

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL



EXECUTIVE SERVICES

Chief Executive
Damian Roberts

Gibson Building
Gibson Drive
Kings Hill, West Malling
Kent ME19 4LZ
West Malling (01732) 844522

NB - This agenda contains proposals, recommendations and options. These do not represent Council policy or decisions until they have received proper consideration through the full decision making process.

Contact: Democratic Services
committee.services@tmbc.gov.uk

24 February 2026

To: MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY
SELECT COMMITTEE
(Copies to all Members of the Council)

Dear Sir/Madam

Your attendance is requested at a meeting of the Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee to be held in the Council Chamber, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill on Wednesday, 4th March, 2026 commencing at 7.30 pm.

Members of the Committee are required to attend in person. Other Members may attend in person or participate online via MS Teams.

Information on how to observe the meeting will be published on the Council's website.

Yours faithfully

DAMIAN ROBERTS

Chief Executive

A G E N D A

1. Guidance for the Conduct of Meetings

5 - 8

PART 1 - PUBLIC

2. Apologies for absence
3. Notification of Substitute Members 9 - 10
4. Declarations of interest 11 - 12

Members are reminded of their obligation under the Council's Code of Conduct to disclose any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and Other Significant Interests in any matter(s) to be considered or being considered at the meeting. These are explained in the Code of Conduct on the Council's website at [Code of conduct for members – Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council \(tmbc.gov.uk\)](http://www.tmbc.gov.uk).

Members in any doubt about such declarations are advised to contact Legal or Democratic Services in advance of the meeting.

5. Minutes 13 - 20

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting of the Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee held on 5 November 2025.

Matters for Recommendation to the Cabinet

6. South West Kent Waste Services Contract Retender 21 - 36

This report outlines the tender process, the evaluation of the tenders received, and makes a recommendation to Cabinet in respect of the Waste Services contract.

- Annex 1 – [report of 5 March 2025](#)
- Annex 2 – Private in accordance with LGA 1972 - Sch 12A Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

7. Public Space Protection Order 37 - 58

The report presents proposals in respect of a Public Space Protection Order for approval.

8. Biodiversity Duty 59 - 78

The report sets out how the Council is meeting its duty to protect and improve biodiversity under the biodiversity duty.

9. Review of Roadside Nature Reserves 79 - 188

This report presents a review of Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs) following the monitoring of existing sites by the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership. The report brings forward proposals on future management, the expansion of existing sites and the creation of new RNRs for Members consideration.

Matters submitted for Information

10. Cabinet Member Portfolio Update 189 - 200

This report provides Members with an overview of the Cabinet Member update on Waste and Technical Services activities undertaken over the past 12 months and sets out some headline initiatives for the coming year.

11. Work Programme 2026 201 - 202

The Work Programme setting out matters to be scrutinised during 2026 is attached for information. Members can suggest future items by liaising with the Chair of the Committee.

12. Urgent Items 203 - 204

Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent due to special circumstances and of which notice has been given to the Chief Executive

Matters for consideration in Private

13. Exclusion of Press and Public 205 - 206

The Chairman to move that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during consideration of any items the publication of which would disclose exempt information.

PART 2 - PRIVATE

14. Urgent Items 207 - 208

Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent due to special circumstances and of which notice has been given to the Chief Executive.

MEMBERSHIP

Cllr S A Hudson (Chair)
Cllr K S Tunstall (Vice-Chair)

Cllr A G Bennison
Cllr S Crisp
Cllr R W Dalton
Cllr Mrs T Dean
Cllr F A Hoskins
Cllr J R S Lark

Cllr A McDermott
Cllr W E Palmer
Cllr S Pilgrim
Cllr M R Rhodes
Cllr Mrs M Tatton

GUIDANCE ON HOW MEETINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED

- (1) Most of the Borough Council meetings are livestreamed, unless there is exempt or confidential business being discussed, giving residents the opportunity to see decision making in action. These can be watched via our YouTube channel. When it is not possible to livestream meetings they are recorded and uploaded as soon as possible:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPp-IJISNgoF-ugSzxjAPfw/featured>

- (2) There are no fire drills planned during the time a meeting is being held. For the benefit of those in the meeting room, the fire alarm is a long continuous bell and the exits are via the doors used to enter the room. An officer on site will lead any evacuation.
- (3) Should you need this agenda or any of the reports in a different format, or have any other queries concerning the meeting, please contact Democratic Services on committee.services@tmbc.gov.uk in the first instance.

Attendance:

- Members of the Committee are required to attend in person and be present in the meeting room. Only these Members are able to move/ second or amend motions, and vote.
- Other Members of the Council can join via MS Teams and can take part in any discussion and ask questions, when invited to do so by the Chair, but cannot move/ second or amend motions or vote on any matters. Members participating remotely are reminded that this does not count towards their formal committee attendance.
- Occasionally, Members of the Committee are unable to attend in person and may join via MS Teams in the same way as other Members. However, they are unable to move/ second or amend motions or vote on any matters if they are not present in the meeting room. As with other Members joining via MS Teams, this does not count towards their formal committee attendance.
- Officers can participate in person or online.

- Members of the public addressing an Area Planning Committee should attend in person. However, arrangements to participate online can be considered in certain circumstances. Please contact committee.services@tmbc.gov.uk for further information.

Before formal proceedings start there will be a sound check of Members/Officers in the room. This is done as a roll call and confirms attendance of voting Members.

Ground Rules:

The meeting will operate under the following ground rules:

- Members in the Chamber should indicate to speak in the usual way and use the fixed microphones in front of them. These need to be switched on when speaking or comments will not be heard by those participating online. Please switch off microphones when not speaking.
- If there any technical issues the meeting will be adjourned to try and rectify them. If this is not possible there are a number of options that can be taken to enable the meeting to continue. These will be explained if it becomes necessary.

For those Members participating online:

- please request to speak using the 'chat or hand raised function';
- please turn off cameras and microphones when not speaking;
- please do not use the 'chat function' for other matters as comments can be seen by all;
- Members may wish to blur the background on their camera using the facility on Microsoft teams.
- Please avoid distractions and general chat if not addressing the meeting
- Please remember to turn off or silence mobile phones

Voting:

Voting may be undertaken by way of a roll call and each Member should verbally respond For, Against, Abstain. The vote will be noted and announced by the Democratic Services Officer.

Alternatively, votes may be taken by general affirmation if it seems that there is agreement amongst Members. The Chairman will announce the outcome of the vote for those participating and viewing online.

This page is intentionally left blank

Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee – Substitute Members (if required)

	Conservative	Liberal Democratic	Green	Ind. Kent Alliance	Labour
1	Chris Brown	David Thornewell	Lee Athwal		Paul Hickmott
2	Robert Cannon	Roger Roud	Kath Barton		
3	Dave Davis	Garry Bridge	Anna Cope		
4	Dennis King	Tim Bishop	Mark Hood		
5	Colin Williams	Paul Boxall	Robert Oliver		

Members of Cabinet cannot be appointed as a substitute to this Committee

This page is intentionally left blank

Declarations of interest

This page is intentionally left blank

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Wednesday, 5th November, 2025

Present: Cllr S A Hudson (Chair), Cllr K S Tunstall (Vice-Chair),
Cllr A G Bennison, Cllr R W Dalton, Cllr F A Hoskins,
Cllr A McDermott, Cllr W E Palmer, Cllr S Pilgrim,
Cllr Mrs M Tatton, Cllr C Brown (substitute) and Cllr M A J Hood
(substitute)

In attendance: Councillors R P Betts and D Keers were also present pursuant to Council Procedure Rule No 15.21.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Crisp, Mrs T Dean and M R Rhodes*.

(*apologies submitted for in-person attendance and participated via MS Teams in accordance with Council Procedure Rule No. 15.21)

CE 25/37 NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Notification of substitute members were recorded as set out below:

- Councillor M Hood substituted for Councillor S Crisp
- Councillor C Brown substituted for Councillor M Rhodes

In accordance with Council Procedure Rules 17.5 to 17.9 these councillors had the same rights as the ordinary member of the committee for whom they were substituting.

CE 25/38 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

CE 25/39 MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the notes of the meeting of the Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee held on 18 September 2025 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

CE 25/40 OUTSIDE BODY UPDATE - SNODLAND PARTNERSHIP

An update provided by the Borough Council's representative on this Outside Body (Councillor L Chapman) advised that the Snodland

Partnership, established in 2000, brought together the Town Council, local businesses, housing associations, and community groups to direct funding for local benefit, delivering projects that strengthened the town, tackled anti-social behaviour, improved green spaces, supported young people, and supported local groups and organisations in need of assistance, with particular reference made to a new BMX Pump Track.

Furthermore, it was noted that the Partnership was seeking to expand by recruiting more local businesses and encouraging broader community involvement, aiming to continue building a vibrant and safe town.

MATTERS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CABINET

CE 25/41 REVIEW OF FEES AND CHARGES 2025/26 - WASTE, LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

The report set out the proposed fees and charges for the provision of services in respect of garden waste subscriptions, household bulky refuse and fridge/freezer collections, "missed" refuse collections, stray dog redemption fees, Tonbridge Allotments, Tonbridge Cemetery, pest control, food certificates, contaminated land monitoring and private water supplies from 1 April 2026. There was also a proposal for introducing charges for recycling and refuse containers at new developments.

In bringing forward the charging proposals for 2026/27, consideration had been given to a range of factors, including the Borough Council's overall financial position, market position, trading patterns, the current rate of inflation and customer feedback.

A set of guiding principles for the setting of fees and charges had also been taken into account and were summarised in 4.2 of the report.

Concern was raised over the potential impact of increased fees on residents, particularly for garden waste and bulky refuse collections, however, it was recognised that the possibility of exploring concessions for vulnerable groups would be limited by the Council's budget constraints. Furthermore, it was noted that garden waste subscription rates had increased by over 1,000 compared to the previous year, indicating no negative impact from prior fee increases.

Members' attention was drawn to the proposal for introducing a charge to new property developers to include capital costs, delivery costs and a reasonable administration element for the provision of all bins and waste containers. It was noted that this approach was already adopted by the majority of councils. This was supported by Members in principle, with suggestion proposed by Councillor Tatton, seconded by Councillor Hood and supported by the Committee, that in addition to recovering the cost for providing bins and containers at new residential properties, the

feasibility of seeking the cost for the provision of public litter bins related to new developments from developers also be explored.

RECOMMENDED*: That

- (1) the proposed schedule of charges for garden waste subscriptions, as set out in 5.1.4 of the report, be approved;
- (2) the proposed schedule of charges for household bulky refuse and fridge/freezer collection service, as set out in 5.2.4 of the report, be approved;
- (3) the proposed charge for “missed” refuse collection, as set out in 5.3.2 of the report, be approved;
- (4) the proposed schedule of charges in respect of Stray Dog redemption service, as set out in 5.5.4 of the report, be approved;
- (5) the proposed charge for Tonbridge Allotment, as set out in 5.6.2 of the report, be approved;
- (6) the proposed schedule of charges at Tonbridge Cemetery, as set out in Annex 1 and 5.7.2 of the report, be approved;
- (7) the proposed continuation of the pest control subsidy for residents in receipt of Council Tax Reduction Scheme alongside the existing charge, as set out in 5.8.1 of the report, be approved;
- (8) the proposed schedule of charges for Condemned Food Certificates, as set out in 5.9.2 of the report, be approved;
- (9) the proposed charge for Exported Food Certificates, as set out in 5.10.4 of the report, be approved;
- (10) the proposed charge for food hygiene requests for re-visits, as set out in 5.11.2 of the report, be approved;
- (11) the proposed charge for provision of services in respect of contaminated land, as set out in 5.12.5 of the report, be approved;
- (12) the proposed charge for provision of services in respect of private water supplies, as set out in 5.13.5 of the report, be approved;
- (13) the above proposed scale of charges (1) to (12) be implemented from 1 April 2026; and
- (14) the principle of charging property developers for the provision of all bins and waste containers at new developments, be approved,

and the feasibility of seeking the cost for the provision of public litter bins related to new developments from developers, be explored.

***Recommended to Cabinet**

CE 25/42 AIR QUALITY MONITORING UPDATES AND AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS - RECOMMENDATIONS

The report of the Director of Planning, Housing and Environmental Health advised that, in line with statutory duties, monitoring of Air Quality had continued in the Borough and the Annual Status Report 2025 submitted to the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) earlier this year had been appraised and approved.

Based on the evidence, the revocation of four of the five remaining Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) at Tonbridge High Street, Larkfield, Aylesford and Borough Green were recommended. Members were advised that these AQMAs could be revoked as there had been significant improvement in air quality and improved pollution levels. This position was supported by DEFRA as referenced in Paragraph 6 of their Annual Status Report appraisal, attached at Annex 1. Members were pleased to note that monitoring in some form within the areas of the AQMAs to be revoked would continue, to keep air quality under review in known hotspots.

The potential of relocating continuous monitoring equipment to Watringbury, the only remaining AQMA, was discussed and it was explained that previous attempts had not shown exceedance of nitrogen dioxide level. The use of lamp post-mounted sensors was also noted and ongoing monitoring at known hotspots was confirmed.

In addition, air quality monitoring across the Borough would continue in line with statutory requirements and there would be flexibility to move monitoring sites currently outside of AQMAs as appropriate.

RECOMMENDED*: That

- (1) the improvement in air quality over the last four years, be noted;
- (2) the revocation of the Tonbridge High Street, Larkfield, Aylesford and Borough Green Air Quality Management Areas, be agreed; and
- (3) the continuation of air quality monitoring across the Borough, including to respond to any specific areas of concern, be agreed.

***Recommended to Cabinet**

CE 25/43 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ENFORCEMENT TEAM - UPDATE OF WORK AND REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Members were provided with an update on the work of the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Enforcement Team employed by the Borough Council to work from May to November 2025.

Members recognised that the ASB Enforcement Team provided a high-profile visible presence throughout the Borough, which was reassuring to residents, local businesses, interested parties and visitors to Tonbridge and Malling. Feedback from parish/town councils and the public in respect of the scheme for this year was largely positive, with particular reference made to the successful management of Halloween-related incidents in Kings Hill and Snodland, attributing improvements to coordinated efforts between the ASB Enforcement Team and Kent Police.

It was noted that parishes which contributed funding to the pilot scheme received detailed monthly reports, while Tonbridge, as a non-parished area, was also covered by regular team visits, and it was suggested that updates could be provided at Tonbridge Community Forum, in addition to the Parish Partnership Panel.

Therefore, it was proposed that the scheme should be continued. To allow for consistency and for a more streamlined procurement process, it was proposed that the Team be funded for a further two-year period, subject to identifying suitable sources of funding, including seeking contributions from parish/town councils.

The Committee supported 'in principle' the continuation of the scheme for the next two years, allowing the procurement process for potential contractors to be undertaken in good time to secure the ASB Enforcement Team. Final endorsement would be subject to Council approval of funding in February 2026 as part of the annual budget setting process.

RECOMMENDED*: That

- (1) the continuation of the Anti-Social Behaviour Enforcement Team for a further two-year period, be agreed, subject to Council approval of the funding in February 2026 as part of the annual budget setting process**;
- (2) the request for funding from Parish/Town Councils, be agreed; and
- (3) the initiation of the procurement process for the Anti-Social Behaviour Enforcement Team, be agreed.

***Recommended to Cabinet**

****approval of funding to be referred to Council**

**CE 25/44 WASTE MINIMISATION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT AT EVENTS
ON COUNCIL OWNED LAND**

The report of the Chief Executive sought endorsement of a proposed new guidance note, attached at Annex 1, to support event organisers in aligning their events with the Borough Council's objective to remove single use plastics from their operations. Subject to Member approval, the guidance note could be issued to all event organisers for the 2026 event programme.

It was noted that the guidance would place requirements on event organisers to be fully responsible for waste, to separate the collection of recyclables and general waste and to operate a reusable cup deposit scheme.

Support would be provided in the first year through an allocation of £5,000 from the Waste and Recycling Budget to purchase re-usable cups and additional bins for waste separation. These resources would be available for loan to smaller community event organisers to help them manage waste without incurring extra costs.

On the grounds of encouraging greater use of refills and reducing waste from Council owned sites, the initiative as proposed received strong support from the Committee.

RECOMMENDED*: That the proposed guidance note, attached at Annex 1, be endorsed.

***Recommended to Cabinet**

MATTERS SUBMITTED FOR INFORMATION

CE 25/45 ANNUAL PORTFOLIO REVIEW- CLIMATE CHANGE

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Environment and Economy (Councillor R Betts) provided a comprehensive overview of climate change related activities during the current year, updating Members on EV charging infrastructure, Green Business Grants, tree planting, food waste recycling, leisure centre decarbonisation, and future carbon reduction initiatives.

Members welcomed the progress to-date and queried the stalling recycling rates compared to neighbouring local authority. It was explained that a 12-month marketing programme would be implemented to target recycling initiatives as an ongoing commitment of the Borough

Council to improve recycling rate, with particular reference made to a campaign recently launched to encourage food waste recycling.

CE 25/46 ANNUAL PORTFOLIO UPDATE - COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Cabinet Member for Community Services (Councillor D Keers) provided an in-depth update covering achievements and future plans in Leisure Services, community engagement and development, safeguarding, Customer Services and community safety, with details on facility improvement, grant schemes, safeguarding and equality training, customer service enhancements and event management throughout the current year.

Successful delivery of a wide range of community services through a coordinated approach across departments of the Borough Council met the objectives as set out in the Council's Corporate Strategy and the Annual Service Delivery Plan and were welcomed by Members.

CE 25/47 WORK PROGRAMME 2025

The Work Programme setting out matters to be scrutinised during 2025/26 was attached for information. Members were invited to suggest future matters by liaising with the Chair of the Committee.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION IN PRIVATE

CE 25/48 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no matters considered in private.

The meeting ended at 9.05 pm

This page is intentionally left blank

Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee

04 March 2026

Part 1 - Public

Matters for Cabinet – Council Decision



Cabinet Member	Cllr Martin Coffin, Cabinet Member for Finance, Waste and Technical Services
Responsible Officer	Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services and Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)
Report Author	Darren Lanes, Head of Street Scene and Leisure David Campbell-Lenaghan, South West Kent Waste Partnership Manager

South West Kent Waste Services Contract Retender

1 Summary and Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The current South West Kent Waste Services Contract for refuse, recycling and street cleansing is due to expire at the end of March 2027 and is being retendered on a partnership basis with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC). This report outlines the tender process, the evaluation of the tenders received, and makes a recommendation to Cabinet on award of contract, as well as a recommendation to report further to the next meeting of this Committee in May.

2 Corporate Strategy Priority Area

- 2.1 'Efficient & Effective Council' and 'Caring for the Environment'
- 2.2 The Contract is the largest contract commissioned by this Council providing a household waste and recycling collection service to approximately 57,000 homes in the borough. The Contract also includes street cleansing services. The service is high profile, serving all our residents and is currently delivered in partnership with TWBC.
- 2.3 Successful tendering of the Contract Services, smooth mobilisation of the Contract and providing efficient & effective services will assist in delivering Activity 1.2 of the current Annual Service Delivery Plan - "*Finalise a new waste contract that supports our residents to drive up recycling rates through an effective and efficient service*".
- 2.4 The Contract will need to be delivered in accordance with current legislation and guidance, and consider pending legislation including Simpler Recycling, Extended

Producer Responsibility (EPR) and the Deposit Return Scheme (DRS). Consideration will also need to be given to increasing recycling performance and maximising income, including EPR payments, through the delivery of effective and efficient services.

3 Recommendations

3.1 Following consideration by Members, it is recommended that the Committee recommend to Cabinet – for onward recommendation to Council - that:

- 1) Contractor A, as identified in **Annex 2 (Part 2 Private publication)**, be awarded the South West Kent Waste Services Contract as detailed within the report; and
- 2) a further report be brought to the next meeting of the Committee on 20 May, making recommendations relating to the options for the financing of vehicles deployed on the Contract; costs relating to the cleansing of High Speed Roads; and costs associated with the cleansing of a number of Public Open Spaces.

4 Introduction and Background

4.1 Further to previous reports to this Committee and Cabinet, Members will be aware that the Council's Waste Services Contract is due to expire at the end of March 2027, and that Officers are currently working in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) on the tendering process for the future delivery of these services across both Boroughs.

4.2 The net cost of this Council's existing contract for refuse, recycling and street cleansing services is in the region of £4.9m per annum (£8.8m across the Partnership) and provides a refuse and recycling collection service to over 57,000 households in Tonbridge and Malling, an optional garden waste service, and a street cleansing service across the whole Borough. Whilst the current contract is performing well, the desired outcome for the contract retender is to continue to improve service delivery, meet customer expectations, improve levels of recycling performance, and meet current and forthcoming legislation. Over the length of the current contract there have been significant cost increases in the sector, so one of the aims of the tender process was to try to limit potential increases whilst still delivering a quality service.

4.3 At the 5 February 2025 meeting of this Committee, Members recommended to Cabinet that:

- the Council remains in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for the delivery of household waste, recycling & street cleansing services;
- contracting out remains the Council's preferred commissioning model for the delivery of said services;

- a further report be presented to this Committee to allow for consideration of key service specification issues and the proposed procurement process for the delivery of said services.

4.4 These recommendations were subsequently approved by Cabinet on 11 February 2025.

4.5 At the following meeting of this Committee on 5 March 2025, Members recommended to Cabinet that:

- the Competitive Flexible Procedure procurement route and timeline as outlined at Section 5.1 to the report be agreed;
- the proposed contract length be 12 years as outlined at Section 5.2.1;
- joint Delegated Authority be given to the Cabinet Member for Transformation and Infrastructure and the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services to agree contract variations following dialogue and negotiation ahead of the contractors' final bids, as outlined at Section 5.1.5;
- the proposed Specification amendment highlighted at Section 5.3 be agreed and reflected in the tender pack;
- the proposed areas of dialogue as highlighted at Section 5.4 be agreed;
- the proposed contract options as highlighted at Sections 5.5 be agreed;
- the approach to vehicle finance options, as highlighted at Sections 5.6 be determined by the Partner Authority Finance lead officers and be reported to the appropriate Committee and Cabinet;
- the proposed method of indexation as highlighted at Section 5.7 be agreed;
- the proposed tender evaluation be progressed in accordance with Section 5.8;
- the proposed approach to decarbonisation as highlighted at Section 12.7 be agreed.

4.6 For ease of reference, the Committee report of 5 March 2025 is attached at **Annex 1** of this report (Link: [Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Contract – Report to Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee of 5 March 2025](#)). The recommendations were approved by Cabinet on 1 April 2025.

5 Update on Committee Recommendations of 5 March 2025

5.1 During the procurement process, Officers have been mindful of the agreed recommendations of Cabinet, and these have been considered with the tenderers

in the Dialogue stage of the tender process. The following section of this report provides an update on those recommendations and the outcomes.

5.2 *The Competitive Flexible Procedure procurement route and timeline as outlined at Section 5.1 be agreed.*

5.2.1 This proposed procurement route was adopted and managed with the assistance & guidance of senior officers from the TMT Procurement Partnership (a partnership between Tonbridge & Malling, Tunbridge Wells & Maidstone Borough Councils). The agreed timeline – although challenging - was largely adhered to and the Councils are on target for the original Contract Award deadline of late April 2026.

5.3 *The proposed contract length be 12 years as outlined at Section 5.2.1.*

5.3.1 The Contract will be awarded for a period of 12 years (to 31 March 2039) with an option to extend by up to two years if mutually agreeable to all parties.

5.4 *Joint Delegated Authority be given to the Cabinet Member for Transformation and Infrastructure and the Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services to agree contract variations following dialogue and negotiation ahead of the contractors' final bids, as outlined at Section 5.1.5.*

5.4.1 During the Dialogue stage of the procurement process, all subjects approved by Members were discussed, and a number will be reflected in the final Contract documents.

5.5 *The proposed Specification amendment highlighted at Section 5.3 be agreed and reflected in the tender pack.*

5.5.1 The proposal for the suspension of fortnightly garden waste collections for one cycle over the Christmas/New Year period has been included within the new Contract Specification.

5.6 *The proposed areas of dialogue as highlighted at Section 5.4 be agreed.*

5.6.1 All four issues were discussed at the Dialogue stage with tenderers. The latter included the results of those discussions in their final submissions, and any relevant proposals were considered during evaluation of the Quality sections of their tender. Specifically:

- Implications of pending regulations – all tenderers included their views on such regulations such as Simpler Recycling, Deposit Return Scheme and Extended Producer Responsibility.
- Efficiencies in Service Delivery – all tenderers addressed potential efficiencies, frequency of collections, value for money, etc., within their submissions.

- Early start times – during Dialogue sessions and in final submissions, some flexibility on start times (standard being 7am for collections) was welcomed by tenderers but generally in occasional circumstances such as adverse weather & roadworks, rather than being the standard practice.
- Street Cleansing Methodology – all tenderers submitted street cleansing proposals that met the Contract Specification's output requirements.

5.7 *The proposed contract options as highlighted at Sections 5.5 be agreed.*

5.7.1 The Councils requested that separate unit costs be provided for a number of discretionary items in the submissions so that assessments can be made as to the costs & frequency of such works, including the cleansing of specific sections of High-Speed Roads, largely dual carriageways. Officers will bring proposals for such works to the May meeting of this Committee for consideration and recommendation to Cabinet.

5.8 *The approach to vehicle finance options, as highlighted at Sections 5.6 be determined by the Partner Authority Finance lead officers and be reported to the appropriate Committee and Cabinet.*

5.8.1 During the procurement process, options for future funding of vehicles were discussed with tenderers, and indicative cost savings that may be achieved by the Councils funding the required vehicles were provided by tenderers at Stage 2 of the submission process. Following approval of the preferred supplier, officers will continue to discuss the optimal funding options for the Partnership and will report into the May meeting of this Committee.

5.9 *The proposed method of indexation as highlighted at Section 5.7 be agreed.*

5.9.1 Following discussions at Dialogue stage and subsequent submissions, it has been agreed that the annual indexation for the Contract be based on a suite of indicators, to reflect inflationary costs, fuel costs and labour costs. This reflects the initial feedback received during market testing and will be reflected in the final Conditions of Contract.

5.10 *The proposed tender evaluation be progressed in accordance with Section 5.8.*

5.10.1 The tender evaluation weighting was approved as being a Price: Quality weighting of 60:40 respectively. The outcome of this weighting is detailed in **Annex 2** (Part 2 Private publication – Reason LGA 1972 – Sch 12A Paragraph 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)).

- 5.11 *The proposed approach to decarbonisation as highlighted at Section 12.7 be agreed.*
- 5.11.1 The tender submissions included proposals for decarbonisation and the Climate Change Officers from the respective Partner Authorities were involved in the evaluation of the final submissions. Members may recall that at the meeting of this Committee on 5 March 2025, a summary of potential options for decarbonising the fleet of vehicles employed on the Waste Contract was presented. It was considered that switching from diesel to Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) - or mixing the two in various ratios – was the “*lowest risk, lowest additional cost, and easiest route to operational decarbonisation*”. A risk and mitigation assessment for HVO was included in that report.
- 5.11.2 The current proposals for the start of the new Contract – retaining diesel - reflect the limited infrastructure currently available at either Council’s depots, as well as local fuel suppliers. During the procurement process, tenderers submitted options for switching fuels during the early years of the Contract and these options will be further explored with the preferred contractor during mobilisation in order to drive forward any initiatives for decarbonisation including the use of HVO. There remain further opportunities at the end of the current leases on the majority of the collection fleet (when replaced in Year 5 of the Contract) to explore the use of electric vehicles or any technical innovations that may be available at that time.
- 5.12 During the Dialogue stage, the Councils raised the potential for open-book accounting to drive further efficiencies in the future, such as when exploring funding options for new vehicles. Whilst it was not feasible to build such arrangements into the final tender documents given the complexities of the various permutations of open-book accounting, options will be further explored with the preferred contractor in order to identify any potential efficiencies in future, particularly with regard to future vehicle funding during the term of the Contract.

6 The Retendering Process

- 6.1 At its meeting on 1 April 2025, Cabinet approved the proposal to use the Competitive Flexible Procedure procurement route.
- 6.2 The Competitive Flexible Procedure allows for four stages to be conducted:
- **Stage One – Invitation to Submit Initial Tenders.** Both a tender notice and full tender pack are issued. During this stage, tenderers may ask clarification questions to which the Partners must respond within a set timescale. Once the initial tender period has closed, submissions are assessed and evaluated against a set of mandatory criteria. Any submission passing the mandatory criteria will then be assessed against the scored elements. Other tenders may be disregarded at this stage.

- **Stage Two – Dialogue.** Dialogue meetings will be held with each tenderer through to this stage with the aim of furthering both the tenderer(s) and Partners understanding of the contract requirements, particularly those issues highlighted within the Specification document (see 5.6 above).
- **Stage Three – Negotiation.** Negotiation in this process is defined as *'discussion between the partners and tenderers with a view to improving the content of the tenders'* If [as in this case] the Partners deem this stage to offer no value to the process, they reserve the right to discard this stage, especially as any potential issues may have been dealt with through Dialogue.
- **Stage Four – Invitation to Submit Final Tenders.** This is an opportunity for tenderers to submit their final tenders which will be used for the final Quality & Price assessment. This will identify the tenderer which has submitted the most advantageous tender in accordance with the assessment methodology and award criteria set out in the Tender Notice. Tenders may be disregarded at this stage.

6.3 To advise Members, the original timescale for the procurement and implementation of the new contract was as follows:

- Tender Notice & Document Pack issued – May 2025
- Clarification Questions – ended June 2025
- Stage One Tender Submissions – July 2025
- Stage One Tender Evaluation period – ended September 2025
- Stage Two Dialogue – September/October 2025
- Stage Three Negotiation – not required
- Stage Four Tender Submissions – November 2025
- Stage Four Tender Evaluation period – ended January 2026
- Partners' Approval Process – January-April 2026
- Award of Contract w/c 20 April 2026 (8-day standstill period following latest respective Partner Council meeting – see 1.3 below). There is a 30-day window in which an informal or formal challenge can be submitted by any of the tenderers objecting to the award of the Contract. This window is 30-days from the disclosure of information. Should such a challenge be made, this would potentially delay the process. A 'Plan B' timetable has been developed to identify any key risks to the proposed Contract start date.

- Contract Commencement – 1 April 2027

6.4 It is pleasing to note that, despite what has been a challenging process and timescale, the Councils are currently on track to meet the deadline of late April 2026. However, it should be noted that the decision for Contract Award may be subject to challenge by the unsuccessful tenderers, which may cause a delay to award and mobilisation of the new Contract.

7 Partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC)

7.1 TWBC officers have advised that they will report to their Communities, Housing & Environment Committee on 3 March 2026, and subsequently to its Council meeting on 22 April 2026, thus ensuring that both Councils' decision-making processes are aligned as closely as possible. Members will receive a verbal update at this meeting on decisions taken by TWBC, as clearly the successful contractor cannot be appointed until final approval has been granted by both Partner Authorities.

8 Tenders Received

8.1 At Stage One (Initial Tenders), eight tenders were received. Four of the tenderers were excluded on the grounds of not passing the mandatory requirements and as such were not progressed through to Stage Two Dialogue meetings. Exclusion notices were issued to those tenderers with no informal or formal challenge being received.

8.2 At Stage Four (Final Tender), four submissions were received. Two tenders failed to follow the instructions issued in the documents and were deemed non-compliant. In addition to being non-compliant bids, both tenderers had also submitted conditional tenders which the Partner Authorities cannot accept. As such they were not progressed to Stage Four evaluations and exclusion notices were issued to those tenderers.

8.3 Two submissions were then fully evaluated as Stage Four (Final Tender) submissions.

9 Tender Evaluation

9.1 The evaluation criteria for the award of the contract as approved by Cabinet at its meeting on 1 April 2025 were subsequently incorporated within the tender documentation. A price-quality ratio of 60% price: 40% quality was applied as approved by Members.

9.2 In order to manage the evaluation of the tenders efficiently, the first stage of the process (Stage One) included a series of mandatory criteria. Which are pass/fail questions. If the mandatory elements are not met by the tenderers(s), they will be notified and their tender will not be evaluated further. The mandatory questions were set by the Partner Authorities and were set out in the documentation issued

to the market. These mandatory criteria were included to ensure that the Partnership Councils had a process to remove unsuitable contractors at the earliest stage. These criteria included minimum standards for Economic & Financial Standing and Technical & Professional Ability, and other key contract requirements such as insurance. The evaluation of these requirements was carried out by the TMT Procurement Partnership in collaboration with the respective Partner Authorities Waste, Finance & Legal teams.

- 9.3 The final two tenders were evaluated on their Quality submissions in detail by the Evaluation Panel that included Officers from both this Council and TWBC. The panel included Waste Contract Operations, leads, as well as Health & Safety Officers and Climate Change/Sustainability officers.
- 9.4 The matters which were taken into account in respect of the quality submission were:
- contract mobilisation plans;
 - service delivery arrangements for recycling, refuse & street cleansing services;
 - management and staffing structures & levels of staffing resources;
 - planned resources for vehicles, plant & equipment;
 - proposed technologies;
 - business continuity arrangements;
 - performance & quality management frameworks and systems;
 - environment & sustainability;
 - staff training; and
 - added/social value.

The tenderers were made aware that such matters would be taken into account in the Invitation to Tender documentation.

- 9.5 The price was evaluated using the following formula:
- (Lowest Cost Submitted/Cost Submission being assessed) x Weighted Cost Score
 - Tenderers were notified in advance of this methodology for tender

- 9.6 The outcome of the evaluation process is shown within **Annex 2** (Part 2 Private publication) and details both the quality and price scores whilst also providing the overall final tender scores. The Part 2 Annex also shows the Final Tender prices.

Taking into consideration the final tender scores it is proposed that the contract be awarded to Contractor A. The name & details of Contractor A are also included within **Annex 2**.

10 Proposal

- 10.1 The procurement of the new contract has been a major piece of work involving Officers from across the Council working in close partnership with colleagues from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. Learnings from the current Partnership Contract have been taken on board to minimise the risk of disruption to residents in moving to a new contract, such as not changing collection methodology early on in the new Contract.
- 10.2 As detailed in this report, the recommendations of Members of this Committee and Cabinet have been taken into account throughout the tendering process. Further reports will be presented to Members regarding the potential options for financing of vehicles throughout the life of this Contract and for discretionary works such as frequencies of high-speed road cleansing.
- 10.3 It is important to note, however, that the appointment of the successful contractor as set out in **Annex 2** and above is just another milestone within the delivery of the project, with a significant amount of work now required to ensure the successful mobilisation and implementation of the new arrangements. It has been recognised that good communication with our residents will be essential to the success of the new contract, regardless of whether or not there are any service changes.

11 Other Options

- 11.1 Early on in the tender process Members of this Committee received an options report on the service delivery model to be used. Members considered an in-house operation, establishing a LATCO and contracting out. Having looked at the pros and cons of each model Members recommended to Cabinet contracting out, which was subsequently agreed by Cabinet.
- 11.2 The tender process detailed in this report complies with the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023 and the robust evaluation process adheres to the route selected by Members as set out at section 4.5 above. As such there is no legally compliant option available to award the Contract to an alternative supplier.

12 IT Considerations

- 12.1 In order for the contract to be successfully mobilised, a number of IT-related projects will need to be undertaken prior to contract start. This will need to include updates and improvements to the existing Customer Relationship Management system, and to the Waste Management System proposed to be used by the Contractor, as well as any integration required between the two systems. This will also include a review of the current collection round & cleansing schedules

structures prior to Contract commencement. Previous experience shows that without a significant investment of time and resources in implementing any required changes there are real risks, not only of potential service failures, but also a high chance of public dissatisfaction.

13 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 13.1 Following an assessment of market conditions and advice from consultants, the Officers took the active step of increasing the potential cost of the forthcoming contract within the Medium-Term Financial Strategy that was approved by Council in February 2025.
- 13.2 Allowing for inflationary effects and adjustments for any TUPE-related uplifts between tender submission date and the start of the contract - as included within the contract arrangements - the successful tender price is within the budgetary allowance contained within the MTFS.
- 13.3 It should be noted that the award amount does not include additional costs of periodical services such as the cleansing of high speed roads. Service Officers are looking to assess the frequency levels in order not to exceed the budget provision within the MTFS.
- 13.4 Finally, the tender has an allowance for the alternative funding of the contractor fleet, in that the Council could finance the cost at a lower rate than the contractor. This assessment has yet to be fully undertaken, once completed a further report will be made to provide recommendations to members.

14 Risk Assessment

- 14.1 The retender of the contract has been extremely thorough and has been progressed in compliance with the relevant legislation. A project group as referenced earlier in this report has overseen the process and has maintained a risk register throughout.

15 Legal Implications

- 15.1 The Council has a legal duty to provide waste and street cleansing services. The procurement of the new contract has been undertaken in compliance with all current legislation, including the Procurement Act 2023 which came into force in February 2025.
- 15.2 Legal Services at both this authority and Tunbridge Wells Borough Council – together with senior officers from the TMT Procurement Partnership – have been directly involved in advising the Project Team throughout the procurement process, including specific involvement with Conditions of Contract and giving legal advice on the procurement process. Legal advice has also been sought from specialist Solicitors on the procurement process as required during the project.

- 15.3 The results of the tender evaluation stages fully comply with the requirements of the procurement process and of associated legislative requirements under the Procurement Act 2023.

16 Consultation and Communications

- 16.1 Communications –close communication between the partner authorities has been maintained throughout the tender process together with ongoing dialogue with the contractors tendering for the contract.
- 16.2 Community-the waste services contract is the Council's largest contract and impacts on all householders and residents within the borough. The Council keeps residents regularly update via the website particular when any temporary changes are made such as Christmas.
- 16.3 Procurement - as detailed earlier in the report the TMT Procurement Partnership has been fully engaged throughout the tender process ensuring compliance with legislation, the Council's Procurement Strategy and the Council's financial rules and regulations.

17 Contract Implementation/Mobilisation

- 17.1 The contract start and service commencement date is 1 April 2027. There are not anticipated to be any significant changes to service delivery from Contract commencement. It is anticipated that a further review of collection round structure and street cleansing schedules will take place during Contract mobilisation (following formal award of Contract), as the last review and restructuring of rounds took place in 2023. This will allow sufficient capacity on the schedules to take into account actual property growth and additional adopted streets between now and 2027, as well as future capacity for the first few years of the new Contract.
- 17.2 Subject to the award of the contract, it is the intention for Officers to review and further develop the successful Contractor's proposed Mobilisation Plan to ensure the specific requirements of the Contract are met. An essential element of the Plan will be providing clear and continuous communication with residents, and this will be addressed alongside the Council's future Waste Services Marketing Plan, the next version of which will be reported to this Committee's meeting in May. Members will be kept regularly updated on progress of the mobilisation.

18 Cross Cutting Issues

- 18.1 Climate Change and Biodiversity
- 18.1.1 Climate change advice has been sought throughout the tender process, with both Councils' Climate Change Officers being actively involved in the development of the Specification and evaluation stages.

18.2 Equalities and Diversity

18.2.1 Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The decisions recommended through this paper directly impact on end users. The impact has been analysed and does not vary between groups of people. The results of this analysis are set out immediately below.

18.2.2 As there are no significant changes to the current service delivery and policies & procedures, it is not considered that a further Equality Impact Assessment is required for this process. The current EQIA, as approved by Members in 2018, identified three impacts as follows:

- The need for a supported service by those with a protected characteristic or disability who require assisted collections – this remains in the new Contract Specification and it allows for any possible variation in numbers over the duration of the contract. The successful contractor will be required to meet any requests for this assisted service.
- Communicate changes to the service to residents with the protected characteristics of age and disability – this issue has been addressed within the ongoing Waste Services Marketing Plan and its aim will be to reach all residents and all age groups within the Borough as far as it is practicable through a balance of traditional and more innovative forms of marketing/promotion. The next version of the Marketing Plan is scheduled to be reported to this Committee in May.
- Monitor the delivery of the new contract to measure its success in improving levels of service including those with protected characteristics – monitoring & reporting regimes have been built into the Contract Specification & Contract Conditions and were included in all evaluated tender submissions. Performance will formally be monitored by the Partnership Manager and through the Partnership Steering Group meetings. In terms of the EQIA this will include specific reporting of assisted collection performance.

18.3 Other If Relevant

18.3.1 Business Continuity / Resilience

- Tenderers were instructed to submit their own Business Continuity Plans (BCP) relating specifically to this Contract, and these were evaluated as part of the Quality submission scoring process, particularly in terms of alignment with the Partner Authorities own BCPs.

18.3.2 Health and Safety

- Tenderers were instructed to submit their own Health & Safety Policies, including details of Health & Safety considerations relating specifically to the delivery of this the Contract. The Partner Authorities' own Health & Safety Officers took part in the Evaluation Stages, and these were evaluated as part of the Quality submission scoring process.

18.3.3 Data Protection

- Tenderers were instructed to submit their own Data Protection & Data Management Policies, including as they specifically relate to the delivery of this Contract. The Partner Authorities evaluated these as part of the Quality submission scoring process.

