

Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006 mapping out the future

**Supplementary Planning
Guidance SPG2**

Biodiversity Conservation

July 2006



**Strategy and Planning Division/
Environment and Waste Division
Environment and Regeneration Directorate
Kent County Council
Tel: 01622 221609
Email: planning.policy@kent.gov.uk**

Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006

Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG2): Biodiversity Conservation

Preface

- i. The purpose of Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) is to supplement the policies and proposals of development plans. It elaborates policies so that they can be better understood and effectively applied. SPG should be clearly cross-referenced to the relevant plan policy or policies which it supplements and should be the subject of consultation during its preparation. In these circumstances SPG may be taken into account as a material consideration in planning decisions.
- ii. A number of elements of SPG have been produced to supplement certain policies in the Kent and Medway Structure Plan. This SPG supplements the following policies:
 - **Policy EN6: International and National Wildlife Designations**
 - **Policy EN7: County and Local Wildlife Designations**
 - **Policy EN8: Protecting, Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity**
 - **Policy EN9: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows**
- iii. This SPG has been prepared by Kent County Council working in partnership with a range of stakeholders drawn from Kent local authorities and other relevant agencies.
- iv. A draft of this SPG was subject to public consultation alongside public consultation on the deposit draft of the Kent and Medway Structure Plan in late 2003. It has been subsequently revised and updated prior to its adoption. A separate report provides a statement of the consultation undertaken, the representations received and the response to these representations.
- v. This SPG was adopted by Kent County Council on July 13th 2006.

Contents

Section		<u>Page</u>
1.0	An Overview	2
2.0	Introduction - What is Biodiversity Conservation?	4
2.1	Threats to Biodiversity	4
2.2	Opportunities for Biodiversity	5
3.0	Why? – The Drivers for Biodiversity Conservation	7
3.1	Kent and Medway Structure Plan Biodiversity Policies	10
3.2	International and National Wildlife Designations	10
3.3	County and Local Wildlife Designations	12
3.4	Biodiversity	13
3.4.3	Protected Species	14
3.4.8	Biodiversity Action Plans	14
3.5	Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	17
4.0	How Should Biodiversity Conservation be Considered?	18
4.7	Scoping the Content of Ecological Appraisal	19
5.0	The Tools – What Resources are Available to Help Consideration of Biodiversity Conservation?	23
5.2	Natural Areas	23
5.5	Kent Habitat Survey 2003	24
5.8	Priorities for Habitat Action and Kent Biodiversity Action Plan Targets	24
5.11	Kent Landscape Information System	25
5.13	Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre	27
5.17	Published Information Resources	27
5.18	Relevant Contacts/Organisations	27
Annexes		
Annex 1	Glossary	28
Annex 2	UK BAP Species Recorded in Kent and / or Protected Under UK and European Law	30
Annex 3	Biodiversity Site Checklist	39
Annex 4	Extent of BAP Habitats in Kent	40
Annex 5	Habitat Survey and Habitat Capability Maps for Chalk Grassland	42
Annex 6	Priorities for Habitat Action in Kent	44
Annex 7	Targets for Habitat Action in Kent	45
Annex 8	Published Information Resources	52
Annex 9	Relevant Contacts/Organisations	62

1.0 AN OVERVIEW

1.1 This SPG on Biodiversity Conservation has been developed in partnership with members of the Kent Biodiversity Partnership.

The Kent Biodiversity Partnership is facilitated by Kent County Council and comprises

- British Energy Generation Ltd
- British Nuclear Group
- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)
- Butterfly Conservation
- Canterbury City Council (CCC)
- Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)
- Country Land and Business Association (CLA)
- Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)
- Dover District Council (DDC)
- English Nature (EN)
- Environment Agency (EA)
- Forestry Commission (FC)
- Government Office South East (GOSE)
- Gravesham Borough Council (GBC)
- Groundwork Kent Thames-side
- High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Unit
- High Weald Countryside Project (HWCP)
- Kent & Medway Biological Records Centre (K&MBRC)
- Kent Bat Group (KBG)
- Kent Coastal Network (KCN)
- Kent County Council (KCC)
- Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Unit
- Kent Farming & Wildlife Advisory Group (FWAG)
- Kent Police
- Kentish Stour Countryside Project (KSCP)
- Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT)
- Maidstone Borough Council
- Medway & Swale Estuary Partnership (M&SEP)
- Medway Council (MC)
- Medway Ports
- Medway Valley Countryside Project (MVCP)
- National Farmers Union (NFU)
- Natural History Museum (NHM)
- North West Kent Countryside Project (NWKCP)
- Port of London Authority (PLA)
- Quest International, RocDoc Ltd
- Romney Marsh Countryside Project (RMCP)
- Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)
- South East of England Development Agency
- Shepway District Council (SDC)
- South East Marine Programme (SEMP)
- Thames Estuary Partnership (TEP)
- Thanet Coast Project, Thanet District Council (TDC)
- The Army
- Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council (T&MBC)
- Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC)
- White Cliffs Countryside Project (WCCP)

1.2 The SPG on Biodiversity Conservation contains the following:

- Section 1.0 An overview of the contents of the Biodiversity Conservation SPG.
- Section 2.0 An introduction to **WHAT** biodiversity conservation is and the threats and opportunities that development provides.
- Section 3.0 An explanation for **WHY** biodiversity conservation needs to be considered and an outline of the legislation and policy that drive the need to consider biodiversity conservation in the context of the Kent and Medway Structure Plan.
- Section 4.0 An overview of **HOW** biodiversity conservation should be considered through the development process.
- Section 5.0 An outline of **WHO** can help planners and developers further consider biodiversity conservation in the development process and what tools are available:
 - Natural Areas
 - Kent Habitat Survey 2003
 - Priorities for Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitat Action
 - Priorities for BAP Habitat Extent
 - Kent BAP Targets
 - Habitat Capability Mapping
 - Kent Landscapes Information System, K-LIS
 - Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre
 - Published Information Resources
 - Relevant Contacts/Organisations

1.3 Throughout the Biodiversity Conservation SPG, key principles have been identified and embedded within the text to capture the most important guidance notes. These can be referred to as follows:

Principle 1 – Planning and Biodiversity Conservation (page 7)

Principle 2 – Development Proposals and Biodiversity Conservation (page 20)

Principle 3 – Ecological Survey (page 22)

Principle 4 – Ecological Enhancement, Mitigation and Compensation (page 23)

2.0 INTRODUCTION – WHAT IS BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION?

- 2.0.1 'Biodiversity' is a shorthand term for 'biological diversity', or, in simple terms, the variety of life on earth. Biodiversity is a key contributor to quality of life, a key test of sustainable development and a sensitive 'barometer' of the health of an area's environment and our stewardship of it. The protection, restoration and enhancement of this diversity is often referred to as 'biodiversity conservation'.
- 2.0.2 Kent's natural environment adds to the attractiveness and interest of the countryside and urban areas, provides recreational opportunities, and helps promote both physical and mental health¹. A high quality natural environment can also contribute significantly to an area's economy, by attracting people to live, visit and invest. This has been identified by the South East England Development Agency as being particularly pertinent in Kent².
- 2.0.3 Effective conservation and enhancement of the environment and the prudent use of natural resources are fundamental aspects of the Kent and Medway Structure Plan. Integrated decision-making which considers biodiversity conservation alongside social and economic needs will ensure that biodiversity is viewed as an opportunity, complimenting and adding substantial value to development, rather than being seen as a problem or constraint.
- 2.0.4 Pressures on the county's wildlife remain. Despite increased awareness of the importance of biodiversity and efforts to conserve it, important habitats and species continue to decline. The trend in Kent, mirroring that of the UK, is a continuing decline of many, previously common species³.
- 2.0.5 In spite of such declines, Kent still supports nationally and internationally important habitats and species. It is essential that: these important assets are protected from further loss and damage, the many that are in poor ecological condition are enhanced, and those previously lost, restored.
- 2.0.6 Conservation and enhancement of the county's wildlife resource cannot rely on site-based policies alone. In addition to the protection of designated sites, protection of wildlife in the wider, non-designated environment is fundamental to effective nature conservation. This is often just as relevant in an urban setting as it is in the countryside. A positive approach, involving the identification of areas of potential for biodiversity and seeking to achieve net gain, must be adopted if real improvements are to be achieved in the county's biodiversity.

2.1 Threats to Biodiversity

- 2.1.1 Adverse impacts from development on Kent's biodiversity can occur in different ways.

¹ *Revealing the Value of Nature* (1994) English Nature; *Human Well-being, Natural Landscapes and Wildlife in Urban Areas in English Nature Science No22* (1994) English Nature

² SEEDA's *The Environmental Economy of the South East of England: Executive summary* (August 2002), concludes that, in 2000, the Environment Economy contributed over £7.8 billion Gross Value Added to the South East Economy and states that '*The focus of activity in the southern counties, embracing ... Kent ..., is more on activities that capitalise on a high quality environment ...*'

^{3,4} KCC's *Kent Countryside 2000: Understanding Rural Change*

They can be **direct** impacts, such as immediate habitat loss within a development 'footprint'. They can also be **indirect**, for example through changes to hydrological systems or increased disturbance or trampling.

Habitat fragmentation - where species are increasingly confined to isolated islands of good habitat within the wider countryside - is particularly problematic. These isolated wildlife populations are less biologically sustainable and much less able to cope with the effects of damage or disturbance. Creating and maintaining wildlife corridors (swathes of connected natural habitat maintained to help species travel through areas disturbed by human development) and stepping stones (small, unconnected areas of preserved, protected or restored habitat intended to allow movement through the landscape of more mobile species, such as birds and insects) help to form an **ecologically coherent network**, which is crucial to maintaining biodiversity and important in its own right.

Adverse impacts can also be **cumulative**. The impacts on wildlife from one development may be small but the impacts from several similar developments can be large. Therefore, it is vital that developments are not assessed in isolation from past or potential future development within an area. It should also be recognised that cumulative impacts can occur through combinations of development and other human impacts on the environment.

An important factor is **climate change**. Climate change impacts on local environmental conditions and is likely to lead to shifts in the distribution of species and habitats. A particular development viewed in isolation may not appear to have an immediate impact on biodiversity, but in conjunction with future climate change, may be detrimental.

Inappropriate management of woodlands – The inappropriate management of woodlands can pose a threat to biodiversity. A combination of a lack of management in the recent past and a history of stock grazing has seriously degraded many woodlands. Inappropriate woodland management can also lead to an influx of invasive species, as well as compound pressures from development and recreational users.

2.2 Opportunities for Biodiversity

2.2.1 Development should, where possible, look for opportunities to undertake conservation work which helps recreate a more naturally functioning infrastructure for wildlife as well as mitigate past losses. For example:

- Creating new linear features and stepping-stones can help reverse habitat fragmentation and species isolation.
- Creating good quality and accessible natural greenspace does not just benefit wildlife but provides social benefits. Contact with the natural world actually benefits mental and physical health as well as providing environmental education opportunities.
- If managed wisely and sensitively, natural habitats can help mitigate the effects of flooding and pollution.

Principle 1 - Planning and Biodiversity

Planning proposals which have the potential to impact on wildlife should:

- Be accompanied by adequate information to allow an informed decision to be made.
- Seek to avoid and reduce species and habitat loss and fragmentation.
- Recognise direct, indirect and cumulative impacts of development.
- Provide adequate mitigation and compensation for adverse impacts.
- Deliver positive benefits including reversing the effects of historic loss and fragmentation of habitats and populations of wild species.
- Enhance the ecological value of existing sites and habitats and the links between them according to what is appropriate, by reference to the site's physical context.
- Where practicable, create wildlife habitats within developments and linkages with existing established sites and corridors of biodiversity value.
- Have regard to adopted biodiversity action plans and local landscape strategies.

3.0 WHY? – THE DRIVERS FOR BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION

3.0.1 The importance of biodiversity is reflected in a raft of protection measures provided through European and domestic law and policies, and other international conventions to which the UK is signatory. Generally, these set out measures relevant to land use planning that must or should be adopted in order to conserve wildlife, relevant to land-use planning. The key drivers are listed below, and discussed in relation to the relevant policies within the Kent and Medway Structure Plan.

Table 1. Biodiversity ‘Drivers’

Driver	Relevance to Land-Use Planning
International Drivers	
The Habitats Directive 1992 (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the establishment in Member States of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and establishes the mechanism, under Article 6, for the consideration of applications affecting these and Special Protection Areas (SPAs). ▪ Identifies non-bird species in need of particular conservation measures at a European level. ▪ Encourages development plans to include policies for the positive management of landscape features which provide valuable 'corridors' and 'stepping-stones' for wildlife.
The Wild Birds Directive 1979 (Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires the establishment in Member States of Special Protection Areas (SPAs). ▪ Identifies bird species in need of particular conservation measures at a European level.
The Ramsar Convention (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Requires signatories to identify and conserve wetlands of international importance.
National Drivers	
The Habitats Regulations 1994 (The Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Transposes the provisions of the Habitats Directive into UK legislation. The provisions for the consideration of applications affecting European Sites (SACs and SPAs) are set out in Regulations 48-53.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes the mechanism for notifying Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). ▪ Establishes protection mechanisms for wild species and identifies species in need of special conservation measures.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gives greater levels of protection to SSSIs by placing duties on public bodies. ▪ Strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation.
The Protection of Badgers Act 1992	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes protection measures for badgers and their setts.
The Hedgerow Regulations 1997	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes protection measures for 'important' hedgerows.
The Local Government Act 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establishes a power for local authorities to promote the 'well-being' of their area, including the promotion or improvement of the environmental wellbeing of their area, through, <i>inter alia</i>, the production of Community Strategies.
The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Confers powers on the Nature Conservancy Council and local authorities to create and maintain nature resources and to preserve natural beauty.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Bill is designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities, through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering government policy.
The Planning and Compensation Act 1991	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Schedule 12 requires local planning authorities to include in their development plans policies for "the conservation of the natural beauty and amenity of land and the improvement of the physical environment.
<p data-bbox="252 1317 683 1417">Planning Policy Statement 9 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation 2005</p> <p data-bbox="252 1554 683 1756">See also ODPM Circular 06/05: Defra Circular 01/05 Biodiversity and Geological Conservation : Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System</p> <p data-bbox="252 1861 683 1962">Planning for Biodiversity and Geological Conservation : A Guide to Good Practice</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ PPS 9 sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system. http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/833/PlanningPolicyStatement9BiodiversityandGeologicalConservationPDF243Kb_id1143833.pdf ▪ Circular 06/05 provides guidance on the range of legislative provisions at the international and national levels that will have impacts on planning decisions in so far as they relate to biodiversity and geological conservation. http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/319/Circular0605BiodiversityandGeologicalConservationStatutoryObligationsandTheirImm_id1144319.pdf ▪ Provides good practice guidance on ways in which local planning authorities can help deliver the national policies in PPS9 and comply with legal requirements http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/843/PlanningforBiodiversityandGeologicalConservationAGuidetoGoodPractice_id1164843.pdf

Planning Policy Statement 7 Sustainable Development in Rural Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sets out policy relating to the countryside. http://www.communities.gov.uk/pub/825/PlanningPolicyStatement7SustainableDevelopmentinRuralAreasPDF283Kb_id1143825.pdf
Regional Planning Guidance 9 for the South East (2001)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sets out regional policy for Biodiversity.
A Clear Vision for the South East: South East Plan Core Document Draft (March 2006)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out proposed new regional policy for Biodiversity
The UK Biodiversity Action Plan and Steering Group Report, 1994 & 1995	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Embodies the UK's commitment to the Convention on Biological Diversity (Earth Summit), Rio de Janeiro, 1992. ▪ Sets out the UK's plans for protecting and enhancing habitats and species of national conservation concern. <p>www.ukbap.org.uk</p>
Working with the Grain of Nature: a biodiversity strategy for England, 2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy.
The Kent Biodiversity Action Plan, 2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sets out local priorities for delivering the UK BAP, and actions for additional habitats and species of local conservation importance.
National guidance on woodlands – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • England Forestry Strategy • UK Forestry Standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The England Forestry Strategy sets out the Government's strategic priorities and programmes for forestry in England. • The UK Forestry Standard sets out the criteria and standards for the sustainable management of all forests and woodlands in the UK.
'Seeing the Wood for the Trees' A Forestry and Woodlands Framework for the South East Region : SEEDA, 2004	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Framework shows both what forestry can do for the region, and also what the region can do for its trees. • It sets priorities, agreed across a wide partnership, as to how we can work together to secure these benefits.

