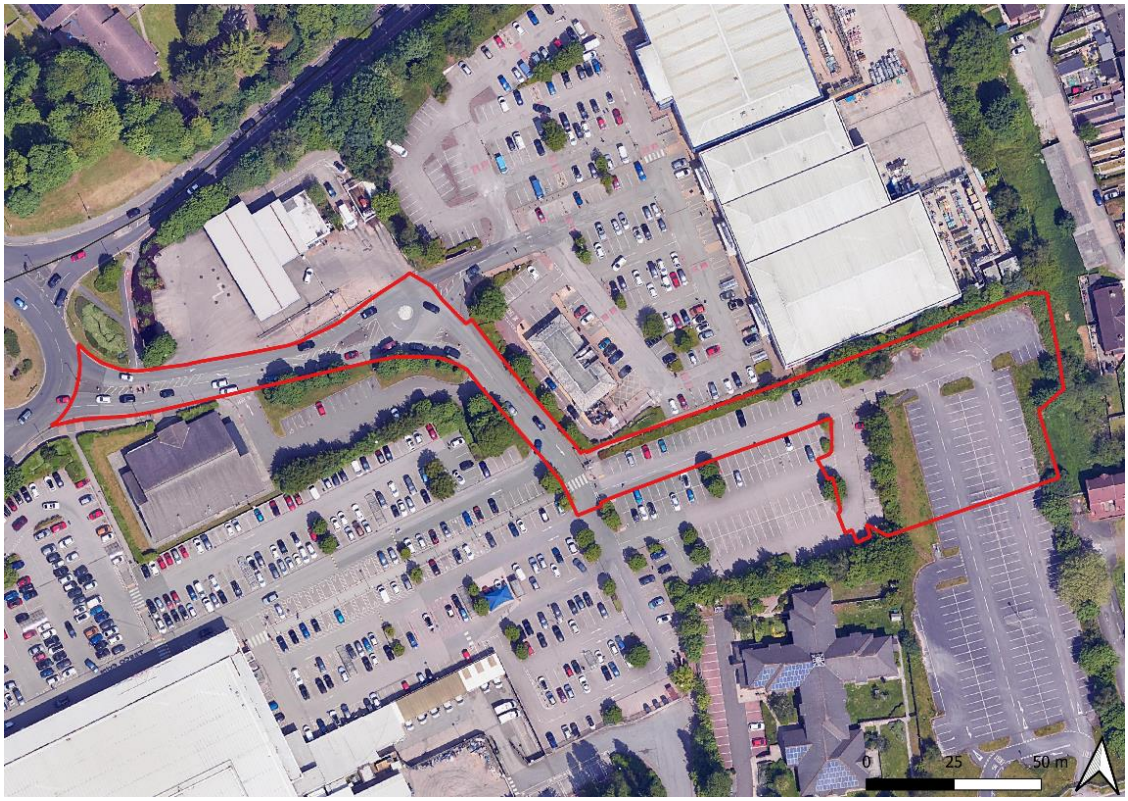


Figure 1: Site Boundary (Google Earth, 2025).

1.3 Proposals

A planning application has been submitted for the development of a new McDonald's Restaurant with a drive-thru, car parking, landscaping and other associated works. Several trees, introduced shrub and dense scrub will be removed to facilitate the development. A Site Layout Plan (as proposed) has been included in **Appendix 1** (**Drawing number**: 7611-SA-2543-P1004E. **Planning reference:** P/2025/0573).

2. Method Statement Rationale

2.1 Legislation

2.1.1 Reptiles

All six species are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), making it illegal to intentionally kill or injure a common reptile. Smooth snake and sand lizard are also protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. It is illegal to deliberately injure, kill, capture, or disturb a rare reptile, or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection. Rare reptiles can only be handled by those with an appropriate license. All reptile species are of principle importance under the Natural Environment Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, and for this reason, they are heavily considered within the planning process.

2.1.2 Small Mammals

Mammal species not of primary conservation concern do receive protection from unnecessary suffering through the Wild Mammals Protection Act (1996).

2.1.3 Nesting Birds

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) makes it an offence to:

- intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;
- intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built;
- intentionally take or destroy the nest or eggs of any wild bird. [Special penalties are liable for these offences involving birds listed on Schedule 1].

Birds listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) have an additional level of protection. With regards to these species, it is it is an offence to deliberately or recklessly:

- disturb them whilst they are nesting, building a nest, in or near a nest that contains their young; disturb their dependent young.

2.1.4 Tree Protection

Root and tree/hedgerow protection measures (in line with the British Standard for trees in relation to construction BS 5837:2012) must be installed in the pre-construction phase and maintained throughout the construction phase.

2.1.5 Badger

Badger is fully protected in the UK by the Protection of Badgers Act, 1992 and by Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 was introduced in recognition of the additional threats that badger face from illegal badger digging and baiting. Under the Act, it is an offence *inter alia* to:

- Wilfully kill, injure or take a badger, or to attempt to do so;
- Cruelly ill-treat a badger;
- Intentionally or recklessly interfere with a badger sett by;
- Damaging a sett or any part of one;
- Destroying a sett;
- Obstructing access to or any entrance of a sett;
- Causing a dog to enter a sett; or
- Disturbing a badger when it is occupying a sett.

The purpose of this legislation is to ensure that badger are humanely treated.

2.1.6 Invasive Species

Certain species of plants and animals that do not naturally occur in Great Britain have become established in the wild and represent a threat to the natural fauna and flora. Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) prohibits the release of any animal species that are 'not ordinarily resident or is not a regular visitor to Great Britain in a wild state'.

Therefore, under Section 14 it is an offence to allow the establishment of plant species listed on Schedule 9 Part 2 in the wild.

2.1.7 Bats

Bats are protected under Section 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) 1981 (as amended) and are a Schedule 2 species protected under regulation 41 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017) which provides safeguards for European Protected Sites and Species (as listed in the Habitats Directive). This has been amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (amendments) (EU Exit) (2019) which continue the same provision for European protected species, licensing requirements and protected areas after Brexit.