Background Papers	None
Annexes	Annex 1 – Waste, Recycling and Street Cleansing Contract – Report to Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee of 5 March 2025 Annex 2 (Part 2 Private publication) – Tender Submission Scoring Matrix

By virtue of paragraph(s) 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted

This page is intentionally left blank

Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee

04 March 2026

Part 1 - Public

Matters for Cabinet - Non-key Decision



Cabinet Member

Cllr Des Keers

Responsible Officer

Damian Roberts, Chief Executive

Report Author

Alison Finch, Safer & Stronger Communities Manager

Public Space Protection Order

1 Summary and Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 places a duty on the Council to tackle Anti-social Behaviour (ASB), working co-operatively with the Police, social landlords and other agencies. Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs) are one of a number of tools contained within the Act and are intended to deal with a particular nuisance or problem in a particular area that is detrimental to the local community's quality of life, by imposing conditions on the use of that area which apply to everyone. They are designed to ensure the law-abiding majority can use and enjoy public spaces, safe from anti-social behaviour.
- 1.2 A PSPO has been in place in the borough since April 2017 and was reviewed in 2020 and 2023. The current PSPO is due to end in April 2026, and the Council can extend this for a further three years.
- 1.3 A previous report was brought to the Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee in July 2025 and it was agreed that the proposed PSPO should go out for consultation and that the results of the consultation would be fed back to this meeting.
- 1.4 Members also agreed to include a restriction around the use of catapults, and this has now been included in the proposed PSPO.

2 Corporate Strategy Priority Area

- 2.1 Efficient services for all our residents, maintaining an effective council.
- 2.2 Having a PSPO in place helps to reduce anti-social behaviour, therefore making the borough a safer place for residents.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 That the proposed Public Space Protection Order, as presented at Annex 1, be agreed.

4 Introduction and Background

- 4.1 The Council can make a PSPO on any public space in its own area. The definition of a public space is wide and includes any place to which the public or any section of the public has access, on payment or otherwise, as of right or by virtue of express or implied permission, for example a shopping centre. It does not just apply to land owned by the Borough Council but to any open space anywhere in the borough (even land owned by Parish Councils or Kent County Council).
- 4.2 The test for a PSPO is designed to be broad and focus on the impact anti-social behaviour is having on victims and communities. A PSPO can be made by the council if they are satisfied on reasonable grounds that the activities carried out, or likely to be carried out, in a public space:
- have had, or are likely to have, a detrimental effect on the quality of life of those in the locality; and
 - the effect or likely affect of the activities:
 - is, or is likely to be, persistent or continuing in nature;
 - is, or is likely such to make the activities unreasonable; and
 - justifies the restrictions imposed.
- 4.3 A single PSPO can include multiple restrictions and requirements in one order. It can prohibit certain activities, such as the drinking of alcohol, as well as placing requirements on individuals carrying out certain activities, for instance making sure that people walking their dogs keep them on a lead.
- 4.4 The maximum duration of a PSPO is three years but they can last for shorter periods where appropriate. At any point before expiry the council can extend a PSPO by up to three years if they consider that it is necessary to prevent the original behaviour from occurring or reoccurring. If a new issue arises in an area where a PSPO is in force the council can vary the terms of the order at any time. This can change the size of the restricted area or the specific requirements or restrictions. As well as varying the PSPO, a council can also seek to discharge it at any time.
- 4.5 Any restriction of the PSPO needs to be enforceable and Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) for breaches of the PSPO can be issued by authorised Borough Council staff and the ASB Enforcement Team (when in post). The Council would not want to include any restrictions within the PSPO which are not going to be enforceable.

Fixed Penalty Notices cannot be issued to anyone under the age of 16. The Borough Council's FPN cost is £100.

- 4.6 It can be difficult to enforce a PSPO as for many of the restrictions it requires an authorised officer to witness the breach (e.g. be present at the time of the offence taking place) and therefore for many of the current restrictions, the amount of FPNs issued has been low.

5 Proposal

- 5.1 TMBC Officers are proposing that the PSPO as attached at Annex 1 is adopted. This contains a number of restrictions which cover both the whole of the Borough and specific geographical areas. This proposed PSPO also contains the two new restrictions which were agreed at the previous Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee, one around the use of catapults and one around unauthorised camping in the Memorial Garden.
- 5.2 From 15 September to 2 November 2025 the Council went out for public consultation on the proposed PSPO. This was an online consultation, but hard copies were available if requested. A summary of the responses can be found at Annex 2. The Council received 47 online responses.
- 5.3 The Police and Crime Commissioner also responded to the consultation and gave his provisional support to the proposed order across the Borough, subject to the outcome of the consultation. Kent Police were also consulted and gave their support to the proposed PSPO restrictions. Kent Police have also been consulted in relation to the wording contained within the proposed PSPO.
- 5.4 A summary of the consultation responses is given below:
- The majority of those who responded were in favour of keeping all the restrictions and in favour of implementing the new restrictions. 46 respondents also agreed with the new restriction around the use of catapults and 43 agreed with the new restriction to prevent unauthorised camping in the Tonbridge Memorial Garden.
 - The restriction with the most comments was in relation to the use of catapults, with most of those responding in favour of this restriction. Some comments related to this needing to be across the borough, and it should be noted that this restriction will apply to all public open spaces across the borough.
 - Other general comments provided by respondents related to the need to enforce the PSPOs, the need for additional police presence and to ensure that the PSPO is enforced across the borough, including the more rural areas.

- One area raised through the consultation was around restricting and/or banning the use of bikes or electric bikes/scooters. Whilst the Borough Council could look to include a restriction around this issue, it should be noted that the Fixed Penalty Notices (for a breach of the PSPO) cannot be issued to under 16's. It should also be noted that riding a bike on a pavement is already illegal (under the Highways Act 1835 and Highway Code Rule 64) and the police can already take action (although they may choose to take a discretionary approach if the person riding a bike on the pavement is a child).
- It is also illegal to ride an electric scooter on public roads, pavements, and cycle lanes in the UK. They are classified as motor vehicles, requiring insurance, a license, and tax, which is currently impossible to obtain for private e-scooters. They may only be used on private land with the owner's permission. This does not, of course, stop people from riding them, but the enforcement of this would be down to the police and therefore TMBC Officers would not support adding this restriction into the PSPO.

- 5.5 Parish Councils were also consulted separately. All who replied stated that they were happy with the proposed restrictions. Borough Green Parish Council, however, requested that the Council considered a new restriction on the possession or misuse of spray paint within the Recreation Ground in Borough Green and the public toilets in the Borough Green Village Hall carpark. They are having increasing problems with criminal damage in those areas. In October 2025 three incidents of this nature were reported to the Police (further data is not available).
- 5.6 TMBC officers have considered this request and whilst owning spray paint is not illegal (although it is a criminal offence under the Anti-social Behaviour Act 2003 to sell aerosol spray paint to anyone under the age of 16), using it to mark or deface property without the owner's permission is criminal damage under the Criminal Damage Act 1971. If caught, the Police can issue fixed penalty notices or even fines, and therefore the view of the Officers is that there are already enforcement powers available to the police to tackle this issue and therefore the Council does not need to include this as a restriction in the PSPO.
- 5.7 Hadlow Parish Council have also requested that the restriction around preventing unauthorised drones to be extended to Parish Council open spaces. This is something that Members may wish to consider, however, at present the Borough Council does not have any evidence as to whether this is a persistent issue in Hadlow and the Borough Council would need to consider this before deciding whether this would be something that the Borough Council would want to proceed with. TMBC Officers have also raised concerns about who would 'authorise' the use of the drones and how this would be enforced. However, Members may wish to discuss if they would like to change the wording on this restriction to include public spaces owned by Parish Councils.

6 Other Options

- 6.1 Members may wish to discuss if there are any additional restrictions that they would like to see included in the PSPO (such as the request from Hadlow Parish Council in 5.7 above). This needs to bear in mind the threshold test and also consider how the restriction will be enforced.

7 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 7.1 The Chief Executive confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 All appropriate risk assessments will be undertaken as required.
- 8.2 Members should note that resourcing the enforcement of the PSPO is challenging and there are only limited numbers of staff that are authorised to issue Fixed Penalty Notices for breaches of the PSPO. However, having the PSPO restrictions in place does give the Council the powers to take action where it can and to work with police and other partners to help keep the borough safe.

9 Legal Implications

- 9.1 The power to make a PSPO is subject to a number of conditions as set out in the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 (see paragraph 4.2 of this report). The Council will continue to review the proposed terms of the PSPO against the conditions set out in the Act to ensure that the order is lawful.
- 9.2 Once the final PSPO measures are agreed the PSPO will need to be published in accordance with the regulations made by the Secretary of State.

10 Consultation and Communications

- 10.1 The Council went out for public consultation from September to November 2025. The Council also consulted the Police and Crime Commissioner and Kent Police. Both agreed to the proposed restrictions in the PSPO.

11 Implementation

- 11.1 Once all the restrictions are agreed then a copy of the Order would need to be published by April 2026 in accordance with regulations made by the Secretary of State.
- 11.2 The Borough Council will then look to update and add signage across the borough to advertise the PSPO restrictions. The location of signs will be carefully considered but will be placed in key locations across the borough.

11.3 Once the new restrictions are agreed then the Borough Council will also look to run refresher training for staff on how to issue Fixed Penalty Notices, so that those staff who are authorised are aware of their roles and responsibilities in helping to enforce the PSPO restrictions.

12 Cross Cutting Issues

12.1 Climate Change and Biodiversity

12.1.1 Limited or low impact on emissions and environment.

12.1.2 Climate change advice has not been sought in the preparation of the options and recommendations in this report.

12.2 Equalities and Diversity

12.2.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

12.3 Other If Relevant

- None

Background Papers	None
Annexes	Annex 1 – The proposed Public Space Protection Order Annex 2 – Results of the PSPO Consultation

The Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council

Public Spaces Protection Order 2026

Pursuant to powers granted to the Council under s.59 of the Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014, Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council has made the following Order:

From 1 April 2026 it is an offence for a person without reasonable excuse:

- (a) To do anything that the person is prohibited from doing in this Order, or
- (b) To fail to comply with any requirement to which the person is subject under this Order.

A person guilty of an offence in relation to this Order is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale (£1,000 as at 28th June 2025).

The Council or a Police Constable may issue a fixed penalty notice to any person he or she has reason to believe has committed an offence in relation to this Order. A fixed penalty notice offers the opportunity to discharge liability for conviction upon payment of a fine of £100.

Measures affecting the whole of the Borough of Tonbridge and Malling

The following measures apply to all areas to which the general public has access within Tonbridge and Malling:

a. Dog Fouling

No person is permitted to leave dog faeces deposited by any dog under their control or ownership in any public place, save in a designated dog faeces bin or general waste bin. Owners and dog-walkers must clean up after dogs under their control, care or ownership.

b. Exclusion of Dogs from Children's Play Areas

No person in control, care or ownership of a dog may allow (whether wilfully or otherwise) those dogs to enter or remain upon any Children's Play Area.

c. Dogs on Leads by Direction

When required by an authorised officer of the Council, any person in control of dogs must place those dogs on a lead.

d. Maximum Numbers of Dogs Under a Person's Control

No person is permitted to have under their individual control more than 6 dogs in a public place.

e. Alcohol Control

No person may drink alcohol in a public place if requested to stop by an authorised officer of the Council or Police Constable.

f. Public Urination/ Defecation

No person may urinate or defecate in any public place, except in a public lavatory.

g. Use of Drones

No person may launch or land a drone from any open space owned by the Borough Council without first obtaining authorisation from the Borough Council.

For the purposes of this measure, “drone” means any remote-controlled pilotless aircraft or Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

h. Vehicles on public open spaces

No person may park a vehicle on any public open space within the borough, save in a designated vehicle parking space. For the purposes of this provision, ‘public open space’ shall mean any land laid out as a public garden or used for the purposes of public recreation.

i. Nuisance associated with car/motorcycle meetings

No person may attend any unauthorised meeting or gathering within the borough involving a mechanically propelled vehicle as an owner, driver, passenger or spectator where any reasonable person would consider that such activity causes or is likely to cause nuisance or annoyance, harassment, alarm, distress or detrimental impact in the locality.

No person may attend any meeting or gathering within the borough in which the use of a mechanically propelled vehicle is the main focus of attention and any of the following activities are taking place:

- Unnecessary sounding of motor vehicle horns in a manner causing or being likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Playing amplified music in or near, or powered from, a motor vehicle at an excessive volume causing or likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Unnecessary revving of a motor vehicle engine to causing or likely to cause, a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Causing danger to other road users including pedestrians.
- Causing damage or risk of damage to private property.
- Speeding or racing.
- Performing stunts including, but not limited to, performing donuts, wheel spins, skidding, drifting, handbrake turns or burn outs.
- Using loud and/or threatening and/or using abusive language causing or likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to people in the locality.
- Causing an obstruction of a public highway or public place whether stationary or moving.
- Attending any meeting of two or more vehicles in a public space either as a vehicle owner, driver, passenger or spectator and engaging in any activity that a reasonable person would consider to be part of a car cruising activity.

- Engage in, encourage, or otherwise assist the above activities which includes spectators of any of the above.

For the purposes of this Order 'Mechanically propelled vehicles' means any vehicles which is powered mechanically (for example, electrically or by an engine) that is intended or adapted for use on roads. This includes but is not limited to, motorcars and motorcycles.

j. Use of Catapults

No person may have in their possession a catapult, slingshot or similar item capable of launching a missile that could cause harm or damage to a person, animal or property. This does not preclude the powers of the police with regard to an item recognised in law as an offensive weapon.

It is an offence if a person fails to surrender any catapult, slingshot or similar item capable of launching a projectile in their possession when requested to do so by an authorised officer.

No person may have in their possession stones, ball bearings, pellets or similar item(s) capable of being launched as a projectile, by a catapult, slingshot or similar item or by manual force, that could cause harm or damage to a person, animal or property.

It is an offence if a person fails to surrender any stones, ball bearings, pellets or similar item(s) capable of being launched as a missile by a catapult, slingshot or similar item when requested to do so by an authorised officer.

2. Area- Specific Measures

In addition to the Borough-wide measures, the following measures apply within the boundaries of these designated areas:

a. Leybourne Lakes Country Park

i. No unauthorised Barbecues

No person may use any barbecue, open fire or other method of cooking or heating food within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

ii. No unauthorised swimming, bathing or boating

No person may swim, bathe or operate any boat or craft in any lake within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

iii. Dogs on Leads at all times in designated areas

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times within the areas shown on the plan below. Broadly, these areas are the car parks and the access road for the Watersports facility.

iv. No unauthorised camping

No person may camp in any place within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

d. Haysden Country Parki. **No unauthorised Barbecues**

No person may use any barbecue, open fire or other method of cooking or heating food within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

ii. **No unauthorised swimming, bathing or boating**

No person may swim, bathe or operate any boat or craft in any lake within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

iii. **Dogs on Leads at all times in designated areas**

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times within the areas shown on the plans below. Broadly, these areas are the car parks and around the catering unit.

iv. **No unauthorised camping**

No person may camp in any place within the Country Park unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.



Map above showing dogs on lead area within main car park and catering area within Haysden Country Park.



Map above showing dogs on lead area within Lower Haysden Lane Car Park.



Map above showing dogs on lead area within Audley Rise Car Park

e. Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground and Tonbridge Castlei. **No unauthorised Barbecues**

No person may use any barbecue, open fire or other method of cooking or heating food within these areas unless specifically authorised in writing by the Council.

ii. **Dogs on Leads at all times in designated areas**



h. Closed Churchyards at St Peter's and St Paul's Churches

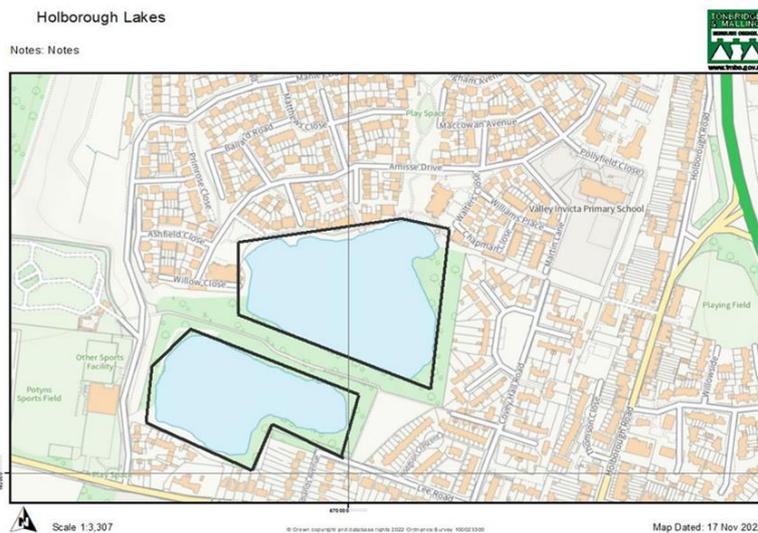
i. **Dogs on leads at all times**

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times within the Churchyards of St Peter's and St Paul's churches.

i. Holborough Lakes, Snodland

(i) **No unauthorised swimming, bathing or boating**

No person may swim, bathe or operate any boat or craft in any lake within Holborough Lakes unless specifically authorised in writing.



Results of the Public Space Protection Order Consultation

The consultation was available online from Monday 15 September to Sunday 2 November. In total there were 47 responses. Of these 43 stated that they were residents of the borough and 9 that they were not residents.

1. Are you responding as:

A resident	34
Someone who works in the borough	2
A local business owner/manager	1
A representative of a Town or Parish Council	5
A representative of a community group/voluntary group	3
Other	3

2. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to deter dog fouling?

Yes	46
No	1
Not sure	0

3. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO to exclude dogs from Borough Council owned and maintained children's play areas?

Yes	43
No	3
Not sure	1

4. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO to ensure dogs are on a lead by direction?

Yes	38
No	8
Not sure	1

5. Do you agree with the continuing PSPO to restrict the number of dogs that one person can take onto a public place to six dogs to ensure that they have full control of these dogs?

Yes	45
No	1
Not sure	1

6. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO for a controlled alcohol zone?

Yes	45
No	2
Not sure	0

7. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO to deter public urination/defecation?

Yes	47
No	0
Not sure	0

8. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO to deter unauthorised drones on any open space owned by Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council?

Yes	43
No	2
Not sure	2

9. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO to prevent unauthorised parking on public open spaces?

Yes	45
No	1
Not sure	1

10. Do you agree with the proposal to continue with a borough wide PSPO to stop nuisance associated with car and/or motorcycle meetings?

Yes	46
No	1
Not sure	0

11. Do you agree with the need to continue the PSPO for Leybourne Lakes Country Park?

Yes	40
No	1
Not sure	6

12. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Leybourne Lakes Country Park?

Tackle antisocial behaviour including vandalising/interfering with water sports equipment and facilities. (Their safety boat has been sunk several times by young people getting up to no good). Enforce the watersport parking so that those not participating cannot park there.

Endeavour to reduce vandalism on the safety and leisure facilities at the lake.

As a volunteer walk leader we have recently had some near misses regarding electric bike speeding along footpaths at very high speeds, and there should be an enforcement put in place banning any electric bikes or motorcycles in the park. Some considerations should also be given to the use of electric scooters which should also be banned.

Ban electric scooters and speed limit electric bikes to prevent danger to walkers/runners.

Ban the carting of catapults

Multi use of water craft and swim for the public

Not specific to Leybourne as I'm in Medway! There is a need to raise the lack of care and maintenance in Walderslade, particularly in Taddington Valley. Dog fouling is widespread throughout the valley, not limited to a few hotspots, and it is not the responsibility of residents to map out problem areas. This should be the council's job. Despite mentioning several initiatives, the only one I have ever seen in over 20 years of living here was the colourful flag scheme — which was ineffective and simply made the council look out of touch. Meanwhile, enforcement is practically non-existent. Dogs are frequently off lead and nowhere near their owners, who have no idea where their dogs are toileting. With leaves on the ground, it is almost impossible to avoid stepping in dog mess. The current approach is inadequate. Walderslade deserves better. Clear signage, visible enforcement, and fines are needed if the council wants to get this under control. I expect to see a more proactive response and meaningful action from the council going forward.

13. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for the Tonbridge Memorial Gardens?

Yes	43
No	1
Not sure	3

14. Do you agree with the new proposal to prevent unauthorised camping in the Tonbridge Memorial Gardens?

Yes	43
No	2
Not sure	2

15. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for the Tonbridge Memorial Gardens?

Alcohol consumption banned.

Enforcement of the above!

Yes, the current 'camper' should be dealt with by court action either using relevant eviction notice or via a CPN to the land owner, this approach is using a

sledgehammer to crack a nut. But will address any further encampments. I strongly feel the memorial gardens, surrounding space as well as the green space surrounding River Lawn should be an alcohol free zone, rather than 'being requested to stop'. This will disrupt the entrenched street drinking that occurs here daily, and acknowledges the designation of the memorial gardens and surrounding area as a place for peaceful reflection. In addition to this the many children passing through the area for their local provisions would be less likely to be subjected to the smell of weed and the intimidating behaviour. It's a very unpleasant experience for scouts, beavers, school children, library and nursery users.

No rollerskating.

16. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for Tonbridge Moorings/Town Lock?

Yes	41
No	1
Not sure	5

17. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Tonbridge Moorings/Tonbridge Lock?

Clear signage to indicate swimming/jumping into the water near the lock is not allowed.

18. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for Haysden Country Park?

Yes	42
No	1
Not sure	4

19. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Haysden Country Park?

Please start enforcing the PSPO!

Permit parking through out Barden especially in Audley avenue.

Electric bicycles and motorbikes using the park in the day and often at night too. The Audley Rise car park is often used in the evenings for motorbikes and cars to meet. There is a gate at the car park entrance that could easily be locked to help deter these issues. There has also been a number of issues with catapults being fired at the birds, as well as a number of BBQs around the park.

Multi use of lakes one that all public can access with different water craft and open swim.

20. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for Tonbridge Racecourse Sports Ground and Tonbridge Castle?

Yes	42
No	1
Not sure	4

21. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Tonbridge Racecourse Sports Ground and Tonbridge Castle?

Please start enforcing the PSPO

As above, an alcohol free zone in River Lawn and memorial gardens to incorporate both scout huts, the library and the memorial gardens and surrounding area. so people can travel through avoiding the high street without intimidation.

Got to take a very hard line on aggressive out of control dogs. Very dangerous and fear for safety of young children.

More access for water sports

22. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for Tonbridge Farm Sports Ground?

Yes	38
No	2
Not sure	7

23. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Tonbridge Farm Sports Ground?

Start enforcing it!

24. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for Tonbridge Cemetery?

Yes	38
No	2
Not sure	7

25. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Tonbridge Cemetery?

Alcohol consumption banned.

26. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for the closed Churchyards of St Peters' and St Paul's and St Stephen's in Tonbridge?

Yes	39
No	2
Not sure	6

27. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for the closed Churchyards of St Peters' and St Paul's and St Stephen's in Tonbridge?

Alcohol consumption banned.

This should be extended to include all closed churchyards within the Borough.

28. Do you agree with the need to continue with the PSPO for Holborough Lakes?

Yes	35
No	1
Not sure	11

29. Is there anything else that you would like to see included in the PSPO for Holborough Lakes?

Same restrictions as Leybourne Lakes.

30. Do you agree to the new proposal to prevent the unauthorised use of catapults in the borough?

Yes	46
No	1
Not sure	0

31. Do you have any comments to add on this proposal?

Also the carrying of ammunition for catapults.

I cannot think of any legitimate reason to use catapult in public open space where property, people or animals can be attacked.

This is very important throughout Tonbridge and Malling not just on TMBC land. Police action is vital.

Borough-wide and not just for the town of Tonbridge itself.

This is very important and should apply to all areas / villages in the borough.

this is a good addition and should be effective for all villages and parts of the borough.

The number of occasions needs to be highlighted.

There I'd absolutely need for anyone to have a catapult, beyond those used to fire bait out into the water for fishing. Any see being carried around should be ceased and destroyed. Anyone found using them to harm/threaten people, pets or wildlife, should not only have them ceased, but should be charged, fined and given

community service. If it's a minor, they should still be doing unpaid community service, and restitution needs to be made for any damage.

Sensible addition.

More policing of this is needed in Walderslade.

32. Are there any other restrictions you would like us to consider within the PSPO?

I think Max number of dogs with one person should be less than six. You can't control 6 big dogs.

More enforcement.

Restriction on the use of electric scooters and bikes, for example to restrict their use on pavements.

Please include all villages.

To police the use of electric bike/scooter by underaged children along public roads and footpaths.

Dealing effectively with those smoking weed, groups hanging around play areas etc who are acting in an intimidating manner. Dog fouling is an issue on pathways and public spaces, with the special bins not being used by some owners. Too many smokers still don't think that throwing down their cigarette butts is littering - can something be done to encourage proper disposal?

Much more aggressive enforcement and deterrence against dangerous dogs. To prevent people using them to intimidated families etc.

Regarding question 8. Hadlow Parish Council would like a PSPO to prevent unauthorised drones to be extended to Parish Council open spaces. We are responsible for Williams Field playing field, skate park and play area; Signpost Field in Golden Green play area and field; Hadlow Cemetery, Hadlow Church closed churchyard; Hadlow Allotments and Hadlow Cricket Field.

Restrictions on the use of motorbikes and gangs of electric bike users (wearing balaclavas) on the cycle and public footpaths.

Can we consult on a PSPO at River Lawn to control alcohol?

More action in Walderslade.

33. If you have any further comments, please leave them here:

There is an antisocial behaviour issue with teenagers in the area. They frequently trespass on private property especially around cannon lane (blossom bank). They never been using catapults and have been drinking and using drugs in private

spaces such as children's play areas belonging to housing estates. More community officer or police presence in town should help with this.

Stop the motor cycle racing down East Peckham bypass every Thursday evening.

Please consider the alcohol free zone in the area entrenched with street drinkers in river lawn. With the hostel on River Lawn Road there will consistently be new faces in the area who may drink alcohol and this will disrupt this behaviour.

It great to have orders in place, it's the enforcement that is the issue. Villages are very low priority.

Having read your questionnaire, it's clear from the content that the feedback you are highlighting relates almost entirely to the Tunbridge side of the borough, rather than the Medway end. I live in Walderslade — an area that used to be lovely — but it has been increasingly neglected by Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council in recent years. We have several beautiful woodland walks and green spaces that could be hugely beneficial to local residents, yet they are not being properly maintained. Taddington Valley is a perfect example: during winter it is almost impossible to walk safely along the path, yet money has been spent installing three benches that will likely be used once a year at best. I strongly suggest that you issue a similar questionnaire specifically to residents in Walderslade and the Medway side of your borough. I believe the responses you receive will be very different — less of a pat on the back and far more honest about the current lack of care and maintenance.

- Consider what it can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- Agree policies and specific objectives based on this consideration.
- Act to deliver its policies and achieve its objectives.

4.3 To comply, the council must consider the opportunities across the full range of its functions. The aim is to provide for the enhancement or improvement of biodiversity, not just its maintenance in its current state.

4.4 The first stage of delivering the 'biodiversity duty' is to identify the work of the council that contributes towards the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity. The Biodiversity Duty First Consideration Report, published in 2024, highlighted the main areas of the council's work contributing to achieve this.

4.5 The council is then required to publish a Biodiversity Report by 26 March 2026 covering the first reporting period and then every five years (or less) thereafter.

4.6 The Biodiversity Report follows on from the First Consideration Report and provides a record of progress for the first statutory reporting period, covering 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025.

4.7 In line with guidance, the report includes:

- Actions taken to comply with the biodiversity duty.
- Proposed actions for the next reporting period.
- Actions carried out to meet biodiversity net gain (BNG) obligations.

4.8 The report demonstrates how biodiversity is integrated across departments, embedded within planning and development processes, and promoted through community engagement and land management.

5 Proposal

5.1 Members are asked to endorse the contents of the Biodiversity Duty Report and the council's progress in delivering its statutory biodiversity duty. Members are also asked to approve the proposed future actions set out in Section 6 of the Biodiversity Duty Report.

6 Other Options

6.1 There is no statutory alternative to producing this report.

7 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

7.1 Up to and including 2025/26, the Council received a specific grant (burdens funding) of circa £27,000 per annum to support the production and monitoring of

the Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) arrangements. The unspent balance was transferred to an earmarked Planning reserve.

- 7.2 Following the Fair Funding Review, this specific grant has been rolled into the Revenue Support Grant from 2026/27 onwards. As at the time of writing, the earmarked reserve stands at £15,000, and the £27,142 received in 2025/26 has been fully expended.
- 7.3 Officers from Financial Services, Planning Services and the Council's Climate Change Officer are currently working together to ensure that the remaining reserve funding is appropriately released to support any additional works required.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 Failure to comply with legislation and produce this report could result in the Council facing legal action.

9 Legal Implications

- 9.1 The duty to conserve and enhance biodiversity is set out in the Environment Act 2021 and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act) as amended.

10 Consultation and Communications

- 10.1 This work has been progressed in full liaison with relevant internal services.

11 Implementation

- 11.1 Implementation of the biodiversity duty is underway with delivery embedded into day-to-day operations. This will continue through the next statutory reporting period.

12 Cross Cutting Issues

12.1 Climate Change and Biodiversity

- 12.1.1 Significant impact on reducing emissions in support of carbon neutral by 2030 or enhancing the natural environment.

- 12.1.2 Climate change advice has been sought in the preparation of the options and recommendations in this report.

- 12.1.3 The aim is to provide for the enhancement or improvement of biodiversity, not just its maintenance in its current state.

12.2 Equalities and Diversity

12.2.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

12.3 Other If Relevant

- None

Background Papers	None
Annexes	Annex 1 – Biodiversity Duty Report



Biodiversity Duty Report

March 2026

Contents

Section	Page
1. Introduction	1
2. Policies, Objectives and Actions	1
3. Raising Awareness and Engagement	4
4. First Consideration Report Actions and Results	4
5. Biodiversity Net Gain Actions and Results	4
6. Future Actions	5
7. Appendices	5
APPENDIX 1: Key Terms and Definitions	
APPENDIX 2: Biodiversity Duty Action and Delivery Table	

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report is published to meet Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council's (TMBC) legal obligations under the Environment Act 2021 requiring local authorities and local planning authorities (LPA) to publish a Biodiversity Duty Report.
- 1.2 The Environment Act 2021 strengthened the statutory biodiversity duty in Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006. This duty requires all public authorities in England to consider how they can conserve and enhance biodiversity and to report on the actions they have taken.
- 1.3 From 1 January 2023, all public authorities have been subject to this enhanced biodiversity duty. [Guidance](#) sets out authorities should:
 - a. Consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity
 - b. Agree and adopt specific policies and objectives
 - c. Deliver and report on actions within statutory reporting periods
- 1.4 By 1 January 2024, public authorities were required to publish a First Consideration Report setting out how they intended to comply with the biodiversity duty. TMBC's [Biodiversity Duty – First Consideration Report](#) set out the Council's initial assessment of biodiversity opportunities and proposed actions.
- 1.5 This Biodiversity Report follows on from the First Consideration report and provides a record of progress for the first statutory reporting period covering 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2025. In line with guidance, the report includes:
 - a. Actions taken to comply with the biodiversity duty
 - b. Proposed actions for the future and next reporting period
 - c. Actions carried out to meet biodiversity net gain (BNG) obligations
- 1.6 Further detail on TMBC's actions, progress and delivery in relation to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity is provided in the accompanying Biodiversity Duty Action and Delivery Table in Appendix 2.
- 1.7 Subsequent reports will be published at intervals of no more than five years, in line with statutory requirements.

2 Policies, Objectives and Actions

2.1 Corporate and Strategic Context

- 2.2 Tonbridge and Malling is known for its beautiful countryside, rich wildlife, and diverse landscapes. We are committed to protecting and enhancing these special places.
- 2.3 As stipulated within the First Consideration Report, biodiversity conservation and enhancement are integrated across a range of TMBC's core strategies, plans, and service areas, ensuring that environmental objectives are embedded into both strategic policy and day-to-day delivery.
- 2.4 TMBC's Corporate Strategy (2023-2027) identifies "*Sustaining a borough which cares for the environment*" as one of four key priorities, with commitments to:
 - a. Delivering climate change plans focused on cutting emissions and increasing biodiversity.
 - b. Recycling more than anywhere else in Kent with measures to improve rates while reducing overall levels of waste and fly-tipping.
 - c. Improving environmental quality by tackling sources of pollution, by design-led approaches in new development and encouraging sustainable transport.
 - d. Managing parks, open spaces, and leisure centres for public benefit.

- e. Supporting local built heritage and local pride of place.

2.5 TMBC's Climate Change Strategy (2020–2030) is delivered through annual Climate Change Action Plans, which embed biodiversity considerations across the Council's service areas, focusing on:

- a. Sustainable development and land management
- b. Protection and enhancement of habitats and species
- c. Partner engagement to strengthen local resilience

This annual action plan approach supports coordinated and ongoing delivery of the biodiversity duty.

2.6 Planning Policy and Development Management

2.7 In line with national policy, TMBC has embedded biodiversity protection within its planning policy through the Core Strategy (2007) and the Managing Development and the Environment Development Plan Document (2010). These documents include the following relevant policies:

2.8 The Core Strategy includes policies to protect designated landscapes including:

- Policy CP7 – Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Policy CP8 – Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Policy CP9 – Agricultural Land

2.9 The Managing Development and the Environment Development Plan Document contains policies addressing local wildlife, habitats and landscape protection including:

- Policy NE1 – Local Sites of Wildlife, Geological and Geomorphological Interest
- Policy NE2 – Habitat Networks
- Policy NE3 – Impact of Development on Biodiversity
- Policy NE4 – Trees, Hedgerows and Woodland
- Policy SQ1 – Landscape and Townscape Protection and Enhancement
- Policy OS1 – Protection of Open Spaces
- Policy OS2 – Allotments
- Policy OS3 – Open Space Standards
- Policy OS4 – Provision of Open Space
- Policy OS5 – Green Infrastructure Network

2.10 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is an approach to development, and/or land management, that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand. The Environment Act 2021 requires that all development in England (with a few exemptions) deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain.

2.11 In 2024, TMBC adopted a [BNG Interim Policy Position Statement](#) to provide guidance for applicants/agents and decision makers on how BNG will be taken into account by the Council when considering development proposals until a new Local Plan is adopted. This is a material consideration that will be taken into account when determining planning applications. Further details on TMBC's Local Plan are below.

2.12 The Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy (2024) provides a borough-wide baseline of green (land) and blue (water) assets and identifies areas for potential habitat creation and enhancement. It set out to:

- a. Map and assess existing ecological networks.
- b. Identify areas within 15-minute access to green or blue space.
- c. Highlight zones for targeted biodiversity improvements.

The strategy has been used to help shape Local Plan policy direction and to identify areas for potential habitat creation and enhancement.

2.13 TMBC is currently preparing a new Local Plan, which looks ahead to 2042. It sets out a vision and objectives for the borough and a spatial strategy for growth, that identifies the locations where development will take place. It sets out both strategic and non-strategic policies that will guide

development across the borough, that will contribute towards achieving the desired social, environmental, and economic outcomes.

- 2.14 The Local Plan sets out how we will achieve this. We aim to:
- a. Protect and enhance valued landscapes, woodlands, rivers, and wildlife habitats, including ancient woodland and veteran trees.
 - b. Safeguard sites of international, national, and local importance for biodiversity, such as Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, and Local Wildlife Sites.
 - c. Deliver a measurable net gain in biodiversity from new development, so that nature is left in a better state than before.
 - d. Integrate green and blue infrastructure such as parks, green corridors, rivers, and wetlands into new developments to support wildlife, manage water, and provide spaces for people to enjoy.
 - e. Protect the best and most versatile agricultural land, recognising its value for food production, biodiversity, and carbon storage.
 - f. Minimise pollution (air, water, noise, and light) and ensure new development does not harm the environment or people's quality of life.

2.15 Leisure Services (Parks and Open Spaces)

- 2.16 TMBC manages a substantial green estate, including parks, country parks, sports grounds, and other public open spaces. The following section focuses on biodiversity actions delivered within site management and maintenance practices of council-owned land, where ecological considerations are embedded within routine service delivery through adopted policies, management plans, contracts, delivery programmes and partnership working.
- 2.17 Biodiversity is supported through a range of policies and initiatives:
- a. Cyclical tree safety inspections are undertaken in accordance with the Council's Tree Safety Policy, with replacement planting implemented where required.
 - b. The Council's Tree Charter guides the protection, management, and expansion of the borough's tree cover, aligning with climate change and green infrastructure objectives.
 - c. A Pollinator Strategy is being developed to support pollinating species across managed land.
- 2.18 The Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract specification is being reviewed to adopt less intensive management practices that support biodiversity, including the implementation of Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs) and a reduction in herbicide use.
- 2.19 Site management and delivery are supported through structured planning:
- a. Five-year Management Plans are delivered for key parks and open spaces, including Haysden Country Park, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground, and Leybourne Lakes Country Park.
 - b. Delivery of Woodland Management Plans for key woodland sites including Taddington Valley and Holly Hill Woodlands.
 - c. The Council has achieved, and continues to work towards, external accreditations including Green Flag Award and Country Park status, supporting investment and biodiversity enhancement at key sites.
 - d. Planting 1000 trees and whips a year across all public open spaces.
- 2.20 Partnership working plays a key role in supporting site management and biodiversity outcomes, including:
- a. Working with partners to monitor, record and tackle Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS).
 - b. Providing Core Funding to Medway Valley Countryside Partnership to support delivery of Volunteer Action Days and monitoring, recording and removal of Invasive Non-Native Species across the Medway catchment area.
 - c. Supporting community and volunteer groups with equipment and training to enable flora and fauna monitoring and habitat improvement initiatives at key sites.
 - d. Commissioning a RNR monitoring programme to measure success and identify management

- practices to enhance biodiversity within these areas.
- e. Worked alongside Haysden Country Park volunteer group to install lakeside revetment to prevent erosion and allow the planting and establishment of aquatic flora.
 - f. Pond creation at Haysden Country Park.
 - g. Working with partners to investigate opportunities for river channel enhancements in the Shallows at Haysden Country Park and to deliver enhancements to the Penn Stream at Woodland Walk Public Open Space in Tonbridge.

3 Raising Awareness and Engagement

- 3.1 Alongside service-level delivery, TMBC works collaboratively with a range of strategic partners and community organisations to support biodiversity conservation and enhancement at a borough-wide and cross-boundary scale. This partnership-led approach enables coordination, evidence-sharing, and alignment with regional and national biodiversity priorities.
- 3.2 TMBC works with strategic partnerships to support biodiversity outcomes, including:
 - a. Active participation in the Kent Nature Partnership, including contribution to the development of the Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy, published in November 2025.
 - b. Active participation in the Kent Downs and High Weald National Landscape Joint Advisory Committees, and the development and adoption of the Management Plans for these protected landscapes.
 - c. Funding contribution to and participation in the Local Wildlife Site System for Kent.
 - d. Participation in the Ashdown Forest Working Group (AFWG). The purpose of the AFWG is to work together to consider and address any strategic cross boundary issues of air quality impacts on the Ashdown Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC) that may arise from traffic associated with new development. A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared.
- 3.3 Community and volunteer involvement also plays an important role in supporting biodiversity across the borough:
 - a. Continued engagement with community organisations (e.g. Haysden Country Park Volunteers, Platt Wood Management Committee).
 - b. Supporting local volunteer groups to enhance biodiversity.

4 First Consideration Report Actions and Results

- 4.1 The following priorities were identified in the First Consideration Report for TMBC:
 - a. Development of a new Local Plan, the Regulation 18 Local Plan consultation ran from 11th November 2025 to 2nd January 2026.
 - b. Continued involvement in the Kent and Medway LNRS. TMBC contributed to the development of the strategy, this was officially launched in November 2025.
 - c. Development and implementation of a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy, this was published 2024.
 - d. Implementation and reporting of Biodiversity Net Gain, see below for more information.
 - e. Staff investment/training around biodiversity.
 - f. Investigating potential ecological enhancement opportunities on council owned land, this action was progressed through the commissioning of a Biodiversity Net Gain Feasibility Study, as discussed below.

5 Biodiversity Net Gain Actions and Results

- 5.1 At the time of reporting, no developments subject to mandatory biodiversity net gain (BNG) requirements have reached the statutory trigger point for implementation, which is typically commencement of

development on site. Consequently, TMBC has not yet commenced formal monitoring activities associated with approved biodiversity gain plans.

- 5.2 The Council currently has one development where biodiversity net gain delivery is in progress. For this scheme, biodiversity net gain is being delivered off-site, outside of the borough, by the landowner Boughton Monchelsea Amenity Trust (BMAT). Adonis Blue has been appointed as the consultant and is responsible for overseeing the delivery, management, and reporting of biodiversity gains on behalf of the developer. The Council continues to receive and review information relating to this scheme and will incorporate monitoring data into future reporting once statutory trigger points are met and formal monitoring requirements commence.
- 5.3 At present, TMBC utilises the Mycelia software platform to manage biodiversity net gain information. While the monitoring functionality has not yet been activated, the system provides a structured framework to support future monitoring, data management, and reporting as developments progress through implementation stages.
- 5.4 In addition, the Council has commissioned a Biodiversity Net Gain Feasibility Study to assess the potential for council-owned land to support off-site biodiversity net gain delivery. This detailed feasibility assessment has provided a baseline understanding of which sites within the Council's estate may be suitable for off-site BNG provision. The findings of the study have informed the Local Plan evidence base, supported internal discussions on the implementation of biodiversity net gain, and will identify next steps for potential habitat creation and enhancement opportunities across the Council's landholdings.
- 5.5 As additional developments reach the implementation stage, the Council will expand the quantitative reporting of biodiversity net gain outcomes in line with national guidance.