3.1 Kent and Medway Structure Plan Biodiversity Policies

- 3.1.1 Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006 policies are referred to in sections 3.2 to 3.5. Further explanation and background is given to each policy to amplify their meaning and importance in relation to biodiversity conservation.
- 3.1.2 Safeguarding existing natural and semi-natural habitats through site protection and management is a primary biodiversity objective. Table 2 provides an overview of the extent of Kent and Medway's habitats and designations.

Table 2. Kent's Wildlife Site Designations

Designation	Level of Importance	Number	Area in Kent and Medway (ha)
Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Ramsar* & Special Protection Area (SPA)	International	14	28,000
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	National	102 (English Nature)	33,000
National Nature Reserve (NNR)*	National	11	2,500
County Wildlife Sites	County	481	28,000
Local Nature Reserves	Local	37 (English Nature)	1,900

*All SPA, SAC, Ramsar and NNR sites are also designated SSSIs. Ramsar Sites are wetland habitats that have been designated under the "Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, 1971".

3.2 International and National Wildlife Designations

<p><i>Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006</i> <i>Policy EN6: International and National Wildlife Designations</i></p> <p>Development will not be permitted where it would directly, indirectly or cumulatively, materially harm the scientific or nature conservation interests of any of the following categories of sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a European site; • a proposed European site; • a Ramsar site; • a Site of Special Scientific Interest; • a National Nature Reserve

3.2.1 There are three types of international designations:

- i. **Ramsar Sites** - wetlands of international importance listed by the UK Government under the Ramsar Convention
- ii. **Special Protection Areas (SPAs)** - sites of European importance under the EC 1979 Wild Birds Directive
- iii. **Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)** - sites of European importance under the EU 1992 Habitats Directive

- 3.2.2 Sites that the UK Government has formally identified and/or proposed to the European Union as sites of European importance (i.e. candidate SACs and proposed SPAs) are accorded the same protection in planning law as those that have been designated.
- 3.2.3 Development and land use change, which may affect a European site, must be subject to the most rigorous examination to ensure that there is no potential for direct or indirect impacts to occur.
- 3.2.4 Development or land use proposals should demonstrate whether or not they are directly connected with or necessary to the *conservation objectives* for management of the site. Likewise they should indicate whether they are likely to have *significant adverse* effects on the site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 3.2.5 Harmful development may only be permitted where it can be proved:
- there is no alternative solution; and
 - there are imperative reasons of over-riding public interest for the development or land- use change.
- 3.2.6 Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species, the development can only occur when it can be demonstrated it is necessary for reasons of human health and/or public safety or for beneficial consequences of primary importance for nature conservation.
- 3.2.7 Where development that would cause harm to a European site is permitted, there is a statutory requirement to compensate for that loss or damage (Regulation 53 of the Conservation [Natural Habitats &c.] Regulations [1994])⁴.
- 3.2.8 Development should avoid impacts wherever possible, mitigate (i.e. minimise) where impacts are unavoidable, and compensate (i.e. redress) for any impacts that are ultimately incurred. For further information see PPS 9.

National Sites

- 3.2.9 National sites are Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), designated under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act. As with European sites, there will be occasions when the importance of a development will justify either temporary or permanent damage to a SSSI. Such occasions will be extremely rare and only occur when there is no reasonable alternative means of meeting that development need and it can be proved the reasons for the development clearly outweigh the Government's policy to safeguard the intrinsic nature conservation value of the national SSSI network.
- 3.2.10 Where development is permitted, the authority will need to consider the use of conditions or planning obligations to ensure the protection and enhancement of the site's nature conservation interest.

3.3 County and Local Wildlife Designations

Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006
Policy EN7: County and Local Wildlife Designations

Development which would materially harm the scientific or nature conservation interests, either directly, indirectly or cumulatively, of:

- **Local Nature Reserves**
- **County Wildlife Sites identified in Local Development Documents**
- **Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites**

will not be permitted unless there is a need which outweighs the local nature conservation or geological/geomorphological interest and adverse impacts can be adequately compensated.

Local Nature Reserves

3.3.1 Local Nature Reserves are a statutory designation. Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 gives principal local authorities the power to acquire, declare and manage nature reserves. Their objectives are to increase the public enjoyment and understanding of nature, as well as to further nature conservation. They are declared by local authorities, following consultation with English Nature on sites that offer outstanding opportunities for the public to experience nature.

County Wildlife Sites

3.3.2 Kent Wildlife Trust selects locally-chosen non-statutory sites as **County Wildlife Sites** (also known as 'Sites of Nature Conservation Importance' (SNCIs). PPS9 gives guidance on such sites and says that 'Local Plans should include planning policies to be applied to nature conservation sites indicating the criteria against which a development affecting a site will be judged' Defra has issued Guidance on the Identification, Selection and Management of Local Sites. County wildlife sites are:

- selected against published criteria;
- subject to consultation through the local plan process or as part of other supplementary planning guidance. Such consultation is essential if non-statutory sites are to be afforded the protection of strategic policy provided by Policy EN7.

Locally chosen sites are of crucial importance for delivering biodiversity targets. As well as habitats of local importance, they hold a large proportion of various nationally important habitats (especially when SSSI status conserves only a small proportion of a particular habitat, e.g. ancient woodland and lowland grassland) and support a number of nationally rare species.

In all cases where development is permitted which would damage the nature conservation value of the site or feature, such damage should be kept to a minimum. Where appropriate the local planning authority should apply conditions and/or planning obligations to provide appropriate mitigation and compensatory measures.

Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)

3.3.3 Identified by the Kent RIGS group using locally developed criteria, RIGS are currently the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected Geological SSSIs.

Geological SSSIs are chosen on a national basis. RIGS are selected on a local or regional basis using four nationally agreed criteria:

- The value of the site for educational purposes in life long learning
- The value of the site for study by both professional and amateur Earth scientists
- The historical value of the site in terms of important advances in Earth science knowledge, events or human exploitation
- The aesthetic value of a site in the landscape, particularly in relation to promoting public awareness and appreciation of Earth sciences

RIGS were introduced in 1990 and are analogous to County Wildlife Sites and other non-statutory wildlife designations.

3.4 Biodiversity

Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006

Policy EN8: Protecting, Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity

Important wildlife habitats and species will be protected, maintained and enhanced, especially through long term management and habitat creation schemes, where they have been identified as national and county priorities in the UK and Kent Biodiversity Action Plan(s), or where they are protected under wildlife legislation. This will be secured by:

- a) ensuring that site evaluation is undertaken to establish the nature conservation value of proposed development sites;**
- b) identifying, safeguarding and managing existing and potential land for nature conservation as part of development proposals, particularly where a connected series of sites can be achieved;**
- c) local planning authorities identifying locations and proposals for habitat and species management, restoration and creation.**

Development likely to have an adverse effect, directly, indirectly or cumulatively, on important habitats or species will not be permitted unless:

- **there is an overriding need for the development that outweighs adverse impact on nature conservation; and**
- **adverse impact on an important nature conservation resource can be adequately mitigated and/or compensated.**

3.4.2 Whilst being a very important tool, site designation and management alone cannot deliver all our national and local biodiversity objectives. Wildlife conservation within the wider countryside is also essential for both species and habitat protection.

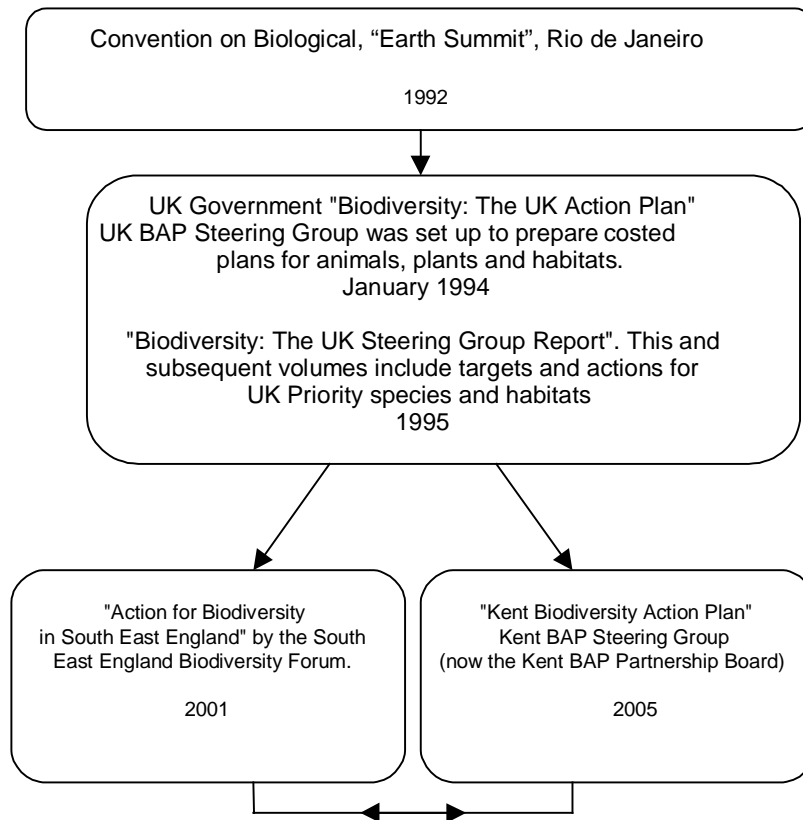
Protected Species

- 3.4.3 Certain wild species are protected under Schedule 1, 5 and 8 of the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)**. Badgers are protected under the **Badgers Act (1992)**. The **Habitats Regulations 1994** implement the requirements of the Habitats Directive for species listed in Annex IV of the Directive. The Wildlife and Countryside Act includes lists of species for which it is an offence to deliberately kill, injure, take or disturb the animal concerned, or to destroy their resting places or breeding sites; or, in the case of plants, to pick, collect, cut, uproot or otherwise destroy the listed species.
- 3.4.4 The legal protection given to these species reflects their rarity and vulnerability either to deliberate exploitation or incidental damage. Some species which are threatened at a national or international scale are relatively common or widespread in Kent including, for example, the dormouse and the great crested newt. This frequently makes them a material consideration in development control. It is not appropriate to carry out any trans-location or other mitigation work (other than general habitat enhancement) prior to the determination of a planning application. Where such work has been carried out prior to the submission of an application, planners should take this into account and, where appropriate, should consider the reinstatement of trans-located populations and/ or lost habitat. Breaches of wildlife law may also arise from subsidiary activities such as site survey involving excavation, the clearance of vegetation, or the use of heavy machinery on site. Such forms of survey should only be carried out after appropriate survey and mitigation for the protected species concerned.
- 3.4.5 Natural England (English Nature) should always be consulted over protected species issues. This obviously applies when such species are known to inhabit a proposed development site. It is also recommended where no specific data exist, but where there may be the potential for protected species to be present.
- 3.4.6 Where it is unavoidable that a development will damage habitat used by a protected species, it is a legal necessity to facilitate the survival of individual members of that species. The best means of avoiding adverse impact is provided by habitat creation or management that increases the extent or connectivity of suitable habitat.
- 3.4.7 A list of species protected under UK and European Law found in Kent are listed in Annex 2.

Biodiversity Action Plans

- 3.4.8 The European Community ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity in 1993. This required national governments to develop their own strategies and focus their activities on national priorities. A two step process was required: adoption of a national strategy followed by implementation of regional/local action plans. The UK Biodiversity Action Plan was produced in 1994, setting out, at a national level, the priorities for the UK. From this overall strategy, Kent County Council facilitated a partnership to develop a countywide Biodiversity Action Plan.

Figure 1. Linking International to Local Biodiversity Action Planning



3.4.9 Biodiversity Action Plans identify priority species and habitats for conservation. Whilst these species do not necessarily enjoy legal protection, they can be material considerations in development control. Once adopted, BAPs play an important role in delivering the objectives for biodiversity conservation. Development proposals should be encouraged to provide positive measures to contribute to their conservation targets as set out in the Kent and/or UK BAP.

3.4.10 The UK Biodiversity Action Plan classifies habitats and species into Broad (habitats only) and Priority classes. Priority habitats are a subset of the Broad habitats and are of particular conservation importance. Broad Habitats and Priority Habitats found in Kent are listed below in Table 3. Definitions for the habitat classes can be found on the UK Biodiversity Website (www.ukbap.org.uk). Annex 2 lists the priority species found in Kent.

Table 3. Broad Habitats and Priority Habitats of Kent.

BROAD HABITATS	PRIORITY HABITAT OF PARTICULAR CONSERVATION IMPORTANCE
ACID GRASSLAND	Lowland dry acid grassland
ARABLE AND HORTICULTURE	Cereal field margins
BOUNDARY AND LINEAR FEATURES	Ancient species rich hedgerows
BRACKEN	
BROADLEAVED, MIXED AND YEW WOODLAND	Lowland beech & yew woodland
	Lowland wood pasture and parkland
	Wet woodland
BUILT UP AREAS AND GARDENS	
CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND	Lowland calcareous grassland
CONIFEROUS WOODLAND	
DWARF SHRUB HEATH	Lowland heath
FEN, MARSH AND SWAMP	Lowland fens
	Reedbeds
IMPROVED GRASSLAND	Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh
INLAND ROCK	
INSHORE SEDIMENT	Inshore sublittoral sediment
	Saline lagoons
	Seagrass beds
LITTORAL ROCK	Littoral chalk
LITTORAL SEDIMENT	Mudflats
	Coastal saltmarsh
NEUTRAL GRASSLAND	Lowland hay meadows
RIVERS AND STREAMS	Chalk Rivers
SUPRALITTORAL ROCK	Maritime cliffs and slopes
SUPRALITTORAL SEDIMENT	Coastal sand dunes
	Coastal vegetated shingle
STANDING WATER AND CANALS	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies
	Eutrophic standing waters
	Mesotrophic lakes

3.5 Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

Kent and Medway Structure Plan 2006
Policy EN9: Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows

Provision should be made for the creation of new woodland, especially indigenous broad-leaved species at appropriate locations in Kent, including provision of new habitats as part of development proposals.