The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 also contains a provision for custodial sentences. Taken together it is illegal to:

- Deliberately kill, injure, or capture any wild animal of a Schedule 2 species.
- Deliberately disturb wild animals of any Schedule 2 species in such a way to be likely to:
    - Significantly impair their ability:
        - To survive, breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture young;
        - In the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate.
        - Significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of the species.
- Damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place, even if bats are not in current occupation.
- Keeping, transporting, selling, exchanging, or offering for sale whether live or dead or any part thereof.
- Intentional or reckless disturbance (at any level).
- Intentional or reckless obstruction of access to any place of shelter or protection.

Penalties for offences include unlimited fines and up to 6 months' imprisonment instead of, or in addition to, a fine. Along with significant development delay until appropriate mitigation has been agreed and completed.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 also lists bats as a species of principal importance under Section 41, and Section 40 requires every public body in the exercising of its functions to 'have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.'

2.2 Background Information and Justification

2.2.1 Reptiles

Refer to the letter report[1] for full details for each species.

The desk study returned no records for reptiles within 1 km of the Site.

The Site offers low suitability for foraging and commuting reptiles in the form of the dense scrub, introduced shrubs and ruderal vegetation. There is low suitability for hibernating reptiles in the form of the dense scrub, as they may

utilise root balls. Therefore, if reptiles are present, there is a risk of injuring or killing individual reptiles during vegetation clearance, and a risk of entrapment in open excavations if left uncovered. Any habitat clearance which occurs onsite to facilitate the development, to avoid breaching the legislation and protection afforded to reptiles, and to ensure no reptiles are killed or injured as part of the clearance and site investigation works, a method statement is required to mitigate against the residual risk to reptiles.

2.2.1 Small Mammals

The desk study returned 25 records for hedgehog within 1 km of the Site.

The mammal runs noted were too large to have been created by hedgehog, however it is considered reasonably likely that hedgehog, if present utilise them. The dense scrub and introduced shrubs provide suitable foraging, refuge and commuting habitat for small mammal species such as hedgehog.

The development has the potential to cause injury or death to small mammals, including hedgehog, disturbed during Site clearance. However, the development is unlikely to cause any impacts to the population of any notable or priority species. As such, the mitigation measures included within this method statement are sufficient to protect small mammals from injury or death.

2.2.2 Nesting Birds

The desk study returned several records for a wide assemblage of bird species within 1 km of the Site. No birds or bird nests were noted during the Site visit.

Habitats within the Site that have suitability for nesting birds include introduced shrubs, dense scrub and scattered trees.

The development will result in the loss of nesting habitat in the form of scattered trees, introduced shrub and dense scrub and could see the damage or destruction of active nests if clearance is undertaken during the nesting season. As such, mitigation measures included in this method statement are required to protect nesting birds, if present, during vegetation clearance. The clearance or management of the scattered trees and introduced shrubs should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (the nesting bird season is considered to run from March to September, inclusive, however does vary depending on weather).

2.2.3 Tree Protection

Some of the scattered trees are to be removed as part of the proposals. Several trees onsite and adjacent habitats are to be retained however vegetation clearance or construction may cause damage to these retained areas.

To prevent accidental damage during clearance and construction including storage of materials or machinery damage, tree protection measures (in line with the British Standard for trees in relation to construction BS 5837:2012) must be installed in the pre-construction phase and maintained throughout the construction phase[Error! Bookmark not defined.Error! Bookmark not defined.]. This fencing will require a monthly inspection to ensure it is maintained and secure.

2.2.4 Badger

[redacted]

Some mammal paths were noted passing through the dense scrub in the east of the Site, likely linking to adjacent vegetated habitat to the east and north of the Site. However, no clear evidence of badger such as footprints, hairs, latrines or snuffle holes were identified during the Site walk-over.

There are no clear signs of badger onsite, however if badger are present within the wider area, they could be transiently present onsite. If transiently present, there could be a risk of entrapment if any excavations or holes made during the construction phase are left uncovered overnight.

Although no evidence of badger activity was found, as badger are present within the wider area, they could be transiently present onsite. If transiently present, there could be a risk of entrapment if any excavations, holes or pipework made during the construction phase are left uncovered overnight. As such, the mitigation within this method statement will mitigate the risk to badger if they are transiently present onsite.

2.2.5 Invasive Non-native Species

The desk study returned five records for invasive non-native species within 1 km of the Site. Buddleia (*Buddleja davidii)* and Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*)

Cotoneaster spp. and buddleia were identified throughout the Site.

Without mitigation, the development could cause further spread of *Cotoneaster spp.* and buddleia into the wider landscape. As such, clearance of the Site should be in conjunction with any other recommendations made within this or other ecological report and mitigation documents to reduce the risk of spreading invasive non-native species into the wider landscape.

2.2.6 Bats

The desk study returned records for common pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pipistrellus*), pipistrelle species (*Pipistrellus* sp.), noctule (*Nyctalus noctula*) and brown long-eared bat (*Plecotus auritus*) within 1 km of the Site.

No records of roosts or granted mitigation licences pertaining to the Site were returned.

All the trees within the red line boundary were assessed as having *'none' suitability*[2] for roosting bats as there were no suitable potential roost features (PRFs). The majority of the Site is currently likely subject to light spill from the car park.

The eastern boundary vegetation is likely to provide a 'dark corridor' for commuting and foraging bats in the local area as it is connected to the wider landscape by the vegetation extending north and south from the Site, however it is unlikely that any species would be reliant on the Site alone as the Site is surrounded by urban development with limited vegetation.

The scattered trees and dense scrub on the northern boundary are to be removed, along with part of the dense scrub on the eastern boundary. Therefore, foraging and commuting habitat for bats will be reduced. As the trees were assessed to have *'none' suitability* for roosting bats, no impacts on roosting bats are anticipated. However, increased lighting during the construction phase may light up retained and offsite vegetation.

As such, details within this method statement will help mitigate lighting impacts on bats.

[2] Collins, J. ed., 2023. Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines (4th ed). The Bat Conservation Trust, London.

2.3 Site Specific Risk Assessment

Table 1 shows the Site-specific risks from the vegetation clearance and the avoidance measures taken to reduce these risks.

The Site Specific Risk Assessment within **Table 1** ensures protected/priority fauna are protected against injury or death, retained habitats are protected against damage, and the development complies with policy and legislation detailed within the Method Statement.