6 Future Actions

- 6.1 TMBC will continue to take practical steps to conserve and enhance biodiversity across its parks, open spaces, and other land. Over the coming years, the Council aims to:
 - a. Continue to manage selected grass areas for wildlife through the Grounds Maintenance Contract and identify new areas where mowing can be reduced to allow wildflowers and pollinators to establish and thrive.
 - b. Plant 1000 native trees per year and investigate opportunities to plant native shrubs and flowers within amenity green spaces.
 - c. Identify areas where simple habitats such as bird boxes, bug hotels, and log piles can be created or installed to support insects and small animals.
 - d. Continue to maintain natural edges to ponds, streams, and ditches and work with external partners, such as Medway Valley Countryside Partnership to investigate external funding opportunities to further protect and enhance these features by planting native wetland vegetation.
 - e. Seek opportunities to continue to work with community groups to increase biodiversity through volunteer planting events, school projects, and local initiatives.
 - f. Record and share progress to demonstrate improvements and identify further opportunities for action.
- 6.2 The findings of the Biodiversity Net Gain Feasibility Study will be used to inform future opportunities and to identify next steps for potential habitat creation and enhancement across the Council's landholdings.
- 6.3 These straightforward measures will help increase biodiversity, support pollinators, and make local green spaces more sustainable.

7 Appendix

APPENDIX 1: Terms and Definitions

Term	Definition
Biodiversity	The variety of plant and animal life in the world or within a particular habitat.
Biodiversity Duty	The legal requirement for public authorities in England to take steps for conserving and enhancing biodiversity when exercising their functions. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complying with the biodiversity duty guidance
Biodiversity Duty Report	A statutory report published by the Council under the Environment Act 2021, setting out how the authority has complied with its biodiversity duty. The report is published on the Council’s website and provides transparency and evidence of compliance. It is not submitted to a central government body. Defra intends to include references to biodiversity reports in future reviews of the Environmental Improvement Plan. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reporting your biodiversity duty actions guidance
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	BNG is an approach to development. It makes sure that habitats for wildlife are left in a measurably better state than they were before the development. Where applicable, developers must deliver a BNG of 10%. This means a development will result in more or better quality natural habitat than there was before development.
Environment Act 2021	An Act of Parliament that establishes targets, plans, and reporting requirements to improve and protect the natural environment.

APPENDIX 2: Biodiversity Duty Action and Delivery Table

Details on actions undertaken, progress, and delivery during the reporting period is provided in the Biodiversity Duty Action and Delivery Table below.

Action Undertaken	Status	Biodiversity Benefit	Supporting Document	Actions Delivered
Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy	Published March 2024.	The Strategy sets out a framework for protecting, enhancing, and connecting the Borough’s natural assets and identifies mechanisms for delivery across council functions. Its recommendations help ensure habitats are climate-resilient, support native species, deliver biodiversity net gain, and provide opportunities for environmental enhancement.	https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/downloads/file/3935/green-and-blue-infrastructure-strategy	Strategy completed and published, providing an evidence base and spatial mapping to inform decision-making across TMBC. Early implementation has included using the strategy to shape Local Plan policy direction and to identify priority areas for habitat creation and enhancement.
Biodiversity Net Gain Feasibility Study	Final Report completed November 2025.	Council owned land is assessed for off-site BNG potential. It considers environmental designations (e.g. SSSIs, local nature reserves), priority habitats identified in the Kent and Medway draft LNRS, and the condition and habitat types across the Estate. It also evaluates policy context, resource requirements, financial feasibility and the potential for income generation through BNG units. This supports informed decision-making and the feasibility of suitable areas for future habitat creation and enhancement.		Completion of a detailed feasibility assessment, providing a baseline understanding of which council-owned sites may be suitable for off-site BNG delivery. The study has been used to inform Local Plan evidence, guide internal discussions on BNG implementation, and identify next steps for potential habitat creation opportunities across the estate.

Kent and Medway Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS)	Published November 2025.	The LNRS identifies priority habitats, species and locations for nature recovery across Kent and Medway. It provides a spatial framework to guide action and investment towards areas where ecological improvements will deliver the greatest benefit. TMBC will have regard to the LNRS in relevant functions, helping to ensure that biodiversity enhancements are aligned with county-wide priorities and opportunities for nature recovery.	https://www.makingspacefornaturekent.org.uk/	TMBC contributed to the development of the LNRS, providing input on local priorities, data, and opportunities for nature recovery within the Borough. The Council's involvement has ensured that TMBC's ecological context and potential delivery sites are represented within the county-wide strategy.
TMBC Local Plan	Regulation 18 consultation undertaken between November 2025 and January 2026.	The Local Plan provides the strategic framework for development across the borough from 2024 to 2042. It seeks to support sustainable growth, climate resilience, protects natural and historic assets, provides opportunities for regeneration and promotes inclusive and prosperous communities. This includes seeking the conservation and enhancement of national and local sites designated for their biodiversity value, as well as setting out locally specific requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain.		Preparation of the Regulation 18 draft, incorporating updated biodiversity policies, locally specific BNG requirements, and alignment with the Kent and Medway LNRS and the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. Evidence gathering and policy development have informed the emerging approach to biodiversity within the Local Plan.

<p>Development and implementation of Site Management Plans (SMP)</p>	<p>5 year management plans in place at key sites (Haysden Country Park, Leybourne Lakes Country Park, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground).</p> <p>Plans are reviewed and updated on a cyclical basis.</p>	<p>5 year site management plans are developed for key sites (Haysden Country Park, Leybourne Lakes Country Park, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground). These plans are consulted on and approved by Members. These plans demonstrate the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity within TMBC and guide how parks are managed to protect its natural resources while allowing for public enjoyment.</p>	<p>https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/documents/s79405/Annex+3+-+Tonbridge+Racecourse+Sportsground+Management+Plan+2024+-+2028.pdf</p> <p>https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/documents/b20765/Haysden+Country+Park+Management+Plan+2025-29+-+Annex+1+05th-Feb-2025+19.30+Communities+and+Environment.pdf?T=9</p>	<p>SMPs have been prepared, consulted on, and approved for key sites. Management actions within these plans have been implemented through routine grounds maintenance, habitat management, volunteer activities, and tree works.</p>
<p>Development and implementation of Woodland Management Plans (WMP)</p>	<p>Adopted at selected sites (Taddington Valley and Holly Hill).</p> <p>Plans have an operational period of ten years and are reviewed and updated on a cyclical basis.</p> <p>Holly Hill WMP currently being reviewed and is</p>	<p>Woodland Management Plans, approved by the Forestry commission before formal adoption, guide the management of key woodland sites (Taddington Valley, Walderslade/Holly Hill POS, Birling). They play a crucial role in conserving and enhancing biodiversity and set out actions to protect its natural resources while allowing for public enjoyment.</p>	<p>https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/downloads/download/557/taddington-valley-woodland-management-plan---consultation-draft</p>	<p>Plans have been prepared, approved and implemented for key woodland sites. Management actions within these plans such as habitat improvement works, tree safety inspections, coppicing and engagement with local volunteers are delivered through routine woodland management and annual work programmes.</p>

	scheduled for renewal in Summer 2026.			
Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs)	Forms part of routine Grounds Maintenance Contract. Additional sites to be reviewed and presented to Members in March 2026.	RNRs provide areas where grassland is managed on an extended cutting regime, allowing vegetation to grow longer. This supports invertebrate populations, increases habitat diversity, and creates opportunities for a wider range of fauna to establish and thrive along the roadside network.		Designation and management of multiple RNR sites across the Borough, with reduced mowing regimes implemented and monitored. Sites have been identified by officers based on biodiversity value, and management practices have been adjusted to support pollinators and other wildlife.
RNR Monitoring Programme	One off project funded via the Corporate Climate Change budget. Report received December 2025. Recommendations to be considered and presented to Members in March 2026.	The Council has commissioned Medway Valley Countryside Partnership to monitor the flora and fauna present in its RNRs. This monitoring will identify habitat condition, species presence and opportunities for enhancement. An annual report will provide evidence-based recommendations to support improved management and biodiversity outcomes at RNR sites.		Commissioning of a specialist partner to undertake ecological monitoring across RNR sites. Baseline data collection is complete helping to establish an evidence base to inform future management decisions and enhancements. Report findings being reviewed.
Established Sportsground Buffer Zones	Implemented and maintained as part of ongoing site management through GM Contract and ad hoc maintenance.	Vegetation buffer zones have been introduced at sportsgrounds to create more diverse habitat areas alongside playing pitches. These zones support pollinators, invertebrates and small wildlife, improve habitat connectivity and soften the transition between formal sports areas and surrounding green space.		Buffer zones established and maintained at identified sportsgrounds. Mowing regimes have been adjusted to allow vegetation to develop, creating habitat structure that supports wildlife. Zones are reviewed as part of routine grounds maintenance.

Reduction in use of herbicides	Use of herbicides reduced during recent tender of Grounds Maintenance Contract. Under constant review during term of contract.	The Council has stopped using herbicides in grass areas and shrub beds, limiting their use to sports pitches only where necessary for playability. Reducing chemical inputs improves habitat quality, protects food sources for invertebrates, and supports healthier soil ecosystems.		Herbicide use removed from routine grounds maintenance, with alternative management practices adopted for grass and shrub areas. Limited, targeted application retained only for sports pitch and hard surface maintenance.
Tree Planting	Included within the Corporate Climate Change Action Plan as a formal target and reviewed annually.	Through its Corporate Climate Change Action Plan, TMBC is committed to planting 1,000 trees or whips per year. Tree planting increases habitat availability, supports pollinators, birds and invertebrates, enhances soil health, improves microclimates, and contributes to long-term ecological resilience.		Annual tree-planting programme delivered, with sites identified across the borough and coordinated planting undertaken each year. Newly planted trees are monitored and maintained to support establishment and long-term habitat value.
Tree Safety Policy	Policy approved by Members, regularly reviewed and sub policies implemented via regular inspection of immature and mature trees. Due for review in 2026.	The Tree Safety Policy ensures regular inspections and appropriate management of trees on Council-owned land. Maintaining trees in good health helps preserve mature habitat structures, supports species that rely on trees for food and shelter, and enables long-term ecological resilience while balancing public safety.	https://democracy.tmbc.gov.uk/documents/s69839/Annex%201%20-%20Current%20Policy.pdf	Scheduled inspections undertaken across Council-owned sites, with maintenance works carried out where required to retain tree health and structural integrity. Records of inspections and interventions are maintained.
Working in partnership with Medway Valley Countryside Partnership (MVCP)	TMBC is a core funding partner of MVCP which delivers a range of projects that support biodiversity:	Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) control		Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) control at priority sites, including mapping, monitoring and targeted removal to protect native species/habitats.
		Community/volunteer engagement		Supporting practical conservation tasks and increasing local engagement in biodiversity.

	Current Memorandum of Agreement in place until 2029.	Outdoor education		Helping to build awareness and understanding of local ecosystems.
		Access projects		Encouraging residents to connect with and value natural spaces.
Working in partnership with Kent Plan Tree (KCC Tree Establishment Strategy)	External Funding available in tranches and at discretion of KCC.	TMBC is working in partnership with KCC's Kent Plan Tree team to plant and establish trees across the Borough and support delivery of the Climate Change Action Plan. Increasing tree cover provides multiple biodiversity benefits, including enhanced habitats, food sources for wildlife, improved soil and water regulation, and greater ecological connectivity.		Actions include identifying suitable council-owned and public sites for tree planting, supporting species selection and planting design, assisting with community planting events, and undertaking establishment maintenance such as watering and monitoring. TMBC works with KCC to ensure trees are planted in locations that maximise ecological value and contribute to long-term canopy expansion.
High Weald National Landscape Partnership	Ongoing	A partnership between local authorities with land in the National Landscape, along with key stakeholders, which together form the High Weald Joint Advisory Committee (JAC) and Officer Steering Group (OSG). The partnership works together to produce the High Weald AONB Management Plan and supporting guidance, which sets out the Councils policies for managing land in the National Landscape, including actions around conserving and enhancing biodiversity.	highweald.org/document-library/aonb-management-plan/high-weald-aonb-management-plan-2024-2029/?layout=default	Adoption of the High Weald AONB Management Plan 2024-2029.
Kent Downs National Landscape Partnership	Ongoing	A partnership between local authorities and key stakeholders which together form the Kent Downs Joint Advisory Committee (JAC). The partnership works together to produce the Kent Downs AONB Management Plan and supporting guidance, which sets out the Councils policies for managing land in the National Landscape, including actions to conserve and enhance biodiversity.	The-Kent-Downs-AONB-Management-Plan-2021-2026-Adopted.pdf	Adoption of the Kent Downs AONB Management Plan.

Local Wildlife Site System for Kent	Ongoing	The Kent Wildlife Trust (KWT) undertake a rolling programme of surveys of Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in Kent, to monitor the condition of these sites and identify any new sites for designation. KWT consult with relevant local authorities on changes, and make recommendations through the Kent Nature Partnership.		Supporting the conservation and enhancement of sites of biodiversity value in the borough.
-------------------------------------	---------	---	--	--

TMBC.GOV.UK
Serving our community

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council
Gibson Building
Gibson Drive
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent
ME19 4LZ

Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee

04 March 2026

Part 1 - Public

Matters for Cabinet - Non-key Decision



Cabinet Member	Councillor Des Keers, Cabinet Member for Community Services Councillor Robin Betts, Cabinet Member for Housing, Environment and Economy
Responsible Officer	Robert Styles, Director of Street Scene, Leisure & Technical Services
Report Author	James Fay, Leisure Services Manager (Outdoors)

Review of Roadside Nature Reserves

1 Summary and Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report presents a review of Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs) following the monitoring of existing sites by the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership. The report brings forward proposals on future management, the expansion of existing sites and the creation of new RNRs for Members consideration.

2 Corporate Strategy Priority Area

- 2.1 Sustaining a borough which cares for the environment.
- 2.2 Roadside Nature Reserves can provide significant ecological and community value by acting as vital corridors that connect fragmented landscapes, helping species move and survive, supporting diverse wildlife - including pollinators and species that depend on undisturbed grasslands - and protecting rare and threatened habitats. They also serve as refuges for rare plants and animals, contribute to wider habitat restoration through seed sources, and strengthen climate resilience by maintaining species-rich grasslands.

3 Recommendations

- 3.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** to Cabinet that:
- 1) Priority 1 and 2 recommendations within the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership report be progressed.
 - 2) Existing RNRs listed at **Annex 2** are expanded as proposed.

- 3) New RNRs are created as shown at **Annex 3**.

4 Introduction and Background

- 4.1 At the meeting of the Communities and Housing Advisory Board on the 15 February 2022, Members first approved the creation of 10 RNRs. Since that date the number has increased and today there are 22 RNRs spread across 12 locations. Current locations are listed on pages 2 and 3 within the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership report shown at **Annex 1**.
- 4.2 The current cutting regime for RNR sites involves cutting the area twice, once in March and once in October and cutting buffers adjacent to hard surface areas 12 times.
- 4.3 In 2025, as part of the Councils Climate Change Action Plan, Officers commissioned Medway Valley Countryside Partnership to undertake monthly surveys of existing RNRs to identify the range of species present and provide recommendations on future management to further support and enhance biodiversity.
- 4.4 Members will also be aware that the public open space at River Lawn was nominated for Village Green Status by the Council in 2025. This process remains in progress, and the resulting outcome and its implications for future management will be considered in due course.

5 Proposal

- 5.1 Medway Valley Countryside Partnership conducted monthly botanical surveys of all existing RNRs from April 2025 to September 2025 using quadrats to record plant species and their abundance. Each site included at least 10 quadrats, with larger sites containing up to 30 where multiple RNRs were present. Quadrats were arranged in sets of ten along a W-shaped transect. In addition to plants, any invertebrates observed were identified and recorded using field guides and verified with digital tools to ensure accuracy.
- 5.2 The full report received from Medway Valley Countryside Partnership can be found at **Annex 1**. The report gives a detailed position statement on each site and the success of these RNRs are highlighted by the positive range of species identified. The report also brings forward proposed future, prioritised, management and survey recommendations. Recommendations for all sites are summarised in the table on page 58 and 59 of **Annex 1**.
- 5.3 Consideration has been given to the recommendations, and it is proposed that Members consider progression of Priority 1 and 2 recommendations from March 2026 in order to further improve the biodiversity at each site. With regard to Priority 3 recommendations, consideration could be given to increasing internal staffing skills and knowledge in order to undertake such surveys in-house.

5.4 The recommendations also include the proposal for expansion of selected existing RNRs and the creation of new RNR sites. As such, Officers have brought forward proposals, for Members consideration, in relation to these specific recommendations. **Annex 2** shows proposed expansion of existing RNRs and **Annex 3** brings forward proposals for new sites.

6 Other Options

6.1 Members do not adopt the recommendations made within the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership report at **Annex 1**, and RNRs continue to be maintained to the current specification.

7 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

7.1 The Director of Street Scene, Leisure and Technical Services confirms that the proposals contained in the recommendation(s), if approved, will fall within the Council's Budget and Policy Framework.

7.2 The costs of supply and installation of site signage will be met by 2026/2027 Revenue Budgets.

8 Risk Assessment

8.1 No perceived risks.

9 Legal Implications

9.1 None.

10 Consultation and Communications

10.1 The recommendations within the Medway Valley Countryside Partnership report include proposals for enhanced site signage.

11 Implementation

11.1 If approved, the recommendations will be implemented through a variation order to the Council's Grounds Maintenance Contract during the growing season, which commences in March 2026.

12 Cross Cutting Issues

12.1 Climate Change and Biodiversity

12.1.1 Some impact on reducing emissions in support of carbon neutral by 2030 or enhancing the natural environment.

12.1.2 Climate change advice has been sought in the preparation of the options and recommendations in this report.

12.1.3 Roadside Nature Reserves help boost climate resilience by protecting species-rich grasslands that support stable, healthy ecosystems. These diverse plant communities improve soil structure, limit erosion, and regulate water runoff, which in turn strengthens the landscape’s ability to cope with climate-related pressures such as increased flooding and drought.

12.2 Equalities and Diversity

12.2.1 The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

12.3 Other If Relevant

- None.

Background Papers	None
Annexes	Annex 1 – Medway Valley Countryside Partnership Report Annex 2 – Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs Annex 3 – Plans of proposed additional RNRs

TMBC Roadside Nature Reserves botanical survey report 2025

Introduction

In 2025 Medway Valley Countryside Partnership (MVCP) was commissioned to carry out monthly botanical surveys of all Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council (TMBC) Roadside Nature Reserves (RNRs) from April to September. TMBC first designated 10 RNR sites in 2022 as part of its commitment to tackling climate change by enhancing biodiversity. These reserves allow grass to grow longer, creating habitats that support wildlife. Today, there are 22 RNRs spread across 12 locations.

Roadside Nature Reserves act as vital wildlife corridors, connecting fragmented habitats and helping species move across the landscape. These small areas play an important role in sustaining local wildlife populations.

Surveys were conducted using quadrats to record plant species and their abundance. Each site included at least 10 quadrats, with larger sites containing up to 30 where multiple RNRs were present. Quadrats were arranged in sets of ten along a W-shaped transect. In addition to plants, any invertebrates observed were identified and recorded using field guides and verified with digital tools to ensure accuracy. While the focus was on wildflowers, some invertebrates may have been missed, and weather conditions—such as heat or rain—can reduce activity, particularly for species like bumblebees.

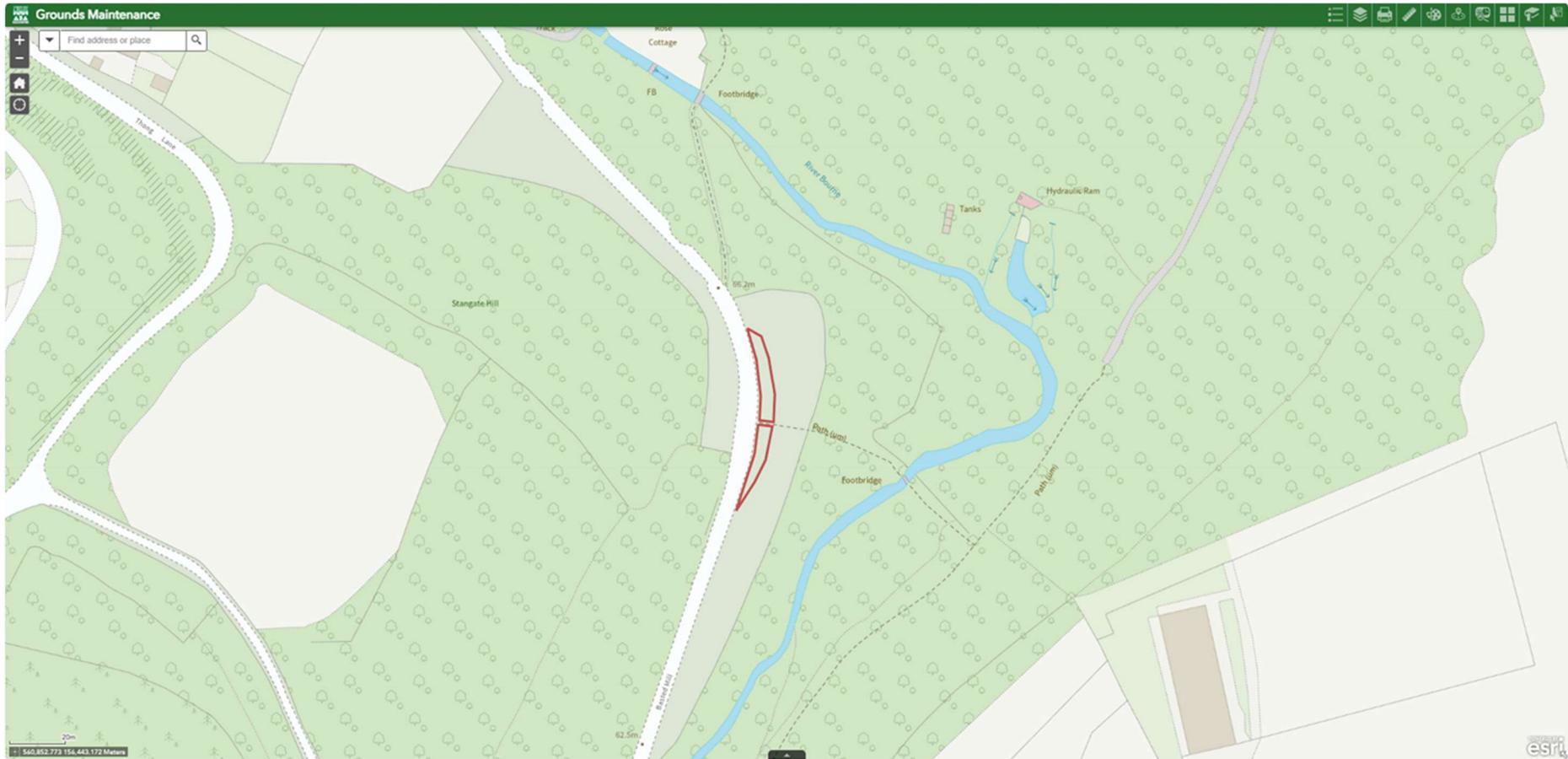
The April surveys were led by Mark Gallant, Senior Partnership Officer at Northwest Kent Countryside Partnership, with subsequent surveys from May to September conducted by Alexander Hodges, Countryside Officer at MVCP.

Table showing the address, post code, grid reference and what 3 words designations for each of TMBC Roadside Nature Reserves

Name	Address	Post code	Grid reference(s)	what 3 words designations	Notes
Basted Mill RNR	Borough Green	TN15 8LP	TQ607563	///incomes.dash.safety	Basted Mill open space, near Borough Green
Brook Street RNR	Tonbridge	TN9 2PN TN9 2QN	TQ 581456 TQ 580455 TQ 577455	///shades.link.zebra ///claims.dating.heat	Land off Brook Street and Upper Haysden Lane, Tonbridge, near to the junctions with Shakespeare Road and Masefield Way
Carnation Crescent RNR	East Malling	ME19 6EP	TQ698580	///hurray.manage.carpentry	Part of Carnation Green, East Malling
Darenth Avenue RNR	Tonbridge	TN10 3HZ	TQ590481	///power.hidden.slang	The first RNR introduced by TMBC.
Gibson Building RNR	Kings Hill	ME19 4LB	TQ669554	///roughest.thus.latches	Located outside the TMBC Council Offices in Kings Hill
Hazel Shaw RNR	Tonbridge	TN10 3QD	TQ596490	///lock.pump.easy	The area between Shipbourne Road and Hazel Shaw, Tonbridge
Lillieburn RNR	Leybourne	ME19 5HF	TQ688586	///eggs.fuel.homeward	Land off Lillieburn, Leybourne
Lime Crescent RNR	East Malling	ME19 6DN	TQ700757	///ants.emotional.peroxide	An extension to the existing unmown area at the New Road/Lime Crescent junction, East Malling

River Lawn RNR	Tonbridge	TN9 1EP	TQ588462 TQ588462 TQ588462	///diner.global.pink	River Lawn in Tonbridge town centre
Shipbourne Road RNR	Tonbridge	TN10 3EH	TQ593481 TQ593482	///crate.repay.image	Land east of Shipbourne Road, Tonbridge, between the junctions of The Ridgeway and Cage Green Road
Tudeley Lane RNR	Tonbridge	TN9 2EX	TQ595453	///sank.statue.pumps	Part of the verge north of Tudeley Lane, Tonbridge, by Weald of Kent Grammar School
Waveney Road RNR	Tonbridge	TN10 3JY	TQ589484	///fingernails.sample.sober	Land west of Waveney Road, Tonbridge

Survey Results - Basted Mill RNR:



The RNR at Basted Mill was one of the better sites regarding the wildlife present. This was due to being next to the Nature reserve, its greater isolation, and the longer vegetation; this is especially relevant to the Harvest mice' nests recorded on site, which need long tussocky grasses. On one of the survey days, the knapweed was in flower, and we recorded five bee and four butterfly species. In total, we recorded 29 plant species and twelve non-plant species within the Roadside Nature Reserve at Basted Mill. Basted Mill had ten quadrats for the wildflower

survey. In terms of the habitat conditions, the grass was long throughout the year; however, the tall grasses were dominating the other plant species to the extent that you could see a higher herb cover in those areas that had been cut at Basted Mill.

Management recommendations

We recommend implementing an annual cut-and-collect in September to help reduce soil fertility and control grass cover. When surveying, a Harvest mouse nest was found and could be disturbed; this would need to be considered before cutting. If feasible with the cut vegetation, from the site we could recommend creating a habitat pile near the edge of the site as it will provide nesting habitat for many species. The flowering species diversity at Basted Mill is generally good at the site and does not need to be sown with extra flora species despite having the lowest species diversity of the RNRs; however, the site could benefit from yellow rattle seeding, to control grass cover. In addition, if there is a local meadow site with higher biodiversity, green haying could be an option to increase flora diversity. Also, to help improve the site's Biodiversity, we would recommend increasing the area for the RNR to include more of the amenity grass area. To balance use cases, you can cut pathways through the grass, so that people still have access to the amenity grassland. In addition to this, there could be a one-meter buffer around the site's edge for longer grasses and vegetation. Creating these areas of long tussocky grass will benefit wildlife like Carder bees and Harvest mice, as they use these grasses to weave their nests. These management changes will result in a mosaic of habitats that enhance the site for wildlife while preserving public accessibility. If the expansion of the RNR is not feasible then, increasing the cutting height of the surrounding grassland as it will allow the lower lying wildflowers to flower in addition it would make it more resistant to drought. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be conducted by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership.

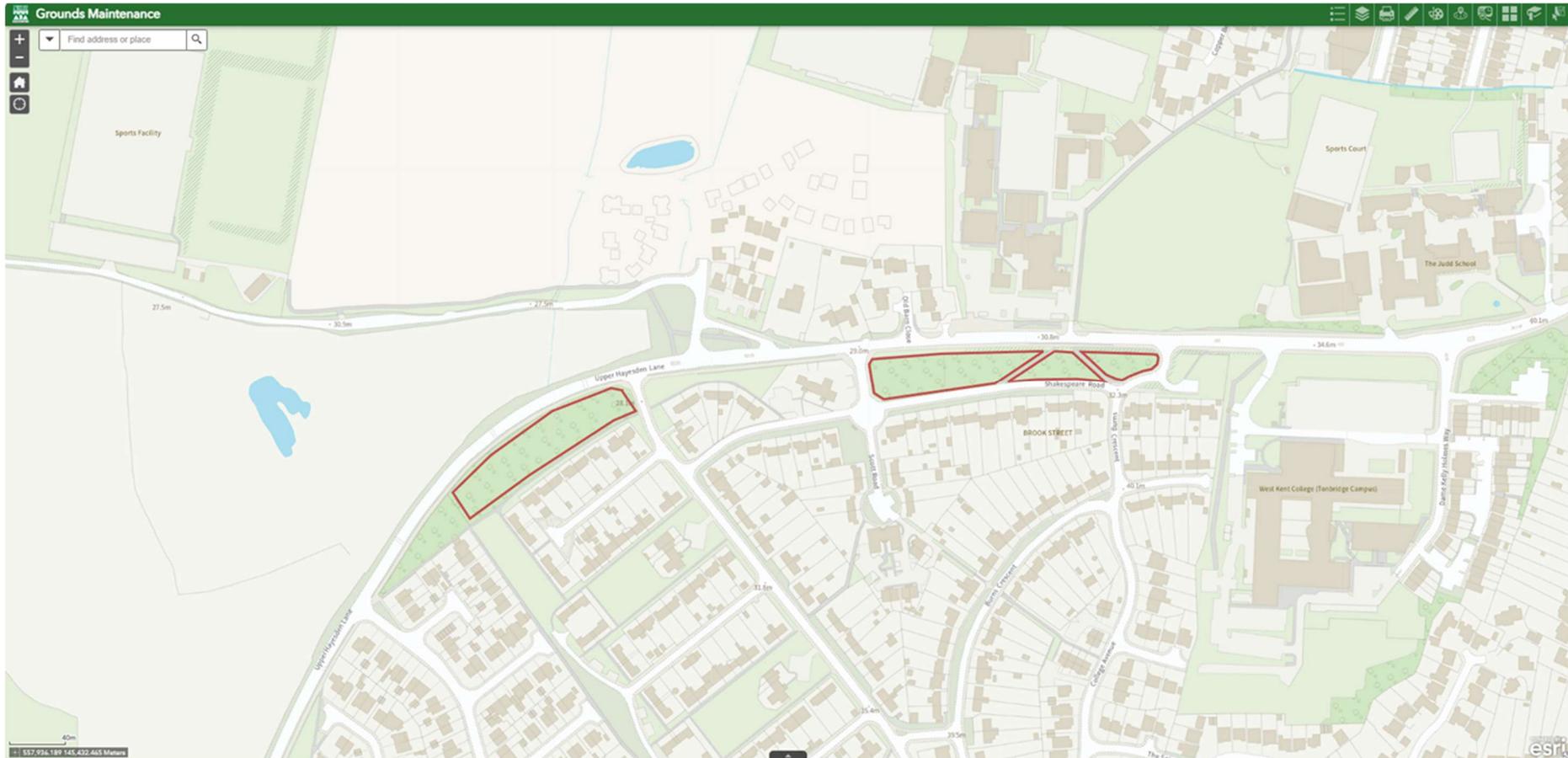
Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Bird's-foot trefoil	1	1	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	0.25%
Common vetch	2	2	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	0.17%

Cow parsley	3	3	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.33%
Creeping buttercup	26	4	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	4.58%
Cuckoo flower	1	5	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	0.00%
Curled dock	4	6	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	2.42%
Daisy	1	7	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.08%
Dandelion sp.	36	8	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	10.83%
English cinquefoil	8	9	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	2.50%
Field speedwell	4	10	<i>Veronica persica</i>	0.67%
Germander speedwell	2	11	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	0.17%
Grass sp.	49	12	<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	66.25%
Ground ivy	3	13	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	0.08%
Hogweed	13	14	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	4.50%
Knapweed	8	15	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	4.17%
Lesser celandine	1	16	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	0.00%
Lords-and-ladies	1	17	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	0.00%
Meadow buttercup	3	18	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	1.17%
Oxeye daisy	1	19	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.00%
Ragwort	1	20	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.00%
Rough hawks-beard	2	21	<i>Crepis biennis</i>	0.67%
Ryegrass	1	22	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Sessile oak	1	23	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.00%
Spiked sedge	1	24	<i>Carex spicata</i>	0.00%
Stinging nettle	1	25	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	0.00%
Tall fescue	1	26	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>	0.00%
Timothy	1	27	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	0.00%

White clover	6	28	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	0.92%
Wild carrot	1	29	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.00%
Yarrow	1	30	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.25%
Grand Total	184	29		

Other non-plant species	Latin names
American Pekin	<i>Anas platyrhynchos domesticus</i>
Buff tail Bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>
Common Blue Butterfly	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Common red soldier beetle	<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>
Gatekeeper Butterfly	<i>Pyronia Tithonus</i>
Harvest mouse nest	<i>Micromys minutus</i>
Large White Butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Meadow brown butterfly	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
Pantaloony bee	<i>Dasypoda hirtipes</i>
Red Tail Bumblebee	<i>Bombus lapidaries</i>
Southern cuckoo bumblebee	<i>Bombus vestalis</i>
Tree bumblebee	<i>Bombus hypnorum</i>

Survey Results - Brook Street RNR



Page 90

The RNR at Brook Street has the highest number of species, with 71 plant and 8 non-plant species recorded. The site is split into two separate sections, one next to Shakespeare Road and the other next to Masefield Way. Brook Street RNR has good access to other green spaces like the farmland over the road and Haysden Country Park, accessible through wildlife corridors. This may be why we have a high number of invertebrates recorded. Brook Street RNR has twenty quadrats over two sites for the wildflower survey. In terms of the habitat conditions, both sites were among the better sites in terms of the diversity of plant species.

Management recommendations

In terms of management, we suggest an annual cut-and-collect in September. However, in both areas at Brook Street, there were samplings/suckers growing from the hedgerow, which could hinder or damage the cut and collect machine however this is unlikely. This is something to be mindful of when cutting and collecting. Regarding, species diversity, if feasible the site could benefit green haying from a local meadow site to further increase flora diversity. Another improvement could be to expand the area of the RNR, as these are thin areas and could only support a limited number of invertebrates and small mammals. This could be done by widening the areas by a meter or two. In addition to this, when cutting the areas adjacent to the RNR, reduce the number of times that it is cut and increase the cutting height to allow for the flowers to come up. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership.

Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Ash	1	1	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	0.00%
Autumn hawkbit	3	2	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.33%
Bare ground	2	3		0.33%
Birds-foot trefoil	9	4	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	2.21%
Black locust	1	5	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	0.00%
Blackthorn	4	6	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>	0.38%
Broad-leaved dock	3	7	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	0.21%

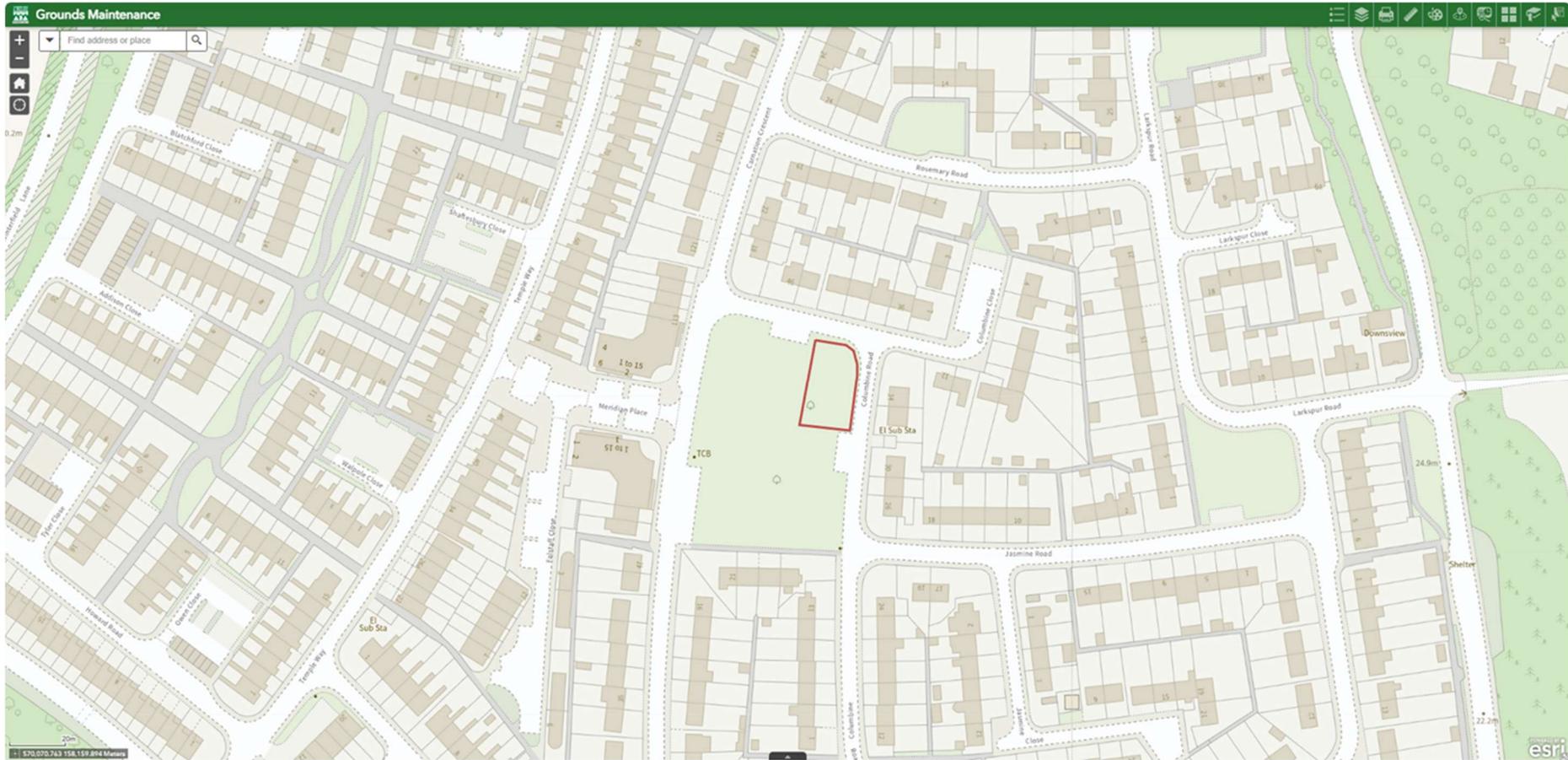
Bushgrass	1	8	<i>Calamagrostis epigejos</i>	0.00%
Cleavers	2	9	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.00%
Common bent	1	10	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Common cat's ear	3	11	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.21%
Common knapweed	1	12	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	0.17%
Common sorrel	9	13	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	1.04%
Cow parsley	2	14	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.00%
Crab apple	1	15	<i>Malus sylvestris</i>	0.00%
Creeping buttercup	23	16	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	2.79%
Creeping cinquefoil	1	17	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	0.00%
Crested dogs tail	1	18	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	0.00%
Cuckoo flower	3	19	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	0.08%
Curled dock	2	20	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.00%
Daisy	13	21	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.71%
Dandelion sp.	38	22	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	2.46%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	2	23	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.08%
English cinquefoil	1	24	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	0.50%
Field bindweed	1	25	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	0.04%
Field speedwell	1	26	<i>Veronica persica</i>	0.00%
Germander speedwell	2	27	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	0.00%
Grass sp.	119	28	<i>Poaceae</i>	59.17%
Greater birds-foot trefoil	3	29	<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	0.38%
Greater plantain	4	30	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.17%
Hairy bittercress	1	31	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	0.00%
Hawthorn	1	32	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	0.00%
Hazel	1	33	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	0.00%
Hoary cress	1	34	<i>Lepidium draba</i>	0.13%

Horse chestnut	1	35	<i>Aesculus hippocastanum</i>	0.00%
Knapweed	15	36	<i>Centaurea spp.</i>	4.92%
Knotgrass	1	37	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.04%
Lesser celandine	2	38	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	0.00%
Lesser hawkbit	20	39	<i>Leontodon saxatilis</i>	1.96%
Lesser stitchwort	8	40	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	0.33%
Lords-and-ladies	1	41	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	0.00%
Meadow buttercup	14	42	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.00%
Meadow cranesbill	1	43	<i>Geranium pratense</i>	0.63%
Moss sp.	4	44	<i>Bryophyta</i>	0.88%
Mountain ash	1	45	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	0.00%
Mouse eared chickweed	6	46	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.25%
Narrow leaf ash	1	47	<i>Fraxinus angustifolia</i>	0.00%
Norway maple	1	48	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	0.00%
Orchard grass	1	49	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Ox eye daisy	1	50	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.13%
Ragwort	6	51	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.08%
Red clover	7	52	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	1.00%
Red deadnettle	2	53	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	0.00%
Red oak	2	54	<i>Quercus rubra</i>	0.04%
Ribwort plantain	21	55	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	1.46%
Rough hawksbit	2	56	<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	0.21%
Round-leaved cranesbill	1	57	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	0.00%
Ryegrass	1	58	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Selfheal	12	59	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	0.88%
Sessile oak	1	60	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.00%
Smooth cat's ear	5	61	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.38%

Smooth hawk's beard	1	62	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Smooth meadow grass	1	63	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	0.00%
Spear thistle	1	64	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	0.00%
Spring sedge	1	65	<i>Carex caryophylla</i>	0.00%
Staghorn plantain	2	66	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	0.04%
Wall barley	1	67	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	0.00%
White clover	66	68	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	8.58%
Wild carrot	1	69	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.04%
Wild cherry	2	70	<i>Prunus avium</i>	0.17%
Wood avens	2	71	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.00%
Yarrow	38	72	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	6.63%
Yorkshire fog	1	73	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	0.00%
Grand Total	516	71		

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Mabel white (Marbled White)	<i>Melanargia galathea</i>
Gatekeeper	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>
7 spot ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
Large white butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Red-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
Common Wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>
Honeybee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>
Buff-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>

Survey Results - Carnation Crescent RNR:



The RNR at Carnation Green was among the poorer sites in terms of floral diversity. This could be due to the soil's high fertility or to most of the site being overshadowed by the trees (sweet chestnut). Also, it is one of the more isolated sites, being in the middle of a housing estate with limited green space and connectivity around the site. Trying to improve the site's connectivity would be an effective way of increasing the amount of wildlife that can use the site. In total, we recorded 39 plant species and two non-plant species within Carnation Green RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats. In terms of the habitat conditions, Carnation Green was one of the sites that needs management the most due to the

lower plant species recorded. Grasses accounted for a higher percentage of the area, and flowering plants accounted for a lower percentage cover than at other sites.