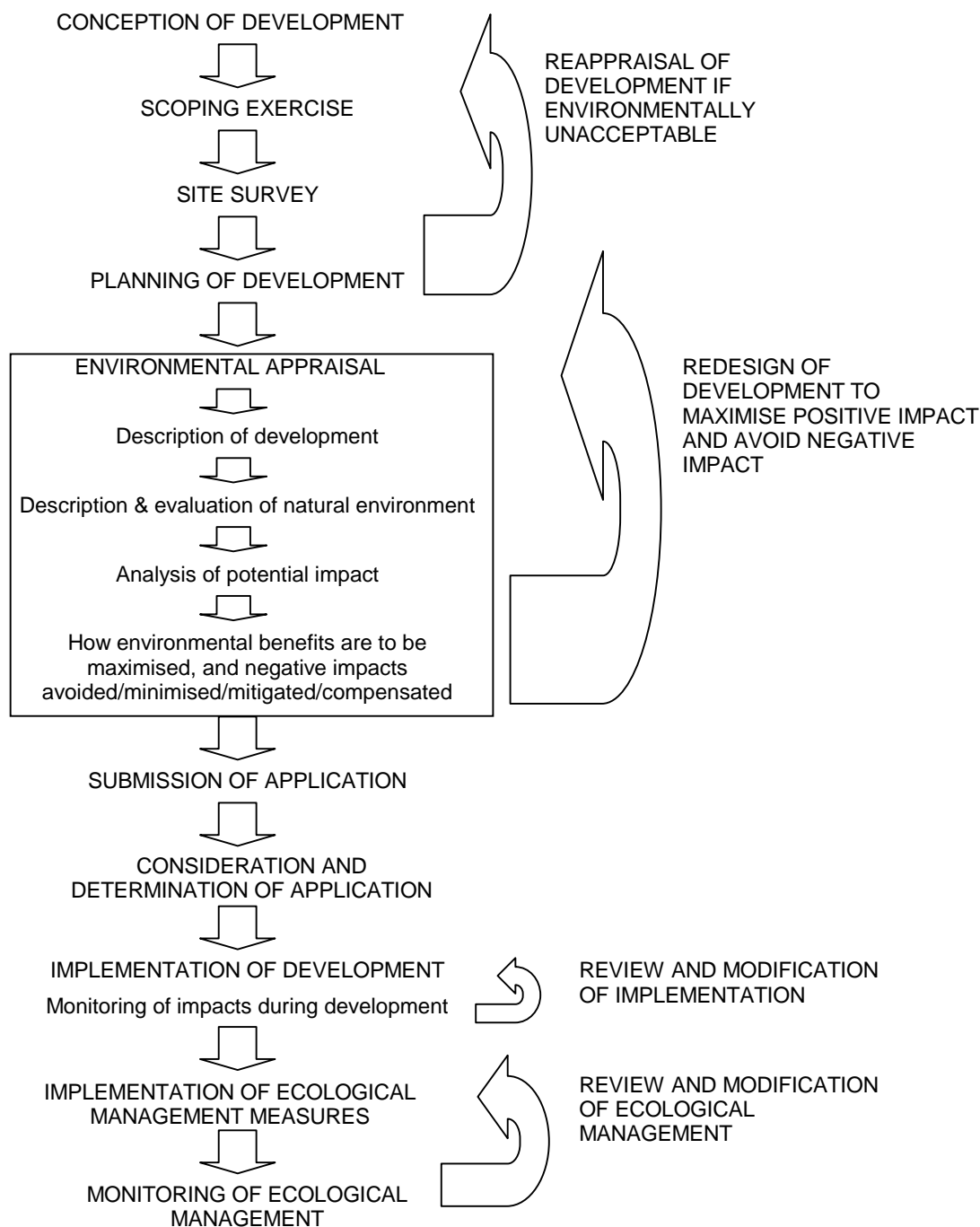
Tree cover and the hedgerow network should be maintained. Additionally, they should be enhanced where this would improve the landscape, biodiversity, or link existing woodland habitats. Ancient and semi-natural woodland will be protected and, where possible, enhanced.

- 3.5.1 Trees, woodland and hedgerows are important features in the Kent and Medway landscape. They contribute to landscape character, provide wildlife habitats and also have a commercial value.
- 3.5.2 Woodland cover accounts for less than 11% of the area of Kent and Medway. Hedgerows and woodland have been lost largely through agricultural intensification and development. Nonetheless, in the 1990s there was little change in the length of hedges and planting, with better management of hedges gathering pace.
- 3.5.3 Hedgerows of wildlife importance are provided protection under the Hedgerow Regulations. In Kent important hedgerows are widespread but are particularly prevalent in the North Downs and High and Low Weald Natural Areas.
- 3.5.4 Kent possesses more identified ancient woodland than any other county in the UK - around 10% of the national total. This is a unique resource in terms of biodiversity, heritage and landscape character. Ancient woodland is land continuously wooded since AD1600. Areas of ancient woodland that have never been cleared or replanted are known as semi-natural ancient woodland. This resource cannot increase and is irreplaceable.

4.0 HOW SHOULD BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION BE CONSIDERED?

- 4.1 The bodies that determine or are consulted on planning applications, or otherwise regulate development, need to ensure that development is sustainable in its impact on the natural environment and biodiversity. Figure 2 below outlines how a development should be planned, evaluated and implemented in order to take biodiversity into account. It is important to note how an understanding of the biodiversity interest of a site, and the impact of the development upon it feeds back into the planning and implementation of the development.

Figure 2



Principle 2 – Development Proposals and Biodiversity Conservation

Development Proposals should clearly show that:

- All relevant aspects of the natural environment have been properly taken into account in the design of the development and its associated works.
- An appropriate assessment of the development's potential impact and the role it can play in positively contributing to biodiversity conservation has been undertaken.

- 4.2 The following will help ensure that all parties involved in a planning application, including the developer, the planning authority, and any consultees, adopt a consistent approach and are clear on what is expected in the consideration of biodiversity and the natural environment. This will ensure development proposals can be processed with the minimum of difficulty.
- 4.3 Generally, the greater the size and/or potential impact of the development, the greater the level of consideration expected. All developments must comply with wildlife law. The potential impact of even the smallest development on biodiversity should be considered.
- 4.4 Formal Environmental Statements are not legally required for all developments. However, a planning statement submitted in support of an application should include some form of written ecological appraisal. Demonstrating that consideration has been given to this issue is important, even where this has concluded there is no expected impact on wildlife.
- 4.5 The ecological appraisal should make reference to the known or suspected biodiversity interest of the development site and to the potential impact of the development upon this interest. For major developments (as defined under the General Development Procedure Order 1995), developers must be able to show that they have followed the procedure set out in this section of the Supplementary Planning Guidance.
- 4.6 A fully detailed appraisal of a development's potential impact on biodiversity and the natural environment will need to be provided where a formal Environmental Statement is required as part of a planning application. The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations (the "EIA Regulations") set out the circumstances under which such a statement will be required.

Scoping the content of the ecological appraisal

- 4.7 Careful consideration should be given to the nature and extent of the ecological appraisal, and of the ecological survey that informs it. This may be aided by making reference to existing sources of biological data and to policy documents such as national and local Biodiversity Action Plans. It will often also be appropriate to consult on the scope of the required ecological appraisal, and a formal scoping exercise will help to target work towards the known or suspected interest of the site. The organisations listed in Annex 9 can help advise on this. The considerations listed can also be used informally as a checklist for applications, which do not require an Environmental Statement but have biodiversity implications.

Good Practice: Project Scoping and Ecological Appraisal

The following issues need to be considered and appropriately included in the appraisal:

- A description of the physical characteristics of the whole development, including a description of its design and layout, and of its land-use requirements during construction and after completion.
- A description of the aspects of the natural environment likely to be affected by the development. This should include:
 - The biodiversity interest of the site and of the surrounding area where appropriate. The appraisal should clearly identify the most important aspects of the environment, especially national or local Red Data Book & BAP species, BAP habitats, locally scarce species and habitats, protected species, and species or habitats of historic, scientific or popular interest.
 - Landscape features of importance to this biodiversity interest.
 - Soils, hydrology, and features of geological or geophysical interest, particularly where these are important for maintaining biodiversity interest on site and elsewhere, or where they may be of scientific interest in their own right.
- An analysis of the potential impact of the proposed development upon the natural environment, including:
 - A description of the likely impacts and the features which would be affected, together with the likelihood and duration of any impacts.
 - An examination of the site and its biodiversity interest in a regional and local context. This may include, for example, the potential of the proposed development to fragment surrounding habitats or to reduce the size of a wider population of a particular species. Where the development is one of a number of new schemes within a particular area, consideration should also be given to impacts resulting from the interaction of the proposed development with other, external factors.
 - An analysis of the significance of each of the identified impacts. This should set out both the importance of the feature at local, regional, national and international scales (as appropriate), and identify the scale or magnitude of the impact.
- Details of the methods and procedures to ensure that all impacts are dealt with and that gains are made for biodiversity. This should include descriptions of the way in which:
 - The development has been designed and will be managed to maximise any positive impact.
 - The development has been designed to minimise any negative impact.
 - Any negative impacts *during* the development works will be minimised, managed or mitigated.
 - Any negative impacts resulting from the completed works will be minimised.
 - Any remaining impact upon the important features will be compensated.
 - Any ecological measures will be managed in the long term.
 - The ecological measures will be monitored and their success measured.
 - The long-term success of the proposed ecological measures will be ensured.

4.8 It is essential in the early stages of planning a development, including the master planning stage, that an initial survey of an appropriate scale and type is carried out. Without an adequate survey it is very difficult to fully take into account a site's biodiversity interest at the appropriate stage to ensure that the development is

integrated with its environment rather than being 'fitted around' the development. This should also prevent delays occurring at a later stage in the planning process, for example, by establishing the presence or absence of protected species.

Principle 3 – Ecological Survey

- A survey of the natural environment and biodiversity interest of a site should be seen as an essential precursor to any development.
- An adequate site survey should provide a means of establishing the baseline occurrence, distribution and extent of nature conservation features on site and in the surrounding area.
- An ecological appraisal must be properly informed by an appropriate survey and/or other data gathering exercise.
- Surveys should be appropriate in their level of detail according to the scale of the development proposal. They should examine the development site in its wider context and should consider the development's potential impact upon biodiversity and the natural environment beyond the site boundaries, in the same way that the impact of a development upon traffic is considered.
- Ecological surveys provided by developers should be recorded and stored centrally.

4.9 The biodiversity checklist in Annex 3 will ensure biodiversity issues are considered when developing a planning proposal and processing a planning application.

4.10 It is important that survey work is carried out by suitably qualified and experienced ecologists, that it is systematic, and that it follows recognised procedures or guidelines where appropriate. It is just as important to allow sufficient time for all necessary surveys to be carried out. Surveys of plants and invertebrates may take all of spring, summer and autumn to undertake properly. A bird survey of a site with important breeding and wintering populations may take a year or sometimes longer. In some instances surveys over 2 or 3 years may be required to establish accurate trends or baseline conditions.

4.11 The ecological appraisal should include detail of the surveys carried out and methodologies used, ensuring the appropriateness of the survey work can be understood. In their determination of any planning application planning authorities should ensure that any ecological appraisal is assessed by a competent, professional ecologist.

4.12 Ideally, development should be drawn up so that all negative impacts are mitigated or compensated, and all potential benefits maximised, as part of the design process. The ecological appraisal should show how this has been done, identify all the potential benefits and set out any remaining negative impacts. The appraisal should concentrate on important biodiversity features but should also recognise the importance of the natural environment in its own right and seek to enhance more common habitats and species where appropriate.

Principle 4 – Ecological Enhancement, Mitigation and Compensation

The following should be considered to be the order of priority in the treatment of biodiversity as part of any new development:

- To maintain and secure benefits for the site's current biodiversity interest.
- To avoid any negative impact on biodiversity.
- To enhance the site's potential for biodiversity interest
- To mitigate⁵ any negative impact through habitat enhancement, restoration, and/or recreation on site.
- To compensate⁶ for any negative impact through provision of other habitat or biodiversity features on site.
- To assess the scope for integrating developments with existing networks of areas and corridors of high biodiversity value.

Proposals for mitigation or compensation must:

- Be practical and achievable; in particular, developers must be certain that any mitigation to be dealt with as a reserved matter can actually be implemented.
- Follow current good practice, and be drawn up by suitably qualified and experienced ecologists.
- Ensure that the various elements of the scheme are considered in relation to each other so that there is no conflict, for example between providing scrub for birds and providing grassland for invertebrates.
- Ensure that long-term management is secured, and that suitable monitoring procedures are put in place.
- Consider the procedure to be followed, should monitoring show that the ecological activities are not producing the desired outcome. It is not enough to accept the failure of a mitigation, compensation or enhancement scheme, particularly where such a scheme is a condition of planning consent.
- Wherever appropriate, make reference to and/ or draw on resources being developed as part of the Kent Landscape Information System, and on other tools and resources identified in section 5.0 of this guidance.
- Consider the natural character of the landscape, the natural area and the capability of the land to meet measures of mitigation and compensation.

4.13 Translocation of habitats or species should not normally be considered as a form of mitigation or compensation for the purposes of planning. The general difficulty and unproven efficacy of translocation means that nature conservation agencies do not accept it as a valid nature conservation method. Translocation should only be used in two situations:

- Where the translocation is used only as a temporary stop-gap, for example, where reptiles are moved from a site during works but allowed back after the works are completed; or
- Where the development is to proceed notwithstanding any impact upon a protected species and where translocation is the only method to avoid direct killing or injury of individual animals or plants.

⁵ Mitigation in this context means the amelioration or moderation of impacts.

⁶ Compensation in this context means measures to counterbalance or offset any residual negative impacts, through, for example, recreating an affected feature on another site or creating a new ecological feature on the affected site.

5.0 THE TOOLS – WHAT RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP CONSIDERATION OF BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION?

5.1 The following tools will assist in preparing a development proposal that could impact on wildlife as well as in the determination of applications. Each is explained in more detail below.

- Natural Areas (refer to section 5.1)
- Kent Habitat Survey 2003 (refer to section 5.2)
- Priorities for Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitat Action (refer to section 5.3)
- Priorities for BAP Habitat Extent (refer to section 5.3)
- Kent BAP Targets (refer to section 5.3)
- Kent Landscape Information System (refer to section 5.5)
- Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre (refer to section 5.6)
- Published Information Resources (refer to section 5.7)
- Relevant Contacts/Organisations (refer to section 5.8)

Natural Areas

5.2 English Nature has divided England into Natural Areas. Each Natural Area has a unique identity, and a characteristic association of wildlife and natural habitats, resulting from the interaction of wildlife, landforms, geology, land use and human impact.

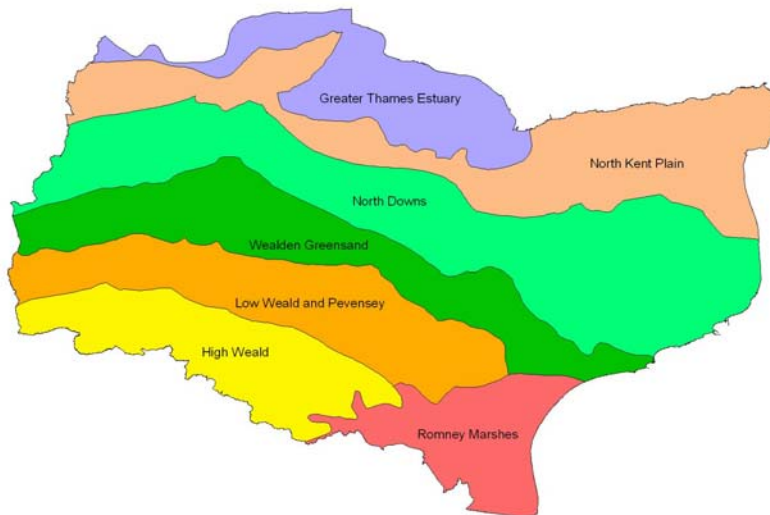
5.3 For example, a mosaic of chalk grassland and ancient broad-leaved woodland typifies the scarp slope of the North Downs. The Thames Estuary contains a mosaic of low lying grazing marsh, saltmarsh and mudflats that, in combination, are particularly important in supporting large populations of breeding and winter waders and wildfowl.