Table 1: Site Specific Risk Assessment

Species	Offences	Site Specific Risks	Risk (without mitigation)	Non-licenced Avoidance Measure	Residual Risk
Reptile	**Injure or kill a reptile**	**If present, clearance of the vegetation presents a risk of disturbance, injuring, or killing reptiles.**	Low	• Provision of an Ecological Clerk of Works (EcCoW). • An EcCoW to give Toolbox talk prior to works and be present during works to undertake a hand search of suitable refugia options and works to be timed to reduce potential impacts where possible. • Timing of works to avoid hibernation period for reptiles. Works to be undertaken between March and October inclusive. Additionally, overnight temperatures are to be consistently frost free, dry and above 10°C for two weeks. • Hand searches of the Site by ecologist. • Vegetation clearance to be undertaken staged at an appropriate time of year, and avoiding heavy machinery, to encourage natural reptile dispersion form the Site • Remove all arising away from the Site, and place on hardstanding to avoid colonisation of the brash piles. • In the unlikely event any reptile disturbed during Site investigation and construction should be allowed to flee of their own volition or moved to the retained habitats within the Site boundary.	Highly unlikely
Reptile	**Cause unnecessary suffering, deliberately**	**Excavations made during the works, if unmanaged, could become temporary**	Low	• Any open pipes / pipework over 150 mm, open holes and excavations left during non-working hours, such as weekends or overnight; either infilled or fenced off/ covered and an additional precautionary escape ladder comprising a roughened plank or similar, installed at an angle and secured for reptiles to escape.	Highly unlikely

Species	Offences	Site Specific Risks	Risk (without mitigation)	Non-licenced Avoidance Measure	Residual Risk
	injure or reptiles	**water bodies and/ or trap reptiles.** **Creation of resting places/shelter habitats during clearance from material storage.**		• A check of the open holes/excavations would be undertaken the following morning for wildlife. • Excavations to be infilled or covered upon completion of works. • Onsite storage of materials to be kept to a minimum. If materials are to be stored onsite, they should be stored on unsuitable habitats (e.g. boards or pallets over hardstanding) to ensure they do not provide refuge habitat for reptiles or other fauna. • Vegetation cuttings/arisings to be removed from Site as soon as possible following management.	
Small mammals, including hedgehog	**Cause unnecessary suffering, deliberately injure or kill small mammals, including hedgehog**	**Clearance of the Site has potential to injure or kill small mammals.** **Excavations made during the works, if unmanaged, could become temporary water bodies and/ or trap small mammals.**	Low	• Hand searches of the introduced shrubs prior to removal by an ecologist. • Works to be undertaken outside of the hibernation period for hedgehog (October – April inclusive). • Vegetation clearance to be undertaken staged at an appropriate time of year (outside of the hibernation season) and avoiding heavy machinery. • Any small mammal disturbed during construction should be allowed to flee of their own volition or moved to the western Site boundary. • Any open pipes / pipework over 150 mm, open holes and excavations left during non-working hours, such as weekends or overnight; either infilled or fenced off/ covered and an additional precautionary escape ladder comprising a roughened plank or similar, installed at an angle and secured for small mammals to escape. • A check of the open holes/excavations would be undertaken the following morning for wildlife. • Excavations to be infilled or covered upon completion of works.	

Species	Offences	Site Specific Risks	Risk (without mitigation)	Non-licenced Avoidance Measure	Residual Risk
				• If a hedgehog or other small mammal is found, they should be removed with care and moved to retained habitats onsite. • Advice should be sought from the EcCoW if protected/priority species are identified.	
Nesting Birds	**Deliberately or recklessly destroy an active nest**	**Clearance of potentially suitable nesting bird habitat within the introduced shrubs and scattered trees resulting in the destruction of a nest.**	Possible (March – September inclusive)	• Toolbox Talk provided by an EcCoW to contractors onsite. • Clearance or management of the introduced shrubs, dense scrub and scattered trees should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (the nesting bird season is considered to run from March to September, inclusive, but does vary depending on weather). • If this is not possible, nesting bird checks to be undertaken 24-48 hours prior to clearance by a suitably experienced ecologist. • Should nests be encountered then clearance around the nest will be paused and a reasonable buffer installed (as advised by an ecologist) until young have fledged the nest and the nest is abandoned.	Highly unlikely
			Unlikely (October – February inclusive)		Highly unlikely
Trees	**Damage to onsite and offsite trees during vegetation clearance**	**Vegetation clearance and construction have potential to damage tree roots.**	Possible	• EcCoW to confirm correct measures which are detailed below are put in place to ensure onsite and offsite trees are being retained as part of the proposals. • To prevent accidental damage during construction including storage of materials or machinery damage, tree protection measures (in line with the British Standard for trees in relation to construction BS 5837:2012) must be installed in the pre-construction phase and maintained throughout the construction phase[Error! Bookmark not defined.Error! Bookmark not defined.]. This fencing will require a monthly inspection by a designated arboriculturist to ensure it is maintained and secure.	Highly unlikely

Species	Offences	Site Specific Risks	Risk (without mitigation)	Non-licenced Avoidance Measure	Residual Risk
Badger	**Entrapment of badger in open excavations**	**If transiently present, there could be a risk of entrapment to badger if any excavations, holes or pipework made during the construction phase are left uncovered overnight.**	Low	• Open excavations and pipes to be covered/ infilled/ fenced and/or provided with a suitable escape ladder such as a roughened plank placed at an angle and secured to avoid entrapment.	Highly unlikely
Invasive Non-native Species	**Cause the spread of invasive non-native plant species offsite**	**Without mitigation, the development could cause further spread of *Cotoneaster spp.* and buddleia into the wider landscape.**	Possible	• Any *Cotoneaster* and buddleia to be removed should be either removed when not in berry/seed and disposed of or, if in berry, bagged and disposed of at a landfill. • Should any further Schedule 9 species be identified during Site clearance, works shall cease, and the appropriate species specialist shall be contacted for advice and the safe removal of said species.	Highly unlikely
Lighting Impacting Roosting, Foraging or Commuting Bats	**Construction stage lighting could impact retained onsite and offsite habitats, with suitability to support foraging and commuting bats and**	**Additional artificial lighting could reduce the suitability of offsite adjacent habitats, woodland and scrub to the western boundary, through an increase in light spill.**	Possible	• Conduct works during daylight hours only or where required at night, directional lighting avoiding offsite habitats. • Bat friendly/sensitive lighting measures imposed during construction which will avoid illumination of sensitive habitats with suitability to support roosting, foraging and commuting bats.	Highly unlikely

Species	Offences	Site Specific Risks	Risk (without mitigation)	Non-licenced Avoidance Measure	Residual Risk
	vegetation on or offsite				

3. Method Statement Control Measures

Non-licenced control measures detailed within **Table 1** are summarised in **Table 3** overleaf, alongside biodiversity enhancements and are implemented in full and signed off by an appropriately authorised person. The method statement is specifically designed to ensure the safety of reptiles, nesting birds, small mammals such as hedgehog, trees, badger, invasive non-native species and bats during the construction and post development phases. **Table 2** will be updated with the details of persons responsible for overseeing correct implementation of this document.