Management recommendations

To improve floral biodiversity on the site, we suggest a cut-and-collect once a year in September. In addition to the existing cut-and-collect, we suggest sowing wildflower seed on the site. In terms of seed mixes, we would suggest the EM3 mix from Emorsgate Seeds (<https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete-mixtures/general-purpose-meadow-mixtures/special-general-purpose-meadow-mixture/>) and additional yellow rattle. Other improvements could be to expand the area of the Carnation Green RNR area, to support a wider variety of invertebrates. In addition to this, when cutting the areas adjacent to the RNR, you could reduce the cutting of the grassland and increase the cutting height to allow for the flowers to come up. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

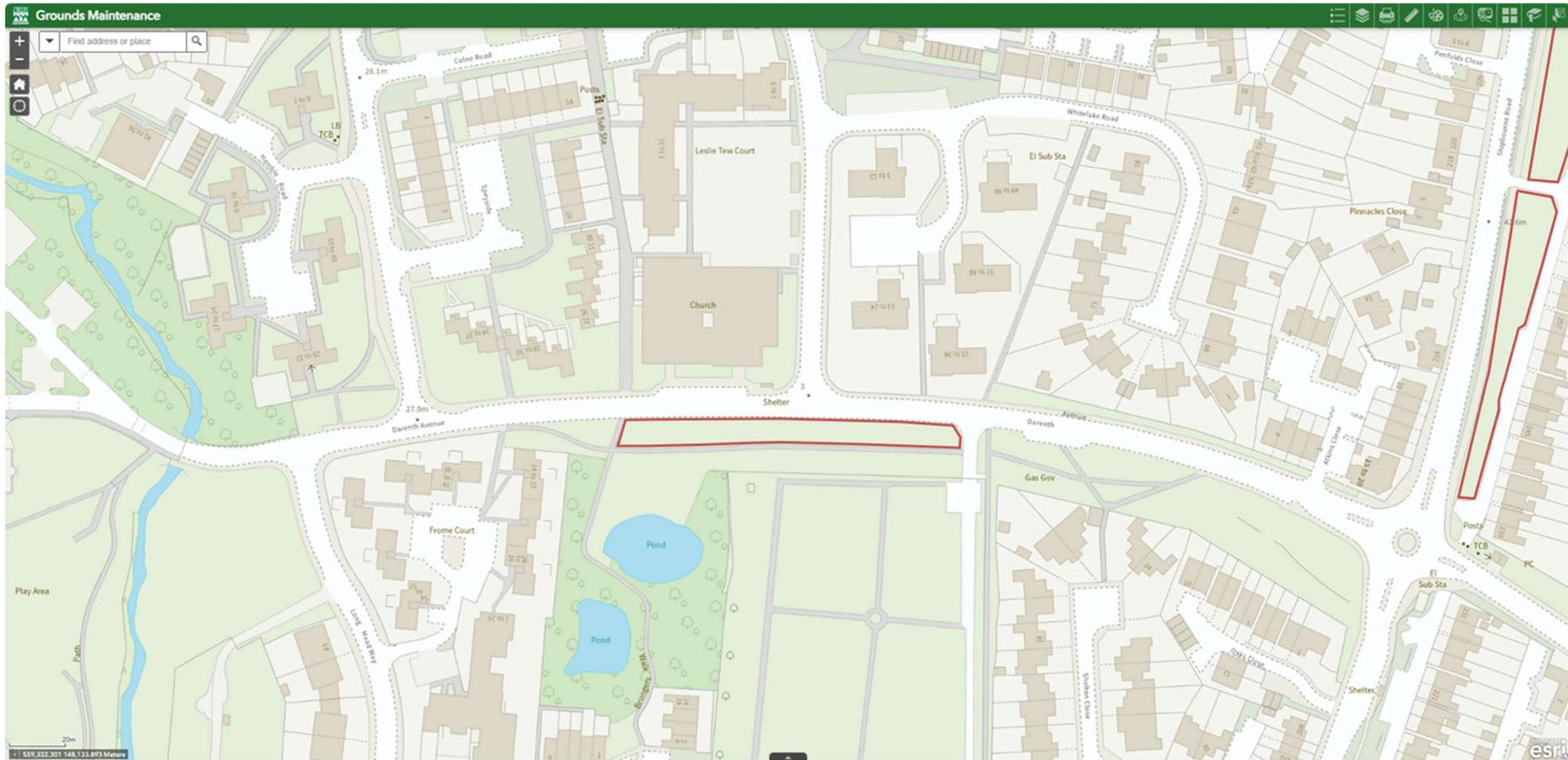
Plant list	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Autumn hawkbit	5	1	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	2.00%
Cheatgrass	1	2	<i>Bromus tectorum</i>	0.00%
Cleavers	3	3	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.35%
Cocksfoot grass	1	4	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Common bent	1	5	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Common mallow	1	6	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	0.00%
Common sorrel	1	7	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.25%

Cow parsley	1	8	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.00%
Creeping bent	1	9	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	0.00%
Creeping buttercup	1	10	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	0.08%
Curled dock	3	11	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.00%
Cut-leaved cranesbill	2	12	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	0.08%
Daisy	1	13	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.00%
Dandelion sp.	23	14	<i>Taraxacum spp.</i>	4.17%
Dove's foot cranesbill	2	15	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.08%
Foxtail barley	1	16	<i>Hordeum jubatum</i>	0.00%
Grass sp.	60	17	<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	78.73%
Greater plantain	1	18	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.00%
Hedge cranesbill	1	19	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	0.00%
Knotgrass	2	20	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.00%
Lesser celandine	6	21	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	1.33%
Meadow buttercup	2	22	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.17%
Mouse-ear chickweed	1	23	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.00%
Oxeye daisy	1	24	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.00%
Perennial ryegrass	1	25	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Ragwort	1	26	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.00%
Red deadnettle	1	27	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	0.00%
Ribwort plantain	12	28	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	3.17%
Rough hawk's-beard	2	29	<i>Crepis biennis</i>	0.50%
Rough meadow-grass	1	30	<i>Poa trivialis</i>	0.00%
Round-leaved bedstraw	1	31	<i>Galium rotundifolium</i>	0.17%
Smooth cat's ear	5	32	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.25%
Spotted medick	1	33	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.00%
Stork's-bill	1	34	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	0.00%
Sweet chestnut	1	35	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	0.00%

Tall ryegrass	1	36	<i>Lolium arundinaceum</i>	0.00%
Timothy	1	37	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	0.00%
White clover	8	38	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	1.00%
Wild carrot	1	39	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.33%
Yarrow	13	40	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	7.33%
Grand total	173	39		100.00%

Other Non-Plant Species	Latin names
Buff-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>
Honeybee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>

Survey Results - Darenth Avenue RNR



Page 99

The RNR at Darenth Avenue is well located, next to many green spaces, which makes it more valuable for its floral diversity, as wildlife from the surrounding green spaces can use them, such as the Brunges ponds and the Tonbridge Cemetery. This could explain the relatively high invertebrate diversity of the site compared to the plant diversity. Therefore, improving this site will benefit local wildlife. It also had a good variety of invertebrate records. In total, we recorded 35 plant species and eight non-plant species within Darenth Avenue RNR, and this site had 10

quadrats. In terms of habitat conditions, Darenth Avenue had one of the lowest numbers of plant species recorded; however, most of the plant species present were more abundant and occurred more often in the quadrats than in some of the other sites with similar plant numbers.

Management recommendations

We suggest a cut-and-collect in September. This allows for tall the flowering plants to flower and set seed. In addition to this, when cutting the areas adjacent to the RNR, you could reduce the cutting of the grassland and increase the cutting height to allow for the wildflowers to flower. In addition to the cut-and-collect, another improvement could be to expand the Darenth Avenue RNR to include more of the grassy verges along Darenth Avenue and Waveney Road, connecting Darenth Avenue RNR, Waveney Road RNR and Shipbourne Road RNR. With the expansion of the RNR, a buffer might be needed to separate the pathways from the RNR, we suggest having a regular cut of a 1m buffer around the RNR flowing in the pathways. This will help define the RNR. This expansion would increase habitat connectivity. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

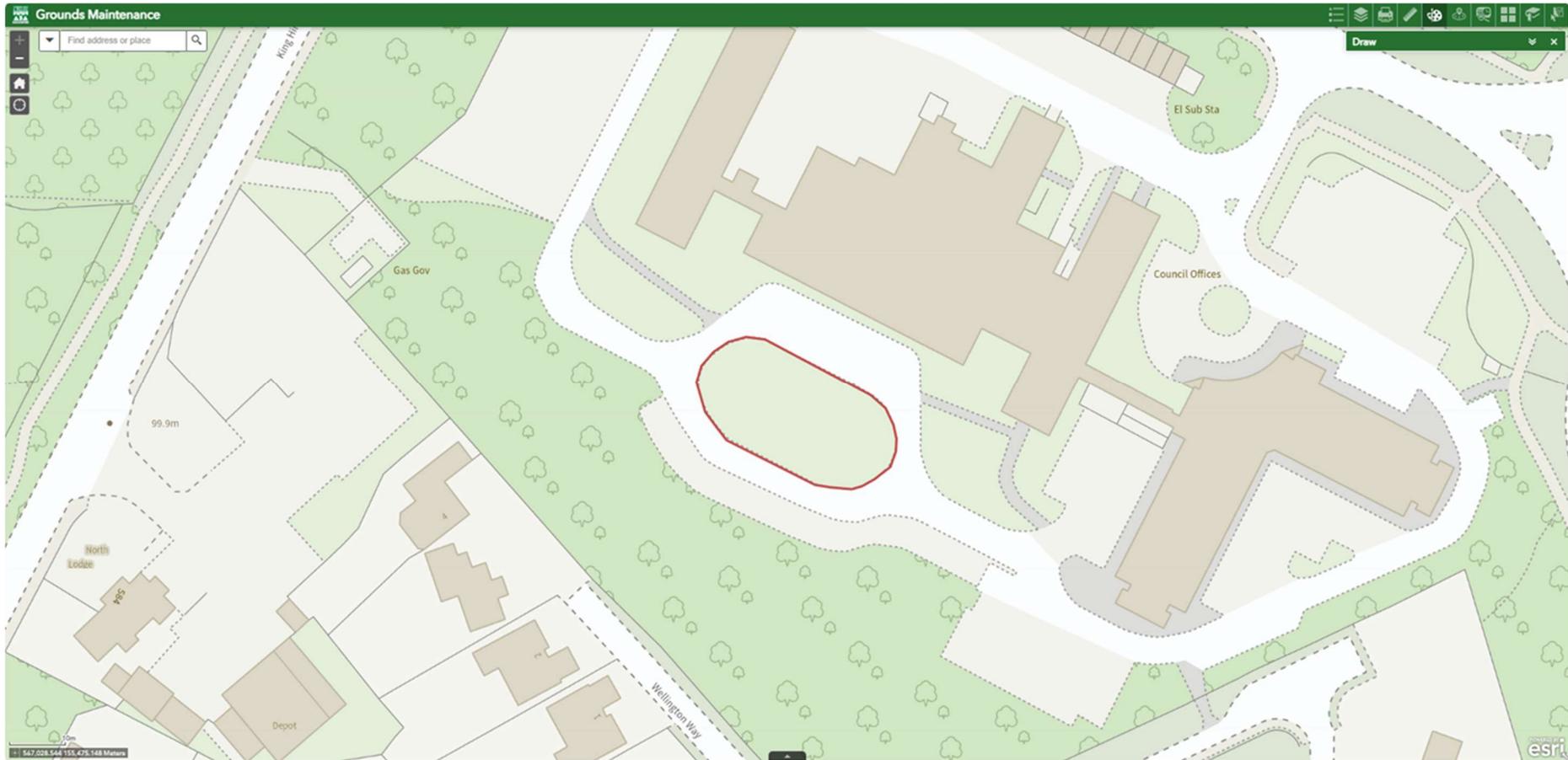
Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Autumn hawkbit	5	1	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.55%
Bare ground	8	2		1.58%
Bermudagrass	1	3	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	0.00%
Broad-leaved dock	4	4	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	1.08%
Common bent	1	5	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Common sorrel	1	6	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.00%
Cow parsley	2	7	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.00%

Creeping buttercup	17	8	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	3.58%
Cuckoo flower	1	9	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	0.00%
Curled dock	1	10	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.00%
Daisy	1	11	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.00%
Dandelion sp.	13	12	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	2.50%
English cinquefoil	3	13	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	0.25%
Grass sp.	60	14	<i>Poaceae</i>	68.67%
Greater plantain	3	15	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.17%
Hairy plantain	1	16	<i>Plantago media</i>	0.08%
Knapweed	6	17	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	1.50%
Knotgrass	1	18	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.08%
Meadow barely	1	19	<i>Hordeum secalinum</i>	0.00%
Meadow buttercup	7	20	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	1.25%
Meadow fox tail	1	21	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	0.00%
Mouse eared chickweed	5	22	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.50%
Orchard grass	1	23	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Ragwort	3	24	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.50%
Ribwort plantain	13	25	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	2.23%
Round-leaved cranesbill	1	26	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	0.00%
Ryegrass	1	27	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Sessile oak	1	28	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.00%
Smooth cat's ear	4	29	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.33%
Spotted medick	3	30	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	1.83%
White beam	1	31	<i>Sorbus aria</i>	0.00%
White clover	35	32	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	12.92%
Wild cherry	2	33	<i>Prunus avium</i>	0.08%
Wood avens	1	34	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.00%

Yarrow	4	35	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.30%
Yorkshire fog	1	36	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	0.00%
Grand Total	214	35		100.00%

Other non-plant species	Latin name
7-spot ladybird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
Buff-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>
Common carder bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
Early bumblebee	<i>Bombus pratorum</i>
Gatekeeper butterfly	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>
Large white butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Red-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus lapidaries</i>
Speckled wood butterfly	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>

Survey Results - Gibson building



The RNR at Gibson building was one of the most diverse sites in terms of the number of species within the quadrat, and with grass under 50% of the area, this suggests that it has a high herb cover, and it is reflected in the invertebrate species found on site. It also has a large amount of green space around it and good connectivity to other sites, which makes it more valuable, for its floral diversity, as wildlife from the surrounding green spaces can use it like at Kings Hill solar farm and the surrounding woodland. In total, we recorded 44 plant species and 10 non-plant species within Gibson building RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats. In terms of the habitat conditions Gibson building was one of the better sites

for plant species recorded, both in terms of the number, and most of the plant species present were in higher numbers and turned up more often in the quadrats.

Management recommendations

In terms of management of the site to improve the floral biodiversity, we would suggest an annual cut and collect in September; however, there were plenty of saplings/suckers from the surrounding trees. To keep it as a meadow habitat, these saplings need to be monitored. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

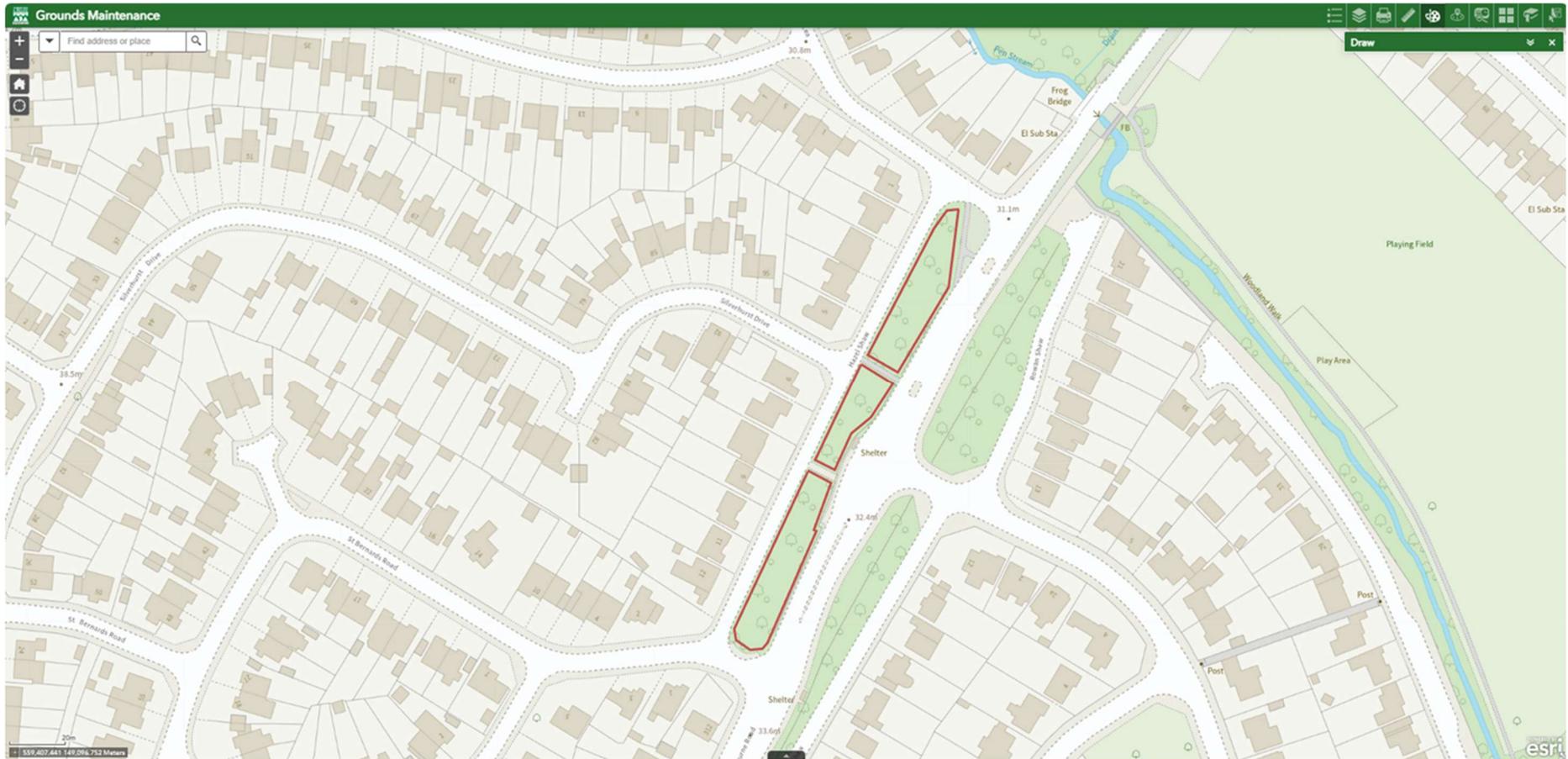
Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Autumn hawkbit	2	1	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.25%
Bare ground	3	2		0.92%
Bird's-foot trefoil	34	3	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	10.75%
Cocksfoot grass	2	4	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.17%
Common bent	1	5	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Common field sorrel	3	6	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.17%
Common field speedwell	18	7	<i>Veronica persica</i>	1.67%
Common knotgrass	1	8	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.00%
Creeping buttercup	5	9	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	0.50%

Daisy	4	10	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.58%
Dandelion sp.	2	11	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	0.08%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	2	12	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.08%
Field scabious	5	13	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	0.58%
Field wood-rush	4	14	<i>Luzula campestris</i>	0.42%
French oat-grass	1	15	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	0.00%
Germander speedwell	9	16	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	1.17%
Grass sp.	59	17	<i>Poaceae family</i>	49.83%
Greater bird's foot trefoil	2	18	<i>Lotus pedunculatus</i>	1.25%
Greater plantain	1	19	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.00%
Hairy bittercress	1	20	<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	0.00%
Hairy hawkbit	2	21	<i>Leontodon hispidus</i>	0.25%
Hairy plantain	1	22	<i>Plantago media</i>	0.08%
Ivy	1	23	<i>Hedera helix</i>	0.00%
Lady's bedstraw	4	24	<i>Galium verum</i>	0.67%
Lesser stitchwort	9	25	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	0.75%
Lesser trefoil	1	26	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>	0.08%
Meadow buttercup	17	27	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	4.42%
Mouse-ear chickweed	3	28	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.17%
Mouse-ear-hawkweed	17	29	<i>Pilosella officinarum</i>	3.48%
Ragwort	2	30	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.25%
Ribwort plantain	15	31	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	2.33%
Selfheal	7	32	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	0.67%
Sessile oak	6	33	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.67%
Smooth cat's ear	2	34	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.00%
Sphagnum moss	8	35	<i>Sphagnum spp.</i>	1.92%
Spring sedge	6	36	<i>Carex caryophyllea</i>	0.73%
Sweet vernal grass	3	37	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	0.00%

Tall ryegrass	1	38	<i>Lolium arundinaceum</i>	0.00%
Thinleaf false-brome	1	39	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>	0.00%
Timothy	2	40	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	0.08%
Wall lettuce	1	41	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>	0.00%
White clover	28	42	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	2.92%
Wild cherry	10	43	<i>Prunus avium</i>	2.08%
Wood avens	2	44	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.17%
Yarrow	42	45	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	9.87%
Yorkshire fog	1	46	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	0.00%
Grand total	351	44		100.00%

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Blue-tailed damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>
Buff-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>
Meadow brown butterfly	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
Common froghopper	<i>Philaenus spumarius</i>
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
Azure damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>
Common blue butterfly	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Common carder bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
7 spot lady bird	<i>Coccinella septempunctata</i>
Common blue damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>

Survey Results - Hazel Shaw RNR



Page 107

The RNR at Hazel Shaw is the site with the second-highest number of species. The site is split into three separate sections, split by pathways. This was one of the sites that suffered the most from high temperatures and a lack of rain this year. From July, the effects of the summer their started to increase bare ground cover by the dry and dying vegetation. However, this site benefits from the mosaic habitat created by the trees and hedgerows, increasing the number of plant species present. This is like the effect on Brook Street. It is also on the edge of Tonbridge town, so it has access to the green spaces just outside Tonbridge, providing good connectivity and making it more accessible to wildlife. In total, we

recorded 68 plant species and 9 non-plant species within Hazel Shaw RNR, and this site had 30 quadrats. In terms of habitat conditions, Hazel Shaw is one of the better sites for plant species diversity. Hazel Shaw has a good seed bank and does not need to be sown.

Management recommendations

In terms of management, we suggest a cut and collect once a year in September. In addition to the cut and collect, we suggest having a regular cut of a 1m buffer around the RNR flowing in the roadside and footpaths. This will help improve access to the site and focus foot fall. We would also recommend expanding the RNR to include the triangle piece of land at the end of the site (TQ 59631 49101). In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Ash	1	1	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	0.00%
Autumn hawkbit	6	2	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.17%
Bare ground	124	3		24.56%
Bird's-foot-trefoil	4	4	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	0.28%
Black medick	10	5	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	1.33%
Bluebell	3	6	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	0.03%
Bramble	3	7	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	0.00%
Bugle	3	8	<i>Ajuga reptans</i>	0.03%
Cleavers	2	9	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.00%

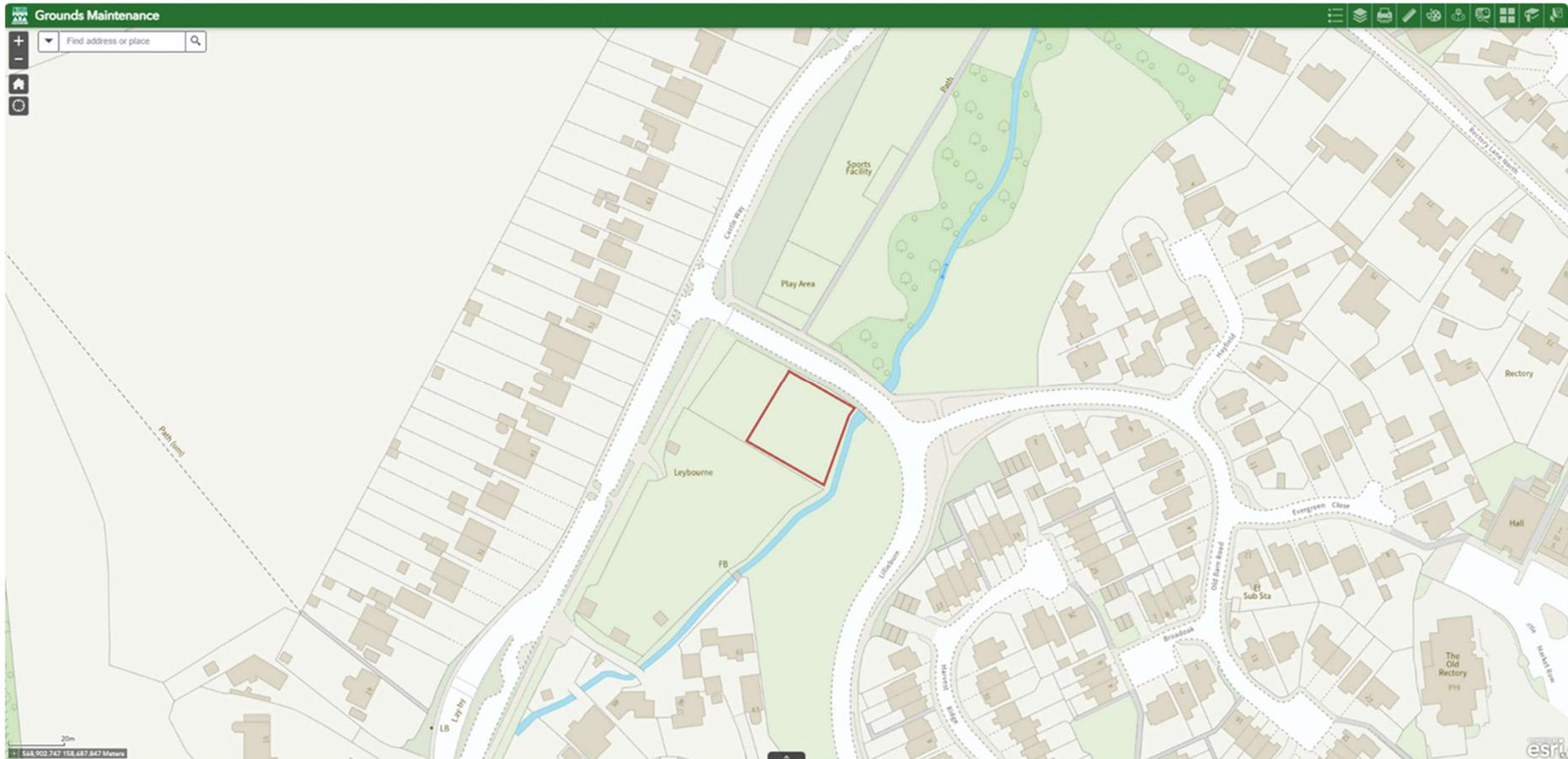
Cocks foot	2	10	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.03%
Common cat's ear	4	11	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.14%
Common dogs' violet	7	12	<i>Viola riviniana</i>	0.14%
Common sorrel	1	13	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.00%
Common vetch	2	14	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	0.08%
Cow parsley	5	15	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.08%
Creeping bent	1	16	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	0.00%
Creeping buttercup	12	17	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	0.44%
Curled dock	9	18	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.22%
Daisy	33	19	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	1.44%
Dandelion sp.	70	20	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	2.61%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	2	21	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.17%
Field speedwell	3	22	<i>Veronica persica</i>	0.39%
Germander speedwell	13	23	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	0.75%
Grape hyacinth	1	24	<i>Muscari armeniacum</i>	0.00%
Grass sp.	171	25	<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	45.31%
Greater plantain	33	26	<i>Plantago major</i>	1.56%
Greater stitchwort	1	27	<i>Stellaria holostea</i>	0.00%
Hawthorn	5	28	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	0.14%
Hazel	2	29	<i>Corylus avellana</i>	0.00%
Herb robert	1	30	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	0.00%
Hop trefoil	3	31	<i>Trifolium campestre</i>	0.11%
Hory ragwort	1	32	<i>Jacobaea erucifolia</i>	0.00%
Knot grass	3	33	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.11%
Lesser celandine	7	34	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	0.17%
Lesser hawkbit	4	35	<i>Leontodon saxatilis</i>	0.31%
Lords-and-ladies	3	36	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	0.03%
Meadow buttercup	12	37	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.28%

Mouse-ear chickweed	4	38	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.03%
Narrow-leaved everlasting-pea	2	39	<i>Lathyrus sylvestris</i>	0.08%
Orchard grass	1	40	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Ox-eye daisy	1	41	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.00%
Poison ivy	15	42	<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	0.64%
Prickly sow-thistle	1	43	<i>Sonchus asper</i>	0.00%
Primrose	4	44	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>	0.08%
Ragwort	16	45	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.78%
Ribwort plantain	39	46	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	1.64%
Ryegrass	1	47	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Selfheal	6	48	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	0.22%
Sessile oak	8	49	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.28%
Smooth cat's ear	4	50	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.17%
Smooth sow-thistle	1	51	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	0.00%
Soft-brome	1	52	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	0.00%
Spear thistle	2	53	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	0.11%
Sphagnum moss	10	54	<i>Sphagnum spp.</i>	2.28%
Spotted medick	1	55	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.06%
Spring sedge	3	56	<i>Carex caryophyllea</i>	0.03%
Sweet chestnut	1	57	<i>Castanea sativa</i>	0.00%
Tall fleabane	1	58	<i>Pulicaria dysenterica</i>	0.06%
Thyme-leaved speedwell	2	59	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	0.06%
Turkey oak	1	60	<i>Quercus cerris</i>	0.00%
Upright hedge parsley	1	61	<i>Torilis japonica</i>	0.03%
Violet helleborine	1	62	<i>Epipactis purpurata</i>	0.00%
White clover	100	63	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	12.19%
Wild carrot	1	64	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.03%

Wild cherry	1	65	<i>Prunus avium</i>	0.03%
Wild garlic	1	66	<i>Allium ursinum</i>	0.00%
Wild strawberry	3	67	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	0.03%
Wood avens	4	68	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.03%
Yarrow	5	69	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.25%
Yorkshire fog	2	70	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	0.03%
Grand total	811	68		100.00%

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Tree bumblebee	<i>Bombus hypnorum</i>
Large white butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Meadow brown butterfly	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
Red-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
Ivy mining bee	<i>Colletes hederæ</i>
Batman hoverfly	<i>Myathropa florea</i>
Social wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>
Honeybee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>
Red admiral butterfly	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>

Survey Results - Lillieburn RNR



Page 112

The RNR at Lillieburn is a good site with one of the highest vegetation heights; however, as with the vegetation at Basted Mill RNR, the long grasses tended to dominate the wildflowers. However, it was not as bad as the Basted Mill RNR, as some of the flowers were able to flower. In total, we recorded 49 plant species and six non-plant species within Lillieburn RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats. Lillieburn has a good seed bank and does not need to be sown with new wildflowers.

Management recommendations

In terms of management, we suggest a cut-and-collect once a year in September. However, in the ditch alongside Lillieburn, there is Himalayan balsam, which would need to be removed as it is an invasive species. It is hard to reach and might require brush cutters to access. We would suggest pulling the balsam next year, in the summer. Due to the nature of the site, the cut vegetation could be left in a habitat pile in the corner of the site near the ditch as it will provide good nesting habitat for wildlife. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

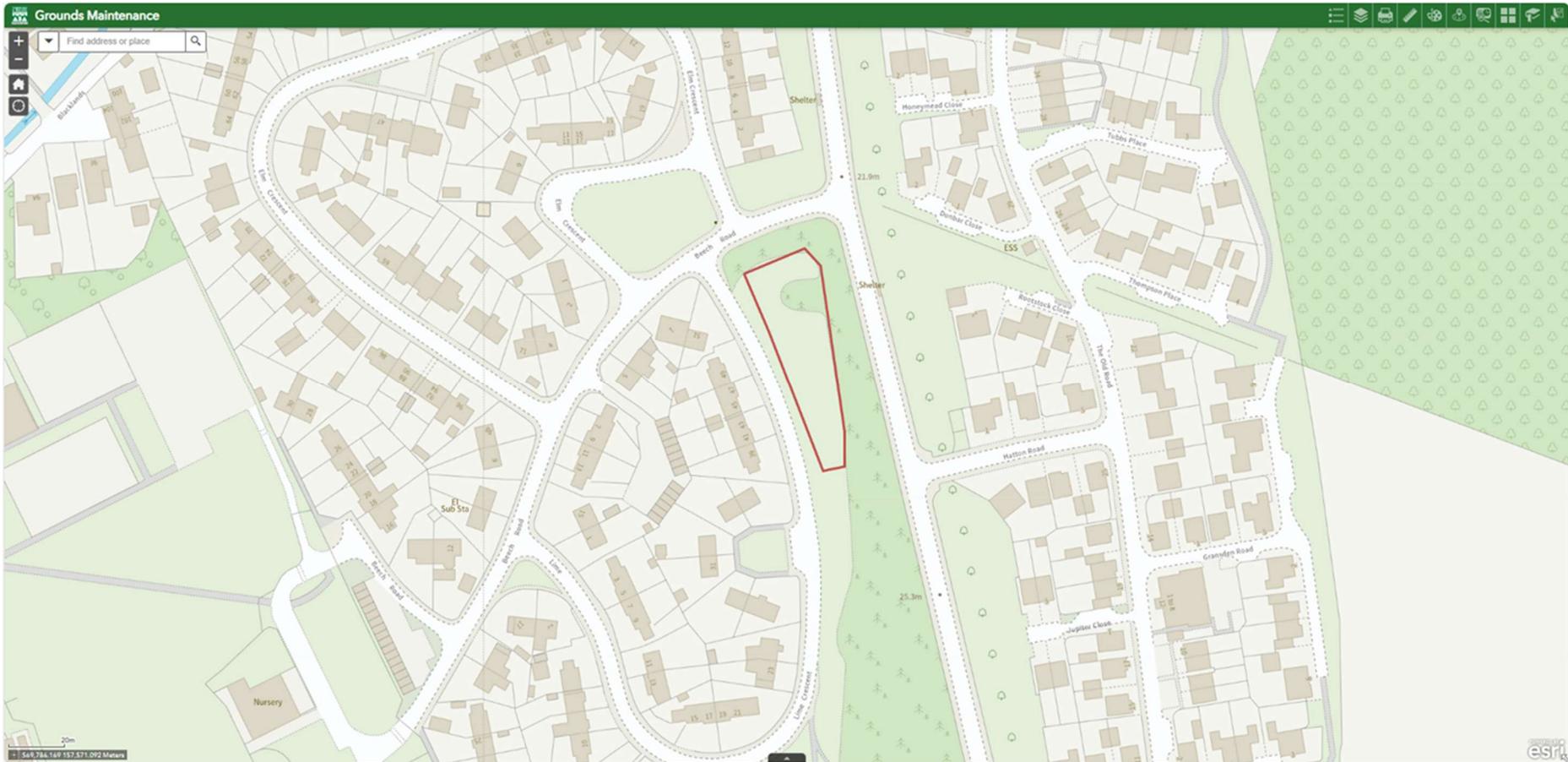
Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Autumn hawkbit	3	1	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.50%
Bare ground	3	2		1.08%
Bramble	1	3	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	0.00%
Bush grass	1	4	<i>Calamagrostis epigejos</i>	0.00%
Cleavers	1	5	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.00%
Cock's-foot	1	6	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Common bent	1	7	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Common mallow	1	8	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	0.50%
Common sorrel	4	9	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.58%
Couch grass	1	10	<i>Elymus repens</i>	0.00%
Cow parsley	1	11	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.00%

Creeping buttercup	9	12	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	0.75%
Creeping cinquefoil	1	13	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	0.00%
Curled dock	3	14	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.67%
Cut-leaved cranesbill	5	15	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	0.33%
Daffodil	1	16	<i>Narcissus pseudonarcissus</i>	0.00%
Daisy	5	17	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.25%
Dandelion sp.	7	18	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	0.92%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	7	19	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.58%
Field bindweed	3	20	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	0.25%
Field speedwell	10	21	<i>Veronica persica</i>	1.25%
Germander speedwell	6	22	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	1.42%
Grass sp.	59	23	<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	60.92%
Greater plantain	1	24	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.00%
Ground ivy	3	25	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	0.25%
Hairy cat's ear	1	26	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.00%
Hawthorn	1	27	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	0.08%
Himalayan balsam	1	28	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	0.00%
Lesser stitchwort	7	29	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	0.50%
Lords-and-ladies	1	30	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	0.00%
Meadow buttercup	6	31	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.75%
Mouse-ear chickweed	5	32	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.33%
Perennial rye grass	1	33	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Ragwort	4	34	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.42%
Red deadnettle	1	35	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	0.00%
Ribwort plantain	23	36	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	4.75%
Round-leaved cranesbill	1	37	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	0.00%
Selfheal	2	38	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	0.17%

Smooth cats ear	1	39	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.00%
Smooth hawk's beard	5	40	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	1.00%
Soft brome	1	41	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	0.00%
Spear thistle	1	42	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	1.00%
Spotted medick	1	43	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.00%
Stinging nettle	1	44	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	0.00%
Timothy	1	45	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	0.00%
Wall barley	1	46	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	0.00%
White clover	21	47	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	3.83%
Wild carrot	1	48	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.17%
Wood avens	2	49	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.17%
Yarrow	31	50	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	16.58%
Yorkshire fog	1	51	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	0.00%
Grand total	260	49		100.00%

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Gatekeeper Butterfly	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>
Meadow brown butterfly	<i>Maniola jurtina</i>
Common carder bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
Small mammal nest	Unknow
Red tailed bumble	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
Honeybee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>

Survey Results - Lime Crescent



Page 116

The RNR at Lime Crescent is a good site with a good number of species present. Lime Crescent has a lot of green spaces around it compared to Carnation Green, even though it is less than 1 mile away; however, this could be why limited invertebrate species were recorded there, as there may be better pollination resources in the other green spaces, such as East Malling Research. In total, we recorded 45 plant species and one non-plant species within Lime Crescent RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats.