5.4 There are ten Natural Areas in Kent, providing the landscape context for Kent's biodiversity resources:

- Thames Estuary
- North Kent Plain
- North Downs
- Wealden Greensand
- Romney Marshes
- High Weald
- Low Weald/ Pevensy
- North Kent Coast
- East Kent Coast
- Folkestone to Selsey Bill

Natural Area Strategies have been produced by English Nature and can be accessed via the English Nature website (refer to Annex 8 for further details).

Natural Areas, excluding the North Kent Coast, East Kent Coast and Folkestone to Selsey Bill, are shown in Map 1.



Map 1. Natural Areas of Kent

Source: Countryside Commission/ English Nature. 1996

Kent Habitat Survey 2003

- 5.5 The Kent Habitat Survey, completed in 2003, identifies the distribution, and quantifies the extent of, wildlife habitats in the county at a broad scale (Phase 1 Survey equivalent) and includes Kent's broad and priority habitats. The survey can be particularly useful in helping to scope the spatial implications and scale of potential impacts of development on wildlife in the county. This information will be available from the Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre (refer to 5.6).
- 5.6 Annex 4 outlines the spatial extent in hectares of each habitat as well as the designated sites (SSSIs and wildlife sites). Any development proposal should consider its implications on the extent and spatial distribution of these habitats. For example, loss of chalk grassland could have implications at a natural area level, county level, national and international level given the relatively small extent of this important habitat countywide.
- 5.7 Map 2 in Annex 5 demonstrates how spatial information on the current extent of chalk grassland may be extracted for one area of Kent.

Priorities for Habitat Action and Kent Biodiversity Action Plan Targets

- 5.8 Annex 6 identifies for each Kent BAP priority habitat, whether the priority is for protection/maintain (Pr), creation/recreation (Cr), restoration/enhancement (Re), and/or education (Ed). This has been determined by the Kent Biodiversity Partnership and provides an indicative guide to help assess conservation priorities for UK BAP habitats occurring in each of the Natural Areas of Kent, including development mitigation and compensation proposals.
- 5.9 Blank cells indicate that a habitat does not occur in a particular Natural Area or that it would not be a priority to take action for that particular habitat in the Natural Area.
- 5.10 Annex 7 provides targets for the maintenance, enhancement/restoration and creation/recreation of Kent BAP habitats agreed by the Kent Biodiversity Partnership. Targets for each Natural Area will be prepared as part of a review of

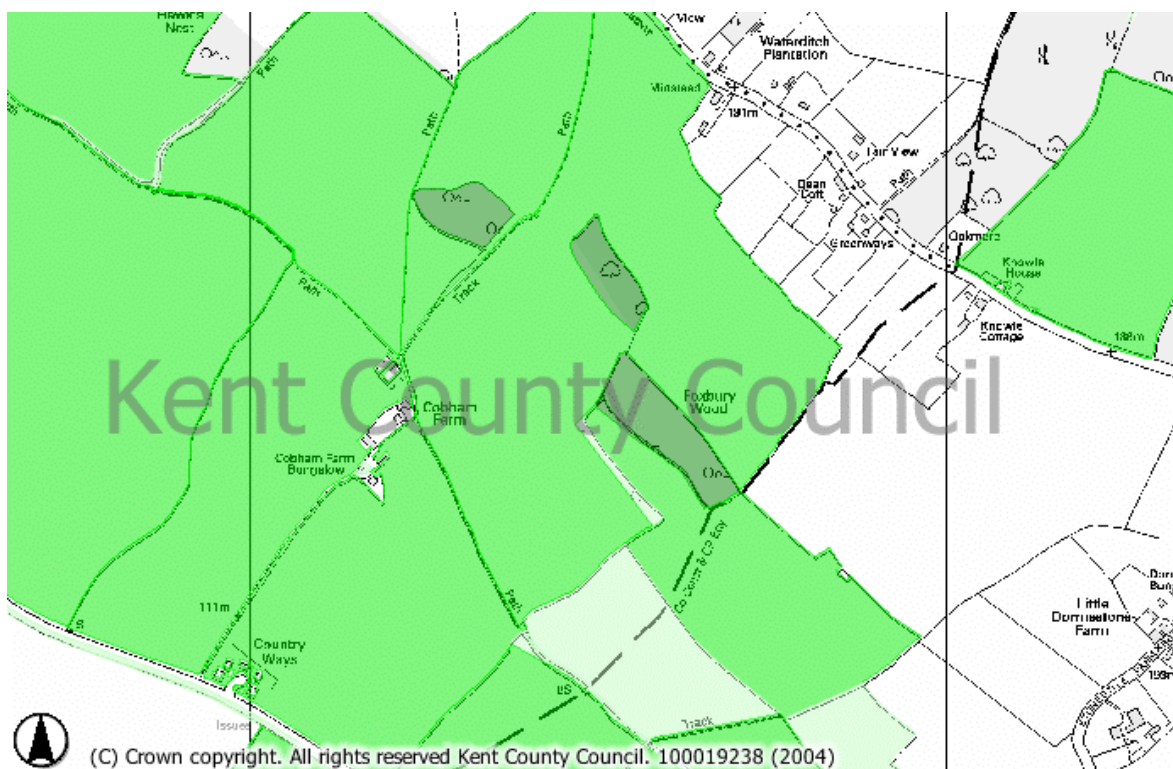
the Kent Biodiversity Action Plan. Annex 10 provides the rationale for setting these habitat targets. Formulation of a development proposal should consider whether it has a positive or negative impact on these habitat targets.

Kent Landscape Information System (KLIS)

- 5.11 An Information System has been developed to allow map-based habitat creation and restoration options to be identified to inform land-use planning and land management (see www.kent.gov.uk/klis)
- 5.12 The Information System will assemble a range of data including the Habitat Survey 2003 and Habitat Opportunity maps, providing a model with the potential to inform decisions for a range of users on where to focus nature conservation in Kent and Medway. It will provide a simple and effective means of assessing current habitat extent (Habitat Survey 2003) and habitat opportunity within development and the wider countryside, alongside habitat targets.

Kent Landscapes Information System (K- LIS)

By visiting the K-LIS website maps can be created using online data such as Aerial Photography, Designated Areas (AONBs, Ancient Woodland, Nature Reserves, etc), Habitat Opportunities, Landcover 1961 and 1972, Current Habitats, Physical Environment, Historical Ordnance Survey mapping data and Landscape Character. The maps below show examples of Habitat Opportunity for chalk grassland at different scales.



Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre

- 5.13 A Biological Records Centre (BRC) has been established in Kent providing a broad range of biological data - on both species and habitats - available to regulatory bodies, local authorities, land managers, businesses and members of the public. It operates in line with National Biodiversity Network (NBN) standards, and is part of the proposed national network of biological record centres.
- 5.14 Users of biological data can enter service level agreements for data provision or request information on an *ad hoc* basis.
- 5.15 The BRC supports and promotes biological recording by making training and resources available. It works closely with existing biological recorders to ensure that data is up-to-date, accurate, and properly presented.
- 5.16 It operates as an independent limited company managed by a Board that includes biological recorders and key data users, local authorities, wildlife agencies and private sector companies. It is this Board that decides policy on such issues as data gathering, accessibility, and presentation. The BRC is currently based at the Kent Wildlife Trust headquarters near Maidstone.

Published Information Resources

- 5.17 For more information on relevant references and resources, refer to Annex 8.

Relevant Contacts/Organisations

- 5.18 For more information on useful contacts and organisations, refer to Annex 9.

Annex 1 Glossary

Biodiversity	Biological diversity (i.e. the variety of [wild] life on earth)
Biodiversity Action Plan	The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) was published in January 1994 in response to the Biodiversity Convention as a national strategy for the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of biological resources. The UK BAP included contributions from Government, statutory conservation agencies, the academic world and the voluntary sector. It committed the Government and its agencies to 59 programmes or tasks with the aim of conserving species and habitats; developing public awareness and understanding; and contributing to biodiversity work in the European and global context. Local BAPs (e.g. the Kent BAP) are being produced to implement the UK BAP at the local level and to reflect the particular character and biodiversity issues facing local areas.
Climate change	Climate change is occurring through human activity, such as burning petrol and oil, which adds to the blanket of greenhouse gases surrounding the earth. Carbon dioxide accounts for over 80% of global warming, which creates extreme weather conditions (e.g. floods, heat waves), threatens plant and animal habitats, and is likely to lead to species extinctions.
Earth Summit	The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro 1992. At this Conference the Convention of Biological Diversity was signed by 159 governments. It entered into force on 29 December 1993 and it was the first treaty to provide a legal framework for biodiversity conservation. It called for the creation and enforcement of national strategies and action plans to conserve, protect and enhance biological diversity.
Hydrological system	The system of water movement from the atmosphere (as rain or snow), through soil and rocks, into ponds, rivers and other watercourses, and eventually out to the sea or back into the atmosphere. Wetland habitats, including springs, streams, rivers, ponds, and lakes, are invariably dependent on wider hydrological systems. Interruptions to these systems can threaten the wetlands and their associated biodiversity.
Planning conditions	Most planning consents contain specific conditions imposed by the local planning authority not only to enhance the quality of the development it is permitting, but also to mitigate against, and control any adverse effects that might otherwise result from the development. Such conditions relate to land under the control of the applicant/developer or landowner, and may also relate to land outside the application site.
Planning obligations	Planning obligations, also known as section 106 agreements, are typically agreements between local planning authorities and developers negotiated in the context of granting a planning consent. They provide a means of ensuring that developers contribute towards the infrastructure and services that local authorities believe to be necessary to facilitate proposed

	developments. Contributions may either be in cash or in kind.
Priority habitat	A habitat type with unique or significant value to many species, and which has its own Action Plan in the UK BAP.
Red Data Book (RDB)	A book listing species considered under threat of extinction within a particular area.
Reserved matter	An outline planning application can be submitted to establish the acceptability of the principle of development without showing details of the siting, design, external appearance or means of access or enclosure to the development. Any or all of these can be reserved for future approval, and are known as 'reserved matters'.
Sustainability	The maintenance of social, economic and environmental systems in a way that avoids long-term damage to the environment and depletion of natural resources.
Sustainable Development	Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Recent government guidance indicates that sustainable development can be considered as the simultaneous enhancement of social, economic and environmental well-being.
Wildlife	Naturally occurring animals and plants.

Annex 2 UK BAP Species Recorded in Kent and/or Protected Under UK and European Law

- A2.1 221 UK BAP Priority Species (shaded) and Species of Conservation Concern which are known to occur or to have occurred in Kent in recent decades are in the list below. The list has been extracted from the Kent Red Data Book.
- A2.2 This list is included to provide a guide to nature conservation priorities in Kent. However, it cannot be considered definitive, as it is likely that additional UK BAP species remain to be discovered or rediscovered in the county.
- A2.3 Many of these species are protected under European and UK law. It only includes species whose protection is likely to affect land-use planning in Kent. For example, birds protected by special penalties against disturbance at the nest are only included if they are known to nest in the county.
- A2.4 Note that almost all birds carry some level of legal protection under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The list below therefore only includes those birds protected by special penalties.
- A2.5 Under the terms of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 it is an offence to wilfully kill, injure, take, possess or cruelly ill treat a badger and to intentionally or recklessly interfere with a badger's sett.
- A2.6 To understand the implications for land-use planning of the protection of different species, reference should be made to the original legislation and legal advice sought where necessary.

Key to UK BAP Priority Species (shaded) and Species of Conservation Concern

- EC (Habitats)** Listed in the European Habitats Directive 1992 (the European Communities Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora).
- EC (Birds)** Listed in the European Birds Directive 1979 (The European Communities Council Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds).
- PBA** Protected under the terms of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992
- WCA1** Listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Schedule 1 lists birds protected by special penalties at all time.
- WCA5** Listed on Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Schedule 5 lists animals, other than birds, which are variously protected.
- WCA8** Listed on Schedule 8 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Schedule 8 lists protected plants and fungi.

Species	Common Name	Protection
LICHENS		
<i>Lecanactis hemisphaerica</i>		WCA8
<i>Parmelia quercina</i>		
<i>Physcia clementei</i>		
FUNGI		
<i>Battarraea phalloides</i>	sandy stilt puffball	
<i>Boletus satanus</i>	devil's bolete	
<i>Hericinum erinaceum</i>	hedgehog fungus	WCA8
<i>Hygrocybe calyptriformis</i>		
MOSSES		
<i>Atrichum angustatum</i>		
<i>Bryum warneum</i>	sea bryum	
<i>Ephemerum recurvifolium</i>		
<i>Fissidens celticus</i>		
<i>Fissidens exiguus</i>		
<i>Sphagnum capillifolium</i> ssp <i>rubellum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum compactum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum cuspidatum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum magellanicum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum pulchrum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum squarrosum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum subnitens</i> ssp <i>subnitens</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Sphagnum tenellum</i>		EC (Habitats)
<i>Seligeria calycina</i>		
<i>Weissia squarrosa</i>		
FERNS		
<i>Dryopteris aemula</i>	hay-scented buckler-fern	
FLOWERING PLANTS		
Ranunculaceae		
<i>Adonis annua</i>	pheasant's-eye	
<i>Ranunculus tripartitus</i>	three-lobed crowfoot	
Chenopodiaceae		
<i>Chenopodium vulvaria</i>	stinking goosefoot	WCA8
Caryophyllaceae		
<i>Dianthus armeria</i>	Deptford pink	WCA8
Malvaceae		
<i>Althaea hirsuta</i>	rough marsh-mallow	WCA8
Apiaceae		
<i>Eryngium campestre</i>	field eryngo	WCA8
<i>Scandix pecten-veneris</i>	shepherd's-needle	
<i>Sium latifolium</i>	great water-parsnip	
Fabaceae		
<i>Lotus angustissimus</i>	slender bird's-foot-trefoil	
<i>Ulex gallii</i>	western gorse	
Buxaceae		
<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	Box	
Euphorbiaceae		
<i>Euphorbia platyphyllos</i>	broad-leaved spurge	
Gentianaceae		
<i>Gentianella anglica</i>	early gentian	EC (Habitats),