Table 2: Contact Information

	Name	Email	Phone
Senior Project Manager	Paul Elwin	paul.elwin@uk.mcd.com	07702449243
Ecological Clerk of Works	Practical Ecology Ltd	info@practical-ecology.co.uk	01379 740098
Planning Authority Case Officer	TBC	TBC	TBC
Site Foreman	TBC	TBC	TBC

Table 3: Control Measures for Works

	Area or feature targeted	Details of control measures	Signed off (*Give name and date*)- To be completed after successful implementation of control measures
Pre-works Phase	Site / Attendance of the ecologist at the pre-start meeting	Attendance of the ecologist at the pre-start meeting to brief the contractor via a Toolbox talk on the requirements of this document.	
Pre-works / Works Phrase	Site / Toolbox Talk to Site Team	Toolbox talk presented by EcCoW including details of key features covered by the method statement and identification of protected/priority fauna and what to do if they are encountered. Measures to protect retained habitat on and adjacent to the Site from accidental encroachment by machinery. Measures to be use high visibility fencing, and root and tree protection measures (in line with the British Standard for trees in relation to construction BS 5837:2012) must be installed in the pre-works phase and maintained throughout the construction phase. In the event that a mammal or reptile is found when the EcCoW is not onsite, all work must stop immediately, and an ecologist informed without delay.	
Clearance, Pre-construction Phase	Onsite Vegetation / Reptiles	Provision of an Ecological Clerk of Works (EcCoW). An EcCoW to give Toolbox talk prior to works and be present during works to undertake a hand search of suitable refugia options and works to be timed to reduce potential impacts where possible. Timing of works to avoid hibernation period for reptiles. Works to be undertaken between March and October inclusive. Additionally, overnight temperatures are to be consistently frost free, dry and above 10°C for two weeks. Vegetation clearance to be undertaken staged at an appropriate time of year, and avoiding heavy machinery, to encourage natural reptile dispersion form the Site. Remove all arising away from the Site, or placed on hard standing to avoid colonisation of the brash piles.	

	Area or feature targeted	Details of control measures	Signed off (*Give name and date*)- To be completed after successful implementation of control measures
		Any reptile disturbed during site investigation should be allowed to flee of their own volition or moved to the western Site boundary.	
Clearance, Pre-construction Phase	Onsite Vegetation / Nesting birds	Toolbox Talk provided by an EcCoW to contractors onsite. Clearance or management of the introduced shrubs, and scattered trees should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (the nesting bird season is considered to run from March to September, inclusive, but does vary depending on weather). If this is not possible, nesting bird checks to be undertaken 24-48 hours prior to clearance by a suitably experienced EcCoW. Should nests be encountered then clearance around the nest will be paused and a reasonable buffer installed (as advised by an EcCoW) until young have fledged the nest and the nest is abandoned.	
Clearance, Pre-construction Phase	Onsite Vegetation / Small Mammals	Clearance of the Site made in conjunction with any other recommendations made within this or other ecological report and mitigation documents. Hand searches of the introduced shrubs and dense scrub prior to removal by an ecologist. Vegetation clearance to be undertaken staged at an appropriate time of year and avoiding heavy machinery. Any small mammal disturbed during clearance should be allowed to flee of their own volition or moved to the western Site boundary.	
Clearance, Pre-construction Phase	Onsite Vegetation / Invasive Non-native Species	Any *Cotoneaster spp*. and buddleia to be removed should be either removed when not in berry/seed and disposed of or, if in berry, bagged and disposed of at a landfill. Should any further Schedule 9 species be identified during Site clearance, works shall cease, and the appropriate species specialist shall be contacted for advice and the safe removal of said species.	