Management recommendations

Lime Crescent RNR has a good seed bank and does not need to be sown with new wildflowers. For future management, we suggest a cut-and-collect once a year in September. Other improvement, could be to expand the area of the RNR to cover the more of the area next to lime crescent, to still allow public access a 1 meter buffer could be created between the RNR and the road/hedgerow and cut more regularly than RNR, therefore the RNR looks deliberate and is less likely to get complaints, alternatively you could reduce the cutting regime around the RNR and increase the cutting height to allow for the flowers to come up. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

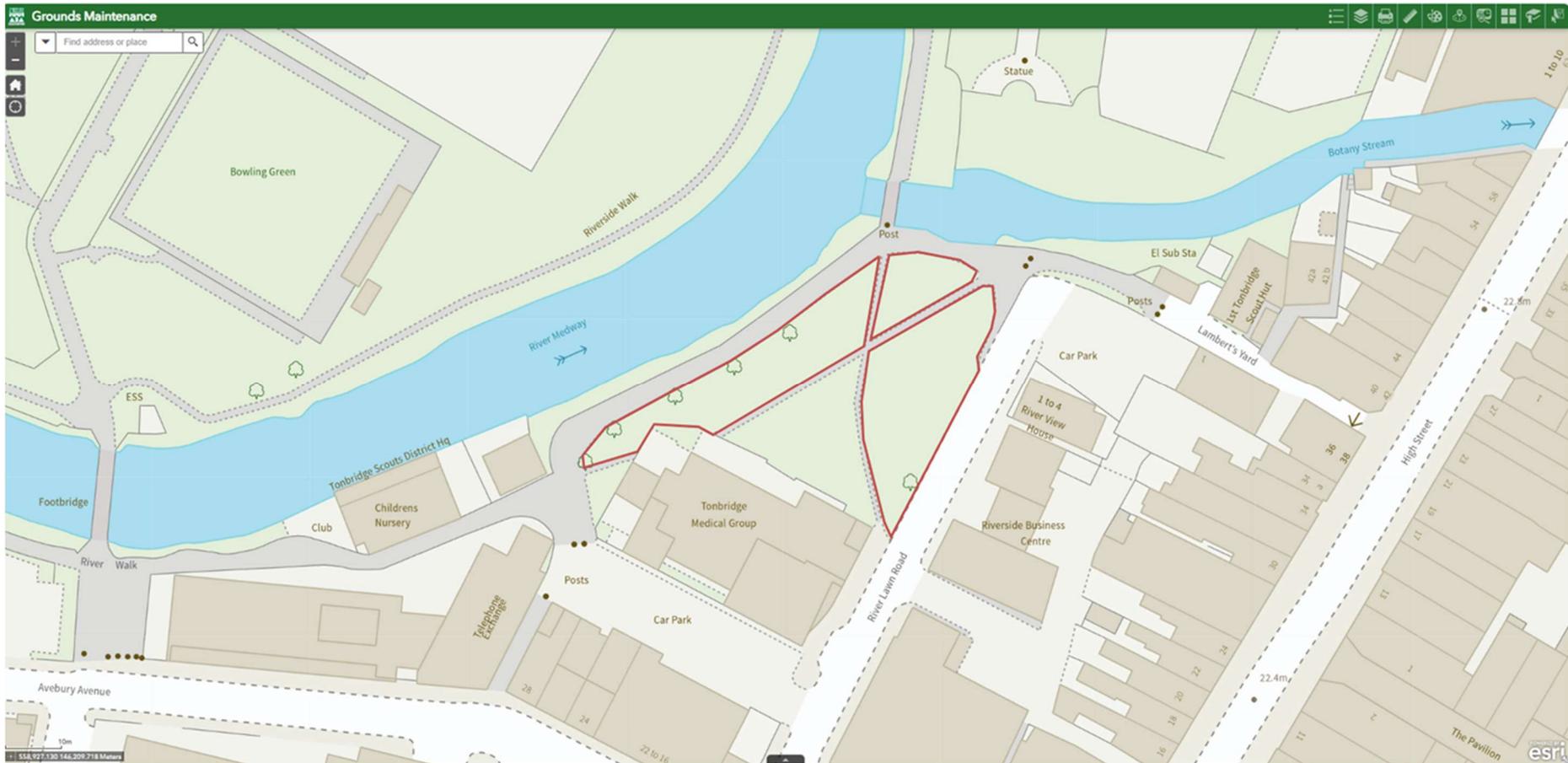
Plant List	Number of times plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Ash	1	1	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	0.00%
Autumn hawkbit	4	2	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.58%
Bare ground	4	3		2.17%
Beech	1	4	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	0.00%
Bird's-foot trefoil	1	5	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	0.17%
Black medick	7	6	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	0.58%
Cocks foot	2	7	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Common bent	1	8	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Common chickweed	1	9	<i>Stellaria media</i>	0.00%

Cow parsley	5	10	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.77%
Creeping buttercup	1	11	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	0.33%
Crested dog's-tail	1	12	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	0.00%
Curled dock	2	13	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.08%
Cut-leaved cranesbill	1	14	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	0.08%
Daisy	14	15	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	3.23%
Dandelion sp.	26	16	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	5.17%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	2	17	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.58%
Elder	2	18	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	0.00%
English oak	2	19	<i>Quercus robur</i>	0.08%
Field speedwell	3	20	<i>Veronica agrestis</i>	0.50%
Fox tail barely	1	21	<i>Hordeum jubatum</i>	0.00%
Germander speedwell	1	22	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	0.08%
Grass sp.	58	23	Generic	57.47%
Greater plantain	5	24	<i>Plantago major</i>	1.08%
Hedge bindweed	1	25	<i>Calystegia sepium</i>	0.58%
Ivy	2	26	<i>Hedera helix</i>	0.00%
Large leaf lime	1	27	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	0.00%
Lesser celandine	2	28	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	0.00%
Lesser hawkbit	1	29	<i>Leontodon saxatilis</i>	0.08%
Lesser stitchwort	2	30	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	0.02%
Meadow buttercup	2	31	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.00%
Mouse-ear chickweed	4	32	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.10%
Perennial ryegrass	1	33	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Ragwort	6	34	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.67%
Red deadnettle	1	35	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	0.00%

Ribwort plantain	36	36	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	5.75%
Round-leaved crane's-bill	1	37	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	0.00%
Smooth cats ear	4	38	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.50%
Soft brome	1	39	<i>Bromus hordeaceus</i>	0.00%
Spotted medick	1	40	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.00%
Timothy	1	41	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	0.00%
Tyme speedwell	1	42	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	0.08%
Wall barely	1	43	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	0.00%
White clover	53	44	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	18.42%
Wild carrot	3	45	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.08%
Wild cherry	1	46	<i>Prunus avium</i>	0.00%
Yarrow	4	47	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.75%
Grand total	276	45		100.00%

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Large White Butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>

Survey Results - River Lawn



Page 120

The RNR at River Lawn has one of the highest percentages of herb cover and the lowest grass cover of all the sites. Also, the River lawn has good connectivity and access to other green spaces like the river and Racecourse Park, which could lead to a wider variety of species accessing the site. However, it is one of the higher-traffic areas, with people accessing or walking through the site, which could discourage wildlife from using it. During the June survey the RNR was cut more regularly by an unknown third party and didn't allow some of the wildflowers to flower. In total, we recorded 36 plant species and two non-plant species within River Lawn RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats.

Management recommendations

River lawn RNR has a good seed bank and does not need to be sown with new wildflowers, however when surveying it seemed like it was cut and left in June, therefore for future management we suggest a cut-and-collect once a year in September, to allow the wildflowers increase and flower, however it is a high traffic area and if the vegetation needs to be low for access then alternatively, the centre of the RNR could be left and have a cut and collect in September, but a cut and collect with a buffer of 1 meter more regularly. Managing it this way would make the RNR look deliberate; therefore, it is less likely to get complaints. Another improvement could be to expand the area of the RNR to cover the final triangle in the river lawn area. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

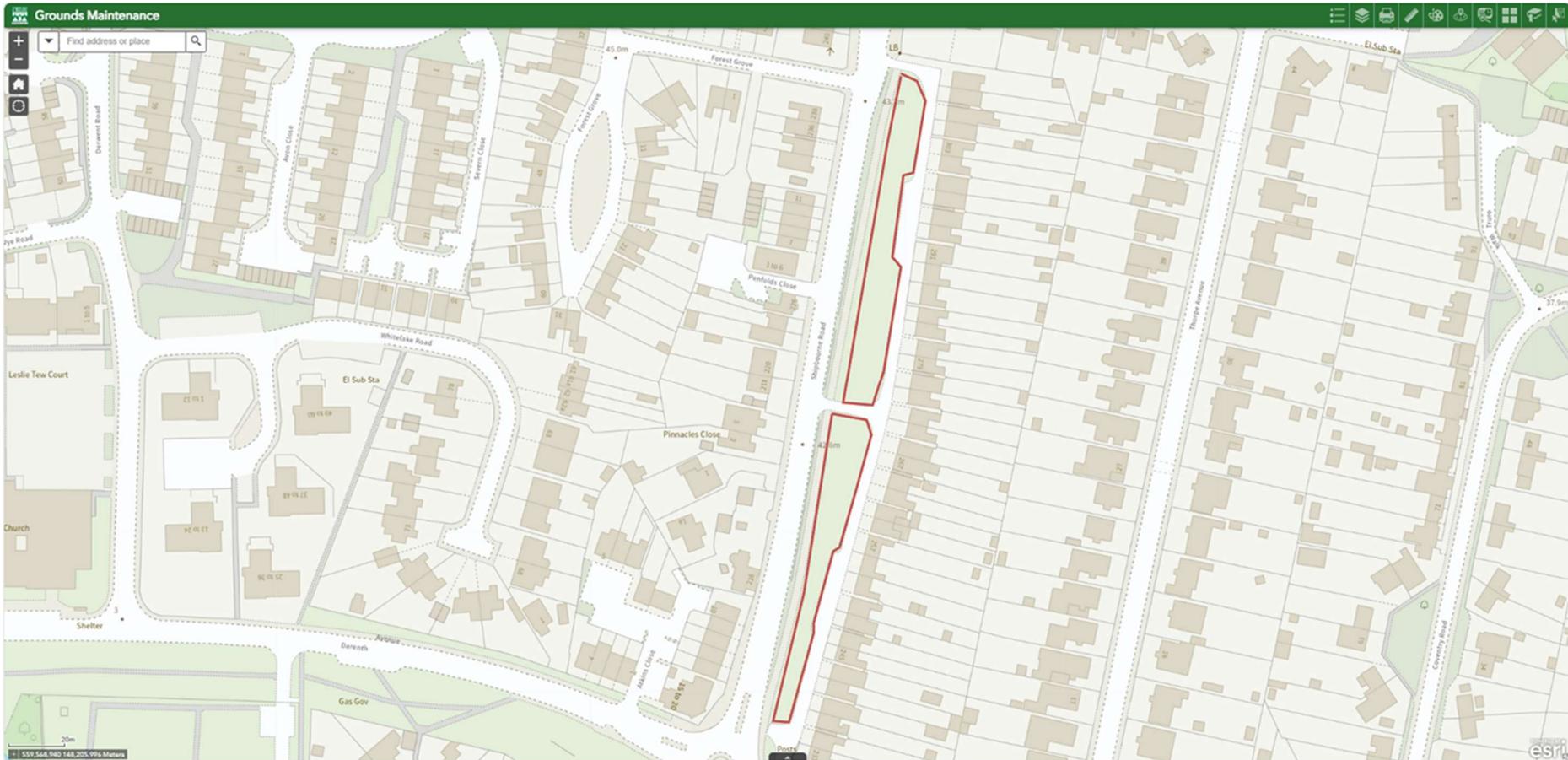
Plant list	Number of times Plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Bare ground	23	1		11.33%
Black medick	2	2	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	0.42%
Bristly ox-tongue	4	3	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	0.75%
Broad-leaved dock	13	4	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	2.33%
Cleavers	1	5	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.00%
Common mallow	6	6	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	2.25%
Common ragwort	1	7	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.00%
Common sorrel	4	8	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.92%

Creeping buttercup	16	9	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	2.92%
Creeping wood sorrel	1	10	<i>Oxalis corniculata</i>	0.08%
Cyclamen hederifolium	2	11	<i>Cyclamen hederifolium</i>	0.00%
Daisy	2	12	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.17%
Dandelion sp.	30	13	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	4.42%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	1	14	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.08%
English cinquefoil	1	15	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	0.00%
English oak	1	16	<i>Quercus robur</i>	0.00%
Field bindweed	1	17	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i>	0.50%
Field speedwell	1	18	<i>Veronica persica</i>	0.00%
Grass sp.	58	19	<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	41.50%
Greater plantain	19	20	<i>Plantago major</i>	2.58%
Green alkanet	1	21	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	0.00%
Knotgrass	3	22	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.17%
Large leaf lime	1	23	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	0.00%
Lesser celandine	2	24	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	0.17%
Meadow buttercup	1	25	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.00%
Ribwort plantain	1	26	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	0.08%
Narrow-leaved bird's-foot-trefoil	1	27	<i>Lotus tenuis</i>	0.08%
Norway maple	1	28	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	0.00%
Smooth sow thistle	3	29	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	0.17%
Spanish bluebell	1	30	<i>Hyacinthoides hispanica</i>	0.00%
Spear thistle	2	31	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	0.25%
Spotted medick	2	32	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.50%

Stinging nettle	3	33	<i>Urtica dioica</i>	0.50%
Variegated ivy	1	34	<i>Hedera helix</i> (variegated)	0.00%
White clover	40	35	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	25.67%
White deadnettle	1	36	<i>Lamium album</i>	0.00%
Wood avens	1	37	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.00%
Yarrow	3	38	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	2.17%
Grand total	255	36		1

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Common Wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>
Brown hawker Dragonfly	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>

Survey Results - Shipbourne Road



Page 124

The RNR at Shipbourne Road is a good site with a diverse number of species present. However, in some areas, it has a large proportion of bare ground, which was focused around the areas near the road and where people park their cars/campervans on the grass. In addition to this, whilst surveying, surveyors notice that the path next to the RNR and the main road are high traffic areas, which could cause disturbance to the wildlife. Shipbourne Road has the potential to improve connectivity, for example, Darent Avenue is close and could be connected via the

expansion of the RNRs. In total, we recorded 42 plant species and one non-plant species within Shipbourne Road RNR, and this site had 20 quadrats.

Management recommendations

Shipbourne Road RNR, has a good seed bank however it could be improved by sowing wildflowers seed. In terms of seed mixes, we would suggest the EM3 mix from Emorsgate Seeds (<https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete-mixtures/general-purpose-meadow-mixtures/special-general-purpose-meadow-mixture/>). Vehicles were parked on the grass which meant that the vegetation level was quite low throughout the year, therefore we would recommend a cut-and-collect once a year in September to allow the wildflowers increase and flower, Another improvement to the RNR could be to expand the area of the RNR to cover the other green space next to Shipbourne Road RNR on the other side of the roundabout between the addresses 151 Shipbourne Road and 231 Shipbourne Road. In addition to this, there could be an expansion to Darenth Avenue as stated above, which would help link the two sites. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

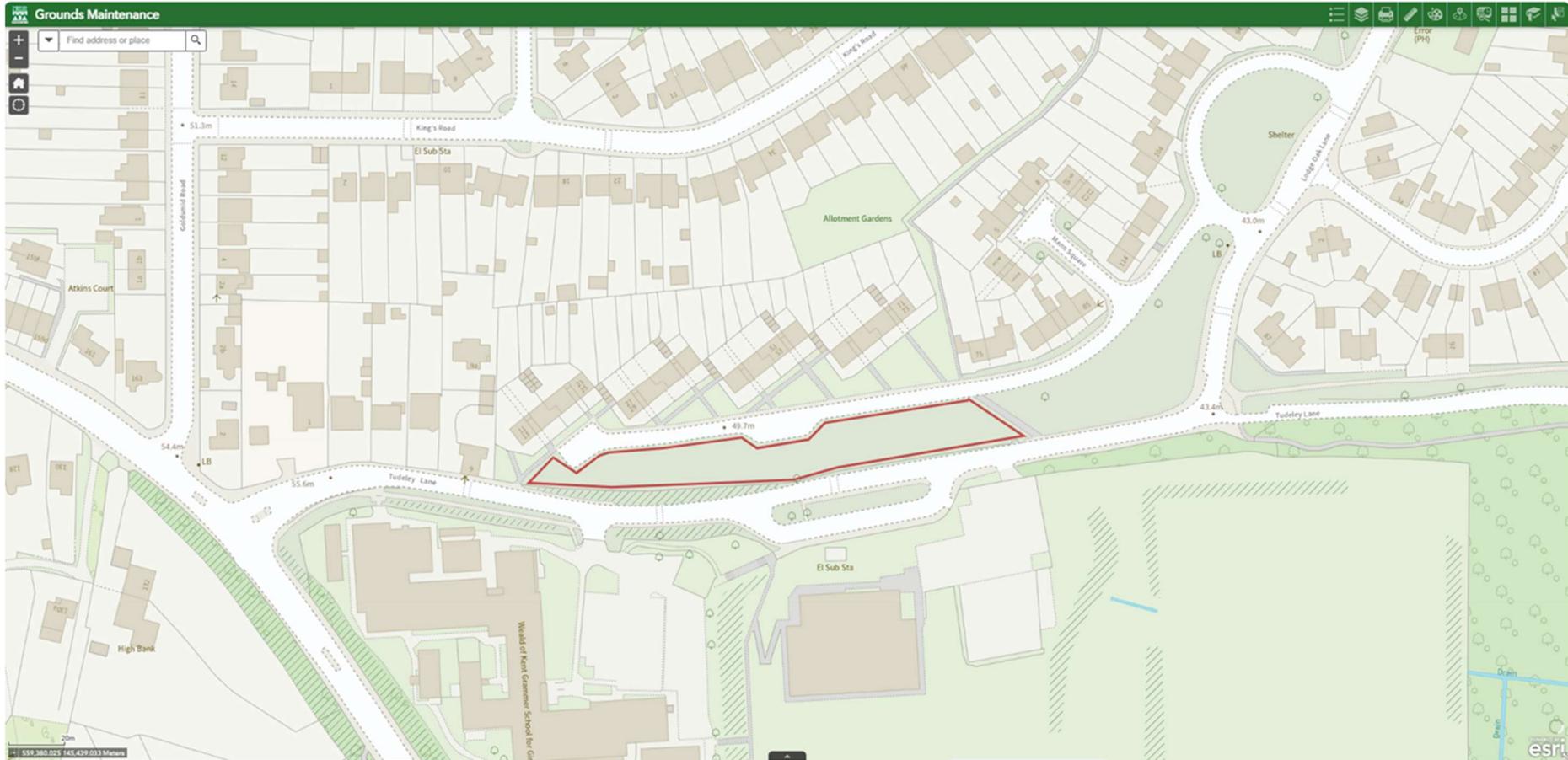
Plant list	Number of times Plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Ash	1	1	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	0.00%
Autumn hawkbit	3	2	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.41%
Bare ground	35	3		15.55%
Beech	1	4	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	0.00%
Bird's-foot trefoil	1	5	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	0.14%

Bluebell	1	6	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	0.00%
Broad leaf lime	1	7	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	0.00%
Cleavers	2	8	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.00%
Common sorrel	1	9	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	0.05%
Creeping bent	1	10	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	0.00%
Creeping buttercup	7	11	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	0.50%
Creeping cinquefoil	1	12	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	0.00%
Curled dock	2	13	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.14%
Daisy	8	14	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.36%
Dandelion sp.	40	15	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	2.86%
English cinquefoil	7	16	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	1.09%
Field maple	1	17	<i>Acer campestre</i>	0.00%
Field speedwell	2	18	<i>Veronica persica</i>	0.00%
Germander speedwell	3	19	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	0.14%
Grass sp.	102	20	<i>Poaceae</i>	58.91%
Greater plantain	28	21	<i>Plantago major</i>	2.05%
Hawthorn	2	22	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	0.05%
Hedgerow cranesbill	1	23	<i>Geranium pyrenaicum</i>	0.00%
Ivy	1	24	<i>Hedera helix</i>	0.09%
Knotgrass	3	25	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.05%
Lesser stitchwort	1	26	<i>Stellaria graminea</i>	0.05%
Meadow buttercup	5	27	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.18%
Mountain ash	1	28	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	0.00%
Mouse-eared chickweed	3	29	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.27%
Norway maple	2	30	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	0.18%
Ragwort	3	31	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.14%
Red deadnettle	1	32	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	0.00%

Ribwort plantain	23	33	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	2.32%
Ryegrass	1	34	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Selfheal	3	35	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	0.18%
Sessile oak	4	36	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.14%
Silver birch	1	37	<i>Betula pendula</i>	0.00%
Smooth cats ear	5	38	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.36%
Smooth hawk's beard	1	39	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>	0.00%
Smooth meadow-grass	1	40	<i>Poa pratensis</i>	0.00%
Wall barley	1	41	<i>Hordeum murinum</i>	0.00%
White clover	59	42	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	12.86%
Wood avens	1	43	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.00%
Yarrow	9	44	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	0.95%
Grand total	380	42		100.00%

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Common wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>

Survey Results - Tudeley Lane RNR



Page 128

The RNR at Tudeley Lane RNR, is a good site with a good number of species present; however, it is on the lower end of the diversity in comparison to the other sites. It is also on the edge of Tonbridge town, so it has access to the green spaces just outside Tonbridge; therefore, it has good connectivity to them, making it more accessible to wildlife to use the site. In total, we recorded 39 plant species and seven non-plant species within Tudeley Lane RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats.

Management recommendations

Tudeley Lane RNR, has a good seed bank however it could be improved by sowing wildflowers seed. In terms of seed mixes, we would suggest the EM3 mix from Emorsgate Seeds (<https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete-mixtures/general-purpose-meadow-mixtures/special-general-purpose-meadow-mixture/>). Alternately green haying might be an option for the site, if there is a source of green hay locally. In addition, we would recommend a cut-and-collect once a year in September, to allow the wildflowers to increase and flower. Another improvement to the RNR could be to expand the area of the RNR to cover other green spaces, for example, the circular green space next to Tudeley Lane RNR (in front of 94-106 Lodge Oak Ln), if the expansion is not possible, then reducing the cutting regime of the surrounds grassland and increasing the cutting height of the machinery to 75mm would still improve the biodiversity and connectivity of the site. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

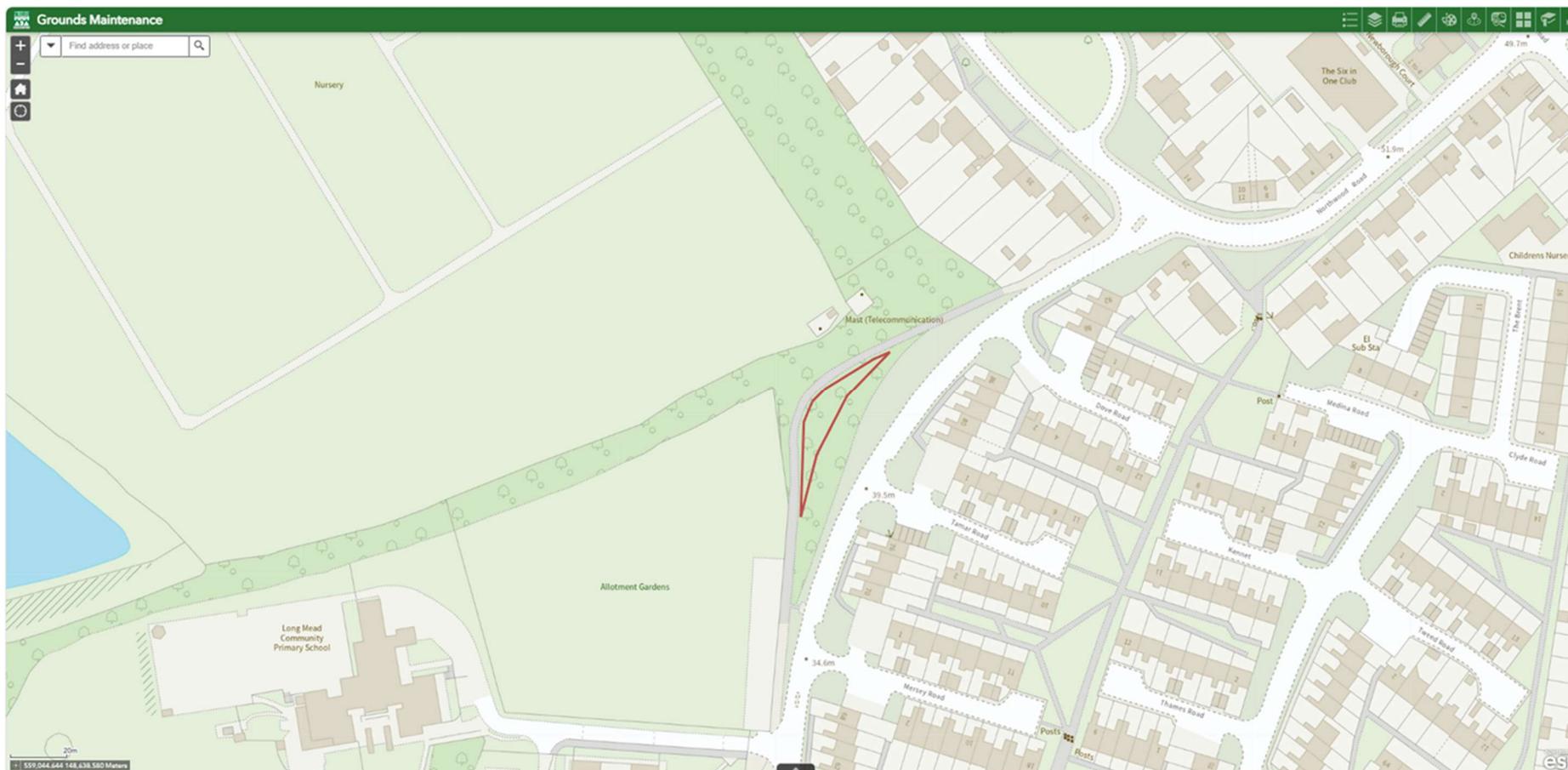
Plant list	Number of times Plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Autumn hawkbit	3	1	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.58%
Bare ground	11	2		3.25%
Black horehound	2	3	<i>Ballota nigra</i>	0.17%
Bramble	1	4	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	0.00%
Bristly oxtongue	1	5	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	0.17%
Cleavers	1	6	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.00%
Cock's-foot	1	7	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Common cat's ear	2	8	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.08%

Cow parsley	2	9	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	0.00%
Creeping buttercup	11	10	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	1.83%
Creeping thistle	4	11	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>	1.33%
Crested dog's-tail	1	12	<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	0.00%
Cuckoo flower	1	13	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	0.00%
Curled dock	5	14	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	0.58%
Cut-leaved cranesbill	1	15	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	0.08%
Daisy	3	16	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.17%
Dandelion sp.	41	17	<i>Taraxacum spp.</i>	7.42%
Garlic mustard	1	18	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	0.00%
Grass sp.	60	19	<i>Poaceae spp.</i>	54.00%
Greater plantain	9	20	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.75%
Green alkanet	1	21	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>	0.00%
Knapweed	1	22	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	0.17%
Knotgrass	2	23	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.08%
Large leaf lime	1	24	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	0.00%
Lords-and-ladies	1	25	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	0.00%
Meadow barely	1	26	<i>Hordeum secalinum</i>	0.00%
Meadow buttercup	1	27	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.08%
Mouse eared chickweed	3	28	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.08%
Norway maple	1	29	<i>Acer platanoides</i>	0.00%
Ox eye daisy	1	30	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	0.08%
Ragwort	4	31	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.25%
Ribwort plantain	14	32	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	3.58%
Rye grass	1	33	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	0.00%
Smooth cat's ear	5	34	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.58%
Spotted medick	1	35	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.67%

Timothy	1	36	<i>Phleum pratense</i>	0.00%
White clover	51	37	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	22.33%
Wild carrot	4	38	<i>Daucus carota</i>	1.67%
Wild cherry	2	39	<i>Prunus avium</i>	0.00%
Wood avens	2	40	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	0.00%
Yorkshire fog	1	41	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	0.00%
Grand total	260	39		1

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Common carder bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
Honeybee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>
Buff-tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus terrestris</i>
Gatekeeper butterfly	<i>Pyronia tithonus</i>
Large white butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Common blue butterfly	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>
Comma butterfly	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>

Survey Results - Waveney Road



Page 132

The RNR at Waveney Road is one of the more diverse sites. This RNR benefits from the mosaic habitat created by the meadow, woodland, and hedgerows around it, increasing the number of plant species present. This is like the effect on Hazel Shaw RNR. Waveney Road RNR has good access to other green spaces like the allotments behind the site through hedgerow/woodland corridors; however, this could be why there are fewer invertebrates attracted to the site, as better pollination habitat is in the allotment. In addition, the main meadow area had very low vegetation height, suggesting that it was cut regularly. In total, we recorded 54 plant species and five non-plant species within Tudeley Lane

RNR, and this site had 10 quadrats. In terms of the habitat conditions, Waveney Road RNR is one of the better sites in terms of the diversity of plant species. It is also one of the sites that has less than 50% grass cover; therefore, other species benefit from this.

Management recommendations

We recommend having a cut and collect once a year in September to allow for wildflowers to flower and set seed. In addition to the Annual cut and collect, a buffer of 1m along the pathway could be introduced, that is cut more regularly, though when cut making sure to increase the cutting height of the machinery, this would define the RNR more. Waveney road RNR has a good seed bank and does not need sowing. In addition, monitoring of the more scrub areas would need to be managed by scalloping different sections to control the spread of bramble. Also, other recommendations would be the expansion of the RNR south through the roadside verges, Waveney road, to improve connectivity with Darenth Avenue. RNR would benefit both sites as it allows species to migrate to different sites more easily. If the expansion is not possible, then reducing the cutting regime of the surrounds grassland and increasing the cutting height of the machinery would still improve the biodiversity and connectivity of the site. In addition to the habitat management recommendations, we would suggest signage to inform the public of the roadside nature reserves.

Survey recommendations

- Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)
- Wildflower Surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))
- Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)

These three surveys will help monitor the health of site over the year and identify new species for the sites. These surveys can be carried out by Medway Valley Countryside Partnership

Plant list	Number of times Plant species have been recorded	Number of plant species	Latin names	Average of Percentage cover
Autumn hawkbit	4	1	<i>Scorzoneroides autumnalis</i>	0.42%
Bare ground	19	2	N/A	8.42%
Bluebell	2	3	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	0.08%
Bramble	8	4	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i>	1.83%

Bristly oxtongue	2	5	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	0.25%
Cleavers	5	6	<i>Galium aparine</i>	0.50%
Common cat's ear	2	7	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	0.08%
Common mallow	3	8	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	1.67%
Common storksbill	1	9	<i>Erodium cicutarium</i>	0.00%
Cow parsley	8	10	<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	1.25%
Creeping buttercup	6	11	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	1.08%
Creeping cinquefoil	6	12	<i>Potentilla reptans</i>	0.67%
Creeping speedwell	3	13	<i>Veronica filiformis</i>	0.42%
Curled dock	6	14	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	1.00%
Cut-leaved crane's-bill	11	15	<i>Geranium dissectum</i>	3.00%
Daisy	7	16	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	0.58%
Dandelion sp.	45	17	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	10.50%
Dog rose	2	18	<i>Rosa canina</i>	0.08%
Dove's-foot crane's-bill	2	19	<i>Geranium molle</i>	0.17%
English cinquefoil	16	20	<i>Potentilla anglica</i>	4.75%
Field maple	1	21	<i>Acer campestre</i>	0.17%
Field speedwell	2	22	<i>Veronica persica</i>	0.25%
Garlic mustard	1	23	<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	0.00%
Germander speedwell	7	24	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>	0.75%
Grass sp.	59	25	<i>Poaceae</i>	46.92%
Greater plantain	4	26	<i>Plantago major</i>	0.33%
Ground ivy	2	27	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>	0.00%
Groundsel	1	28	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	0.00%
Hawthorn	1	29	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	0.08%
Ivy	3	30	<i>Hedera helix</i>	0.17%
Knapweed	1	31	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	0.00%
Knot grass	1	32	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	0.00%

Lesser celandine	2	33	<i>Ficaria verna</i>	0.17%
Lords and lady's	1	34	<i>Arum maculatum</i>	0.00%
Meadow barely	1	35	<i>Hordeum secalinum</i>	0.00%
Meadow buttercup	2	36	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	0.08%
Mouse eared chickweed	2	37	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>	0.08%
Orchard grass	1	38	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	0.00%
Ragwort	2	39	<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	0.33%
Red clover	1	40	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	0.25%
Red deadnettle	1	41	<i>Lamium purpureum</i>	0.00%
Ribwort plantain	4	42	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	0.67%
Round-leaved cranesbill	1	43	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>	0.00%
Selfheal	6	44	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	1.50%
Sessile oak	2	45	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	0.17%
Smooth cats-ear	2	46	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>	0.08%
Smooth sow thistle	2	47	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>	0.00%
Spear thistle	1	48	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	0.00%
Spotted medick	5	49	<i>Medicago arabica</i>	0.92%
Staghorn plantain	1	50	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>	0.00%
Teasel	1	51	<i>Dipsacus fullonum</i>	0.00%
Thyme-leaved speedwell	1	52	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>	0.00%
White clover	25	53	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	6.83%
Wild carrot	4	54	<i>Daucus carota</i>	0.25%
Wild strawberry	3	55	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	0.33%
Wood avens	10	56	<i>Geum urbanum</i>	2.92%
Grand total	322	54		100%

Other non-plant species	Latin names
Common carder bee	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i>
Red tailed bumblebee	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i>
Large white butterfly	<i>Pieris brassicae</i>
Common Wasp	<i>Vespula vulgaris</i>
Speckled wood butterfly	<i>Pararge aegeria</i>

Photos of Species found on site



Above: Red admiral butterfly found at Hazel Shaw

Below: Buff tailed bumblebee worker at Brook Street.



Above: Common Blue butterfly found at Gibson Building

Below: Common Blue butterfly, Meadow brown and Buff tailed bumblebee sharing Knapweed at Basted Mill



Above: Red tailed bumblebee found at Darenth Avenue.

Below Red tailed bumblebee queen and male mating found at Darenth Avenue



Management

For the RNR, there is some management advice that can be applied to most, if not all, the sites. For example, one key way to manage grassland and meadows is to reduce the cutting regime to once a year in September, we do this because it lets all of the wildflowers flower and set seed, it also produces longer grasses, which is a key habitat for small mammals and invertebrates like Harvest mice and Carder bees to nest in. The important part of this is collecting afterwards, which can either be done by a machine or manually by raking it up. This has three main benefits: it allows the seeds to spread over the site, it removes any excess energy/vegetation, reducing the fertility of the soil, therefore improving it for wildflowers, and finally, if collected, it can either be used as hay for livestock or transported to other sites as green hay (if there are enough wildflowers in the hay), or it can be used as habitat piles on-site as compost heaps are great nesting and hibernation habitats for wildlife. However, for this last one, it depends on the site if it can be left on-site.

However, long vegetation can be perceived as messy by the public and may lead to complaints. To combat this, there are a few methods that can reduce the chance of complaints. For example, having clear signage, notifying the public on why the grass is long, and the benefits of having it long. For this, you could include charismatic species that will benefit from the longer grass and more wildflowers, for example, bumblebees are popular with the public and do benefit from more wildflowers. Another way to reduce complaints from the public is to ensure that they have access and that it looks deliberate. One way this can be achieved is by cutting pathways through the RNR, so people can enjoy the meadow and appreciate it. An alternative is to clearly define the RNR's boundaries if the RNR is next to a path, you can add a buffer between the path and the RNR by having more regular cuts on the buffer and leaving the RNR long. This is currently in place though the buffer zone could be increased to a minimum of 1m at a height of 75mm this makes the longer grass and wildflowers of the RNR look deliberate, with a purpose, rather than having no clear boundary, which makes it look like it is just being left and untidy.

In late summer, many sites were drying out, and vegetation was dying back due to the high temperatures and the lack of rain and wet weather. As a result, some sites increase areas of bare ground during the late summer, and having a higher cut on the RNR and the surrounding areas can help with water retention. This also keeps the grassland greener for longer. In addition to water retention, a higher cut of 75mm on the RNRs and surrounding areas can allow low-lying vegetation like Clover, Birds foot trefoil, and Self-heal to still flower, providing a key resource for pollinators.

Most of the sites have good seed banks that don't need further seed sowing; however, some of the sites may require seed sowing. To prep the site for seed sowing, you need to scarify the surface and then sprinkle the seeds on top, and finally stamp them in. Scarifying large areas for seed sowing can be difficult and expensive. An alternative is to create one-meter plots within the site and sow these areas at a higher density as it gets the new species established into a meadow, and with the correct management, they will naturally spread throughout the meadow. In terms of seed mixes, we would suggest the EM3 mix from Emorsgate Seeds (<https://wildseed.co.uk/product/mixtures/complete->

[mixtures/general-purpose-meadow-mixtures/special-general-purpose-meadow-mixture/](#)) as it has a wide variety of wildflowers within the mix, including yellow rattle, which is a key wildflower for meadow improvement as it is semi-parasitic of grasses and can increase herb cover. Seed sowing should be carried out in the autumn, to allow seeds to germinate and develop larger root systems to cope with the droughts in the summer. Also, if sowing yellow rattle, you would need to sow it in the autumn, as it requires six frosts to germinate. If you do sow in the spring, you can put the seeds in the freezer to help them germinate, mimicking frost. An alternative way to increase wildflower species is a method called green haying. Once a wildflower-rich meadow is cut, you can take the hay from that meadow and thinly spread it over the desired area to introduce species from that meadow into the new site. This method also requires bare ground for the seeds to germinate and grow. One option could be to collect green hay from Hayston Country Park, as the meadows there are likely diverse and have a broader array of wildflowers, and they are local to all the Tonbridge sites.

Another improvement to many of the RNR is an expansion of existing RNR or creation of new ones to improve connectivity, for example, a few of the RNRs do not take up the total area of the grassland or road verge or there are green spaces or other RNR locally that, if expanded could link up and create wildlife corridors, a good example of this are the three RNR of, Waveney road Darenth avenue and Shipbourne Road, are very local to each other can could be connected if the RNR were expanded to link these three sites through road side verges. Alternatively, you could change the management of the areas adjacent to the RNRs to improve them for wildlife by changing the cutting regimes to reduce the cutting and allow for wildflowers to flower and set seed. For further information regarding habitat management, plenty of resources are available online, for example, Kent as a pollinator action plan called Kent Plan Bee, which is in collaboration with Bumblebee Conservation Trust and has monitoring and habitat guidelines for pollinators and meadows management (<https://www.kent.gov.uk/environment-waste-and-planning/nature-and-biodiversity/pollinators/kents-plan-bee-pollinator-action-plan>)

Surveying

Surveying will be a key component of monitoring the development of the RNR. In terms of future surveying of the site, we would recommend three sets of wildflower surveys for each site between April and September to get early, mid, and late of the flowering season. In addition to this, two invertebrate surveys would help monitor invertebrate populations. We recommend the following two surveys: the Monthly bee walk survey (<https://beewalk.org.uk/>) from Bumblebee Conservation Trust and the Butterfly transect (<https://ukbms.org/>) from the United Kingdom Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (UKBMS). These surveys require knowledge of the species and could be done by MVCP Staff In 2026.