Species	Common Name	Protection
		WCA8
Boraginaceae		
<i>Cynoglossum germanicum</i>	green hound's-tongue	WCA8
Lamiaceae		
<i>Ajuga chamaepitys</i>	ground-pine	WCA8
<i>Galeopsis angustifolia</i>	red hemp-nettle	
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	meadow clary	WCA8
<i>Teucrium botrys</i>	cut-leaved germander	WCA8
Orobanchaceae		
<i>Orobanche artemisiae-campestris</i>	oxtongue broomrape	WCA8
<i>Orobanche caryophyllacea</i>	bedstraw broomrape	WCA8
<i>Orobanche rapum-genistae</i>	greater broomrape	
Asteraceae		
<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	Cornflower	
<i>Chamaemelum nobile</i>	Chamomile	
<i>Crepis foetida</i>	stinking hawk's-beard	WCA8
<i>Filago pyramidata</i>	broad-leaved cudweed	WCA8
<i>Gnaphalium luteoalbum</i>	Jersey cudwed	WCA8
<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	smooth cat's-ear	
<i>Lactuca saligna</i>	least lettuce	WCA8
Cyperaceae		
<i>Carex vulpina</i>	true fox-sedge	
Orchidaceae		
<i>Cephalanthera longifolia</i>	narrow-leaved helleborine	
<i>Himantoglossum hircinum</i>	lizard orchid	WCA8
<i>Ophrys fuciflora</i>	late spider-orchid	WCA8
<i>Ophrys sphegodes</i>	early spider-orchid	WCA8
<i>Orchis simia</i>	monkey orchid	WCA8
MOLLUSCS		
Planorbidae		
<i>Segmentina nitida</i>	shining ram's horn	
Vertiginidae		
<i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>	des Moulin's whorl snail	EC (Habitats)
Clausiliidae		
<i>Clausilia dubia</i>	craven door snail	
Limacidae		
<i>Malacolimax tenellus</i>	slender slug	
Helicidae		
<i>Ashfordia granulata</i>	silky snail	
<i>Helix pomatia</i>	Roman snail	EC (Habitats)
<i>Monacha cartusiana</i>	chartreuse snail	
TRUE WORMS		
Ampharetidae		
<i>Alkamaria romijini</i>	tentacled lagoon worm	
Hirudidae		
<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i>	medicinal leech	EC (Habitats), WCA5
CRUSTACEANS		
Amphipoda		
<i>Gammarus insensibilis</i>	lagoon sand shrimp	WCA5

Species	Common Name	Protection
Decapoda		
<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>	white-clawed crayfish	EC (Habitats), WCA5
ARACHNIDS		
Pseudoscorpions		
<i>Neobisium carpenteri</i> agg.	a pseudoscorpion	
Spiders		
Lycosidae		
<i>Pardosa paludicola</i>	a wolf spider	
Liocranidae		
<i>Agroeca lusatica</i>		
<i>Apostenus fuscus</i>		
Thomisidae		
<i>Pistius truncatus</i>	a crab spider	
Salticidae		
<i>Euophrys browningi</i>	a jumping spider	
<i>Pellenes tripunctatus</i>	a jumping spider	
INSECTS		
Dragonflies and damselflies		
Lestidae		
<i>Lestes dryas</i>	scarce emerald damselfly	
Libellulidae		
<i>Libellula fulva</i>	scarce chaser	
Grasshoppers and crickets		
Tettigoniidae		
<i>Decticus verrucivorus</i>	wart-biter	WCA5
<i>Gryllotalpa gryllotalpa</i>	mole cricket	WCA5
Bugs		
Cicadellidae		
<i>Aphrodes duffieldi</i>	a leaf hopper	
Miridae		
<i>Orthotylus rubidus</i>		
Butterflies		
Hesperiidae		
<i>Hesperia comma</i>	silver-spotted skipper	WCA5
Lycaenidae		
<i>Lysandra bellargus</i>	adonis blue	
Nymphalidae		
<i>Apatura iris</i>	purple emperor	
<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	silver-washed fritillary	
<i>Boloria euphrosyne</i>	pearl-bordered fritillary	
<i>Mellicta athalia</i>	heath fritillary	WCA5
Riodinidae		
<i>Hamearis lucina</i>	Duke of Burgundy	
Moths		
Arctiidae		
<i>Eilema pygmaeola</i> ssp. <i>Pallifrons</i>	Dungeness pygmy footman	
<i>Eilema pygmaeola</i> ssp. <i>Pygmaeola</i>	pygmy footman	
Geometridae		

Species	Common Name	Protection
<i>Aplasta ononaria</i>	rest harrow	
<i>Aspitates gilvaria</i>	straw belle	
<i>Idaea ochrata</i>	bright wave	
<i>Scopula nigropunctata</i>	sub-angled wave	
<i>Siona lineata</i>	black-veined moth	WCA5
<i>Thalera fimbrialis</i>	Sussex emerald	WCA5
<i>Thetidia smaragdaria</i>	Essex emerald	WCA5
Limacodidae		
<i>Heterogenea asella</i>	Triangle	
Noctuidae		
<i>Calophasia lunula</i>	toadflax brocade	
<i>Catocala promissa</i>	light crimson underwing	
<i>Catocala sponsa</i>	dark crimson underwing	
<i>Deltote bankiana</i>	silver barred	
<i>Hadena albimacula</i>	white spot	
<i>Heliothis viriplaca</i>	marbled clover	
<i>Hydraecia osseola</i>	marsh mallow moth	
<i>Jodia croceago</i>	orange upperwing	
<i>Moma alpium</i>	scarce merveille du jour	
<i>Schrankia intermedialis</i>	autumnal snout	
Notodontidae		
<i>Clostera anachoreta</i>	scarce chocolate-tip	
Pyralidae		
<i>Agrotera nemoralis</i>		
<i>Pima boisduvaliella</i>		
<i>Sciota hostilis</i>		
Sesiidae		
<i>Bembecia chrysidiformis</i>	fiery clearwing	WCA5
Beetles		
Carabidae		
<i>Amara strenua</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Anisodactylus poeciloides</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Badister anomalus</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Harpalus cordatus</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Harpalus parallelus</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Lebia cyanocephala</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Lionychus quadrillum</i>	a ground beetle	
<i>Panagaeus cruxmajor</i>	a ground beetle	
Chrysomelidae		
<i>Cryptocephalus coryli</i>	a leaf beetle	
Elateridae		
<i>Ampedus cardinalis</i>	a click beetle	
<i>Ampedus rufipennis</i>	a click beetle	
Hydrophilidae		
<i>Hydrophilus piceus</i>	great silver water beetle	
Bees, wasps and ants		
Apidae		
<i>Andrena gravaida</i>	banded mining bee	
<i>Bombus ruderatus</i>	large garden bumble bee	
<i>Bombus subterraneus</i>	short haired bumble bee	
<i>Bombus sylvarum</i>	shrill carder bee	

Species	Common Name	Protection
<i>Lasioglossum pauperatum</i>	a mining bee	
<i>Nomada ferruginata</i>	a cuckoo bee	
Chrysididae		
<i>Chrysis fulgida</i>	a ruby-tailed wasp	
Formicidae		
<i>Formica rufibarbis</i>	the red-barbed ant	
Pompilidae		
<i>Evagetes pectinipes</i>	a spider wasp	
Sphecidae		
<i>Cerceris quadricincta</i>	a solitary wasp	
<i>Cerceris quinquefasciata</i>	a solitary wasp	
<i>Miscophus ater</i>	a solitary wasp	
<i>Pemphredon austriaca</i>	a solitary wasp	
True flies		
Asilidae		
<i>Asilus crabroniformis</i>	hornet robber-fly	
Bombyliidae		
<i>Bombylius discolor</i>		
<i>Bombylius minor</i>		
Dolichopodidae		
<i>Poecilobothrus ducalis</i>		
Limoniidae		
<i>Erioptera bivitatta</i>		
<i>Lipsothrix nervosa</i>		
Stratiomyidae		
<i>Odontomyia argentata</i>		
<i>Odontomyia ornata</i>		
<i>Stratiomys chamaeleon</i>		
Syrphidae		
<i>Didea alneti</i>		
<i>Eumerus ornatus</i>		
<i>Lejops vittatus</i>		
<i>Microdon devius</i>		
<i>Pocota personata</i>		
Tephritidae		
<i>Urophora quadrifasciata</i>	four-banded knapweed gall-fly	
Ulidiidae		
<i>Dorycera graminum</i>		
FISH		
<i>Alosa alosa</i>	allis shad	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Alosa fallax fallax</i>	twaites shad	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Cottus gobio</i>	Bellhead	EC (Habitats)
<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	river lamprey	EC (Habitats)
<i>Lampetra planeri</i>	brook lamprey	EC (Habitats)
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	sea lamprey	EC (Habitats)
<i>Salmo salar</i>	Atlantic salmon	EC (Habitats)
AMPHIBIANS		

Species	Common Name	Protection
<i>Bufo calamita</i>	natterjack toad	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	great crested newt	EC (Habitats), WCA5
REPTILES		
<i>Anguis fragilis</i>	slow-worm	WCA5
<i>Lacerta agilis</i>	sand lizard	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Lacerta vivipara</i>	common lizard	WVA5
<i>Natrix natrix</i>	grass snake	WCA5
<i>Vipera berus</i>	Adder	WCA5
BIRDS		
Divers		
<i>Gavia arctica</i>	black-throated diver	EC (Birds)
<i>Gavia immer</i>	great northern diver	EC (Birds)
<i>Gavia stellata</i>	red-throated diver	EC (Birds)
Herons		
<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>	Bittern	EC (Birds), WCA1
<i>Egretta alba</i>	little egret	EC (Birds)
Cormorants		
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Cormorant	
Ducks, geese and swans		
<i>Anas acuta</i>	Pintail	WCA1
<i>Anas crecca</i>	Teal	
<i>Anas querquedula</i>	Garganey	WCA1
<i>Anas strepera</i>	Gadwall	
<i>Anser albifrons</i>	white-fronted goose	
<i>Aythya ferina</i>	Pochard	
<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	Bewick's swan	EC (Birds)
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	whooper swan	EC (Birds)
Birds of prey		
<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Goshawk	WCA1
<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	marsh harrier	EC (Birds), WCA1
<i>Circus cyanaeus</i>	hen harrier	EC (Birds)
<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	honey buzzard	WCA1
Falcons		
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine	EC (Birds). WCA1
<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	Hobby	WCA1
Pheasants		
<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	Quail	WCA1
<i>Perdix perdix</i>	grey partridge	
Rails		
<i>Rallus aquaticus</i>	water rail	
Avocets		
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	Avocet	EC (Birds), WCA1
Plovers		

Species	Common Name	Protection
<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	little ringed plover	WCA1
Waders		
<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Knot	
<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	Snipe	
<i>Limosa limosa</i>	black-tailed godwit	WCA1
<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Ruff	EC (Birds)
<i>Scolopax rusticola</i>	Woodcock	
<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Redshank	
Gulls		
<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	Mediterranean gull	EC (Birds), WCA1
Terns		
<i>Sterna albifrons</i>	little tern	EC (Birds), WCA1
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>	Sandwich tern	EC (Birds)
Pigeons		
<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	turtle dove	
Owls		
<i>Asio flammeus</i>	short-eared owl	EC (Birds)
<i>Tyto alba</i>	barn owl	WCA1
Nightjars		
<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	Nightjar	EC (Birds)
Kingfishers		
<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	Kingfisher	EC (Birds), WCA1
Larks		
<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Skylark	
<i>Lullula arborea</i>	Woodlark	EC (Birds), WCA1
Pipits		
<i>Anthus petrosus</i>	rock pipit	
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	tree pipit	
Thrushes		
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	Nightingale	
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Wheatear	
<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	black redstart	WCA1
<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Redstart	
<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	Stonechat	
<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	song thrush	
Warblers		
<i>Acrocephalus palustris</i>	marsh warbler	WCA1
<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	reed warbler	
<i>Cettia cetti</i>	cetti's warbler	WCA1
<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>	Savi's warbler	WCA1
<i>Locustella naevia</i>	Grasshopper warbler	
<i>Phylloscopus sibilatrix</i>	wood warbler	
<i>Regulus ignicapillus</i>	Firecrest	WCA1
<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Goldcrest	
Flycatchers		
<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	spotted flycatcher	
Parrotbills		

Species	Common Name	Protection
<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	bearded tit	WCA1
Tits		
<i>Parus montanus</i>	willow tit	
Orioles		
<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	golden oriole	WCA1
Sparrows		
<i>Passer montanus</i>	tree sparrow	
Finches		
<i>Carduelis cannabina</i>	Linnet	
<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Redpoll	
<i>Carduelis spinus</i>	Siskin	
<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>	Hawfinch	
<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	Bullfinch	
Buntings		
<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	Yellowhammer	
<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	reed bunting	
<i>Miliaria calandra</i>	corn bunting	
MAMMALS		
Carnivores		
<i>Meles meles</i>	Badger	PBA
Insectivores		
<i>Neomys fodiens</i>	water shrew	
Bats		
<i>Eptesicus serotinus</i>	Serotine	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Myotis brandtii</i>	Brandt's bat	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	Daubenton's bat	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	whiskered bat	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Myotis nattereri</i>	Natterer's bat	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Nyctalus leisleri</i>	Leisler's bat	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	Noctule	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus & Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	Pipistrelle	EC (Habitats), WCA5
<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	brown long-eared bat	EC (Habitats), WCA5
Rabbits and hares		
<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	brown hare	
Rodents		
<i>Arvicola terrestris</i>	water vole	WCA5
<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>	Dormouse	EC (Habitats), WCA5
Carnivores		
<i>Lutra lutra</i>	European otter	EC (Habitats), WCA5

Annex 3: Biodiversity: Site Checklist

Planning Officer:		Date:	
Application Number:			
Applicant:			
Type of Development:			
Size of development		1 ha – 10 ha	10 – 50 ha over 50 ha
Location:	Natural Areas: East Kent Coast Folkestone to Selsey Bill Greater Thames Estuary	High Weald North Kent Coast North Kent Plain	North Downs Romney Marshes Wealden Greensand
Designations: Other.....	SAC SPA SSSI	SNCI LNR	RIGs
Adjacent land use: Rural/Urban/other.....			
Kent BAP Broad Habitats		Kent BAP Priority Habitats	
Calcareous grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lowland Calcareous grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Neutral grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lowland Meadows	<input type="checkbox"/>
Acid grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lowland dry acid grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dwarf Shrub and Heath	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lowland heathland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved Grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arable and horticulture	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cereal field margins	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Ancient/species rich hedgerows	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bracken	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lowland beech and yew woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Lowland wood-pasture and parkland	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Wet woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>
Coniferous woodland	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Fen, marsh and swamp	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fens	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Reedbeds	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inland rock	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Inshore sublittoral rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Littoral and sublittoral chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inshore sublittoral sediment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Saline lagoons	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Seagrass beds	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Sublittoral sands and gravels	<input type="checkbox"/>
Littoral rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Littoral and sublittoral chalk	<input type="checkbox"/>
Littoral sediment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mudflats	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Coastal Saltmarsh	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rivers and streams	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chalk Rivers	<input type="checkbox"/>
Standing open water and canals	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Eutrophic standing waters	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Mesotrophic lakes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supralittoral rock	<input type="checkbox"/>	Maritime cliff and slopes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supralittoral sediment	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coastal sand dunes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Coastal vegetated shingle	<input type="checkbox"/>
Built up areas and gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Notable Species Likely to be Affected			
Protected Species			Yes/No
UK and/or Kent BAP Priority Species			Yes/No
Potential Adverse Effects			
Direct Habitat Loss			Yes/No
Direct loss in abundance, range, distribution or diversity of important species			Yes/No
Impact on landscape scale (e.g. increased fragmentation)			Yes/No
Disturbance to integrity and coherence of site (e.g. impact on ecological structure and functioning)			Yes/No
Outcome of Measures Required/Recommended			
Mitigation		Required/Recommended	
Enhancement		Required/Recommended	
Compensation		Required/Recommended	
Management		Required/Recommended	
Monitoring		Required/Recommended	
Planning conditions		Yes/No	
S106		Yes/No	
Net Gain		Yes/No	
Net Loss		Yes/No	
No Change		Yes/No	