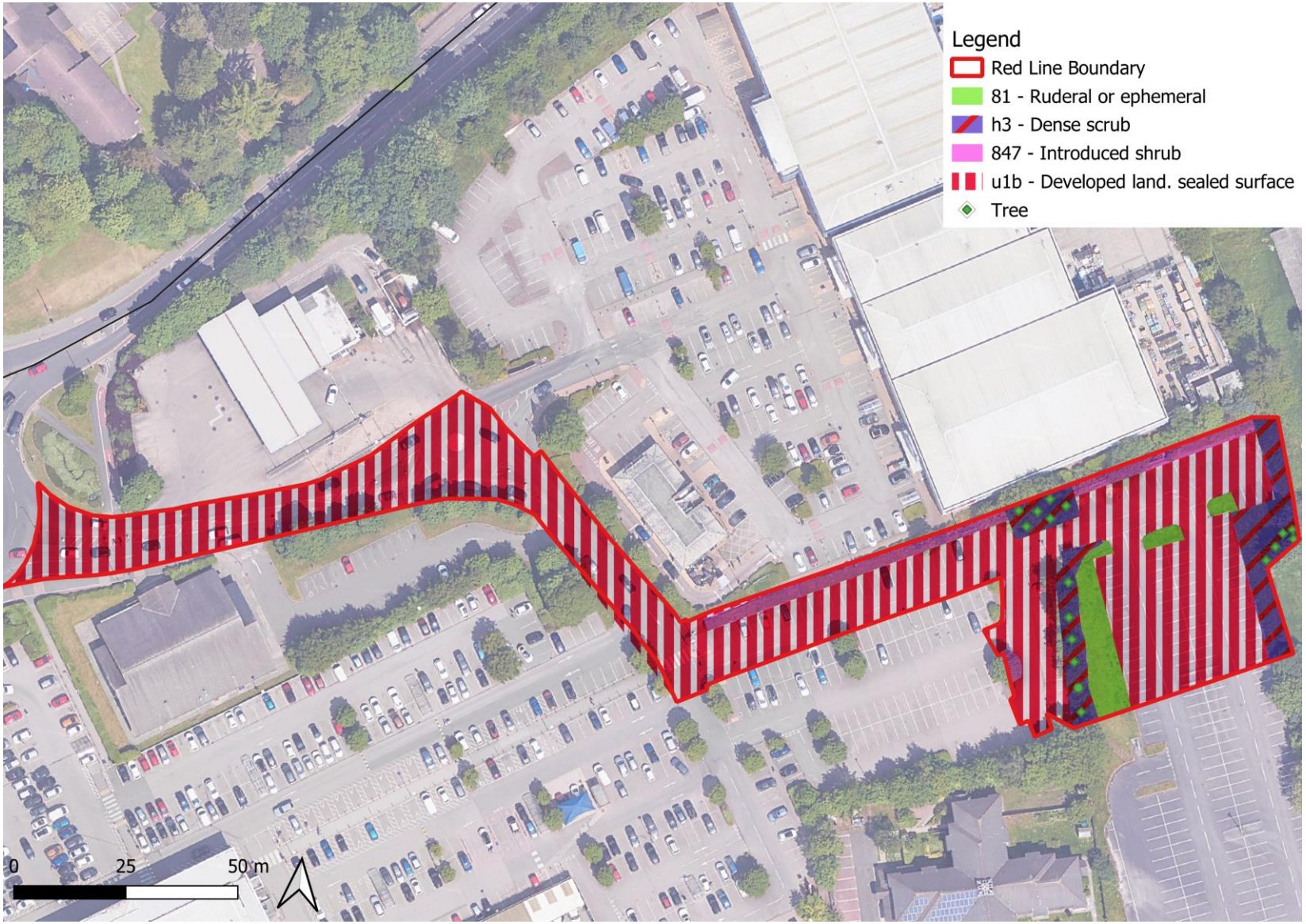
	Area or feature targeted	Details of control measures	Signed off (*Give name and date*)- To be completed after successful implementation of control measures
Clearance, Construction Phase	Onsite Vegetation / Trees	EcCoW to confirm correct measures which are detailed below are put in place to ensure offsite trees and onsite hedgerows and trees are being retained as part of the proposals. To prevent accidental damage during construction including storage of materials or machinery damage, tree protection measures (in line with the British Standard for trees in relation to construction BS 5837:2012) must be installed in the pre-construction phase and maintained throughout the construction phase[Error! Bookmark not defined.Error! Bookmark not defined.]. This fencing will require a monthly inspection by a designated arboriculturist to ensure it is maintained and secure.	
Clearance and Construction Phase	Offsite Vegetation / Bats	Conduct works during daylight hours only or where required at night, directional lighting avoiding offsite habitats scrub and trees. Bat friendly/sensitive lighting measures imposed during construction which will avoid illumination of sensitive habitats with suitability to support foraging and commuting bats.	
Construction Phase	Storage of Materials / Site-wide	Onsite storage of materials to be kept to a minimum. If materials are to be stored onsite, they should be stored on unsuitable habitats (e.g. boards or pallets over hardstanding) to ensure they do not provide refuge habitat for reptiles or other fauna. Vegetation cuttings/arisings to be removed from Site as soon as possible following management.	

	Area or feature targeted	Details of control measures	Signed off (*Give name and date*)- To be completed after successful implementation of control measures
Construction Phase	Excavations / Reptiles, Small Mammals Including Hedgehog, Badger	Any open pipes / pipework over 150mm, open holes and excavations left during non-working hours, such as weekends or overnight; either infilled or fenced off/ covered and an additional precautionary escape ladder comprising a roughened plank or similar, installed at an angle and secured for reptiles or mammals to escape. Excavations managed to avoid any becoming temporary water bodies. A check of the open holes/excavations would be undertaken the following morning for wildlife. Excavations to be infilled or covered upon completion of works. Advice should be sought from the EcCoW if protected/priority species are identified.	