Summary of recommendations

Recommendations and detail	Basted Mill	Brook Street	Carnation Crescent	Dareyth Avenue	Gibson Building	Hazel Shaw	Lillieburn	Lime Crescent	River Lawn	Shipbourne Road	Tudeley Lane	Wavenev Road	Priority Level
Conduct an annual cut-and-collect in September at all sites.	1
Remove of Himalayan balsam in summer							.						1
Increasing the number of Roadside Nature Reserves within the Borough	1
Increase the cutting height of surrounding grass areas (including buffer zones) to 75mm.	1
Ensure that signage is installed on site to inform residents of the Roadside Nature Reserves	1
Maintain a buffer of at least 1m in width and 75mm in height around the edge of all RNRs to define areas.				1
Monitor suckers of hedges/trees		.			.								1
Where possible, increase size of existing RNRs by 1m				2
Seed Sowing EM3 mix (autumn/winter)			.				.				.		2
Seed Sowing (Yellow rattle) (autumn/winter)	.		.				.						2
Scallop the edge of scrubby areas, to control bramble												.	2
Creating a Habitat pile on-site with the cut vegetation	.						.					.	2

Carry out wildflower surveys (3 times a year, early (April-May), middle (June-July) and late (August-September))	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3
Carry out Bumblebee Surveys (Beewalk, Once a month between March and September)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3
Carry out surveys of Butterfly transects (UKBMS, Weekly 1st April and 29th September)	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	3
Green Haying (if possible)	•	•										•		3

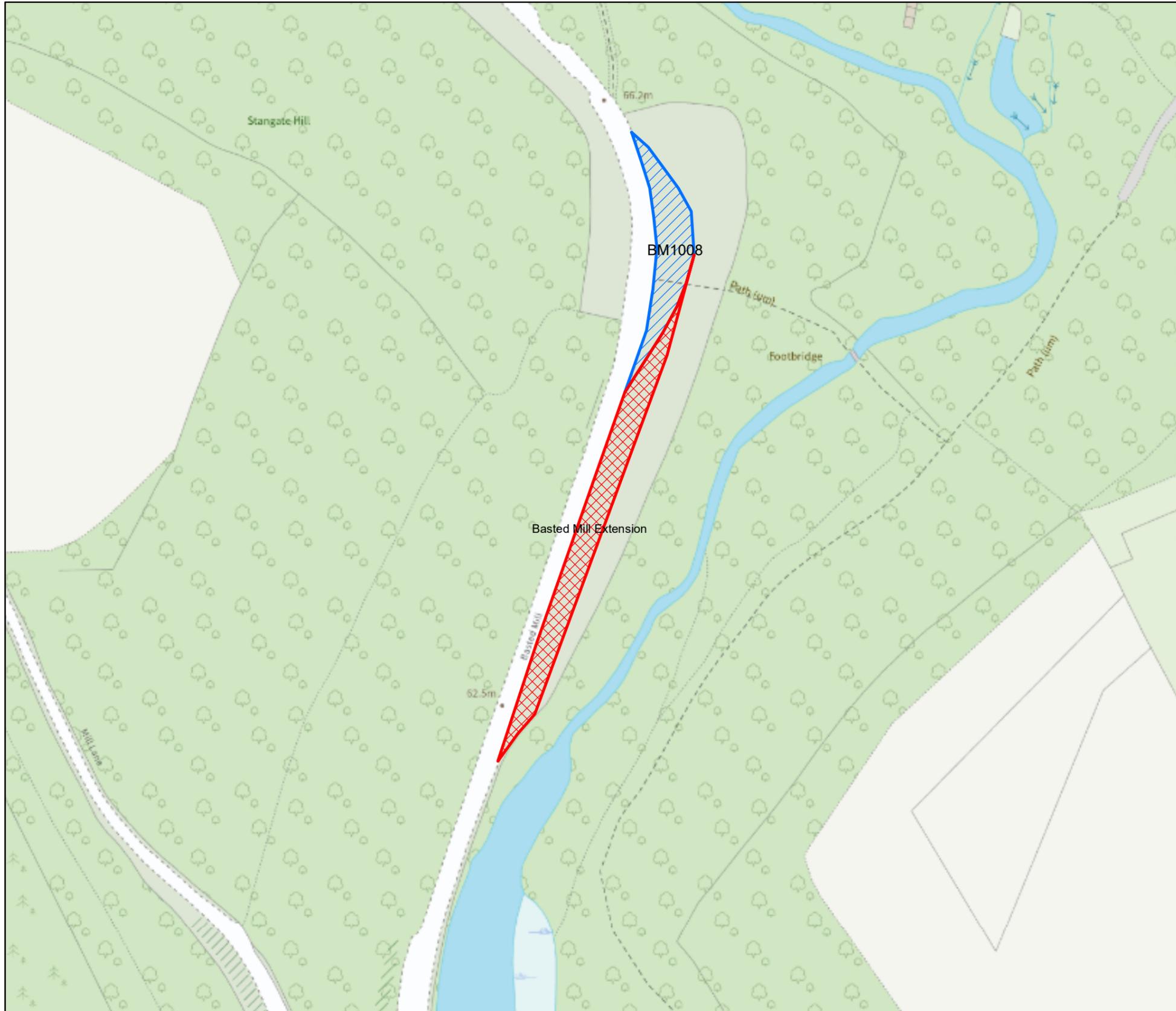
Priority Level (1 = High - 3 = Low)

This page is intentionally left blank

Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

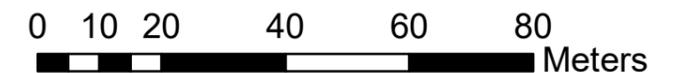
Basted Mill Extension

-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

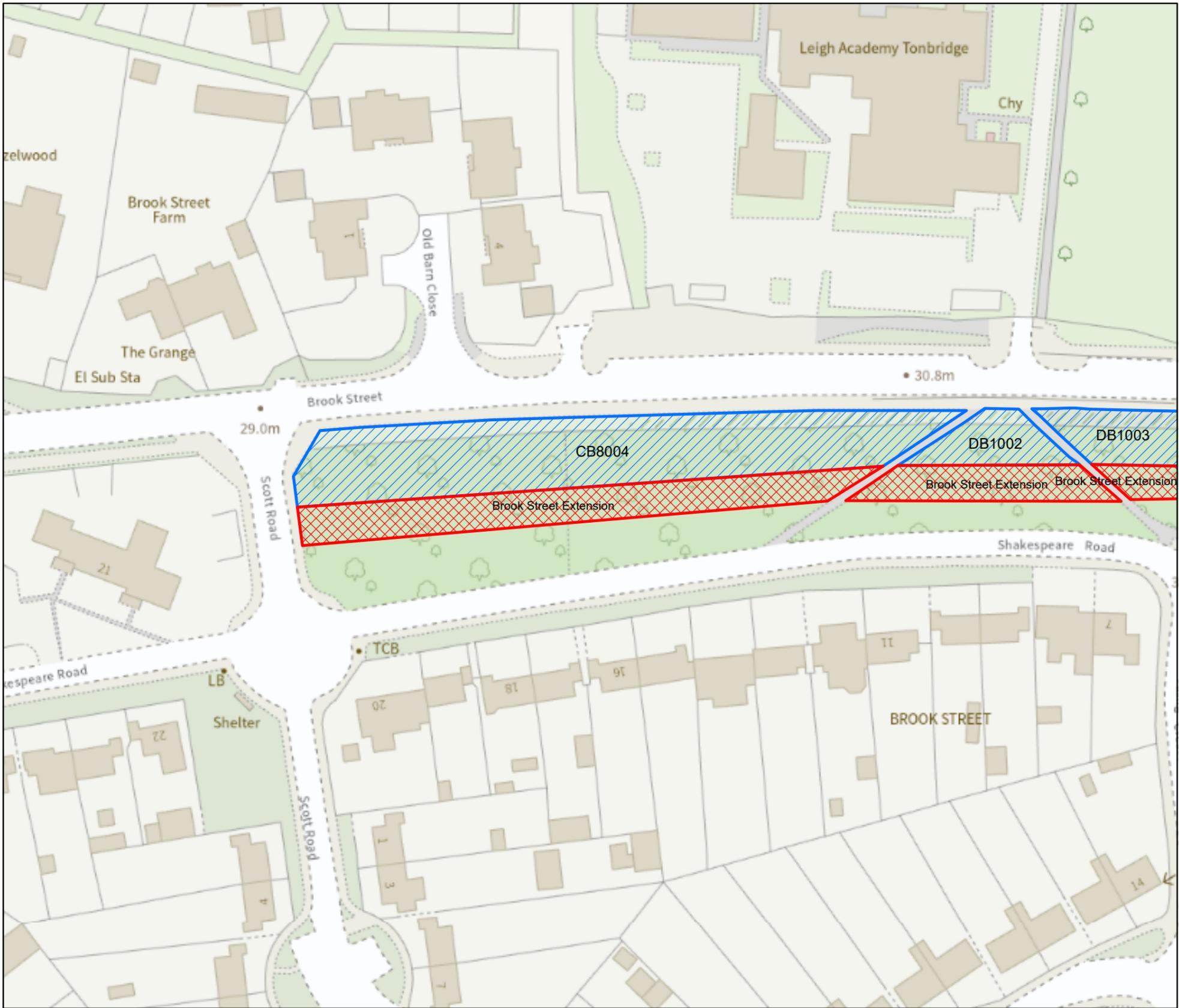
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

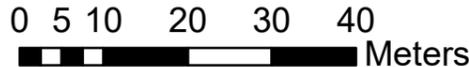
Brook Street Extension

-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

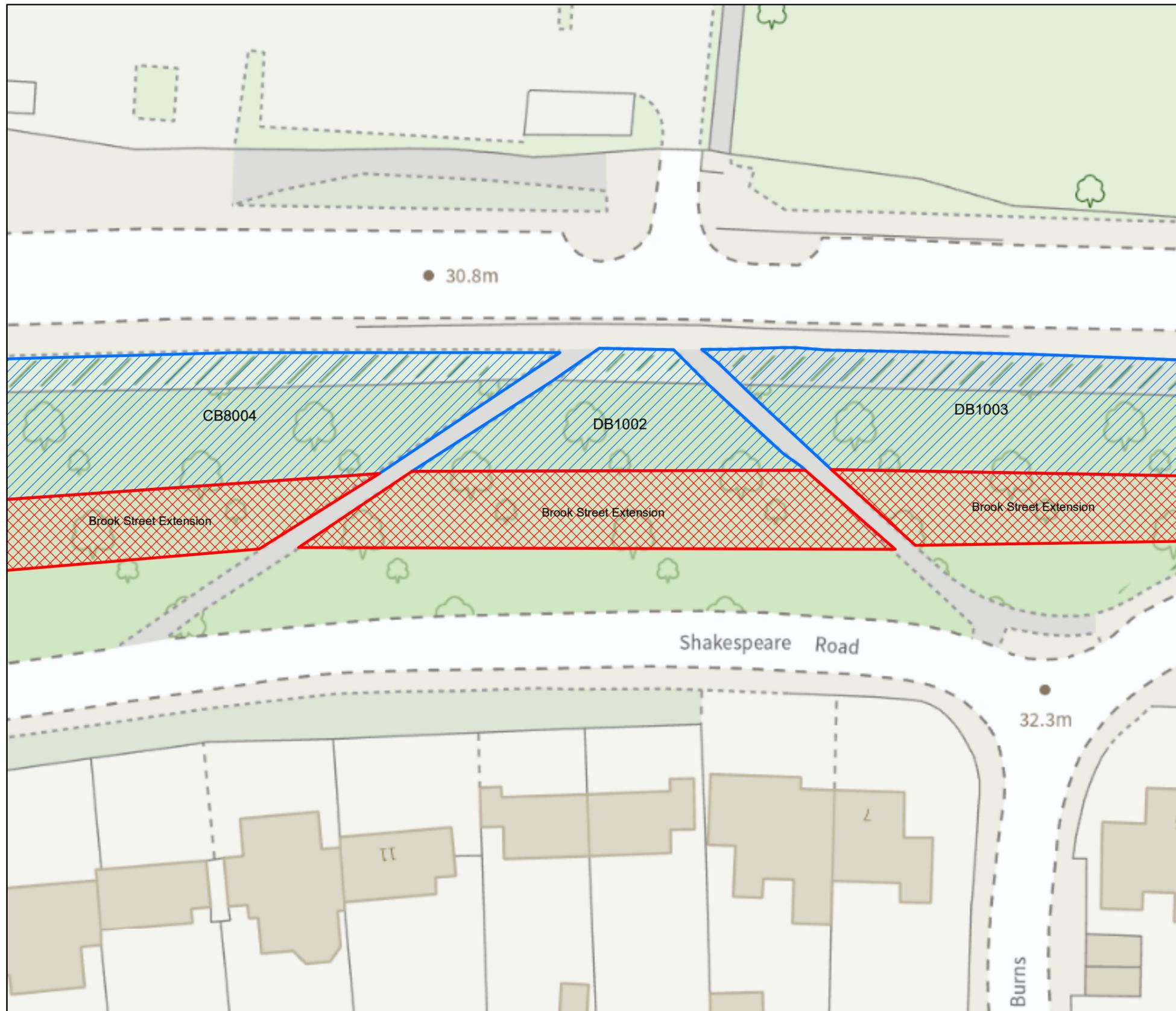
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

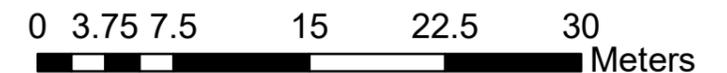
Brook Street Extension

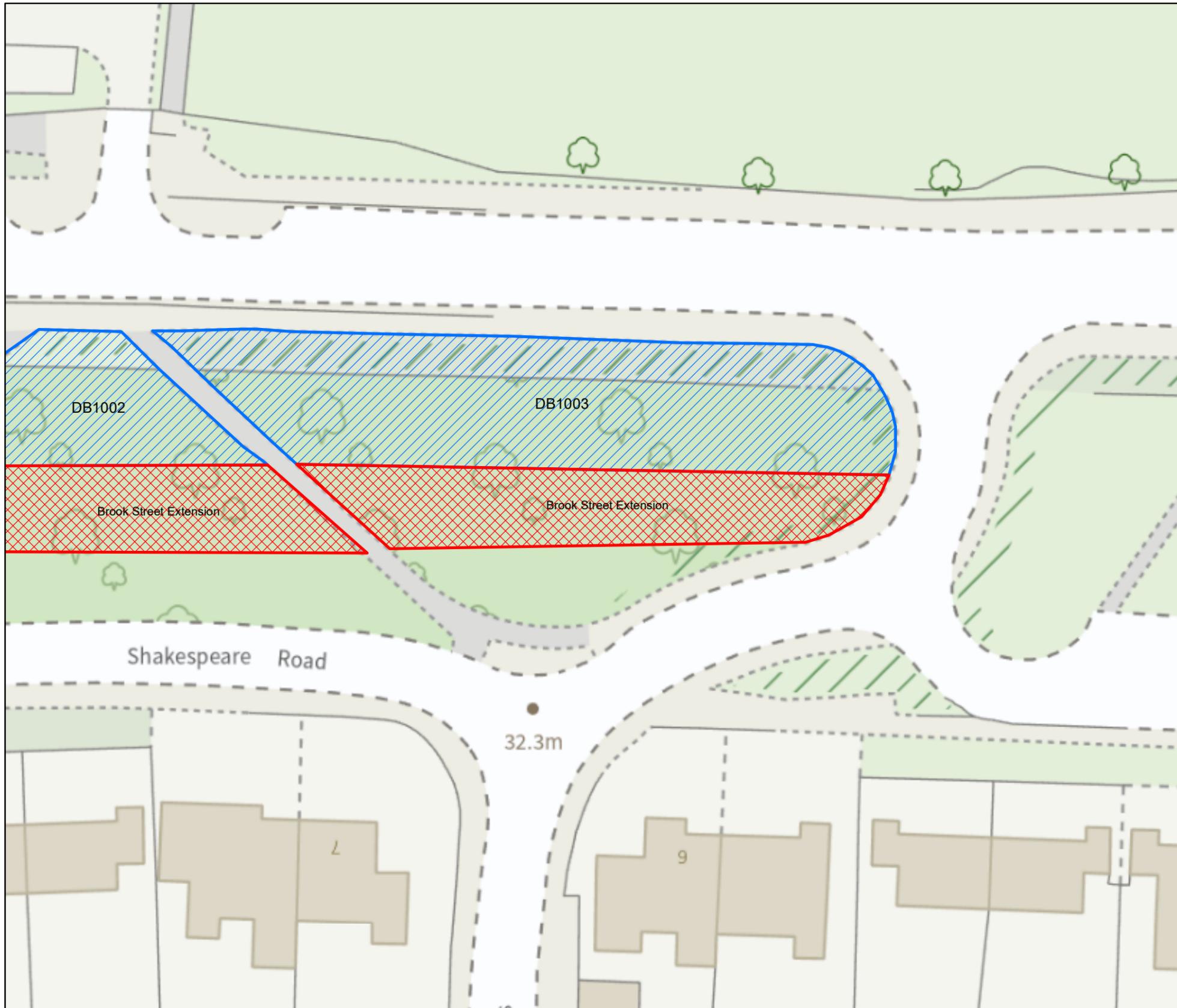
-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

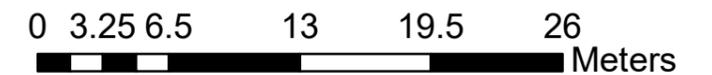
Brook Street Extension

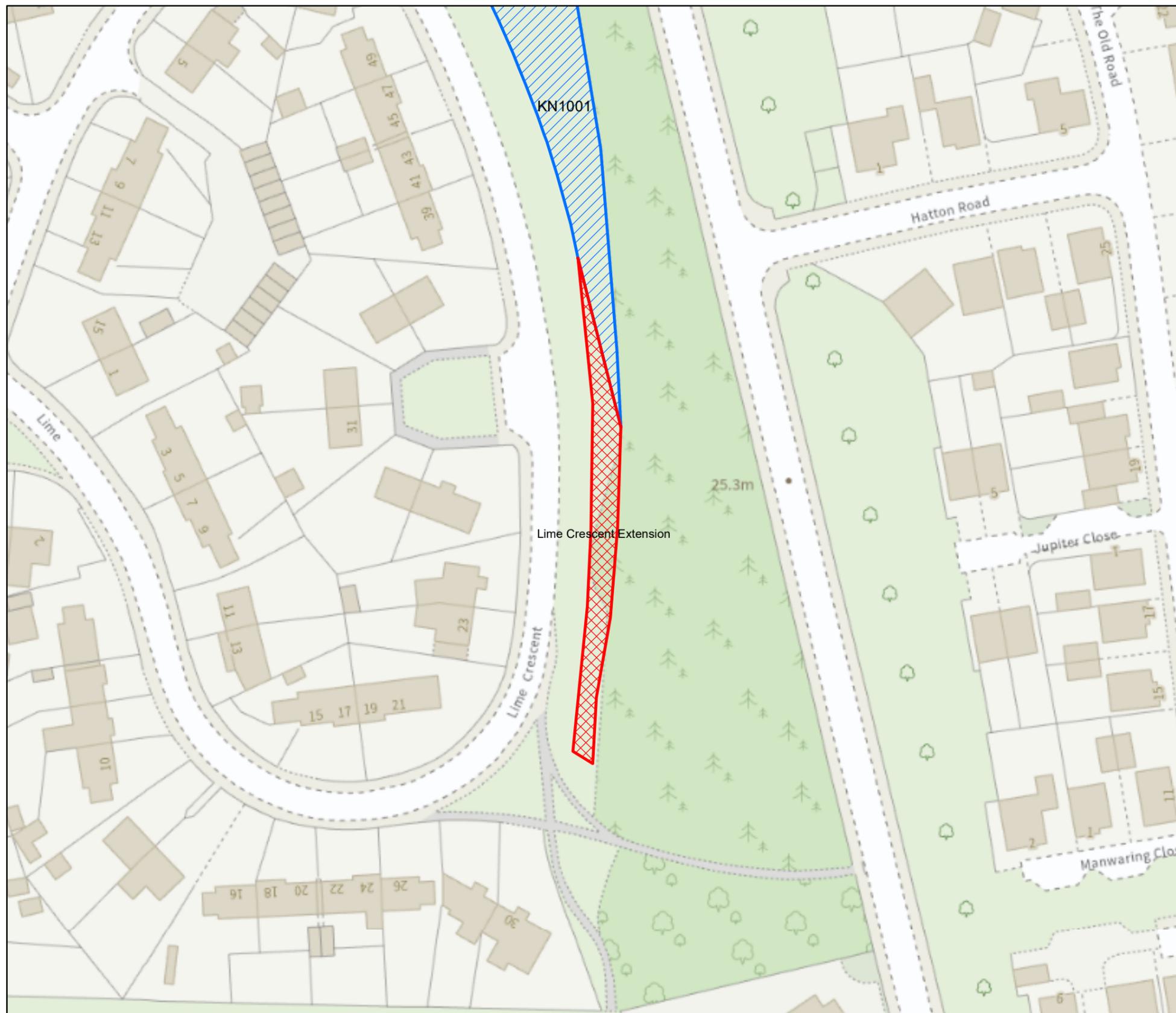
-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

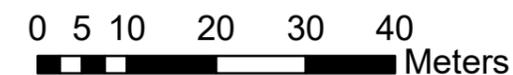
Lime Crescent Extension

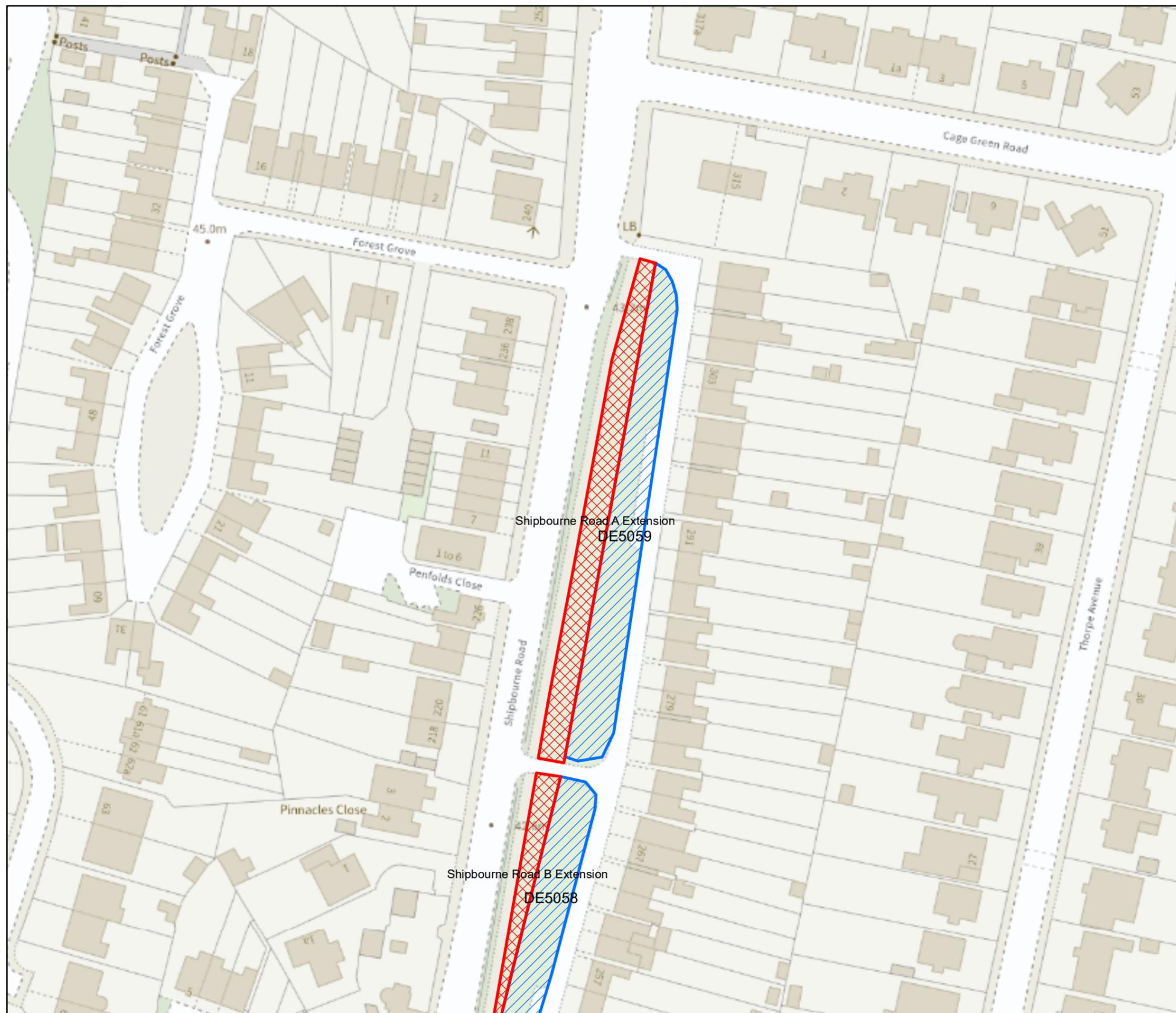
-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

Shipbourne Road A Extension

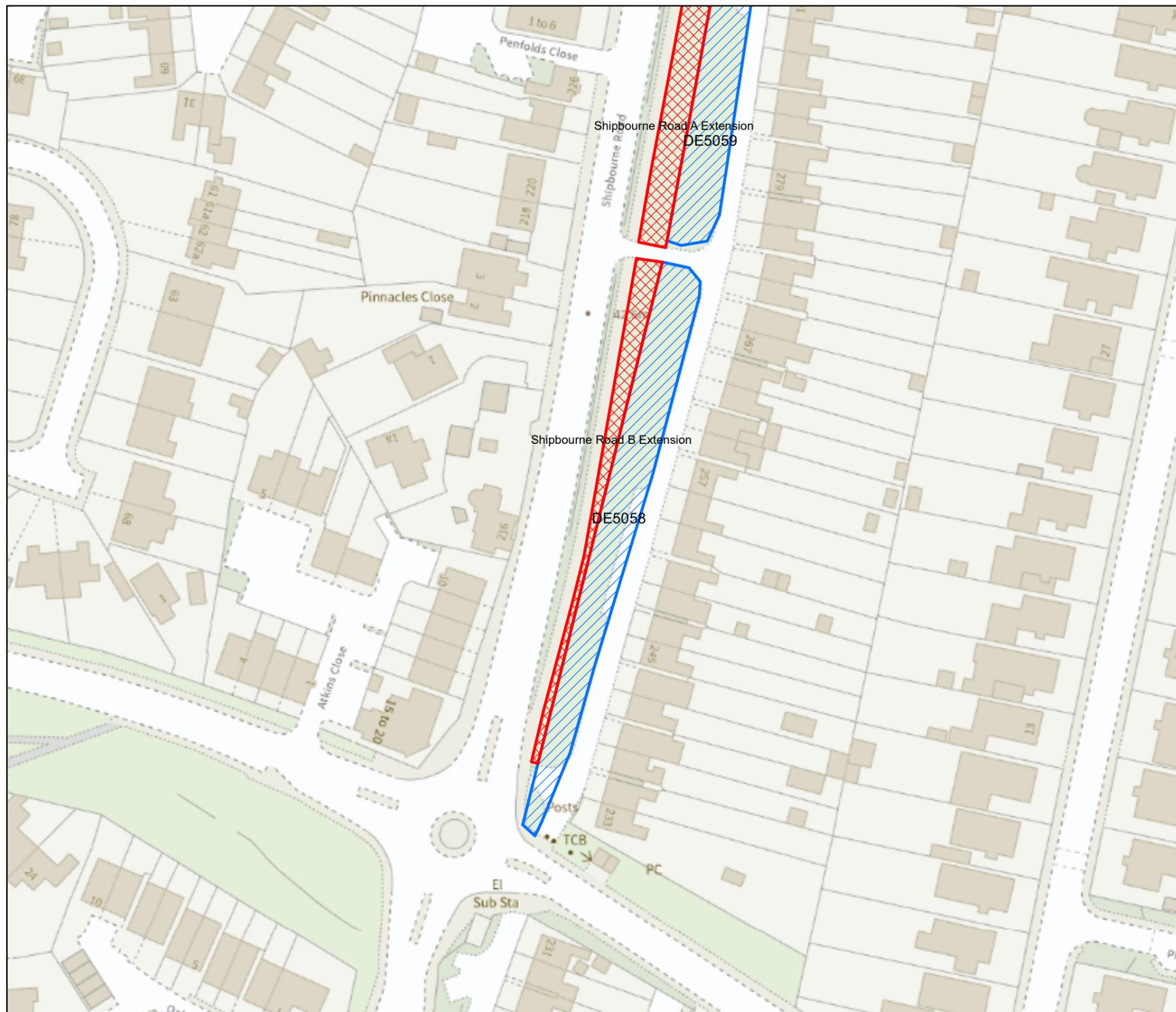
-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

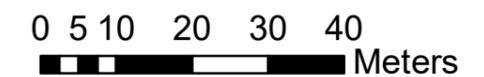
Shipbourne Road B Extension

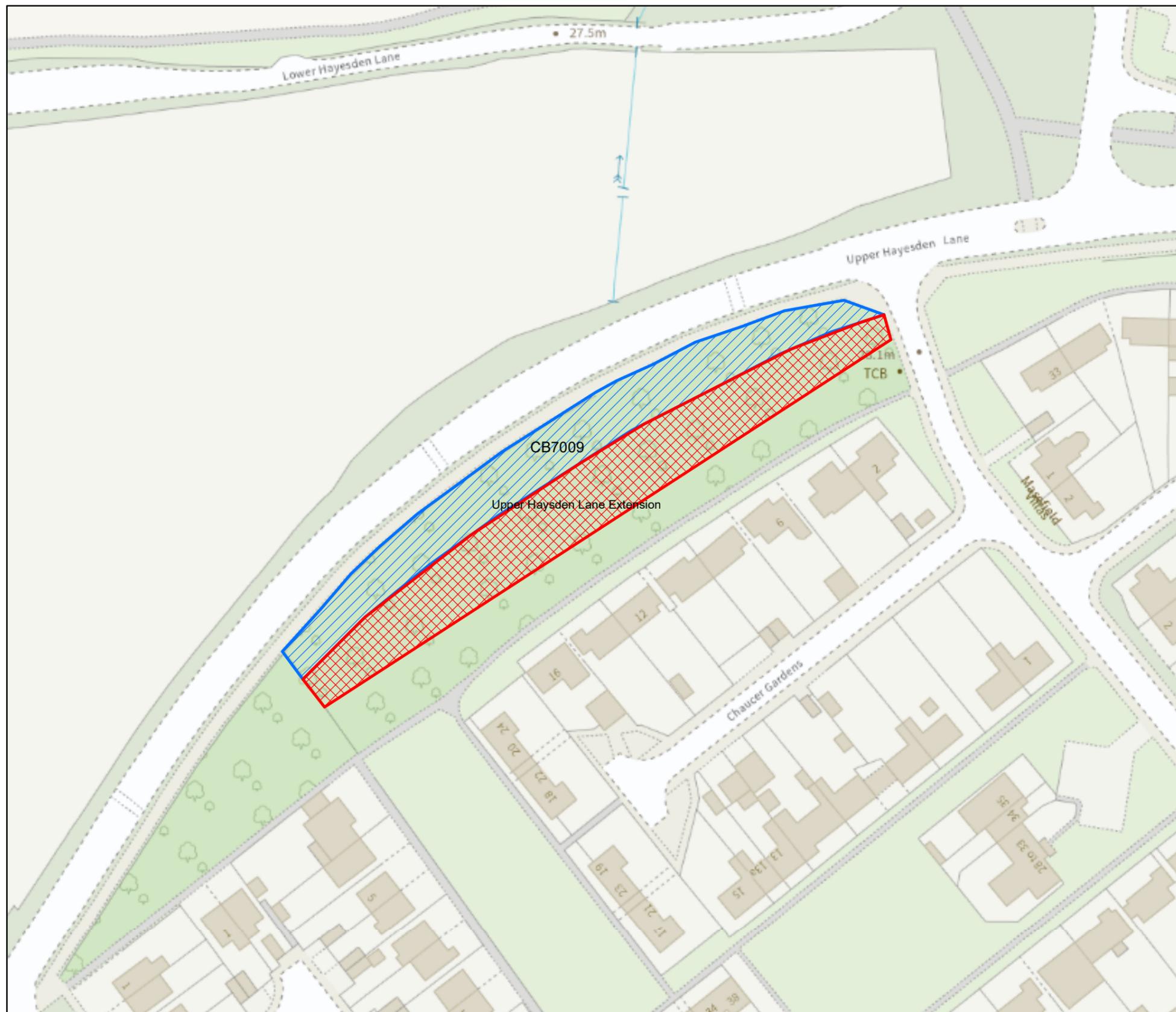
-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

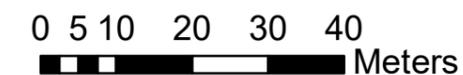
Upper Haysden Lane Extension

-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 2 Plans of proposed extensions to existing RNRs

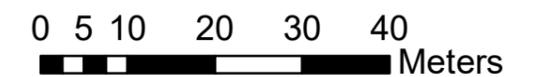
Waveney Road Extension

-  RNR Expansions
-  Existing RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t

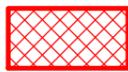


This page is intentionally left blank



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

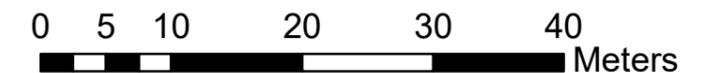
Area next to Bradford Street Car Park

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

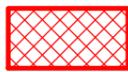
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

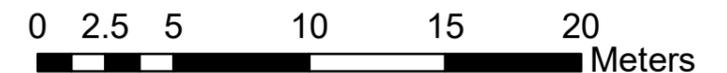
Darenth Avenue A, Tonbridge

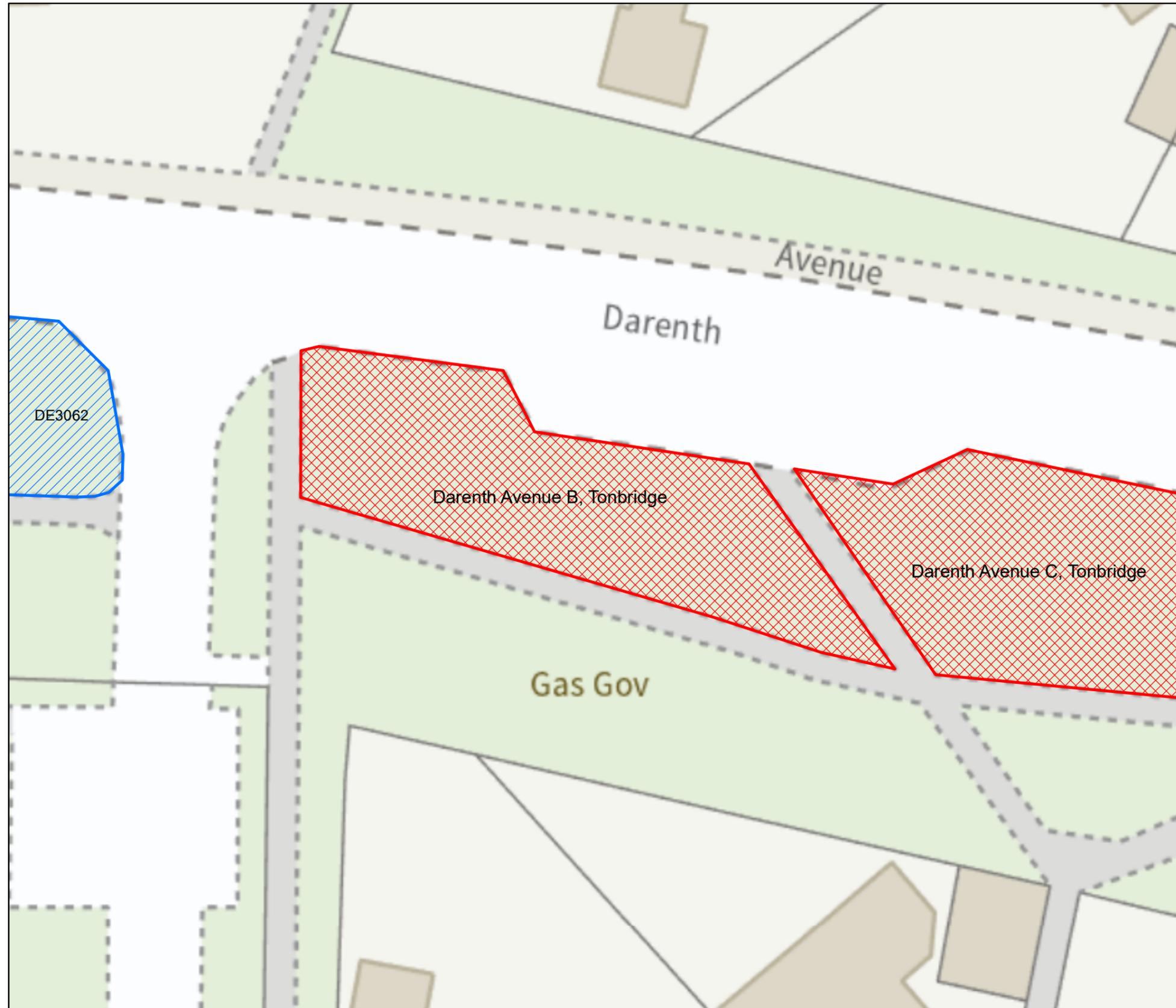
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

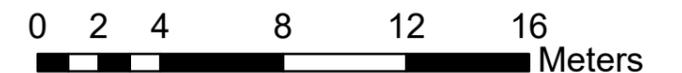
Darenth Avenue B, Tonbridge

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



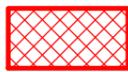
www.tmbc.gov.uk

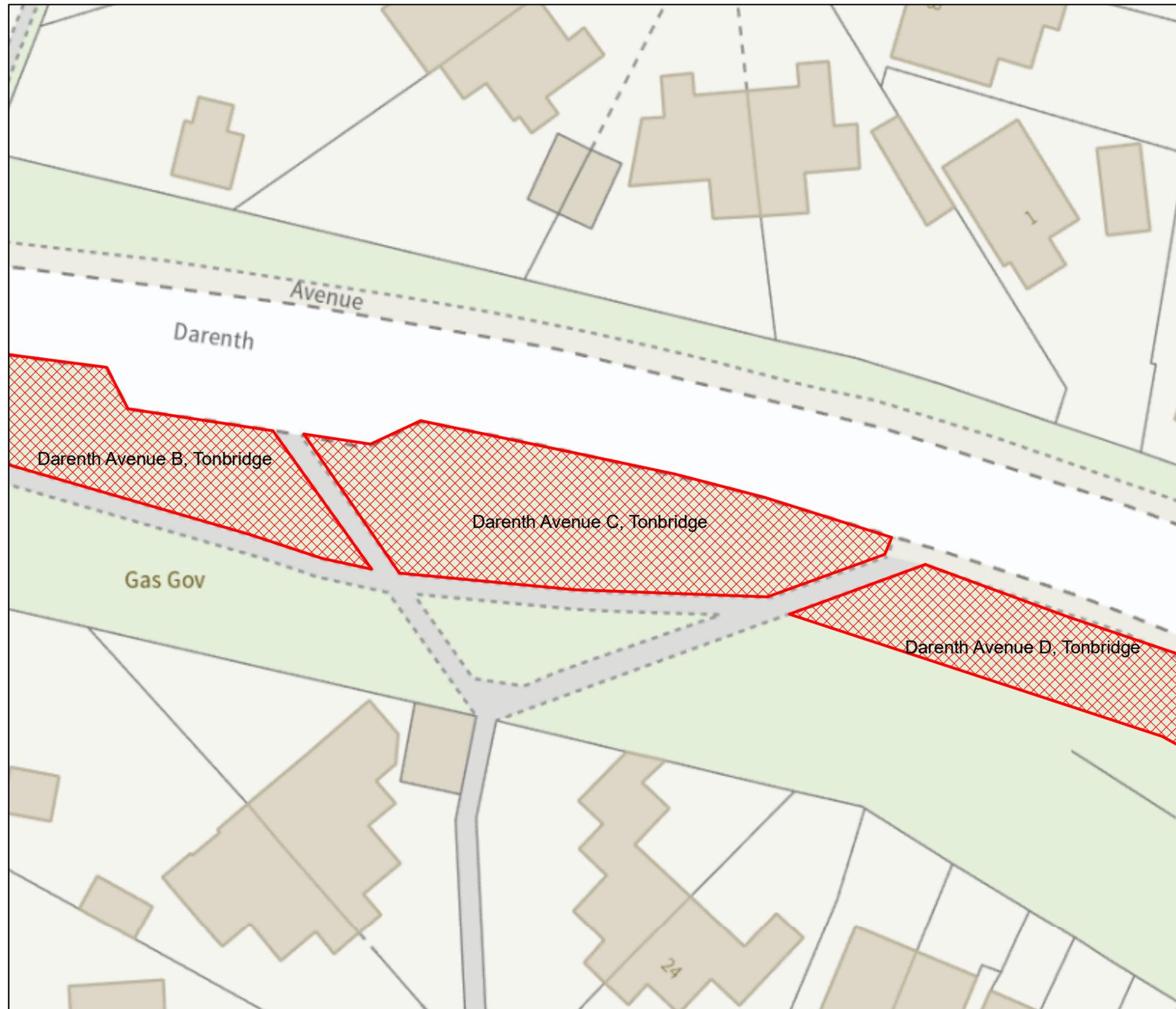
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

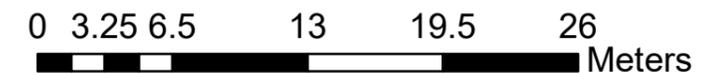
Darenth Avenue C, Tonbridge

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

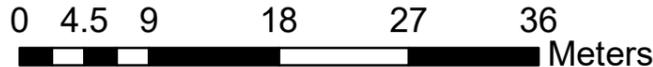
Darenth Avenue D, Tonbridge

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

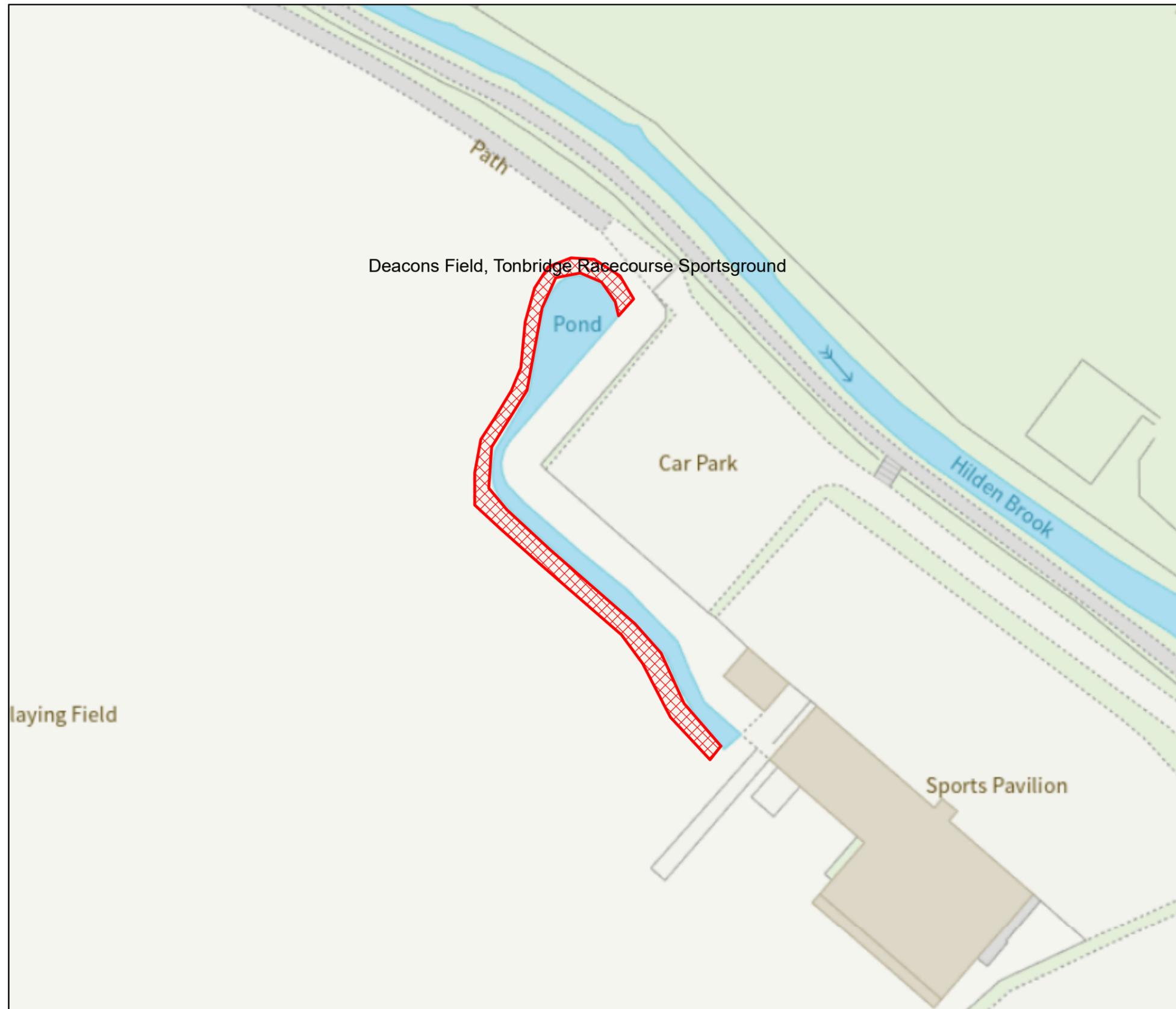
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

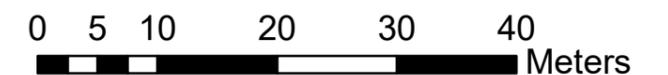
Deacons Field, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