Annex 4 Extent of BAP Habitats in Kent

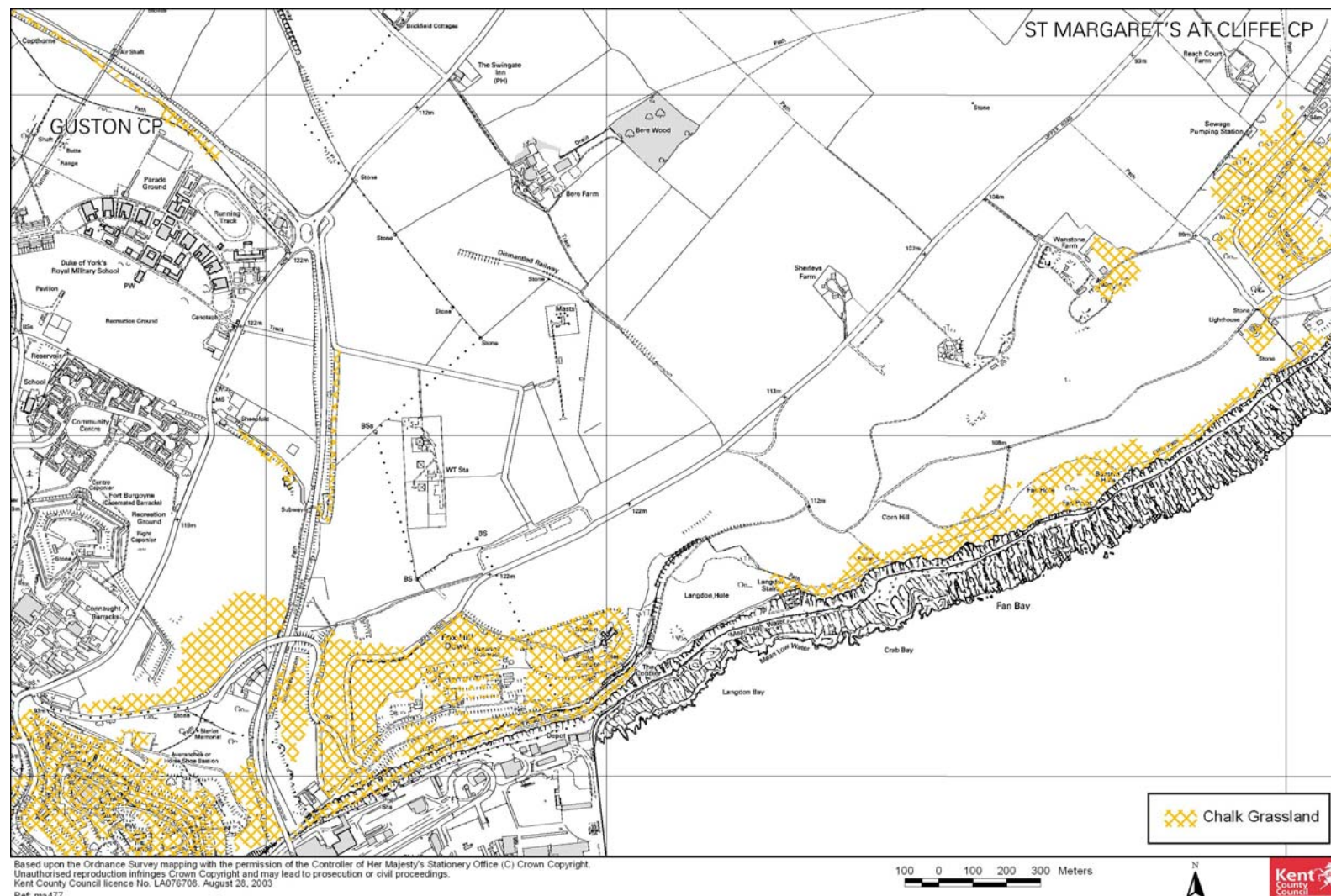
BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	TOTAL RESOURCE (ha)	TOTAL RESOURCE as % of KENT & MEDWAY	TOTAL AREA SSSI (ha)	SSSI as % of TOTAL RESOURCE	TOTAL AREA SNCI (ha)	SNCI as % of TOTAL RESOURCE
ACID GRASSLAND		375	< 1	170	45	68	18
	Lowland dry acid grassland	375	< 1	170	45	68	18
ARABLE AND HORTICULTURE		149,713	39	480	< 1	1,979	1
	Cereal field margins	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
BOUNDARY AND LINEAR FEATURES							
	Ancient species rich hedgerows	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
BRACKEN		240	< 1	156	65	18	8
BROADLEAVED, MIXED AND YEW WOODLAND		45,217	12	5,959	13	15,758	35
	Lowland beech & yew woodland	557	< 1	229	41	126	23
	Lowland wood pasture and parkland	3,240	1	228	7	364	11
	Wet woodland	231	< 1	72	31	76	33
BUILT UP AREAS AND GARDENS		52,033	13	214	< 1	416	1
CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND		1,659	< 1	563	34	592	36
	Lowland calcareous grassland	1,659	< 1	563	34	592	36
CONIFEROUS WOODLAND		3,813	1	359	9	2,180	57
DWARF SHRUB HEATH		53	< 1	8	15	39	74
	Lowland heath	53	< 1	8	15	39	73
FEN, MARSH AND SWAMP		1,014	< 1	715	71	123	12
	Lowland fens	69	< 1	47	68	15	21
	Reedbeds	477	< 1	341	71	48	10
IMPROVED GRASSLAND		97,275	25	3,550	4	3,503	4
	Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh	499	< 1	99	20	114	23
INLAND ROCK		1,225	< 1	59	5	43	4
INSHORE SEDIMENT		2	< 1	1	67	0	0
	Inshore sublittoral sediment	2	< 1	1	67	0	0
	Saline lagoons	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
	Seagrass beds	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
LITTORAL ROCK		681	< 1	580	85	4	1
	Littoral chalk	419	< 1	377	90	2	< 1

BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	TOTAL RESOURCE (ha)	TOTAL RESOURCE as % of KENT & MEDWAY	TOTAL AREA SSSI (ha)	SSSI as % of TOTAL RESOURCE	TOTAL AREA SNCI (ha)	SNCI as % of TOTAL RESOURCE
LITTORAL SEDIMENT		11,807	3	10,296	87	163	1
	Mudflats	10,198	3	8,850	87	97	1
	Coastal saltmarsh	1,451	< 1	1,370	94	47	3
NEUTRAL GRASSLAND		13,020	3	5,030	39	1,706	13
	Lowland hay meadows	71	< 1	12	17	12	16
RIVERS AND STREAMS		3,098	1	141	5	98	3
	Chalk Rivers	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
SUPRALITTORAL ROCK		232	< 1	177	76	2	1
	Maritime cliffs and slopes	127	< 1	122	96	0	0
SUPRALITTORAL SEDIMENT		2,281	1	1,908	84	144	6
	Coastal sand dunes	233	< 1	185	79	7	3
	Coastal vegetated shingle	1,866	< 1	1,614	86	132	7
STANDING WATER AND CANALS		4,662	1	1,224	26	731	16
	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
	Eutrophic standing waters	<i>Data unavailable</i>					
	Mesotrophic lakes	<i>Data unavailable</i>					

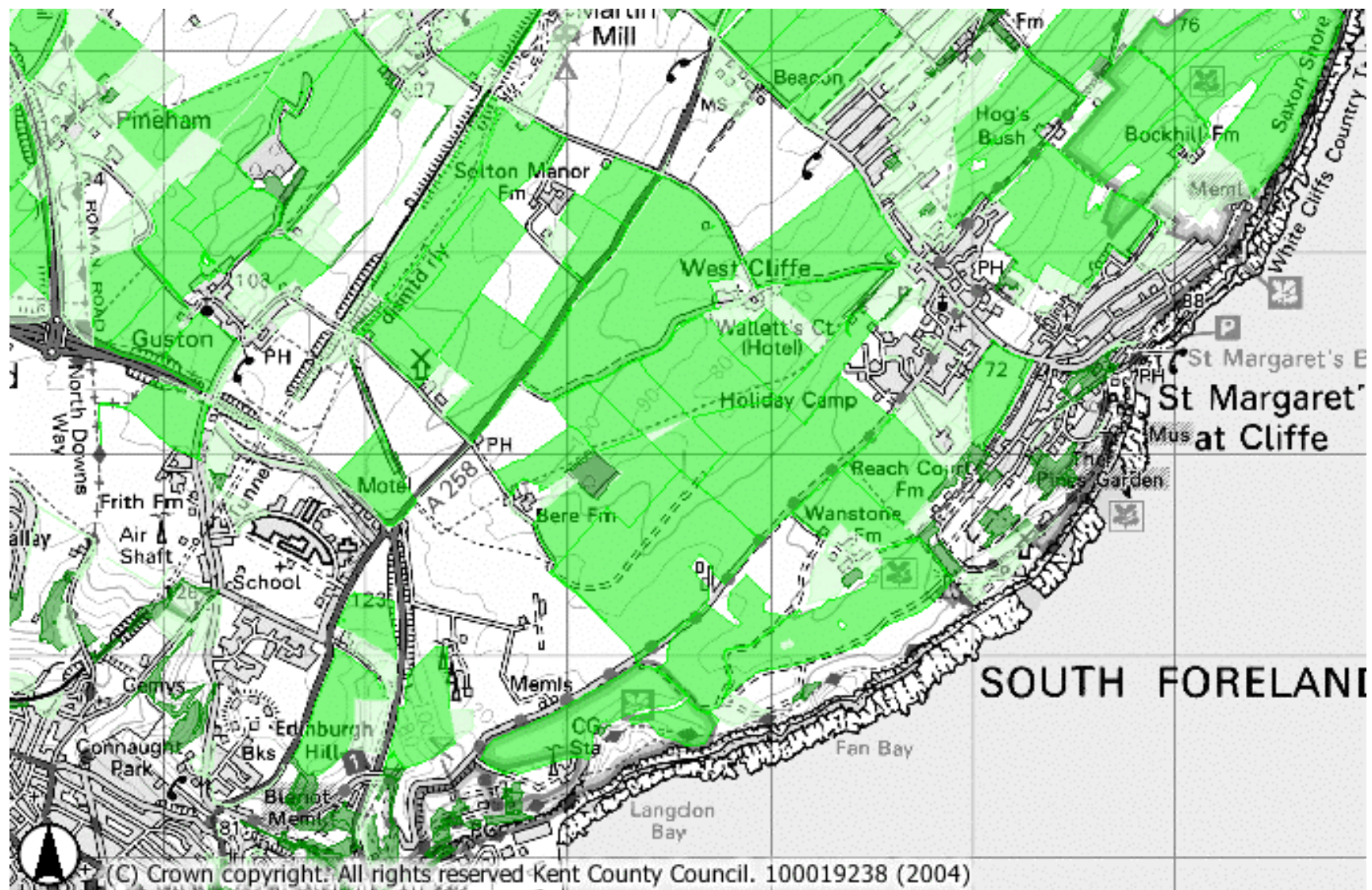
Source: Habitat Survey 2003

Annex 5 Habitat Survey and Habitat Opportunity Maps for Chalk Grassland

Map 2. Current extent of chalk grassland in St Margaret's at Cliffe, Kent (Habitat Survey 2003)



Map 3. Opportunity map showing land able to support chalk grassland in St Margaret's at Cliffe, Kent



Annex 6 Priorities for Habitat Action in Kent

BROAD BIODIVERSITY ACTION PLAN HABITATS IN KENT (priority habitats in bold)	NATURAL AREA									
	Thames Estuary	North Kent Plain	North Downs	Wealden Greensand	Romney Marshes	High Weald	Low Weald / Pevensey	North Kent Coast	East Kent Coast	Folkestone to Selsey Bill
Lowland calcareous grassland		Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed						
Lowland meadows	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed			
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	Pr/Cr/Re	Pr/Cr/Re			Pr/Cr/Re					
Lowland dry acid grassland		Pr/Re		Pr/Re		Pr/Re				
Lowland Heathland		Pr/Re	Pr/Re	Pr/Re		Pr/Re				
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland		Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed		Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed			
Lowland beech and yew woodland			Pr/Cr							
Wet woodland		Pr/Cr		Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr			
Lowland wood pasture and parkland				Pr/Re		Pr/Re				
Ancient and or species rich hedgerows		Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed		Pr/Cr/Re/Ed			
Fen Marsh and Swamp		Pr/Cr/Re		Pr/Cr/Re		Pr/Cr/Re				
Reedbeds	Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr		Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr		Pr/Cr			
Mesotrophic lakes		Re								
Eutrophic standing waters		Ed		Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed			
Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies			Pr		Pr	Pr				
Standing open water and canals	Ed			Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed			
Chalk rivers			Pr/Re							
Other rivers and streams		Ed		Ed			Ed			
Inland rock				Pr		Pr				
Maritime cliff and slope		Pr/Ed	Pr/Ed					Pr/Ed	Pr/Ed	Pr/Ed
Coastal vegetated shingle	Pr/Re/Ed	Pr/Re/Ed			Pr/Re/Ed			Pr/Re/Ed		Pr/Re/Ed
Coastal sand dunes	Pr/Re/Ed	Pr/Re/Ed			Pr/Re/Ed				Pr/Re/Ed	
Chalk Reefs		Pr						Pr	Pr	
Coastal saltmarsh	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed	Pr/Cr/Re/Ed			Pr/Cr/Re/Ed					
Mudflats	Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr			Pr/Cr			Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr	Pr/Cr
Saline lagoons	Pr/Ed	Pr/Ed			Pr/Ed			Pr/Ed		
Built up areas and gardens	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed	Ed

KEY: Pr - Protection/maintain, Cr - Creation/recreation, Re - Restoration/enhancement and/or Ed - Education.