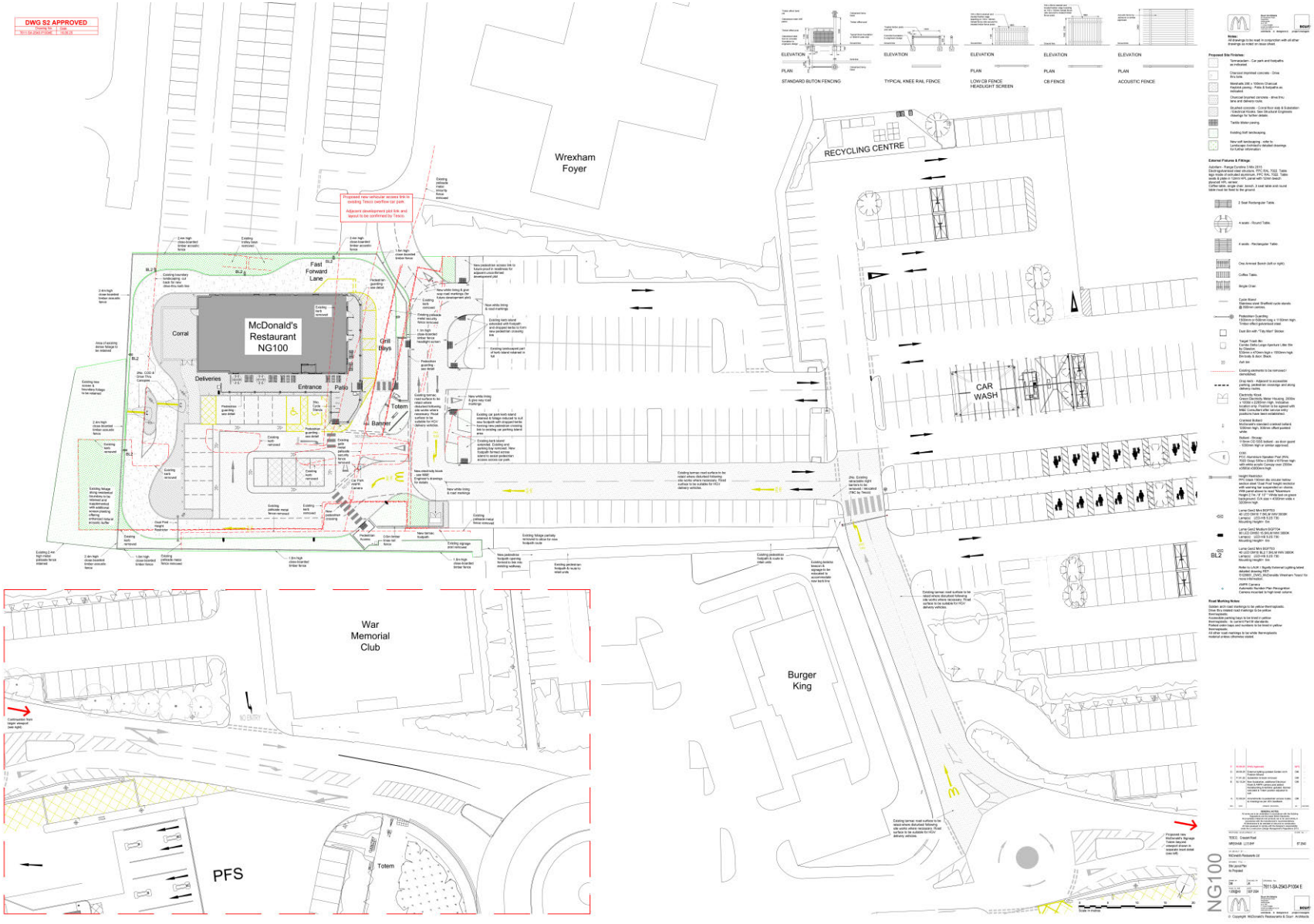
Appendix 1 – Kit List

Operation	Details of kit to be used, and kit that is prohibited.	Signed off (*Give name and date)-* To be completed after successful implementation of kit use
Scattered Trees / Introduced Shrubs / Dense Scrub	Kit to use within this habitat: • Loppers • Chainsaws Kit prohibited within this habitat: • Rear mounted tractor flail	