**Review of Roadside Nature Reserves
Annex 3
Plans of proposed additional RNRs**

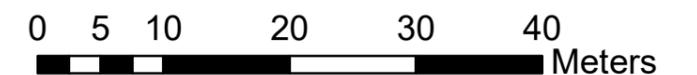
Dog Walking Area, Tonbridge Farm Sportsground

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

Frogbridge Sportsground

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

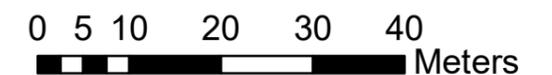
Frogbridge Sportsground

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

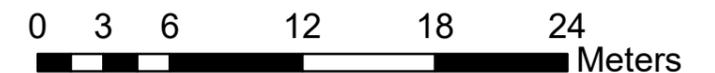
Knight Road, Tonbridge

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

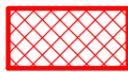
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

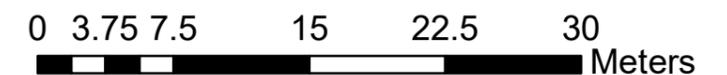
Lillieburn B, Leybourne

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



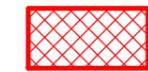
www.tmbc.gov.uk

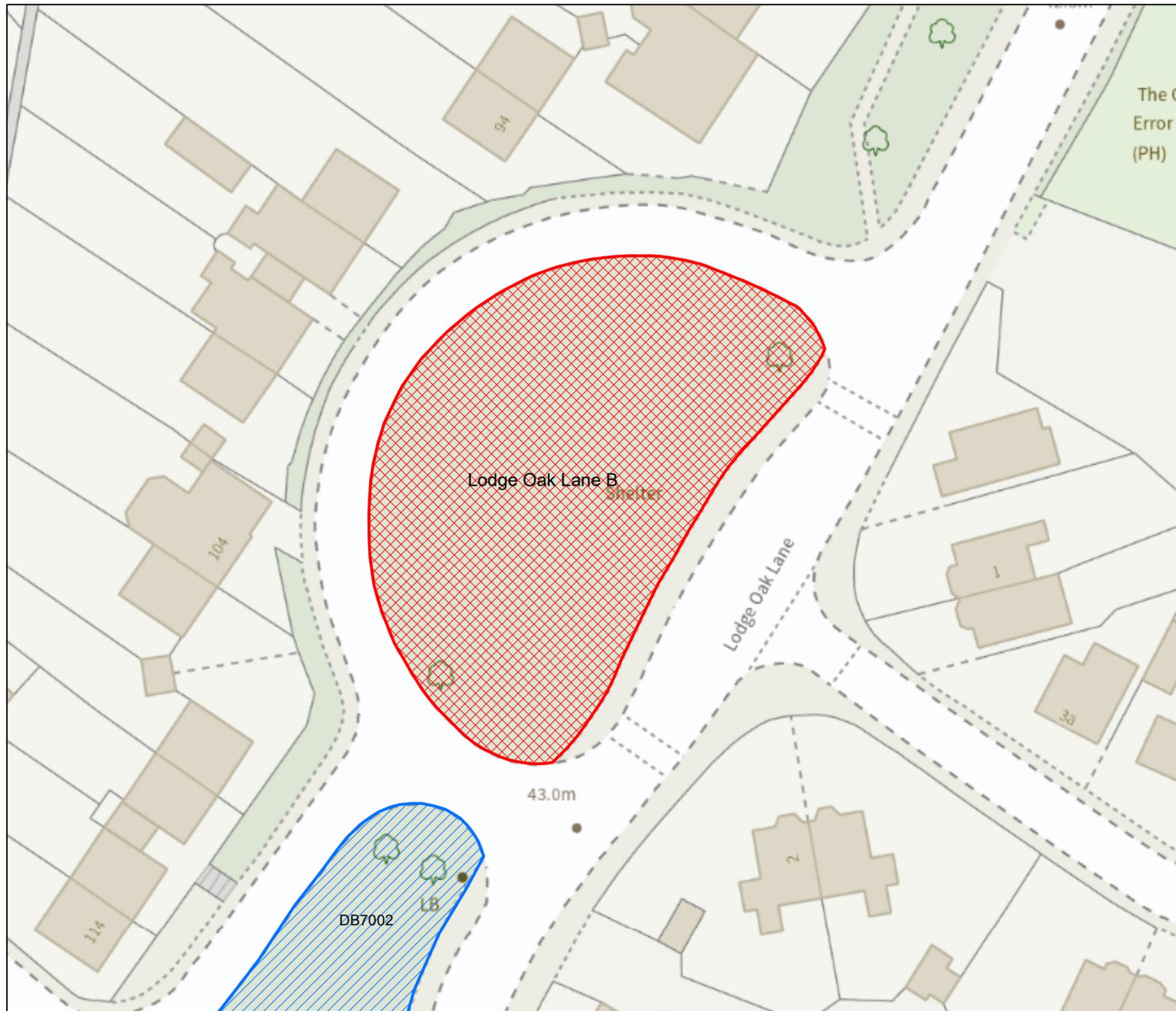
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

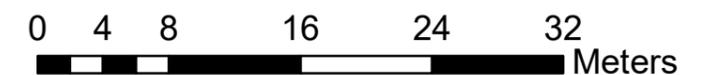
Lodge Oak Lane B

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

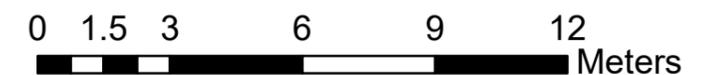
Main Area, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

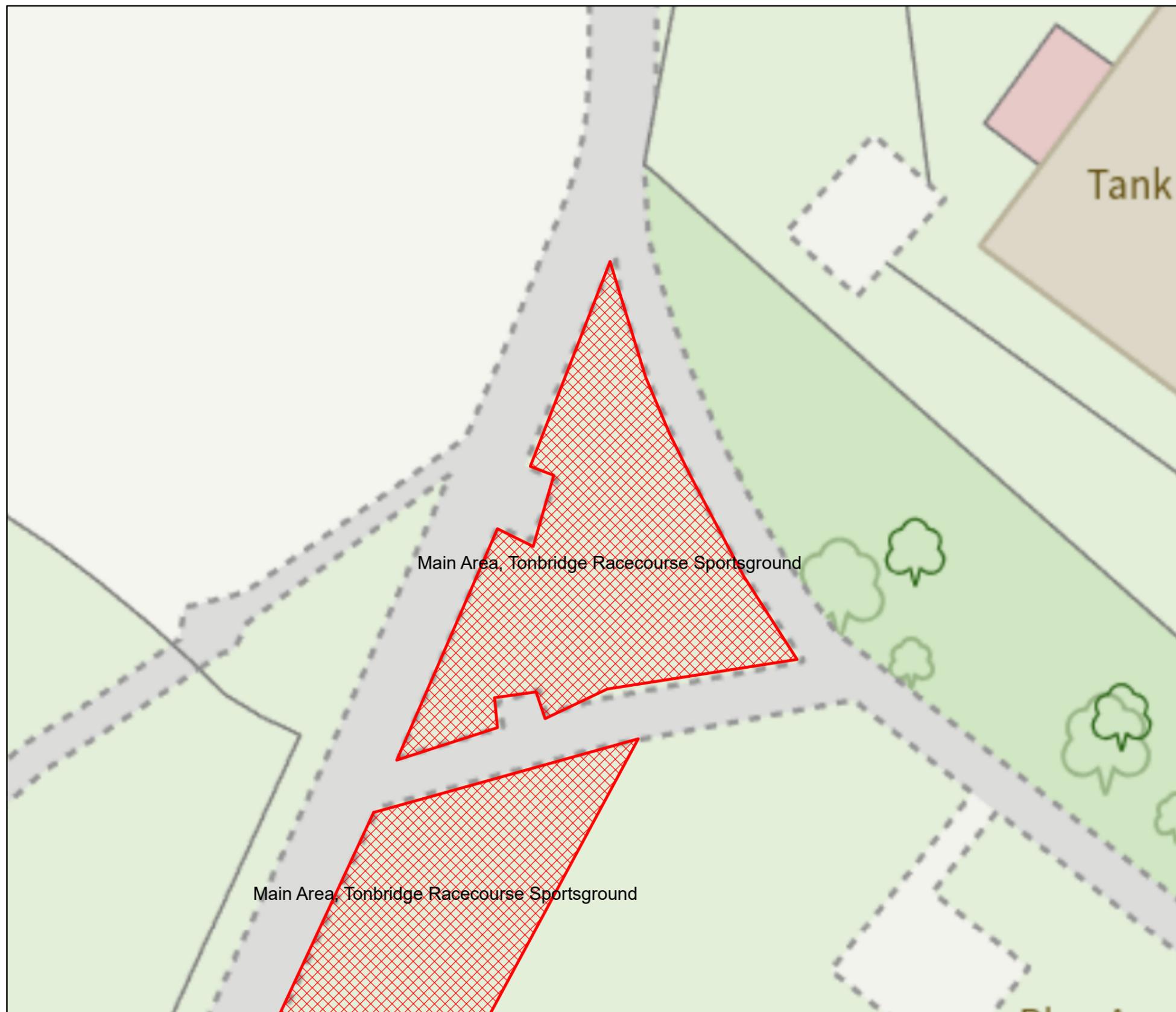
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

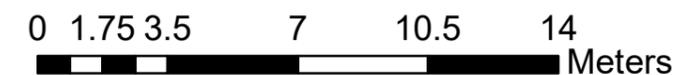
Main Area, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsgr

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

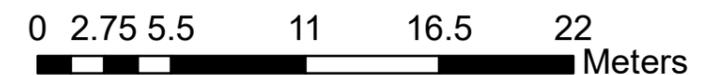
New Road, East Malling

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

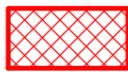
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





**Review of Roadside Nature Reserves
Annex 3
Plans of proposed additional RNRs**

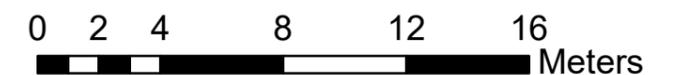
New Road, East Malling

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

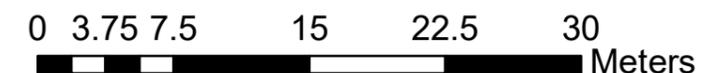
Quincewood Gardens/Cedar Crescent, Tonbridge

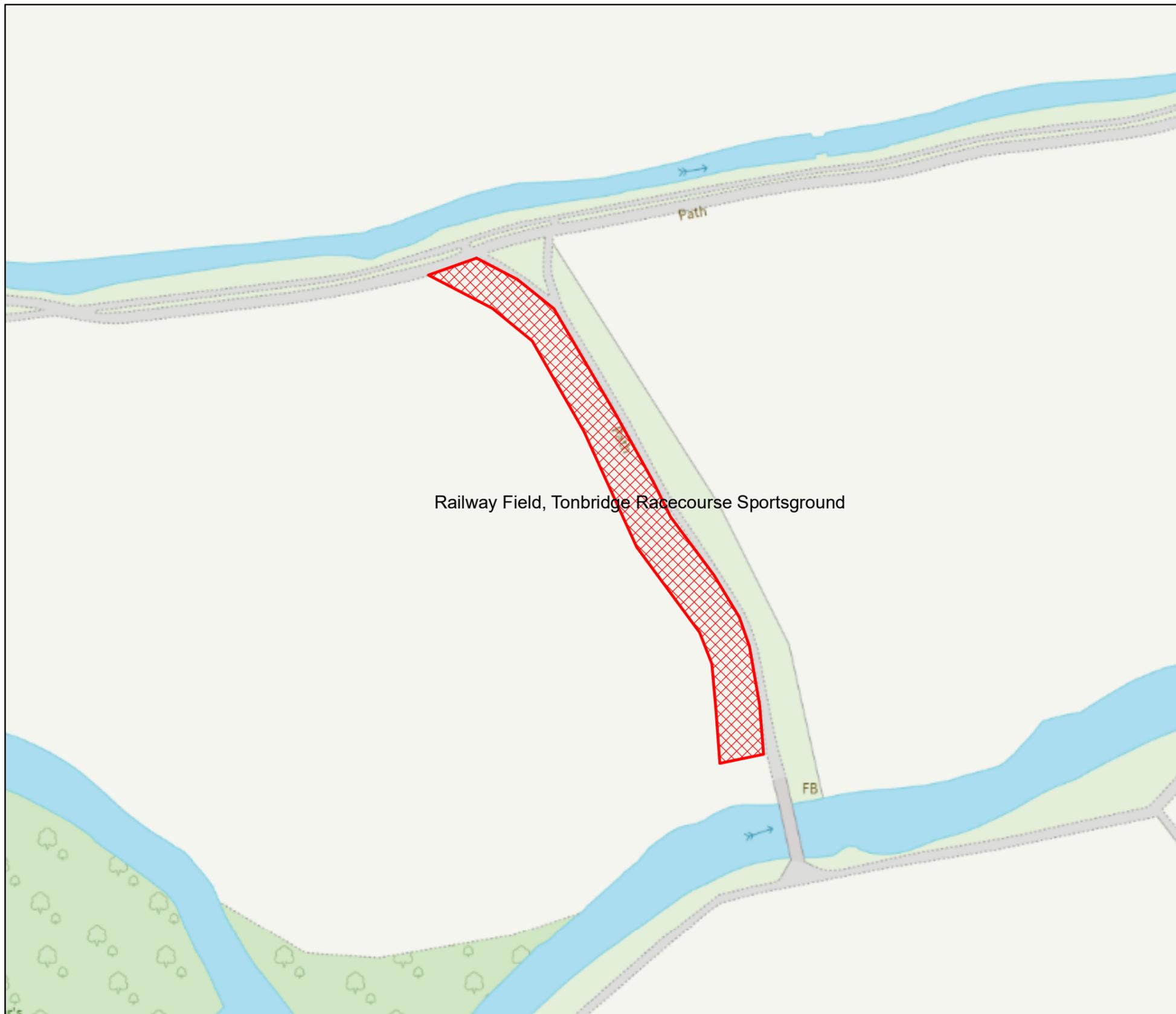
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





**Review of Roadside Nature Reserves
Annex 3
Plans of proposed additional RNRs**

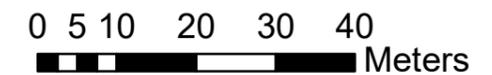
Railway Field, Tonbridge Racecourse Sportsground

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

Rear of Willowmead Leybourne

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

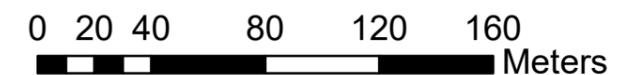
Ritche Road - Busbridge Road, Snodland

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

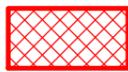
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

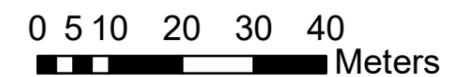
Scotchers Field, Tonbridge

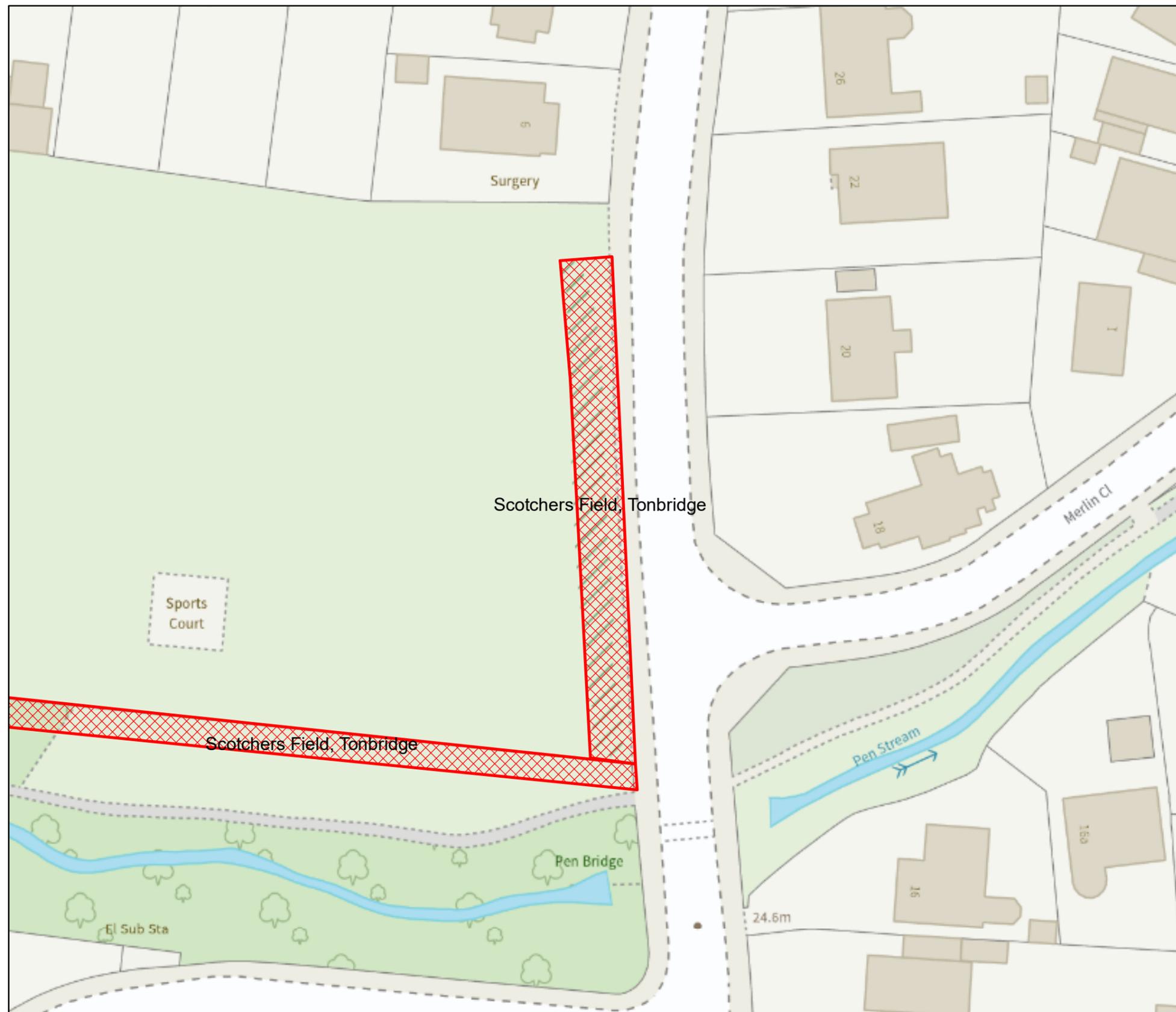
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

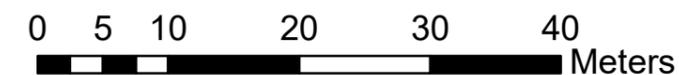
Scotchers Field, Tonbridge

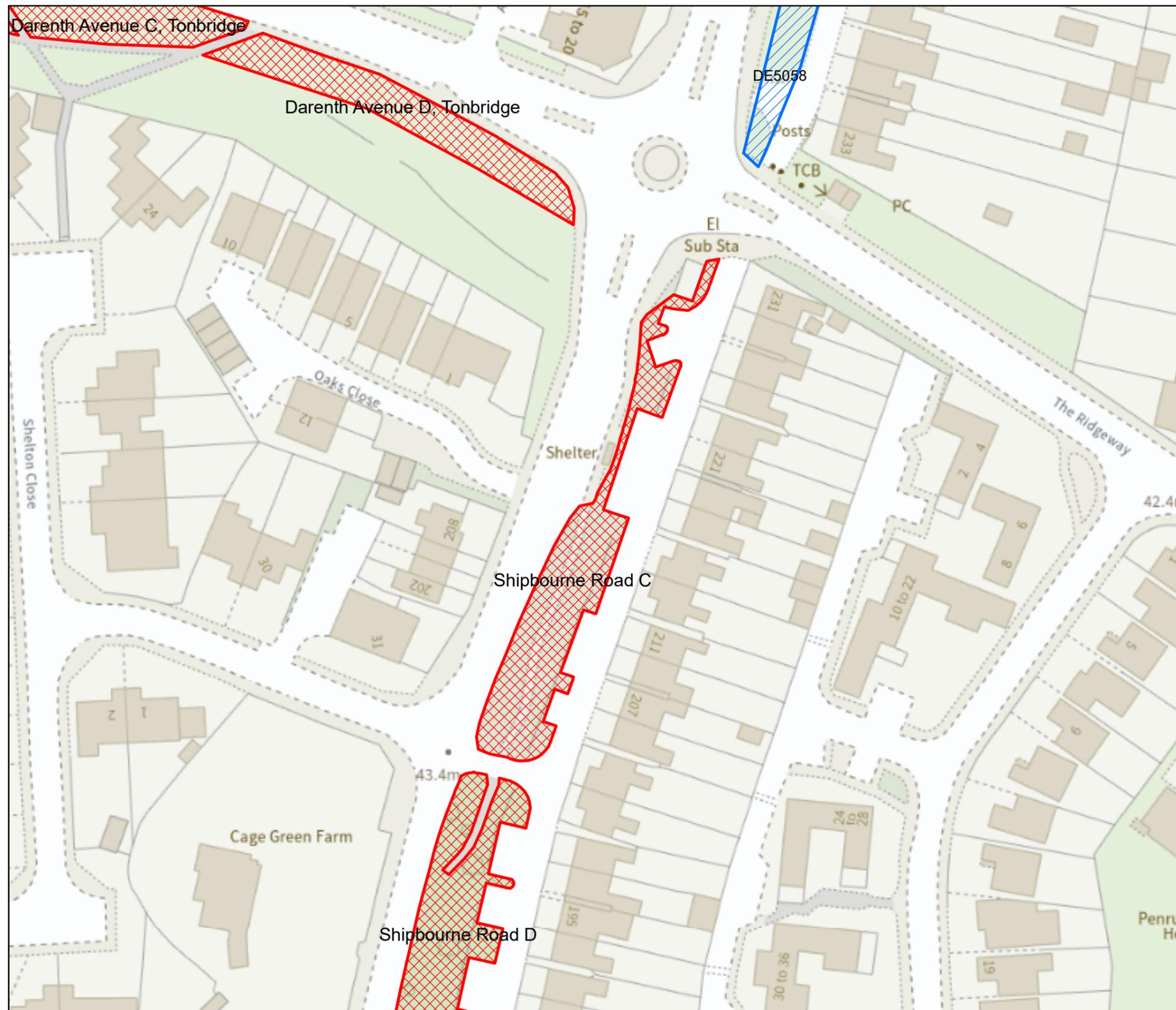
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

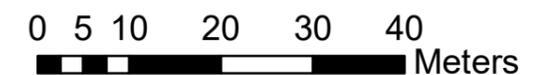
Shipbourne Road C

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

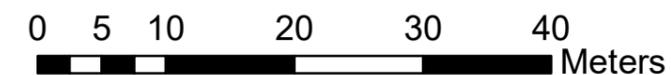
Shipbourne Road D

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



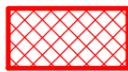
www.tmbc.gov.uk

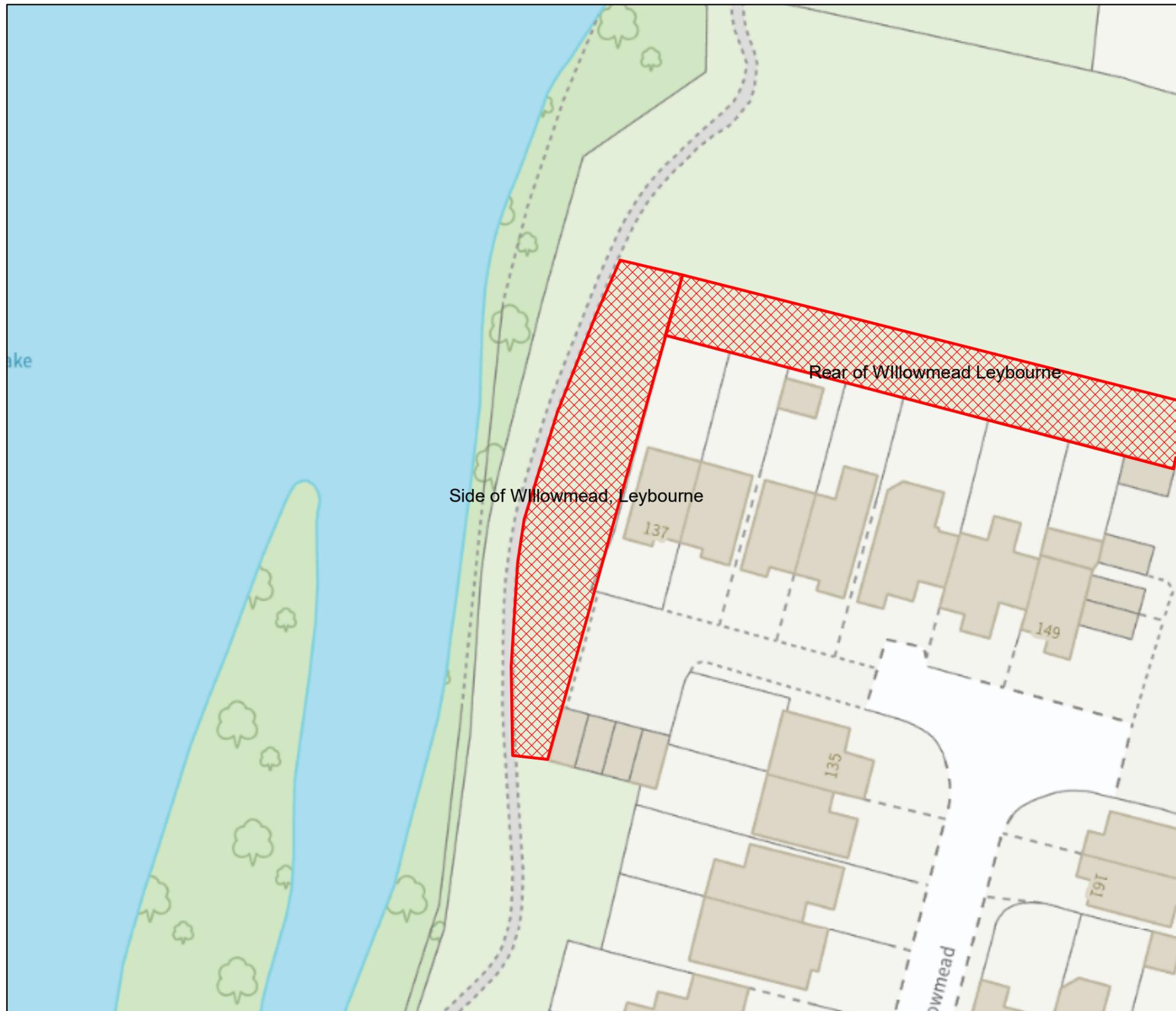
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

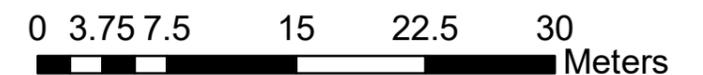
Side of Willowmead, Leybourne

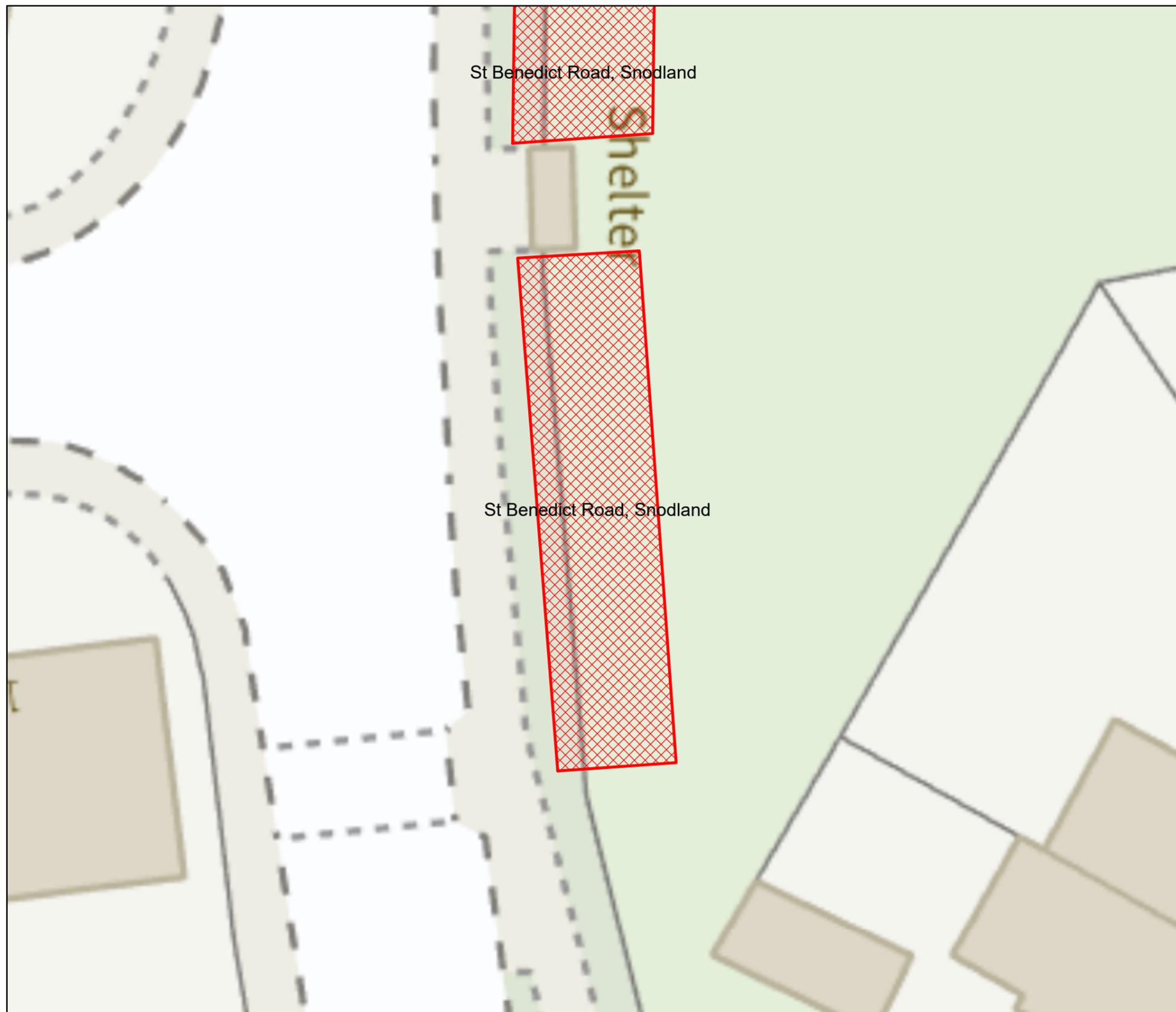
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

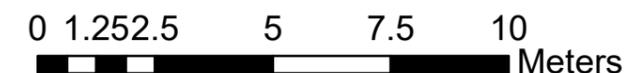
St Benedict Road, Snodland

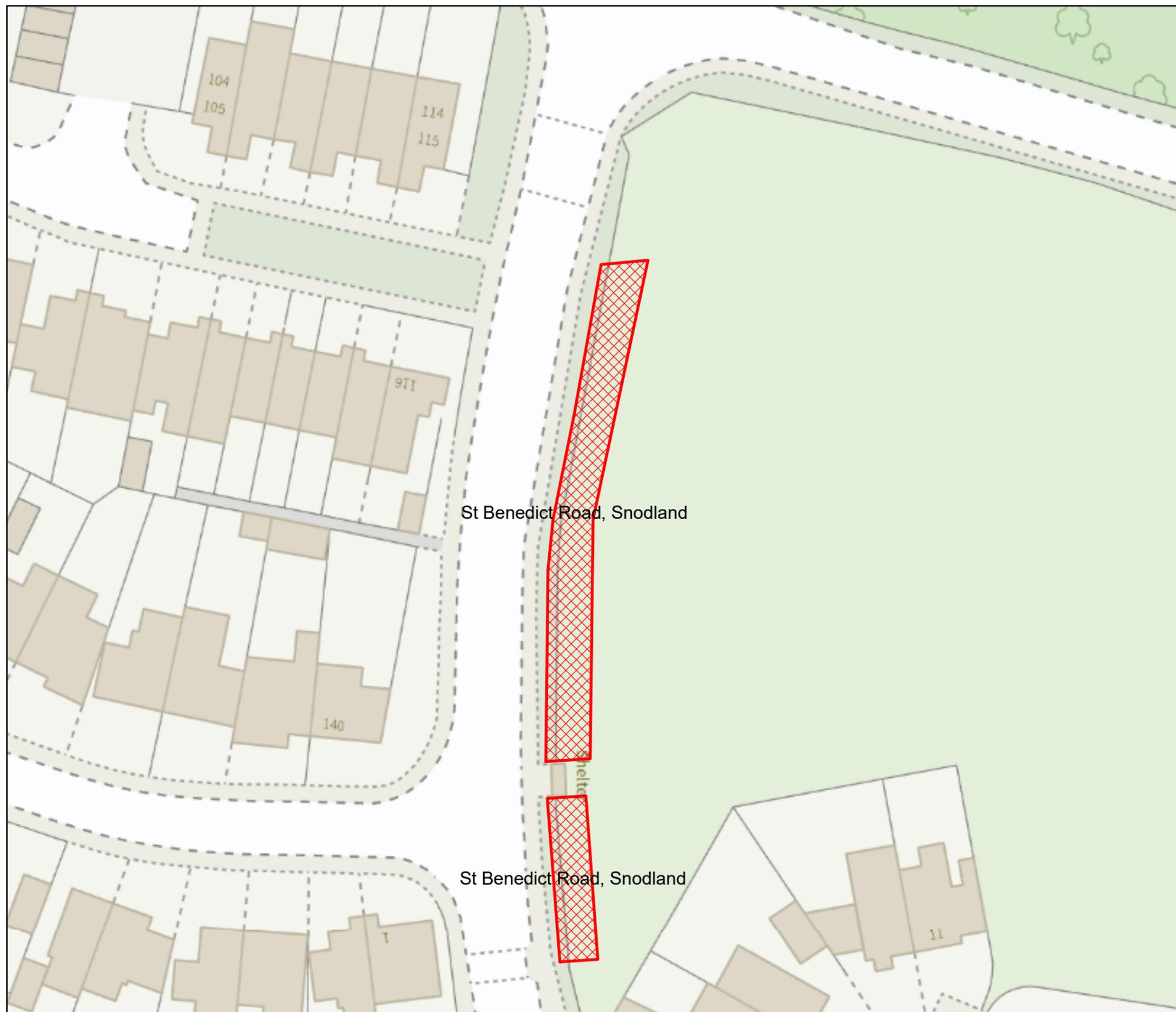
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

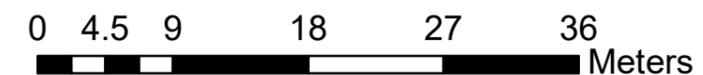
St Benedict Road, Snodland

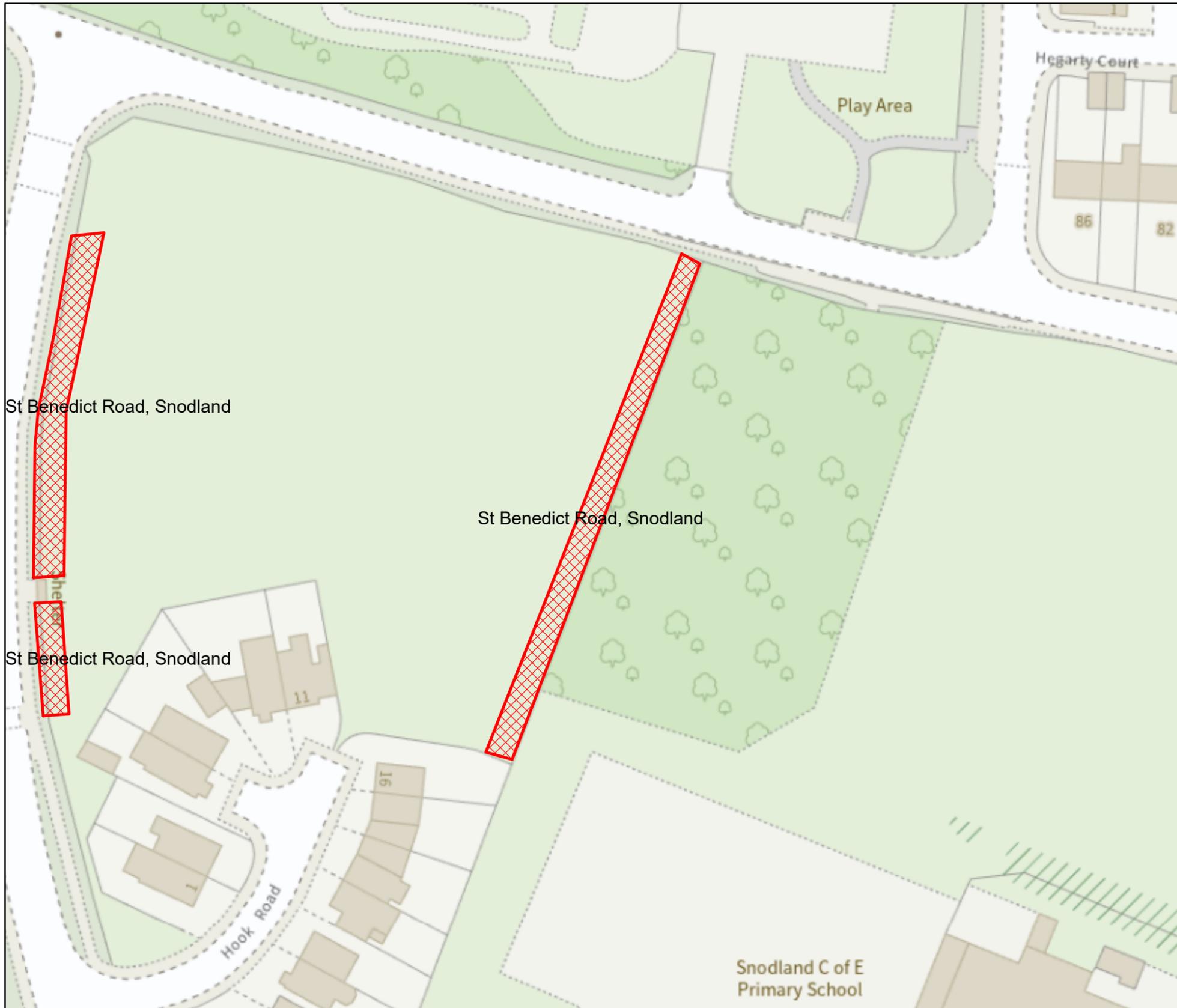
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

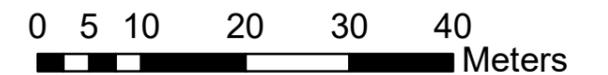
St Benedict Road, Snodland

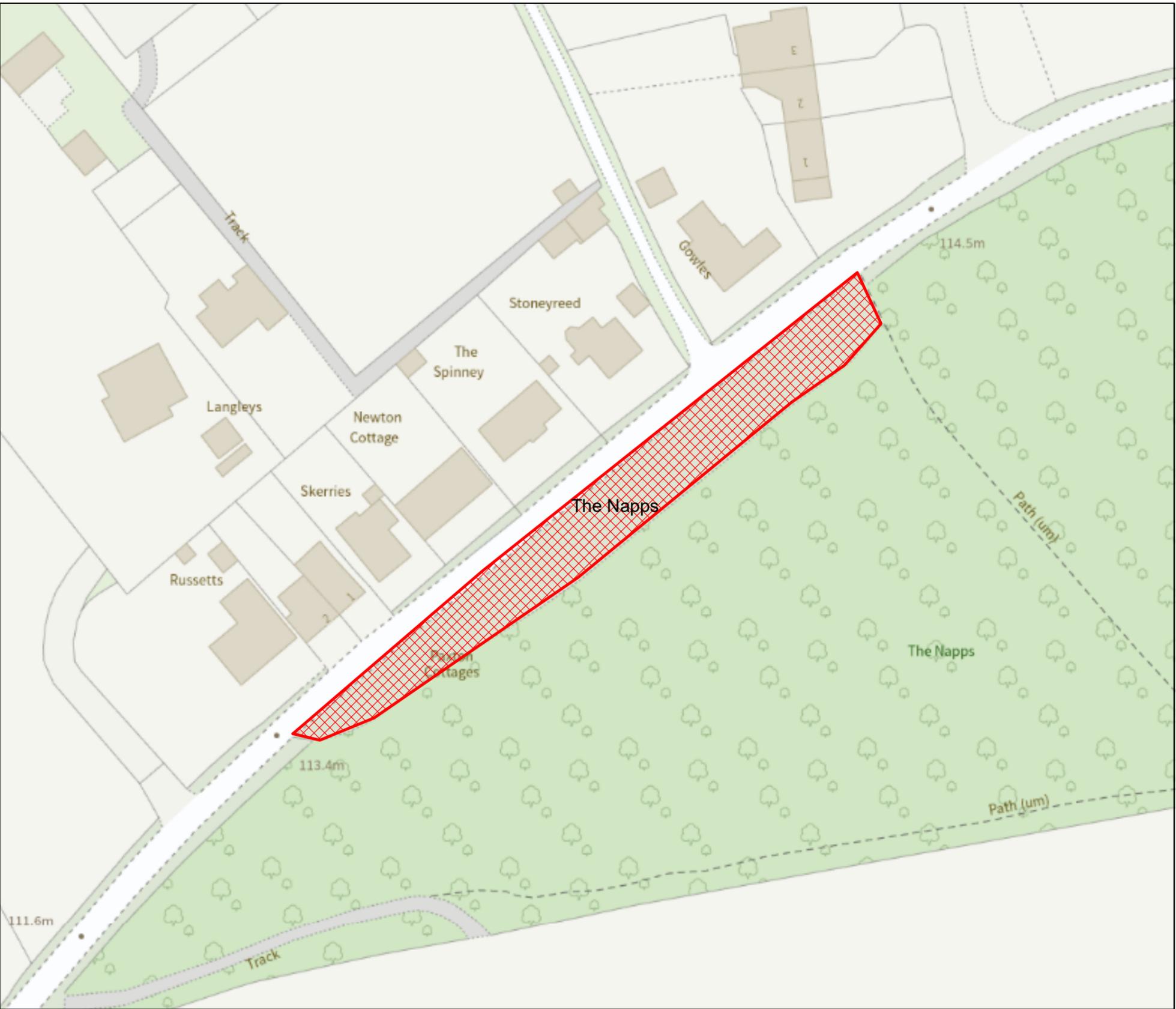
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