Annex 7: Targets for Habitat Action in Kent

BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	2003-2010			2011-2020			2021-2026		
		Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create
ACID GRASSLAND		161	37	30	187	56	30	204	75	15
	Lowland dry acid grassland	162	38	30	187	56	30	204	75	15
ARABLE AND HORTICULTURE		N/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Cereal field margins	Data unavailable								
BOUNDARY AND LINEAR FEATURES										
	Ancient species rich hedgerows	Data unavailable								
BRACKEN		148	240	No net loss	160	240	No net loss	165	240	No net loss
BROADLEAVED, MIXED AND YEW WOODLAND		5,661	4,522	3,617	9,898	6,782	3,617	13,838	9,043	1,809
	Lowland beech & yew woodland	217	56	45	260	83	45	291	111	22
	Lowland wood pasture and parkland	217	324	259	319	486	259	410	648	130
	Wet woodland	68	23	18	91	35	18	109	46	9
BUILT UP AREAS AND GARDENS		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND		535	415	249	711	663	332	859	829	166
	Lowland calcareous grassland	535	415	249	711	664	332	859	830	166
CONIFEROUS WOODLAND		341	381	305	904	572	305	1,449	763	153
DWARF SHRUB HEATH		8	32	4	18	37	4	28	43	2
	Lowland heath	8	32	4	18	37	4	28	43	2
FEN, MARSH AND SWAMP		679	507	81	746	659	81	776	760	41
	Lowland fens	45	17	6	51	28	6	54	35	3
	Reedbeds	324	95	95	353	167	95	365	358	48
IMPROVED GRASSLAND		3,372	9,727	7,782	4,426	14,591	7,782	5,302	19,455	3,891
	Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh	94	50	40	127	75	40	156	100	20
INLAND ROCK		56	12	No net loss	70	37	No net loss	81	61	No net loss

BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	2003-2010			2011-2020			2021-2026		
		Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create
INSHORE SEDIMENT		1	1	No net loss	1	1	No net loss	1	1	No net loss
	Inshore sublittoral sediment	1	1	No net loss	1	1	No net loss	1	1	No net loss
	Saline lagoons	Data unavailable								
	Seagrass beds	Data unavailable								
LITTORAL ROCK		551	130	No net loss	581	100	No net loss	582	99	No net loss
	Littoral chalk	359	60	No net loss	378	41	No net loss	378	41	No net loss
LITTORAL SEDIMENT		9,781	506	No net loss	10,337	588	No net loss	10,378	715	No net loss
	Mudflats	8,408	895	No net loss	8,875	1,059	No net loss	8,899	1,300	No net loss
	Coastal saltmarsh	1,301	149	No net loss	1,382	69	No net loss	1,393	57	No net loss
NEUTRAL GRASSLAND		4,778	130	130	5,456	260	-	5,883	391	130
	Lowland hay meadows	12	59	71	15	56	-	18	53	71
RIVERS AND STREAMS										
	Chalk Rivers	Data unavailable								
SUPRALITTORAL ROCK		168	12	No net loss	178	19	No net loss	178	23	No net loss
	Maritime cliffs and slopes	115	11	No net loss	122	5	No net loss	122	5	No net loss
SUPRALITTORAL SEDIMENT		1,813	47	No net loss	1,944	135	No net loss	1,980	150	No net loss
	Coastal sand dunes	176	58	No net loss	187	47	No net loss	188	45	No net loss
	Coastal vegetated shingle	1,533	167	No net loss	1,647	176	No net loss	1,680	187	No net loss
STANDING WATER AND CANALS		1,163	93	47	1,407	186	-	1,590	233	47
	Aquifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies	Data unavailable								
	Eutrophic standing waters	Data unavailable								
	Mesotrophic lakes	Data unavailable								

Definitions, Assumptions and Rationale for Habitat Targets

Definitions

Maintenance

Habitat meets the BAP definition criteria and is also meeting its management objectives. The action underway leads to maintenance of both extent and quality of the BAP habitat.

Examples: Ongoing management of sites already considered to be meeting their management objectives. This can be considered equivalent to maintenance of sites in “favourable condition”.

Restoration

Return an area containing relicts of a BAP habitat (but which currently does not meet the criteria for qualifying as that habitat type) to a condition and species composition where it meets the definition of that BAP habitat. This leads to an expansion of the extent of the BAP habitat.

Examples: Re-establishment of heathland by removing scrub or bracken from an area with remnant heath; improving the species composition and hydrology of former raised bogs that have been significantly altered by peat workings or agriculture; removal of non-native trees followed by planting of native trees in woodlands.

Enhancement

The habitat meets the BAP criteria for qualifying as the habitat type, but action is underway to improve the quality of the habitat so that it better meets its management objectives. This leads to maintenance of the extent of the BAP habitat and an improvement in its quality.

Examples: Removal of invading rhododendron from woodlands or scrub from calcareous grassland/heathland.

Creation

Establish BAP habitat where it is not currently present and where no significant remnants of that BAP habitat exist. This leads to an expansion of the extent of the BAP habitat.

Examples: Conversion of agricultural land to BAP habitat; planting of grassland with trees to link existing fragments of woodland; removal of established woodland and subsequent planting for conversion to heathland.

Assumptions

- Targets are set on the assumption that management objectives do not conflict with those for other priority habitats.
- Appropriate use of the definitions indicates that **Maintain** can be reasonably used for both SSSIs (as there are reliable figures for which there are clear management objectives and knowledge of condition) and sites where there are equivalent management objectives.
- The **Maintain** target increases as our knowledge for lower tier wildlife sites improves ensuring it is reasonable to meet the requirements of maintenance definition.
- **Maintain** is used for SSSIs as this is a reliable figure for which there are clear management objectives and knowledge of condition. 2010 includes 25% wildlife sites/ 2026 includes 50% of wildlife sites.
- Targets set to **Maintain** habitat include targets set for previous targeting periods.

- **Enhance and Restore** represents a % (depending on nature of extent) of the habitat type minus extent of SSSIs in 'favourable condition.'
- For 2010, **Enhance and Restore** represents a % (determined by nature of extent) of the habitat type minus extent of 95% SSSIs in 'favourable condition'.
- For 2020, **Enhance and Restore** represents a % (determined by nature of extent) of the habitat type minus extent of 100% SSSIs and 25% of wildlife sites in 'favourable condition.'
- Targets set to **Enhance and Restore** habitat include targets set for previous targeting periods.

- **Create** figures are based on current estimate of the potential for habitat restoration.
- Targets set to **Create** habitat are independent of previous or subsequent targeting periods.

Rationale

BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	2003-2010			2011-2020			2021-2026		
		Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create
ACID GRASSLAND		95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Lowland dry acid grassland	95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
ARABLE AND HORTICULTURE		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Cereal field margins									
BOUNDARY AND LINEAR FEATURES										
	Ancient species rich hedgerows									
BRACKEN		95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
BROADLEAVED, MIXED AND YEW WOODLAND		95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Lowland beech & yew woodland	95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Lowland wood pasture and parkland	95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Wet woodland	95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
BUILT UP AREAS AND GARDENS		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND		95% of total SSSI	25% of total resource	15% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	40% of total resource	20% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	50% of total resource	10% of total resource
	Lowland calcareous grassland	95% of total SSSI	25% of total resource	15% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	40% of total resource	20% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	50% of total resource	10% of total resource
CONIFEROUS WOODLAND		95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
DWARF SHRUB HEATH		95% of total SSSI	60% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	70% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	80% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Lowland heath	95% of total SSSI	60% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	70% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	80% of total resource	4% of total resource
FEN, MARSH AND SWAMP		95% of total SSSI	50% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	65% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	75% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Lowland fens	95% of total SSSI	25% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	40% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	50% of total resource	4% of total resource
	Reedbeds	95% of total SSSI	20% of total resource	20% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	35% of total resource	20% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	40% of total resource	10% of total resource
IMPROVED GRASSLAND										

BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	2003-2010			2011-2020			2021-2026		
		Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create
	Coastal & floodplain grazing marsh	95% of total SSSI	10% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	15% of total resource	8% of total resource	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	20% of total resource	4% of total resource
INLAND ROCK		95% of total SSSI	1% of total resource	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	3% of total resource	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	5% of total resource	No net loss
INSHORE SEDIMENT		95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
	Inshore sublittoral sediment	95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
	Saline lagoons									
	Seagrass beds									
LITTORAL ROCK		95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
	Littoral chalk	95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
LITTORAL SEDIMENT		95% of total SSSI	25% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	40% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 25% SNCI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	50% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 50% SNCI)	No net loss
	Mudflats	95% of total SSSI	50% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	80% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 25% SNCI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 50% SNCI)	No net loss
	Coastal saltmarsh	95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
NEUTRAL GRASSLAND		95% of total SSSI	1% of total resource	1% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	2% of total resource		100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	3% of total resource	1% of total resource
	Lowland hay meadows	95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	100% total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI		100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI &	100% total resource

BROAD HABITAT	PRIORITY HABITAT	2003-2010			2011-2020			2021-2026		
		Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create	Maintain	Enhance & restore	Create & re-create
									50% SNCI	
RIVERS AND STREAMS										
	Chalk Rivers									
SUPRALITTORAL ROCK										
		95% of total SSSI	5% of total resource	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	8% of total resource	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	10% of total resource	No net loss
	Maritime cliffs and slopes	95% of total SSSI	100% total resource minus 95% SSSI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% total resource minus 100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	No net loss
SUPRALITTORAL SEDIMENT										
		95% of total SSSI	10% of (100% total resource minus 95% total SSSI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	40% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 25% SNCI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	50% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 50% SNCI)	No net loss
	Coastal sand dunes	95% of total SSSI	100% of (100% total resource minus 95% total SSSI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	100% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 25% SNCI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 50% SNCI)	No net loss
	Coastal vegetated shingle	95% of total SSSI	50% of (100% total resource minus 95% total SSSI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	80% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 25% SNCI)	No net loss	100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	100% of (100% total resource minus 100% total SSSI & 50% SNCI)	No net loss
STANDING WATER AND CANALS										
		95% of total SSSI	2% of total resource	1% of total resource	100% SSSI & 25% SNCI	4% of total resource		100% SSSI & 50% SNCI	5% of total resource	1% of total resource
	Quifer fed naturally fluctuating water bodies									
	Eutrophic standing waters									
	Mesotrophic lakes									

Annex 8: Published Information Resources

Biodiversity and Environmental Management

Title	A Biodiversity Strategy for England – Working with the grain of nature
Copyright / ISBN	Crown copyright 2002 / Product code PB7418.
Published by	Defra: October 2002
Source	Defra Publications, Admail 6000, London SW1A 2XX 08459 556000. http://www.defra.gov.uk/wildlife-countryside/biodiversity/biostrat/index.htm
Summary	The <i>Biodiversity Strategy for England</i> promotes a shift in public policy to ensure that biodiversity considerations are embedded in all main sectors of economic activity. It establishes new indicators for biodiversity management within Agriculture, Water, Woodland and Urban areas. Chapter 11 provides targets for the engagement of business in promoting biodiversity.

Title	A Biodiversity Guide for the Planning and Development Sectors in South East England
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature 2002 / ISBN 85716 617 5
Published by	The South East England Biodiversity Forum, March 2002.
Source	The South East England Biodiversity Forum, c/o Thames and Chilterns Team, English Nature, Foxhold House, Crookham Common, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG19 8EL.
Summary	This document, which has received endorsement from SEERA, GOSE and SEEDA, is an authoritative guide to the application of biodiversity principles to land use planning. Chapters cover the Biodiversity Planning process, Site and Species Protection and Delivering Positive Gain.

Title	Action for Biodiversity in the South East
Published by	South East England Biodiversity Forum, March 2002.
Source	The South East England Biodiversity Forum, c/o Thames and Chilterns Team, English Nature, Foxhold House, Crookham Common, Thatcham, Berkshire, RG19 8EL.
Summary	Endorsed by SEERA, GOSE and SEEDA, this provides a biodiversity framework for South East England.

Title	The Biodiversity of South East England: an audit assessment.
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	
Source	RSPB and Wildlife Trusts, 1998
Summary	An audit and assessment of the current status of aspects of biodiversity in the South East.

Title	Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites (2002)
Copyright / ISBN	European Commission / ISBN 92-828-1818-7
Published by	European Commission
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the European

	Commission website www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/nature/
Summary	Guidance for developers, consultants, site managers, practitioners, and competent authorities involved in plans and projects likely to impact on Natura 2000 Sites

Title	Biodiversity Impact
Copyright / ISBN	Byron, H (2000) ISBN 1 901930 24 6
Published by	RSPB,WWF-UK, English Nature, Wildlife Trusts, Sandy
Source	
Summary	A good practice guide for road schemes

Title	Biodiversity and Minerals
Copyright / ISBN	ISBN 0 9535400 0 6
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered /downloaded from the English Nature web site - www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	A guide to planning, operating, restoring and managing mineral sites for biodiversity, aimed at the mineral industry

Title	Biodiversity by design – a guide for sustainable communities
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Town and Country Planning Association 2004
Source	Searchable web based version – www.tcpa.org.uk/biodiversitybydesign.htm Also downloadable from www.tcpa.org.uk/downloads/TCPA_biodiversity_guide_lowres.pdf
Summary	Provides guidance on how to maximise the opportunities for biodiversity in the planning and design of sustainable communities including a toolkit of best practice that can be tailored according to the scale of the development opportunity.

Title	Building a better quality of life
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Defra, April 2000
Source	
Summary	Encourages industry to 'look for opportunities, throughout the construction process

Title	The Kent Design Guide
Copyright / ISBN	Kent Design Initiative
Published by	Kent County Council 2005
Source	Available from the KCC website: www.kent.gov.uk (search for Kent Design)
Summary	Seeks to achieve high standards of design and construction by promoting a common approach to the main principles which underlie Kent planning authorities' criteria for assessing planning applications .Aims to ensure that the best of Kent's places remain to enrich the environment for future generations

Title	Building Biodiversity in Kent – a supplement to Kent Design
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Kent County Council on behalf of the Kent Biodiversity Partnership 2006
Source	Kent County Council
Summary	This guide provides an introduction to the subject of biodiversity and is specifically aimed at those in the development industry. Advice is given on how the client, designer and contractor can best incorporate biodiversity in their work. The Guide is a supplement to 'Kent Design'.

Title	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (Vol. 10 & 11) (1993)
Copyright / ISBN	Highways Agency
Published by	
Source	Can be downloaded from the Highways Agency website /www.archive.official-documents.co.uk/document/ha/dmrb/index.htm
Summary	Volume 10 provides guidance on best practice in respect of environmental design and management (including nature conservation). Volume 11 addresses the Environmental Assessment procedure.

Title	Developing Naturally: A handbook for incorporating the natural environment into development planning
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Association of Local Government Ecologists 2001
Source	
Summary	Handbook that demonstrates practical measures by which nature conservation features can be incorporated more effectively into new development.

Title	Development Control Handbook
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	English Nature Kent Team
Source	English Nature Kent Area Team Office
Summary	English Nature's view on the practicalities of the planning process including guidance publications on specific issues e.g. great Crested Newts and position statement on particular issues e.g. Ancient woodlands

Title	English Nature Science No 21 – Habitat Creation (1995)
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature / ISBN: 1 85716 134 3
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered from the English Nature Website
Summary	Presents good practice in the planning, construction and management of habitat creation projects

Title	Environmental handbooks for building and civil engineering projects
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Publication C512, CIRIA, London, 2000

Source	
Summary	A publication which promotes ecological issues to consider during design and specification, construction and site clearance

Title	Habitat Translocation – A Best Practice Guide
Copyright / ISBN	CIRIA / ISBN 0 86017 600 2
Published by	CIRIA 2003
Source	Can be ordered from the CIRIA website: Www.ciria.org/acatalog/C600.html
Summary	This best practice guide sets out minimum standards for habitat translocations. The guide does not promote translocations, as translocation should be regarded as a last resort for all sites of high nature conservation value. Instead, it seeks to set high standards to help avoid some of the failures found in past translocation projects. The guide should raise standards and reduce the risks that emanate from poor practice.