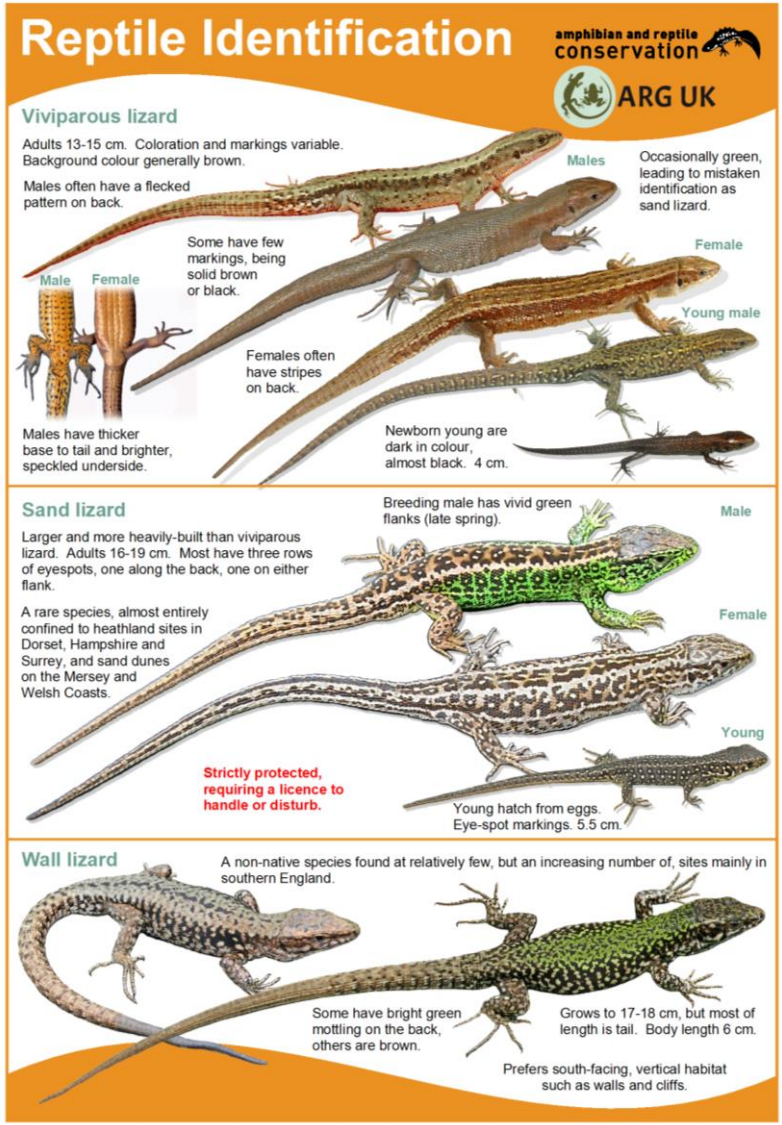
Appendix 2 – Habitat Baseline Map



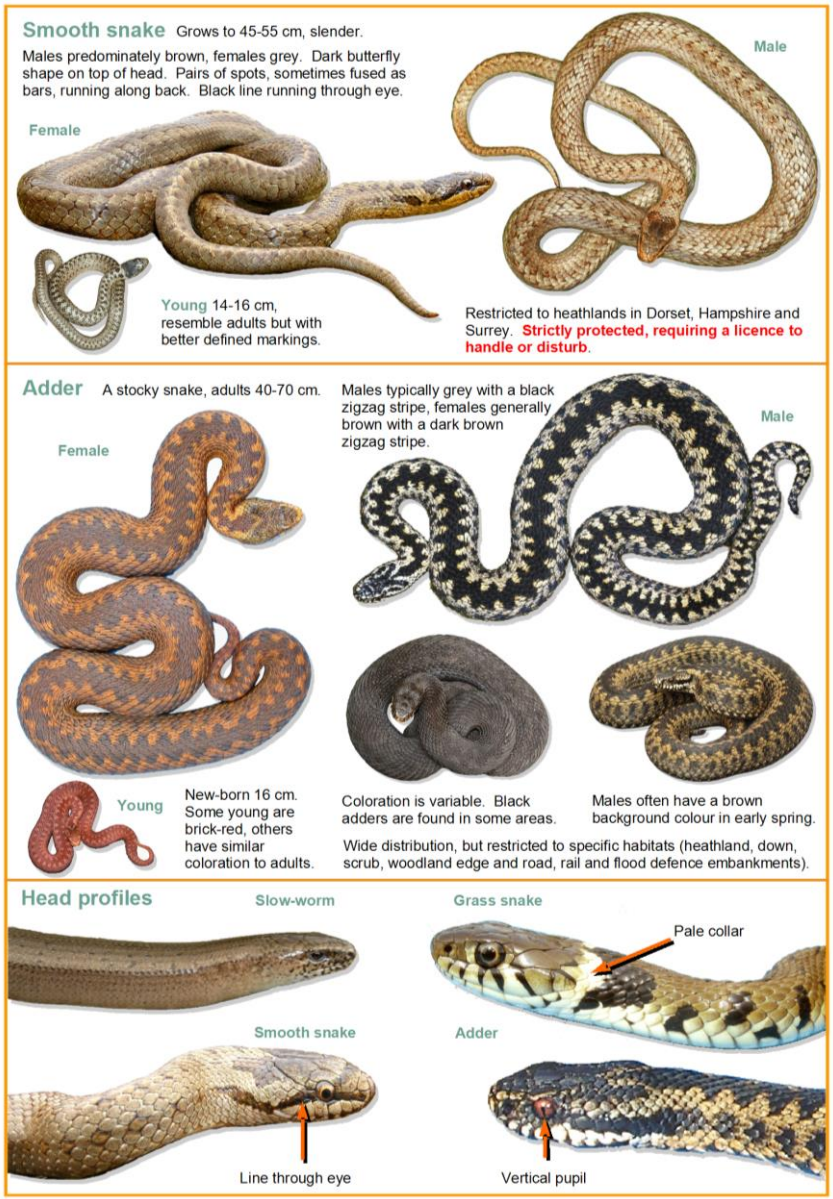
Appendix 3 – Proposed Development Plan

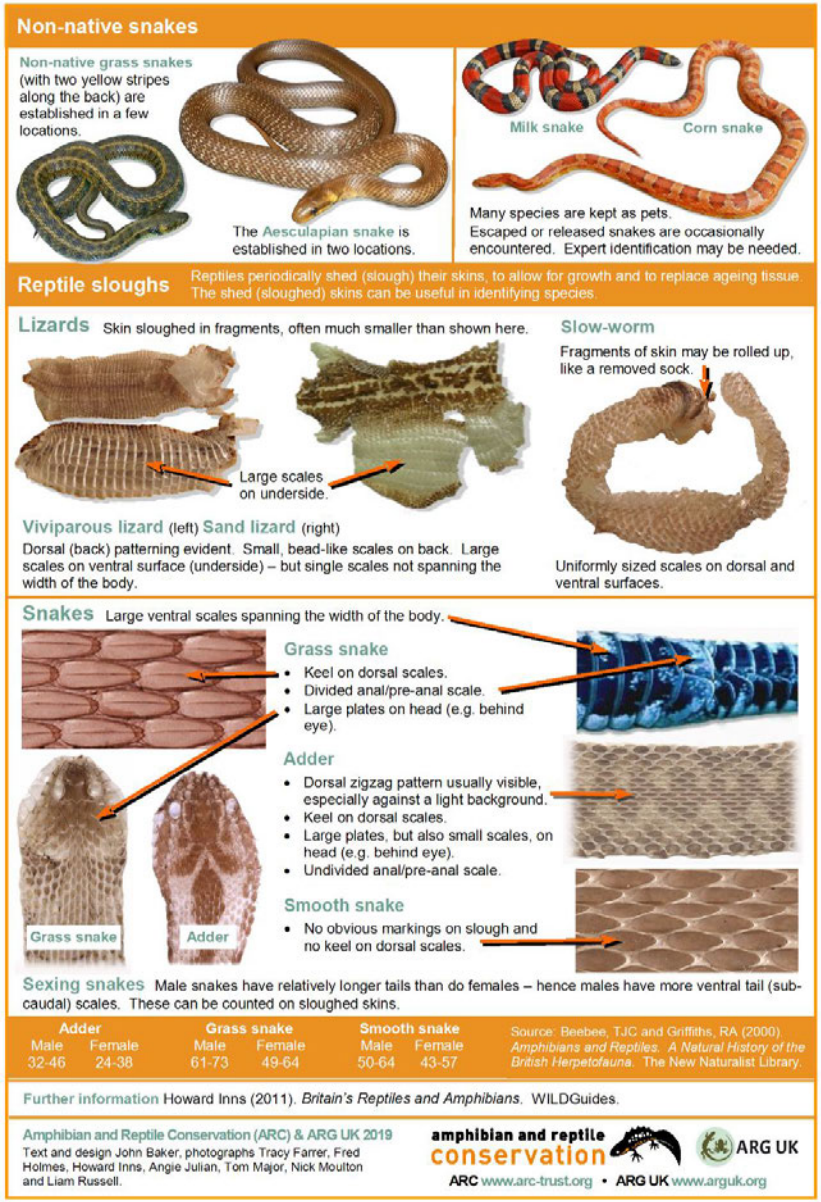


Appendix 4 – General Amphibian and Reptile Identification Sheet






Smooth snake Grows to 45-55 cm, slender.
Males predominately brown, females grey. Dark butterfly shape on top of head. Pairs of spots, sometimes fused as bars, running along back. Black line running through eye.
Female
Male
Young 14-16 cm, resemble adults but with better defined markings.
Restricted to heathlands in Dorset, Hampshire and Surrey. Strictly protected, requiring a licence to handle or disturb.
Adder A stocky snake, adults 40-70 cm.
Females typically grey with a black zigzag stripe, females generally brown with a dark brown zigzag stripe.
Female
Male
Young
New-born 16 cm. Some young are brick-red, others have similar coloration to adults.
Coloration is variable. Black adders are found in some areas.
Males often have a brown background colour in early spring.
Wide distribution, but restricted to specific habitats (heathland, down, scrub, woodland edge and road, rail and flood defence embankments).
Head profiles
Slow-worm
Grass snake
Pale collar
Smooth snake
Adder
Line through eye
Vertical pupil