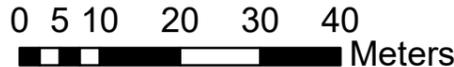
The Napps

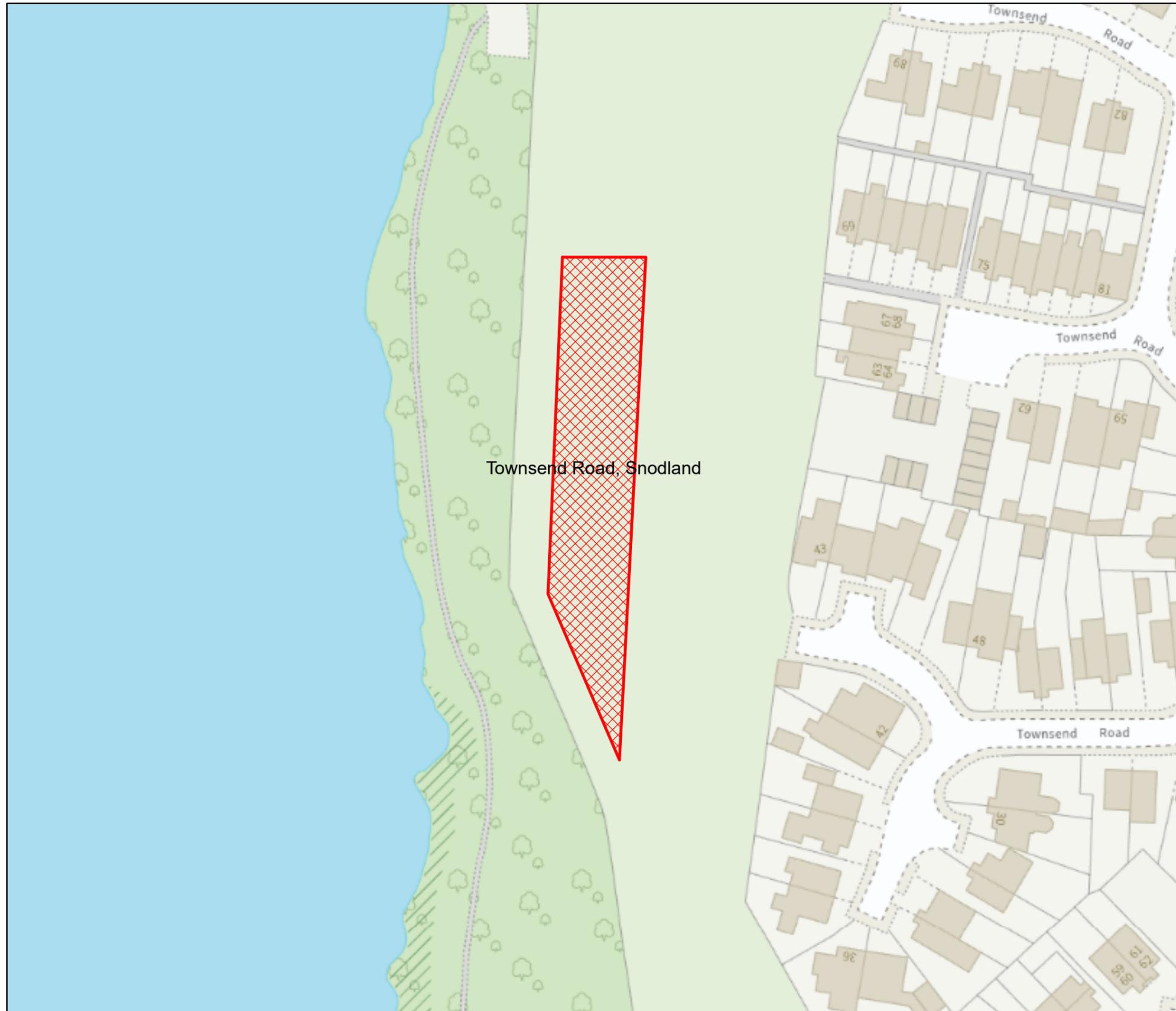
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

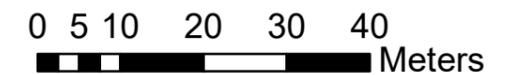
Townsend Road, Snodland

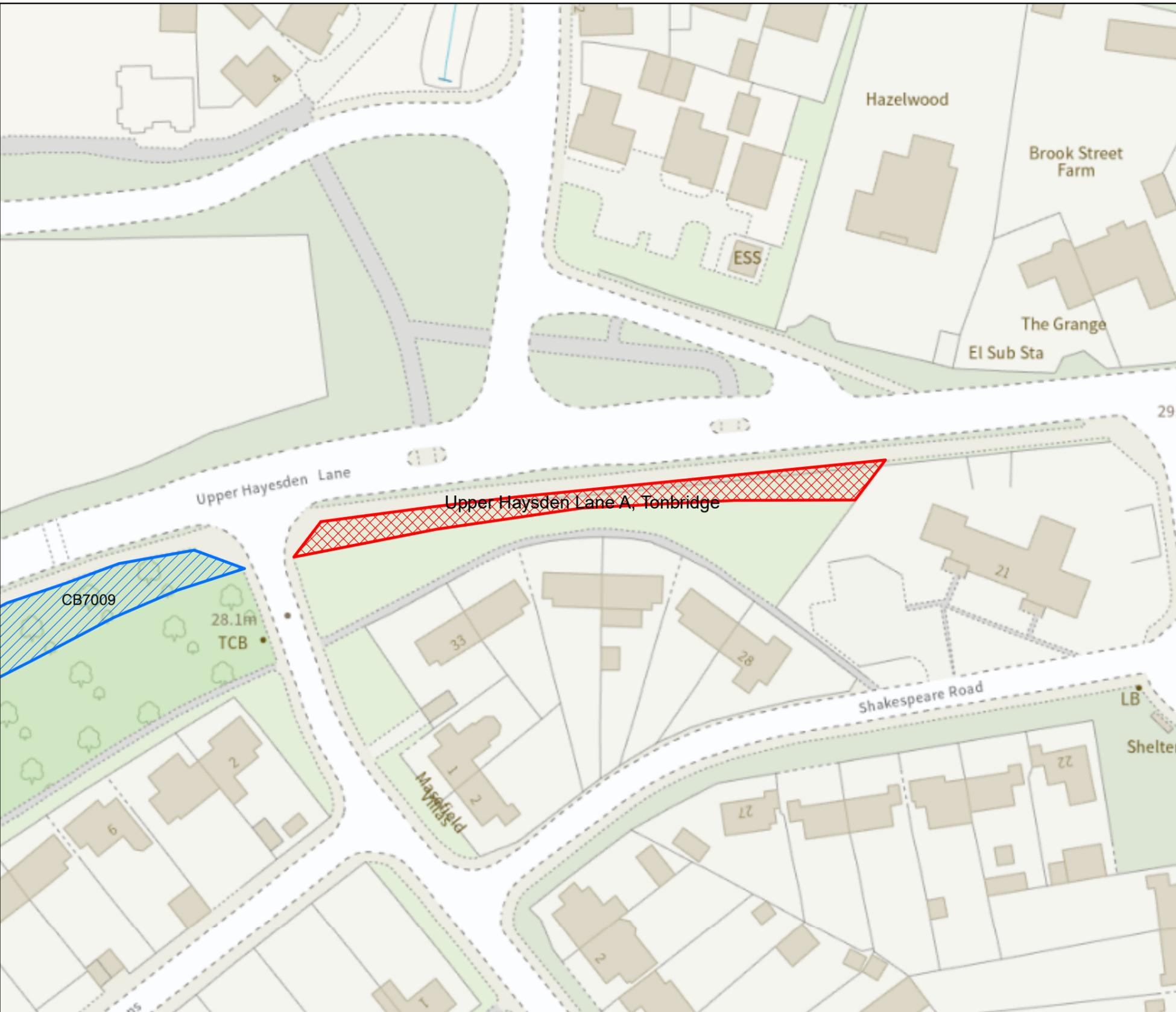
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

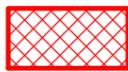
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





**Review of Roadside Nature Reserves
Annex 3
Plans of proposed additional RNRs**

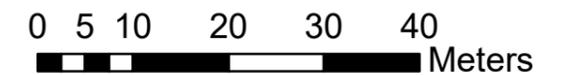
Upper Haysden Lane A, Tonbridge

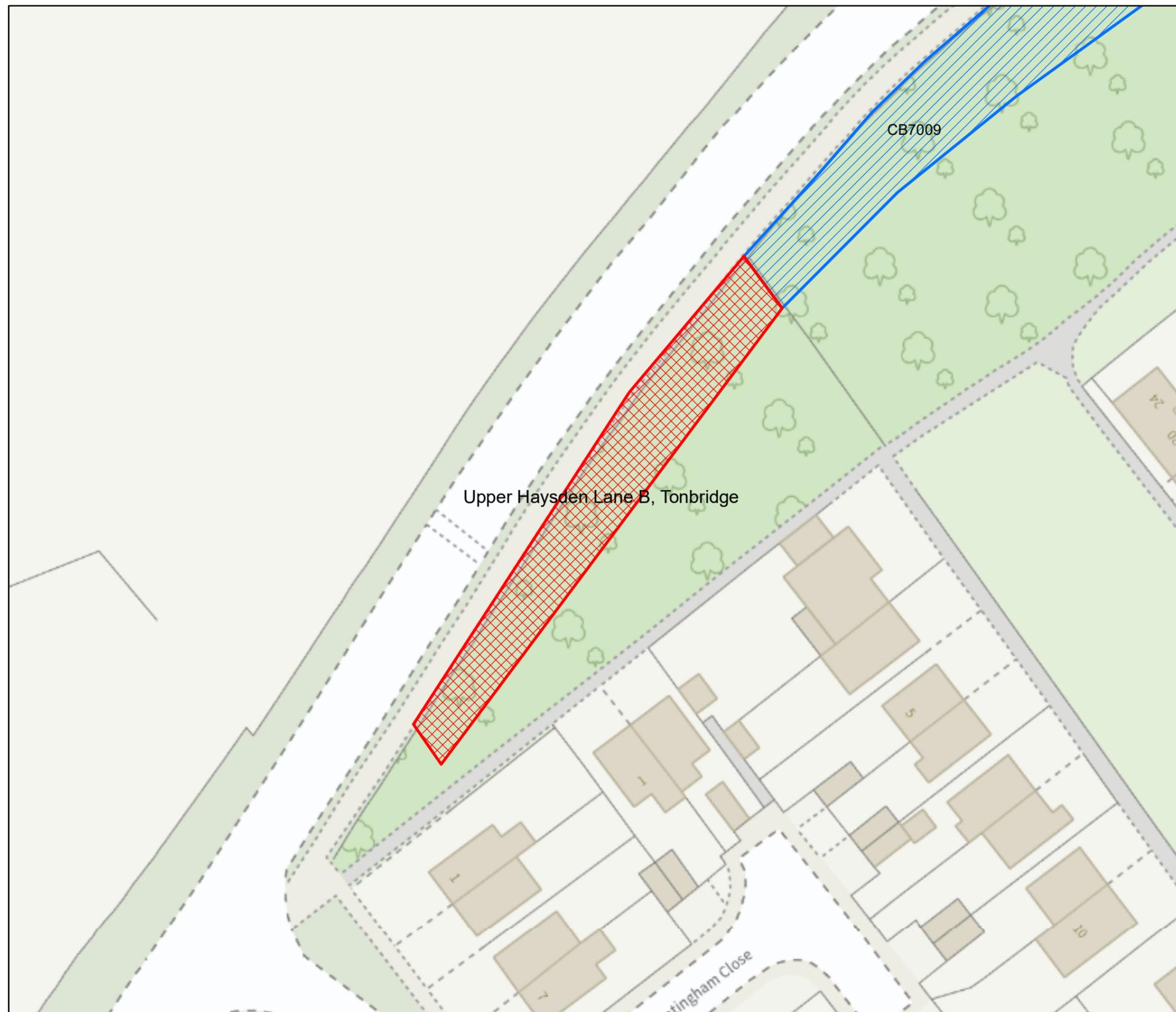
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

Upper Haysden Lane B, Tonbridge

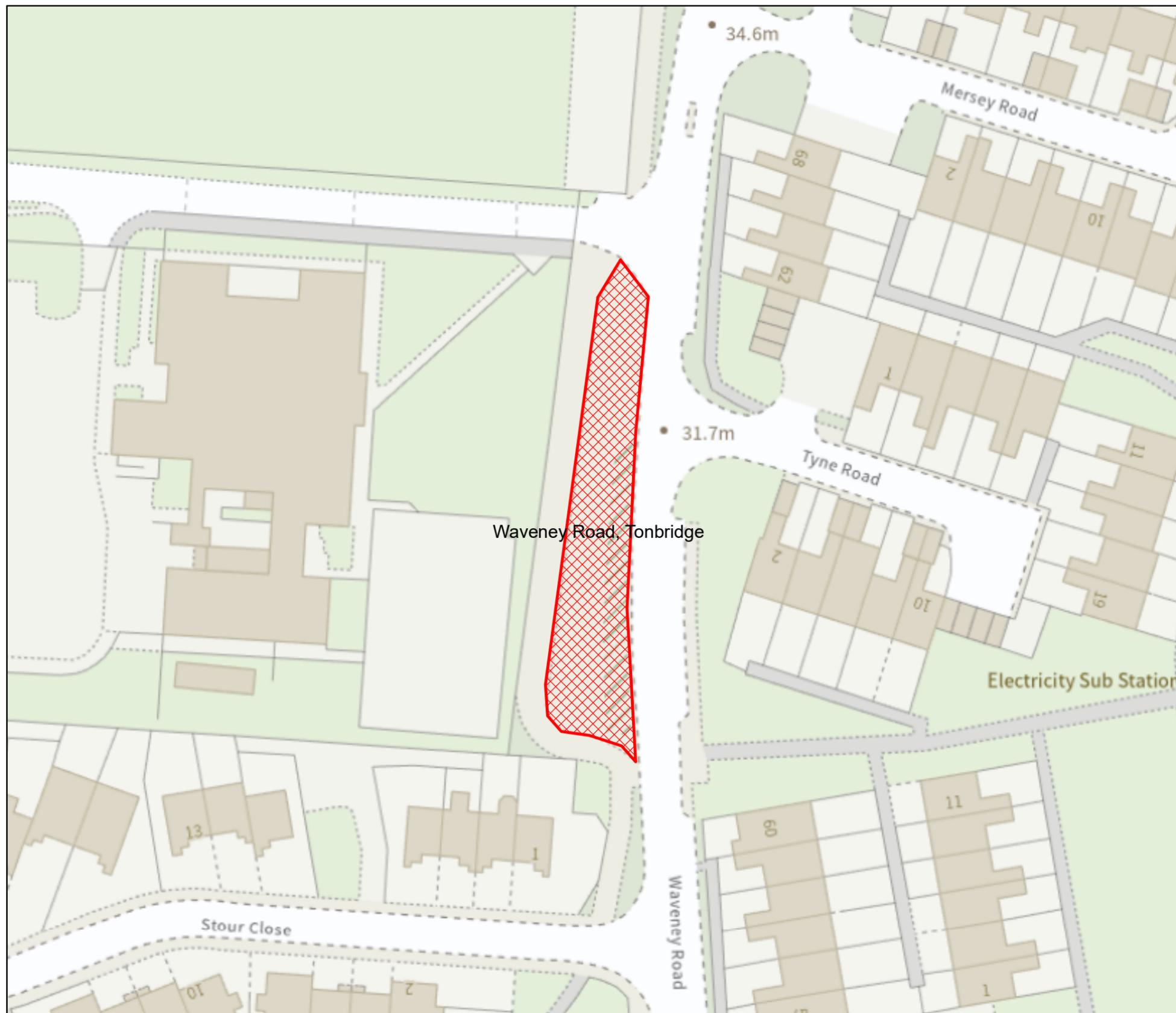
-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t





Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

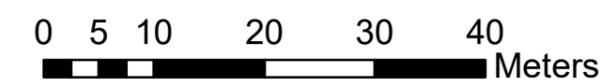
Waveney Road, Tonbridge

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

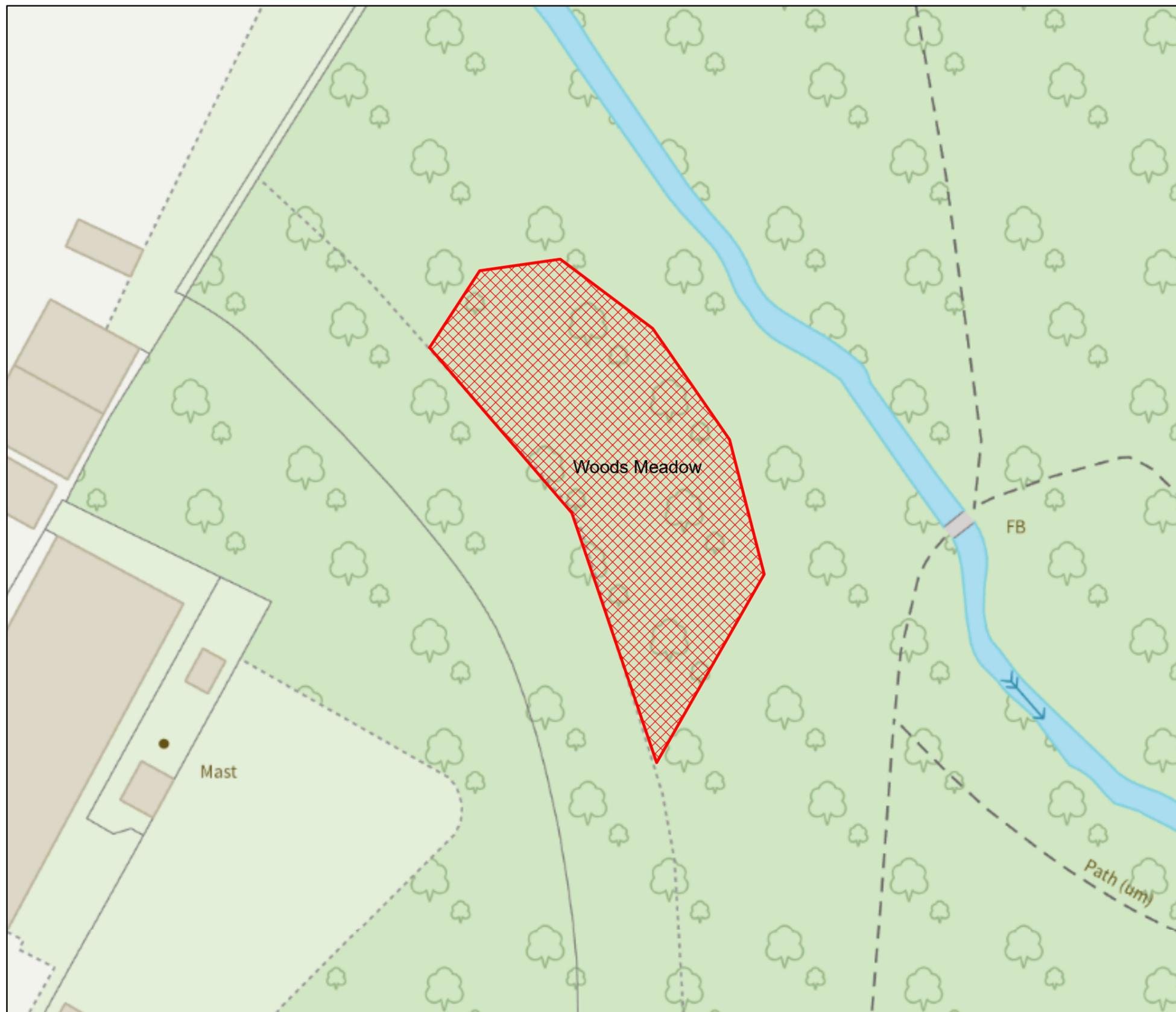
© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



Review of Roadside Nature Reserves Annex 3 Plans of proposed additional RNRs

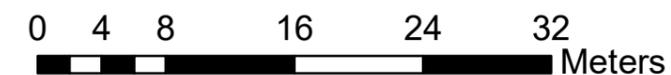
Woods Meadow

-  Existing RNRs
-  New RNRs



www.tmbc.gov.uk

© Crown copyright and database rights 2025
Ordnance Survey AC0000849995t



This page is intentionally left blank

Communities and Environment Scrutiny Select Committee

04 March 2026

Part 1 - Public

Matters for Information



Cabinet Member

Cllr Martin Coffin – Finance, Waste & Technical Services

Responsible Officer

Robert Styles – Director of Street, Scene, Leisure and Technical Services

Report Author

Darren Lanes – Head of Street Scene & Leisure
Andy Edwards – Head of Technical Services

Cabinet Member Portfolio Update

1 Summary and Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an overview of the Cabinet Member update on Waste & Technical Services activities undertaken over the past 12 months and sets out some headline initiatives for the coming year.

2 Corporate Strategy Priority Area

- 2.1 'Efficient & Effective Council' and 'Caring for the Environment'
- 2.2 Delivering services innovatively and in the most cost-effective & efficient way; Improving levels of waste reduction & recycling; tackling sources of pollution.

3 Introduction and Background

- 3.1 The update of the Cabinet Member for Finance, Waste & Technical services includes details of various projects and initiatives covering waste, recycling, street scene, enforcement, parking, engineering and emergency planning. The report also answers a number of parking related questions raised to the Chairman by Cllr Pilgrim.

4 Cabinet Member Update

4.1 Waste Contract Tender Project

4.1.1 Members will recall that the current Waste Contract ends in March 2027. Over the past twelve months, as approved by Members, Officers have been working in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council (TWBC) to procure a new 12-year contract that will run from April 2027. This project has involved a significant amount of work which has included Legal, Finance and Operational staff as well as the Mid-Kent Procurement Team. It has also required input from other service areas such as Health & Safety and Sustainability Officers. The procurement process and the recommendations for Contract Award are detailed in a separate report in these papers.

4.2 **Food Waste Roll Out**

4.2.1 The roll out of food waste collections continued over the past 12 months, with the majority of properties using communal bin stores now receiving the service. There remain a small number of 'difficult' bin stores where there is no/limited room for additional bins, or where historic use of recycling bins has proved challenging due to misuse. As new developments are completed, they are being provided with the full range of recycling services, including communal bin facilities where there is adequate capacity for the containers.

4.3 **KRP Waste Composition Analysis project**

4.3.1 The Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) has carried out two waste audits from properties within this borough. These audits identify what materials are contained within a sample of residual waste & food waste bins. This data is then used to target key materials which could be recycled and need to be diverted out of the residual waste bins. Samples of the food waste bins help to identify any potential increase in food waste diversion, such as targeting packaged food waste. This information is essential in order to help reduce disposal costs through promotional & other initiatives.

4.3.2 Early data from the residual waste audits identifies that around one third of the contents consisted of food waste which could be recycled using our kerbside service. As such, a targeted food waste campaign took place last autumn in order to try to achieve behaviour change and encourage residents not to use their black bin for food waste. This involved placing stickers on residual waste bins and delivering explanatory leaflets and sample rolls of indoor caddy liners. Data received so far indicates that, during the campaign, 2,000 additional food waste bins were requested, and food waste tonnages increased by 19% (110 tonnes) compared with the same period in the previous year.

4.4 **KRP Communal bin store project**

4.4.1 The KRP ran a project to try to identify best practice for providing recycling services to properties using communal bin stores. TMBC were held up as an example of good practice and our Waste Contract Officer, Ali Sollis, was invited to present case studies at a Kent-wide workshop. The next stage of this project is a

conference to engage with social & private housing providers in order to encourage them to consider their current waste collection provision in order to improve the services that councils can provide to their residents.

4.5 **Waste Marketing Plan 2025/26**

4.5.1 A Waste Marketing Plan was developed for 2025/26, working closely with colleagues in the Media team, in order to prioritise and programme a range of initiatives to help reduce overall waste arisings, increase recycling and raise awareness of the services provided. Activities to date have included:

- Revamp of the Council's waste & recycling pages (<https://www.tmbc.gov.uk/waste>);
- Food waste campaign – see 4.3.2 above;
- Events – including VE Day 80, East Maling Picnic in the Park, Tonbridge Food Festival and Tonbridge Christmas Market;
- Development of 'Shake It Out' campaign to encourage residents to put recycling loose into the green-lidded bins, rather than in bags;
- Development of carton recycling campaign;
- Making the temporary Waste Contract Officer post permanent as approved by General Purposes in January.

4.6 **Contract performance**

4.6.1 Over the past twelve months the performance of the current Waste Contractor, FCC, has been consistent and service levels acceptable. Key Performance Indicators are regularly reviewed and any required actions put in place and monitored to assess areas for improvement. A number of these KPIs are included within the Annual Service Delivery Plan which is reported to Members quarterly. These include:

- Individual missed collections – currently 0.07% against target of 0.10%
- Waste collection rounds completed to schedule – currently 100% against target of 100%
- A key current focus is on street cleansing. Schedules have now been included in the Whitespace system, which is the IT System used by both the Contractor and the Council to monitor the progression of works on a daily basis and to highlight any areas for concern.

4.7 **Enforcement Contract**

4.7.1 Since March last year, Kingdom have been employed as our third-party enforcement contractor for waste-related offences. Up to the end of December, they had issued 785 Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs). Of these 578 were for littering offences and 207 were for fly tipping and other waste-related offences. Currently their payment rate for FPNs issued is around 77% against a KPI level of 65%. It is

the intention to bring a report to the next meeting of this Committee to report on the performance of the contract

4.8 In terms of planning for the next 12 months, the following are key activities:

- 4.8.1 **Waste Contract Mobilisation** – preparation for the new Contract start date of 1 April 2027 has commenced and will be progressed subject to Members’ approval of the recommendations made in the separate report to this Committee meeting, and subsequent approval by Cabinet and Council. This will involve a significant amount of work over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition to the new contract, including reviews of existing collection & cleansing schedules, preparation for Simpler Recycling compliance and any required IT system updates/reconfigurations.
- 4.8.2 **Kent Resource Partnership (KRP) Strategy** – the final version of the KRP Strategy for 2026 to 2031 is currently being taken through the respective Kent councils’ democratic processes. This strategy comes at a pivotal moment for Kent as it sets out how Kent Councils “*will respond to the most significant changes in waste policy for a generation, alongside preparations for local government reorganisation, while continuing to deliver services that protect our environment and provide best value for Kent residents*”. It will be presented to the next meeting of this Committee in May for consideration & endorsement.
- 4.8.3 **Waste Marketing Plan** – a new plan for 2026/27 will be developed and reported to this Committee on 20 May 2026.

5 Parking Update - Past 12 months

5.1 Hildenborough Parking Review

Following an extensive consultation process that initially started in 2019, the parking review was conducted in Hildenborough. This had to be substantially adapted following Covid and the changes to the parking patterns. Members supported the final proposals at the 16th June 2025 meeting of the Joint Transportation Board. The new restrictions were implemented in Jan 2026.

5.2 Informal and formal consultation on Phase 15 of the Parking Action Plan

Informal consultation, review by the Joint Transportation Board and formal consultation on locations forming Phase 15 of the Parking Action Plan were carried out.

5.3 New areas for parking charges

Following the review of parking charges in 2024, we introduced the agreed on-street parking charges in West Malling High Street and Swan Street in March 2025, whilst retaining 1-hour free parking to assist short-stay parking and maintain parking turnover.

5.3.1 In May 2025 charges and Season Tickets were also introduced into Martin Square, Larkfield aimed at increasing footfall at local businesses and deterring long-stay parking that reduced parking opportunities.

5.3.2 In November 2025 parking charges and Season Tickets were introduced to the Bailey Bridge (East) and (West) car parks to again deter non-resident long-stay parking and to prevent the ongoing problem related to the long-term storage of vehicles.

5.4 **Changes to on-street Traffic Regulation Orders**

In April 2025 the Council's on-street Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) were converted and consolidated into Kent County Council's online ParkMap system – a graphical representation of TROs that is web accessible for the public.

5.5 **Staff turnover and training**

The Parking Service has been under increased pressure due to staffing changes associated with the departure of some key staff members in the Technical Services team and the Parking Office. There have been significant challenges associated with trying to recruit into the vacant positions.

- The Parking Enforcement Team has expanded, and new CEOs are being put through training, and the CEO Supervisors have undergone higher level training.
- As part of the review of parking charges in 2024 it was agreed that the Parking Enforcement team should be increased from 2 shifts to 3, raising Civil Enforcement staff from 10 to 15.
- It is worth noting that this has been a challenging recruitment process and we currently still have vacancies.

5.6 **Sunday parking enforcement**

As part of the introduction of Sunday charging and new charging areas, Members decided to expand the enforcement team to facilitate enforcement on Sundays. This has recently been rolled out and with staff enforcing around the Borough.

6 **Parking Performance**

6.1 **PCNs issued 24/25 (23/24)**

16,874 (17,197) Parking Penalty Charge Notices

6.2 **Parking income 24/25 (23/24)**

£3,849,501 (£3,351.323) from PCNs, P&D, parking permits etc.

7 **Parking Update - Next 12 months**

7.1 **Implementation of Phase 15 Parking Action Plan**

Following completion of the formal consultation, the Service will move to

processing the new Traffic Regulation Orders along with the physical installation of signs and lines.

7.2 Review of on-street impact following the introduction of Sunday charging and new charging locations.

Following the delivery of Sunday charging and new charging locations, Members recognised the need to review the impact of any displacement of parking into residential areas. We will start to review impacts associated with this work and will bring forward proposals to future meetings of the Joint Transportation Board.

7.3 Trial of ANPR and payment card services for parking

The development of the schemes for both Sovereign Way North and Bradford Street Car Park had been initially scoped and will be proceeding with implementation anticipated this Summer 2026.

7.4 Aylesford Car Park

The Planning permission for the car park will be considered at full Council in July this year. It is anticipated that this will be delivered in the 2026/27 financial year.

8 Questions raised by Cllr Pilgrim following the review and introduction of new parking charges

8.1 Feasibility of increasing the 30 mins free parking in Tonbridge to 1 hour

8.1.1 The parking changes introduced in August 2024 included elements of free 30 minute short-stay parking in 6 car parks around Tonbridge Town Centre.

8.1.2 The car parks that offer 30 minutes free parking are: River Lawn Road car park, Lamberts Yard car park, Kinnings Row car park, Castle Grounds car park, Upper Castle Field car park and Bradford Street Car Park.

8.1.3 Financial year figures for 24/25 are incomplete, as are 2025/6, but taking the calendar year 2025, the reports from Pay & Display machines show that there were 96,708 free 30-minute parking sessions used. If the free parking concession had not been in place this would have produced an income of around £77,000 (including VAT),

8.1.4 This should be considered against the 23,427 paid 1-hour parking sessions in the same car parks in the same period.

8.1.5 It has been suggested by Cllr Pilgrim that the Council consider extending the free 30-minute parking period to 1 hour – this would infer a potential loss of income of circa £37,000 (including VAT).

8.1.6 It also has to be recognised that there are contractual arrangements in the Council's largest car parks in Tonbridge, serving Sainsbury, Waitrose and Iceland, where a refund of parking "through the till" occurs, meaning that we are unable to offer a free 1 hour parking concession in those car parks.

8.1.7 If the free parking period in the short-stay car parks was extended to 1 hour this could have a significant consequence on the operation of the Angel and Botany car parks.

8.2 **Feasibility of Introducing a single fee for all-day parking on Sundays, based on the first hour rate for that car park on other days**

8.2.1 Sunday is seen as a normal shopping day alongside Saturday, though the shopping visits are affected by the requirement of retail establishments to adhere to Sunday trading hours. This places more pressure on parking spaces as the number of visitors are “compressed” by the shopping times.

8.2.2 Usage across the car parks is very good and we generate good turnover of spaces to support those wishing to park. Members took the hard decision to introduce charges on Sundays along with establishing Sunday enforcement. The introduction of an all-day charge is not seen as an improvement to the current system, as the need for short-stay parking space turnover is important. An all-day charge effectively designates all car parks as “long stay” and this could be detrimental to footfall.

8.3 **Feasibility of allowing 2 days of free parking over the Christmas period**

8.3.1 From a parking management perspective, free parking at Christmas is not seen as a positive approach. Parking charges are an important tool for maintaining parking turnover. The first thing that happens is that staff and workers that would perhaps either park further away from their place of employment or use sustainable transport, park in the most convenient short stay space as close as possible. This effectively removes those spaces from more general shopper use so reducing capacity.

8.3.2 The most critical point for shoppers at Christmas is the ability to find space when they want. This is particularly relevant as the period just before Christmas is when the parking demand is highest.

8.3.3 On days that are free the turnover of spaces is much slower so therefore again damaging the flow of customers to the shopping facilities. Some customers may well stay longer but the main customer demand is to be able to park when they enter a car park and the charging regime does generate regular and reasonable levels of turnover.

8.4 **Review of impacts on parking areas affected by the introduction of Sunday charging and charges until 8pm**

8.4.1 In addition to the questions raised by Cllr Pilgrim we will also be reviewing the impact of Sunday charging in particular reviewing the impact on nearby areas. Areas that we are aware of are as follows:

- The Slade
- Avebury Ave area

8.4.2 The requests for reviews are linked to the displacement of parking from areas and times that were free in car parks to nearby residential areas and may consider introducing Sunday and evening restrictions to those residential areas.

9 Engineering Team - Past 12 months

9.1 Refurbishment of Angel East Car Park

The refurbishment of the Angel East car park has been undertaken in partnership with Sainsburys in a number of phases since 2020. In the last year we carried out phase 6, these works included replacing drainage channels and the re-surfacing.

9.2 Continued roll-out of Connected Kerb EV charging facilities

We continue to work with Connected Kerb to ensure delivery of their commitments for operational EV charging points in a number of Council car parks across the Borough. We currently have a total of 56 charging units that have been installed and commissioned with a further 14 to be completed in the next few weeks.

9.3 Christmas Lights

The Council provides the Christmas lights in Tonbridge Town Centre and these include 8 cross-street decorations, spanning the High Street from buildings on either side. The anchor points are checked for security and structural stability annually

9.4 Shallows Bridge, Haysden Country Park

Following an inspection from a Structural Engineer the Shallows Bridge was closed last year. The initial plan has been to remove the existing structure to allow the review of the bridge abutments using a large crane. Due to the proximity to the railway, Network Rail need to give consent for us to use the size of crane required to remove the bridge. This has delayed the removal of the bridge as we have yet to receive consent.

9.4.1 We have continued to work with the structural engineer to review other possible methods for removing the bridge without the use of a crane. We hope to have a viable method developed and costed to allow removal in the next few months.

10 Engineering Performance

10.1 Parking restriction lines and signs

10.1.1 Distance replaced – in the region of 13,000 meters Double Yellow lines plus 2 car parks relined.

10.1.2 52 new on-street parking posts and signs installed

10.1.3 28 on-street posts replaced

10.2 **Street nameplates**

10.2.1 128 replaced

10.3 **CCTV**

10.3.1 Camera replacement

10.3.2 Installed CCTV into Martin Square car park

10.4 **Car park lighting**

10.4.1 Improved by replacing old obsolete lanterns with 136 standard LED lanterns and 22 heritage LED lanterns.

10.5 **P&D machines installed**

10.5.1 13 new machines installed

11 **Engineering Team - Next 12 months**

11.1 **Refurbishment of Angel East Car Park**

11.1.1 A further phase (no.7) of works to continue replacement and updating of drainage channels and surfacing, to be carried out once Sainsbury have completed their store refurbishment process.

11.2 **Refurbishment of Angel West Car Park**

11.2.1 The surfacing in the Angel West Car Park has now reached the end of its serviceable life. With this in mind we will start a phased process of refurbishment to improve drainage and surfacing.

11.3 **Testing of lamp columns in car parks**

11.3.1 We will be carrying out the next round of lamp column testing (3-year cycle) for structural soundness and programmed replacement for lighting columns in all TMBC car parks. This will include getting our car park lighting electrically tested this year (5-year cycle).

12 **Emergency Planning**

12.1 **Recruitment of new resilience officer**

12.1.1 Following the phased retirement of the previous Resilience Officer the post was reviewed and extended from 2 days per week to 4 days per week. A new Resilience Officer was appointed, Roshana Irutharayaj, and has settled in well.

12.2 Major Emergency Plan

12.2.1 The Borough Councils Major Emergency Plan was reviewed and has been updated with the next review due in 2028.

12.3 Emergency Planning Exercise

12.3.1 The duties set out in the Civil Contingencies Act require that we plan for emergencies and that we exercise our plans to ensure they are fit for purpose.

12.3.2 In October 2025, we took part in a Kent based exercise, looking at the failure of Bough Beech reservoir up stream of Tonbridge. We fully participated with resilience partners including testing our Duty Officer/Duty Emergency Coordinator alerting. We deployed Incident Liaison Officers to site (Bough Beech Reservoir) and fully activated the Borough Emergency Centre. This involved establishing our teams and included live briefings to the Management Team.

12.3.3 We have identified a number of lessons learned which will further allows us to improve our readiness and capabilities.

12.4 Business Continuity Exercise

12.4.1 We will be conduction a Business Continuity Exercise in April 2026 to enable us to fully test and validate plans. This will also enable the opportunity to review and revise Service Level Business Continuity Plans.

13 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

13.1 All services & initiatives detailed above are delivered within the Council's budgetary framework.

14 Risk Assessment

14.1 None associated with this report

15 Legal Implications

15.1 None associated with this report. All comply with the Council's statutory & discretionary obligations and relevant legislation.

16 Consultation and Communications

16.1 The Cabinet Member update is provided to ensure that all Members are aware of the work undertaken within the relevant service areas and how the initiatives assist in delivering the Council's Corporate Strategy and Annual Service Delivery Plan.

17 Implementation

17.1 The initiatives detailed above are delivered with the assistance of a number of Council departments, such as Legal Services and the Media team, to try to maximise efficiency & effectiveness, whilst delivering on the Council's statutory duties.

18 Cross Cutting Issues

18.1 Climate Change and Biodiversity

18.1.1 A number of the initiatives detailed above help to deliver on the Council's Climate Change Action Plan

18.1.2 Climate change advice has been sought in the preparation of the Waste Contract Tender process

18.2 Equalities and Diversity

18.2.1 The initiatives detailed in this report have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. The work undertaken, specifically relating to the Waste Contract procurement process will make a positive contribution in supporting protected characteristics.

18.3 Other If Relevant

- Procurement
- Business Continuity / Resilience
- Health and Safety
- Data Protection

Background Papers	None
Annexes	None

This page is intentionally left blank

COMMUNITIES AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY SELECT COMMITTEE – UPCOMING MATTERS

2026

C=Council; CAB = Cabinet; DEL = Delegated to Committee; INFO = matters for information. Cabinet are responsible for ALL Key Decisions (KD). Some Non-Key Decisions (NKD) can be taken by Cabinet Members outside of the meeting.

MEETINGDATE	DECISION (TITLE)	DESCRIPTION	C/CAB/ DEL/INFO	KD/NKD	CAB MEMBER DN Y/N	PART 1 OR 2	OFFICER IN PERSON ATTENDANCE Y/N	
20 May 2026	Holly Hill Management Plan		TBC	TBC				
	Tree Safety Policy		TBC	TBC				
	Matters Arising from Services in between cycles: To be identified							
	Work Programme	Standing item	Info					
	Matters Arising from Services in between cycles: To be identified							
	Work Programme	Standing item	Info					

MEETINGDATE	DECISION (TITLE)	DESCRIPTION	C/CAB/ DEL/INFO	KD/NKD	CAB MEMBER DN Y/N	PART 1 OR 2	OFFICER IN PERSON ATTENDANCE Y/N
17 September 2026	TBC						
	Matters Arising from Services in between cycles: To be identified						
	Work Programme	Standing item	Info				
4 November 2026	TBC						
	Matters Arising from Services in between cycles: To be identified						
	Work Programme	Standing item	Info				

Agenda Item 12

Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent due to special circumstances and of which notice has been given to the Chief Executive.

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 13

The Chairman to move that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting during consideration of any items the publication of which would disclose exempt information.

**ANY REPORTS APPEARING AFTER THIS PAGE CONTAIN EXEMPT
INFORMATION**

This page is intentionally left blank

Agenda Item 14

Any other items which the Chairman decides are urgent due to special circumstances and of which notice has been given to the Chief Executive.

This page is intentionally left blank