Title	Kent Biodiversity Action Plan –A framework for the future of Kent’s wildlife
Copyright / ISBN	Kent Biodiversity Action Plan Steering Group ISBN 1 901509 15 X
Published by	Kent Biodiversity Action Plan Steering Group, 1997. £15.00
Source	Kent County Council, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone. 01622 2211537. Can be downloaded from Kent biodiversity website www.kent.gov.uk/sp/biodiversity/kentbap.html
Summary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Goal: To conserve and enhance biological diversity in Kent and to contribute to the conservation of national and global biodiversity. 2. Developers should consult this Plan to assess a proposal's contribution towards status of Kent's habitats or species. 3. The 110 page Kent BAP provides 20 Habitat Action Plans and 13 Species Action Plans. Each is supported with targets for 10 and 50 years from publication date. 4. Consultees should refer to the BAP targets to assess the contribution that any proposed planning compensation (s106s) offers habitats and species as agreed by the Kent BAP steering group. 5. Also see BAPs for Swale BC (2001) and Medway (2003) <p>UK Government published “<i>Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan</i>” to express their commitment to UNED Convention on Biological Diversity (1992). UK Government reaffirmed its commitment in 2002 through publication of “<i>A biodiversity strategy for England</i>” – <i>Working with the Grain of nature</i>.</p>

Title	Kent Red Data Book
Copyright / ISBN	Kent County Council 2000 / ISBN 1901509478
Published by	
Source	Can be downloaded from the Kent biodiversity website www.kent.gov.uk/sp/biodiversity/data.html

Summary	Provides information on the ecology and conservation status of over 1300 nationally or locally threatened species.
---------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Title	Kent Wildlife and Habitat Survey (2003)
Copyright / ISBN	The Kent Wildlife Habitat Survey Partnership
Published by	Kent County Council
Source	Environment and Waste Division, Kent County Council, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent.
Summary	A comprehensive reference document that provides an evaluation of habitat and species importance at county, regional and international level. Informed by a countywide ecological survey (2000-02), the document provides chapters on broad habitat groupings and provides summary information on extent of resource, threats and management. A final section provides reference to the distribution of habitats by district. Reference to the document enables identification of existing semi-natural habitat, its status, management issues and threats.

Title	Kent Wildlife and Habitat Survey (1995)
Copyright / ISBN	The Kent Wildlife Habitat Survey Partnership / ISBN 1 873010 65 6
Published by	Kent County Council
Source	Environment and Waste Division, Kent County Council, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent.
Summary	A comprehensive reference document that provides an evaluation of habitat and species importance at county, regional and international level. Informed by a countywide ecological survey (1990 -94), the document provides chapters on broad habitat groupings and provides summary information on extent of resource, threats and management. A final section provides reference to the distribution of habitats by district. Reference to the document enables identification of existing semi-natural habitat, its status, management issues and threats.

Title	Natural Areas Strategies
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature 1997 , 11/97 1K
Published by	English Nature, Kent Team.
Source	English Nature, Kent Team, The Countryside Management Centre, Coldharbour Farm, Wye, Ashford, Kent. TN25 5DB.
Summary	There are ten natural areas covering Kent providing objectives for the maintenance of the full range of species and habitats expected to occur in a landscape. Reference to the natural area profiles provides information on key habitats and species. Land use changes should make a positive contribution to the objectives of the natural area profile. The documents sit within EN's <i>Strategy for the 1990s</i> and objectives have influenced EN's <i>Beyond 2000</i> . Natural areas are not formal designations

Title	Planning for Biodiversity – A Good Practice Guide
Copyright / ISBN	Royal Town Planning Institute (1999) / ISBN 1 902311 140
Published by	RTPI
Source	Can be ordered from the RTPI on 0207 9299494
Summary	Good practice guide to incorporate biodiversity into the planning process

Title	Strategic Environmental Assessment & Nature Conservation
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature (1996) / ISBN 1 85716 234 X
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	As one of the first guides to SEA methodology, this report is of interest to anyone carrying out or considering carrying out SEA, such as local authorities, public bodies and major developers.

Title	Towards Sustainability – a strategy for the construction industry
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	
Source	Sustainable Construction Focus Group, April 2000
Summary	Provides a list of practical measures which organisations can implement straight away in order to improve the sustainability of developments

Title	UK Biodiversity Action Plan
Copyright / ISBN	Crown Copyright
Published by	HMSO 1994
Source	UK BAP website www.ukbap.org.uk
Summary	Includes detailed action plans for all UK BAP priority habitats and species, as well as background information on the BAP process and UK partners. The UK Government has reaffirmed its commitment to the BAP through publication of “ <i>A Biodiversity Strategy for England – working with the grain of nature</i> ”.

Title	Kent Landscapes Information System (K-LIS)
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Kent County Council
Source	www.kent.gov.uk/klis
Summary	The K-LIS website aims to enable better informed decision-making by providing detailed information on Kent's landscape and biodiversity. Primarily aimed at landowners, farm advisors and those involved in land use planning, the website also acts as a useful information source to members of the public. It contains details on countryside access, landscape character, identifies opportunities for habitat creation and landscape restoration, the physical environment including soils and geology, the Kent habitat survey as well as areas designated for their conservation value.

Protected Species

Title	Badgers and Development
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature 2002 / ISBN 1 857 16 6140
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Provides guidance on badgers, their legal status and how they should be dealt with in development

Title	Barn owls on site – a guide for developers and planners
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature 2002 / ISBN 1 857 16 6108
Published by	English Nature/ Barn Owl Trust
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Provides guidance on barn owls, their legal status and how they should be dealt with in development

Title	Bat Mitigation Guidelines
Copyright/ISBN	English Nature 2004 ISBN 185716 781 3
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Gives generic technical advice on assessing impacts and developing mitigation plans for sites where bats are known or suspected to occur.

Title	Bats in Roofs – A Guide for Surveyors (1993)
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature / ISBN 1 857 16006 1
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	A practical guide to surveying buildings for bats

Title	Habitat Management for Bats
Copyright / ISBN	ISBN 1861075286
Published by	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) 2001
Source	JNCC
Summary	A guide for land managers , land owners and their advisers

Title	Dormouse Conservation Handbook (2nd edition 2006)
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature / ISBN: 1 85716 219 6
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Advice on ecology, survey, nest-box schemes, coppicing, re-introductions, and development mitigation,

Title	Great Crested Newt Conservation Handbook
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Froglife 2001
Source	Can downloaded from www.froglife.org
Summary	Provides detailed guidance on great crested newts, their legal status, and how they should be dealt with in development.

Title	Great Crested Newt Mitigation Guidelines
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature 2001 / ISBN 1 85716 568 3
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website - www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Provides detailed guidance on great crested newts, their legal status, and how they should be dealt with in development.

Title	Reptiles -: guidelines for developers
Copyright/ISBN	English Nature 2004 ISBN 185716 807 0
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Explains the considerations that developers need to bear in mind when planning projects that could support snakes or lizards. Advice on survey, impact assessment and mitigation is given.

Title	Water Vole Guidance for Developers and Planners
Copyright / ISBN	English Nature 2001 / ISBN 1 85716 458 X
Published by	English Nature
Source	Can be ordered or downloaded from the English Nature website www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Provides guidance on water voles, their legal status and how they should be dealt with in development

Habitats

Title	England Forestry Strategy: A New Focus for England's Woodlands
Copyright / ISBN	Forestry Commission/ ISBN 0 85538 359 3
Published by	The Forestry Commission, 1999
Source	Can be downloaded form the Forestry Commission's website www.forestry.gov.uk
Summary	Sets out the Government's strategic priorities and programmes for forestry. It shows how we will care for our existing heritage of trees, woods and forests and how we will encourage the creation of new woodlands where they are needed.

Title	Seeing the wood for the trees: A forestry and woodlands framework for South East England
Copyright / ISBN	Forestry Commission /ISBN 0 85538 641
Published by	The Forestry Commission 2004

Source	www.forestry.gov.uk www.seeingthewoodforthetrees.org.uk
Summary	Sets out a framework for the future development of woodlands and forestry in the South East

Title	The Pond Book –
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Pond conservation Trust 1999
Source	Available to order on –line from the Pond Conservation Trust http://www.brookes.ac.uk/other/pondaction/pondbook.htm
Summary	A guide to the management and creation of ponds

Title	Veteran Trees Management Handbook
Copyright / ISBN	ISBN 1 85716 474 1
Published by	English Nature 2000
Source	Available to order on –line or download from www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	This handbook provides current understanding of best practice in veteran tree management. It gives practical advice on all aspects of managing veteran trees, from the importance of sometimes doing nothing at all, to taking positive action for individual trees, their habitats and dependent species.

Title	Lowland Grassland Management Handbook
Copyright / ISBN	ISBN 1 85716 443 1
Published by	English Nature/ The Wildlife Trusts 1999
Source	Second edition out of print but available to download from www.english-nature.org.uk
Summary	Provides practical advice on grassland management geared at site managers and conservation advisers.

Title	The Wetland Restoration Manual
Copyright / ISBN	ISBN 0902484923
Published by	The Wildlife Trusts 2005
Source	Available to order on line http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/index.php?section=about:publications:books
Summary	Guidance on wetland restoration , creation and management

Title	Restoration of Native Woodland on Ancient Woodland sites
Copyright / ISBN	Forestry Commission /ISBN 0 85538 579 0
Published by	The Forestry Commission 2003
Source	Can be downloaded form the Forestry Commission’s website www.forestry.gov.uk
Summary	Aims to give best practice advice on the restoration of native woodland on ancient woodland sites planted with non-native species. Emphasis is on the potential contribution of restoration to biodiversity

Title	So, you own a woodland? Getting to know your wood and looking after it
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Forestry Commission 2002
Source	Forestry Commission SE England Conservancy,
Summary	Provides practical woodland advice on how and what to do with your wood.

Title	Habitat Creation Handbook for the Minerals Industry
Copyright / ISBN	
Published by	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Source	Available to order online from the RSPB web site http://www.rspb.org.uk/countryside/habitats/handbooks/minerals/index.asp
Summary	A practical guide to the creation of priority Biodiversity Action Plan habitats on redundant mineral workings

Annex 9: Relevant Contacts/Organisations

Organisation	Butterfly Conservation
Details	Butterfly Conservation's purpose is to secure a lasting future for all native butterflies, moths and their habitats within the UK, with the ultimate goal of restoring a balanced countryside with butterflies and other wildlife restored to their previous levels.
Phone	0870 7744309
Fax	01929 400210
Email	Info@butterfly-conservation.org
Website	Www.butterfly-conservation.org

Organisation	Country Land & Business Association
Details	The Country Land and Business Association represents and supports owners of land and businesses in rural communities, including all forms of land management, as well as tourism, services and industry.
Phone	020 7235 0511
Fax	020 7235 0528
Email	Mail@cla.org.uk
Website	Www.cla.org.uk

Organisation	Defra (Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs)
Details	The Government Department primarily concerned with environmental issues. Responsible for wildlife licensing, including the issuing of licences for works affecting European Protected Species (especially Great Crested Newts, Dormice and Bats in Kent)
Phone	08459 33 55 77
Fax	020 7238 3329
Email	Helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
Website	Www.defra.gov.uk

Organisation	District Councils in Kent
Details	Determine all planning applications other than those in respect of minerals, waste and development for County Council services e.g. schools. Responsible for preparation of Local Development Documents. Ensure that development conforms to the plans and policies for the district.
Phone	
Fax	
Email	
Website	Www.kent.gov.uk (links to Borough, District & City Councils)

Organisation	English Nature (from October 2006 Natural England)*
Details	The Government Agency responsible for the conservation of wildlife and geology in England. Notify Sites of Special Scientific Interest and issue licences in respect of works affecting some protected species. Consulted on planning applications impacting on nationally or internationally designated wildlife sites. Can also offer advice on mitigation proposals for protected species and habitats.

Phone	01233 812525
Fax	01233 812520
Email	Kent@english-nature.org.uk
Website	Www.english-nature.org.uk

Organisation	Environment Agency
Details	Public body responsible for protecting and enhancing the environment in England. Consulted on development proposals likely to impact on wildlife, especially along rivers and in wetlands.
Phone	01732 875587
Fax	
Email	Enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk
Website	Www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Organisation	Government Office for the South East
Details	GOSE work to increase prosperity in the South East in ways which are sustainable and socially inclusive through providing a level of focus, coherence, geographical sensitivity and awareness
Phone	01483 882255
Fax	01483 882259
Email	Reception.gose@go-regions.gov.uk
Website	Www.go-se.gov.uk

Organisation	Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre
Details	The Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre is run as an independent, not-for-profit company with the aim to gather, collate, store and provide access to information on Kent's wild species, wildlife habitats and protected sites.
Phone	01622 685780
Fax	01622 671390
Email	Steve.smith@kentwildlife.org.uk
Website	www.kmbrc.org.uk

Organisation	Kent Bat Group
Details	Able to provide advice in respect of bats and the law and also provide information relating to the distribution of bats within Kent.
Phone	01277 275439
Fax	
Email	Info@kentbatgroup.org.uk
Website	Www.kentbatgroup.org.uk

Organisation	Kent Badger Group
Details	Able to provide advice in respect of badgers and the law and also provide information relating to the distribution of badgers within Kent
Phone	020 7498 3220
Fax	020 7627 4212
Email	Enquiries@nfbg.org.uk
Website	Www.badgers.org.uk

Organisation	Kent County Council
Details	Determines planning applications for Minerals and Waste and proposals for development related to County Council services. Statutory consultee on planning applications of strategic significance Prepares Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks Responsible jointly with Medway Council for the Kent and Medway Structure Plan. County Ecologist provides guidance on scoping for assessments of biodiversity impacts and mitigation.
Phone	01622 221537
Fax	01622 221636
Email	Biodiversity@kent.gov.uk : planning.policy@kent.gov.uk
Website	www.kent.gov.uk/environment/careenv/safeguarding/biodiversity/ ; www.kmsp.org.uk

Organisation	Kent Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group
Details	FWAG exists to provide farmers, landowners and our other clients with the best opportunity for environmental gain through cost effective, quality solutions.
Phone	01233 813 186
Fax	01233 813 475
Email	Kent@fwag.org.uk
Website	www.fwag.org.uk

Organisation	Kent Reptile & Amphibian Group
Details	Able to provide advice in respect of reptiles and amphibians and the law and also provide information relating to the distribution of reptiles and amphibians within Kent.
Phone	01227 751408
Fax	
Email	Kragrecorder@btopenworld.com
Website	

Organisation	Kent RIGS
Details	Responsible for the identification of Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS).
Phone	01622 890283
Fax	
Email	Dianafranks@btinternet.com
Website	

Organisation	Kent Wildlife Trust
Details	Responsible for the identification of potential Sites of Nature Conservation Interest, ownership and management of nature reserves, undertaking surveys of important wildlife sites throughout the county and are often consulted on developments likely to have a negative impact on a sites nature conservation interest.
Phone	01622 662012
Fax	01622 671390
Email	Info@kentwildlife.org.uk

Website	Www.kentwildlife.org.uk
Organisation	National Farmers Union
Details	The National Farmers' Union represents the farmers and growers of England and Wales. Its central objective is to promote successful and socially responsible agriculture and horticulture, while ensuring the long-term viability of rural communities.
Phone	020 7331 7200
Fax	020 7331 7313
Email	Nfu@nfuonline.com
Website	Www.nfu.org.uk

Organisation	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
Details	Owns and manages nature reserves. Able to provide advice on habitat creation and enhancement for wildlife. Often consulted on major development proposals likely to impact on wildlife.
Phone	01273 775333
Fax	
Email	Wildlife@rspb.org.uk
Website	www.rspb.org.uk

Organisation	Forestry Commission
Details	The Forestry Commission of Great Britain is the government agency responsible for the protection and expansion of Britain's forests and woodlands.
Phone	01580 211123
Fax	01580 211198
Email	fc.seeng.cons@forestry.gsi.gov.uk
Website	www.forestry.gov.uk

** From October 2006 English Nature, Defra's Rural Development service and the Landscape, Access and Recreation Division of the Countryside Agency will come together to form a new agency – Natural England*