Non-native snakes
Non-native grass snakes (with two yellow stripes along the back) are established in a few locations.
The Aesculapian snake is established in two locations.
Milk snake
Corn snake
Many species are kept as pets. Escaped or released snakes are occasionally encountered. Expert identification may be needed.
Reptile sloughs
Reptiles periodically shed (slough) their skins, to allow for growth and to replace ageing tissue. The shed (sloughed) skins can be useful in identifying species.
Lizards Skin sloughed in fragments, often much smaller than shown here.
Large scales on underside.
Viviparous lizard (left) Sand lizard (right)
Dorsal (back) patterning evident. Small, bead-like scales on back. Large scales on ventral surface (underside) – but single scales not spanning the width of the body.
Slow-worm
Fragments of skin may be rolled up, like a removed sock.
Uniformly sized scales on dorsal and ventral surfaces.
Snakes Large ventral scales spanning the width of the body.
Grass snake
Keel on dorsal scales.
Divided anal/pre-anal scale.
Large plates on head (e.g. behind eye).
Adder
Dorsal zigzag pattern usually visible, especially against a light background.
Keel on dorsal scales.
Large plates, but also small scales, on head (e.g. behind eye).
Undivided anal/pre-anal scale.
Smooth snake
No obvious markings on slough and no keel on dorsal scales.
Grass snake
Adder
Sexing snakes Male snakes have relatively longer tails than do females – hence males have more ventral tail (sub-caudal) scales. These can be counted on sloughed skins.
Adder Male 32-46 Female 24-38
Grass snake Male 61-73 Female 49-64
Smooth snake Male 50-64 Female 43-57
Source: Beebee, TJC and Griffiths, RA (2000). Amphibians and Reptiles. A Natural History of the British Herpetofauna. The New Naturalist Library.
Further information Howard Inns (2011). Britain's Reptiles and Amphibians. WILDGuides.
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (ARC) & ARG UK 2019
Text and design John Baker, photographs Tracy Farrer, Fred Holmes, Howard Inns, Angie Julian, Tom Major, Nick Moulton and Liam Russell.
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Amphibian Identification
Common frog
Adults 6-7 cm. Smooth skin, which appears moist.
Coloration variable, includes brown, yellow and orange. Some females have red markings on lower body.
Usually has a dark 'mask' marking behind the eye.
Breeding male
Grey/pale blue throat.
Thick front legs.
Dark (nuptial) pad on inner toes of the front feet.
Markings also variable, including varying amounts of black spots and stripes.
Spawn is laid in gelatinous clumps.
Young froglets look like smaller versions of the adults.
Common toad
Adults 5-9 cm. Rough skin. Brown with darker markings. Less commonly, some individuals are very dark, almost black, others are brick-red.
Breeding pair
Males smaller than females. Breeding males can also be distinguished by dark (nuptial) pads on innermost two toes of the front feet.
Toad spawn is laid in gelatinous strings, wrapped around vegetation. Less conspicuous than common frog spawn.
Makes small hops rather than jumps of common frog.
Toadlets transforming from the tadpole stage are often very dark in colour.
Juveniles are similar colours to adults, including brick-red.
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Natterjack toad
Similar in size and appearance to common toad, but with a pale stripe running along the back.
Strictly protected species, requiring a licence to handle or disturb.
This is a rare species, unlikely to be found outside specific dune and heathland habitats.
Tadpoles
On hatching common frog and toad tadpoles are black. As they develop, common frog tadpoles become mottled with bronze, whereas toad tadpoles remain uniformly dark until the last stages of development.
Common frog and toad tadpoles generally complete development in the summer, but development rates are variable; some tadpoles may not transform until later in the year, or they may even remain as tadpoles over winter, becoming much larger than normal.
Tadpoles of water/green frogs grow larger than native frog and toad tadpoles. There are usually mottled markings on the base of the tail and the belly is usually white.
Frog
Toad
Water frog
Water/green frogs
This is a group of non-native frogs, including pool, edible and marsh frogs (although there is one population of pool frogs which is native). There is considerable variation in colour and markings within each species, so identification by eye can be difficult. Water frogs breed in late spring/early summer. Males call loudly at this time and sporadically later in the summer. The calls are a useful way of distinguishing the species and can be heard on the Alien Encounters website (www.alienencounters.org.uk).
Calling marsh frog
Calling pool frog
Calling male water frogs inflate a pair of balloon-like vocal sacs, one either side of the head. These sacs are dark grey in marsh frogs, white in pool frogs and pale grey in edible frogs.
Pool frog
Pool frogs are similar in size to the common frog.
Male
Female
Female (native form)
Edible frog
Grows to a little larger than the common frog.
Marsh frog
A large frog growing to 13 cm (much larger than the common frog). Variable coloration and markings. May, or may not, have pale dorsal stripe. Marsh frogs usually have some vivid green coloration, but some can be predominantly brown.
Dorsolateral ridge.
Sometimes mistaken for North American bullfrog, but marsh frogs have dorsolateral ridges and calling males have paired vocal sacs, either side of the head (both features absent in bullfrogs).
North American bullfrog
A very large, non-native frog growing to 15 cm. Calls loudly and breeds during the summer (call can be heard on the Alien Encounters website www.alienencounters.org.uk).
Black spots on body of tadpole. The tadpole stage can last several years and tadpoles grow to a large size, exceeding 10 cm.
Ridge behind eye runs around ear-drum. There is no dorsolateral ridge.
Young frogs squeak when disturbed.
Unlikely to be found (there is only one known population in the UK) but vigilance is important to identify any additional released animals.
Froglet with remains of tail
Midwife toad
A small non-native species, growing up to 5 cm. Rough skin, so potentially mistaken for a juvenile common toad. Midwife toads, however, have vertical pupils (horizontal in common toad) and males carry the eggs.
Few established populations, which are usually associated with gardens.
Secretive, but has a distinctive call, a single, repeated tone, like an electronic bleep, given on warm summer evenings (can be heard on www.alienencounters.org.uk).
Male carrying eggs

Appendix 5 - Record of Attendance

Record of Attendance

To be signed by all staff to confirm they have read the Method Statement with regards to, Reptiles, Nesting Birds, Small Mammals, Common Amphibians, Bats, Trees and Hedgerows, Invasive Species and Badger.

Name	Date	Signature

Name	Date	Signature

Name	Date	Signature

Name	Date	Signature