



TAYLOR WIMPEY

NAISHES WOOD SANG,  
CHURCH CROOKHAM

**Updated SANG  
Management Plan**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. Planning permission was granted by Hart District Council in November 2011 for the redevelopment of the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks site in Church Crookham, Hampshire. An important part of the planning application was the delivery of a large area of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace, or SANG, which is now known as Naishes Wood SANG. The SANG forms an integral part of the mitigation package to avoid likely significant effects on Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) by providing new and improved opportunities for informal recreation.
- 1.2. Under the development proposals, detailed information regarding the capital works and ongoing management of the SANG was set out in the form of a Management Schedule document which accompanied the application. This document, which was produced in December 2010, is included at Appendix 1 of this report.
- 1.3. During the implementation of the SANG proposals by Taylor Wimpey, a number of issues have arisen regarding the use and management of the SANG going forward. It is noted that some of the issues raised are contradictory. In order to fully address the concerns raised to the satisfaction of all parties, it was agreed that a series of actions would be undertaken.
- 1.4. These actions included the following:
  - Undertaking an **updated site survey** in Spring 2015 to ascertain the latest situation on the ground, and to confirm the latest position with regard to the implementation of the SANG;
  - Undertaking an extensive **public consultation exercise** in April 2015, comprising a visitor survey of both local residents (via mail drop) and SANG users, a public exhibition and ongoing engagement with key stakeholders; and
  - Production of an **updated SANG Management Plan** in May / June 2015 to set out the overarching vision of the SANG, the works which have been undertaken to date, the findings of the consultation process and any amendments which will be undertaken to address issues raised by key stakeholders.
- 1.5. This document reiterates the overall vision and intention of the SANG proposals, and subsequently outlines the findings of the above work, and confirms the ongoing management proposed for Naishes Wood SANG in order to ensure that it functions effectively in its purpose for mitigating for potential effects on Thames Basin Heaths SPA.
- 1.6. The content of this document has been discussed and agreed with both Natural England and Hart District Council Officers in order to confirm the extent of any amendments and ensure a clear and agreed strategy for the SANG.



## 2. VISION AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1. The Thames Basin Heaths comprises a number of areas of heathland and woodland habitats situated throughout southern England. These areas support a wide variety of notable and rare species which specialise in heathland habitats, including the three Annex 1 bird species for which the Special Protection Area has been classified; namely Dartford warbler *Sylvia undata*, nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* and woodlark *Lullula arborea*, in addition to a number of habitats for which the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) was designated.
- 2.2. It is acknowledged that an increase in the level of recreational pressure as a result of new residential development has the potential to result in adverse effects to the Thames Basin Heaths. A recognised means of mitigating potential detrimental effects on an SPA through increased visitor pressure is through the provision of additional informal greenspace in close proximity to a new residential development. This is the approach advocated by Natural England and originally resulted in the production of the Thames Basin Heaths Draft Delivery Plan (TBH DDP) which provides a vehicle for mitigation in respect of new residential development in close proximity to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA. The paragraphs set out in this original document have subsequently been adopted and latterly endorsed by the Secretary of State, through the South East Plan. Indeed the relevant policy (NRM6) still remains relevant. In Hart, the approach towards mitigating effects on the SPA is outlined in the Thames Basin Heaths Interim Avoidance Strategy.
- 2.3. In line with guidance from Natural England, mitigation for potential effects includes the provision of areas of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), which are designed to offer informal recreational opportunities order to offset any potential increase in recreational pressure on the SPA, as well as providing contributions towards on-site mitigation measures (Strategic Access Management and Monitoring, or SAMM).
- 2.4. Naishes Wood SANG is intended to provide a significant area of open space which is fully accessible and available for both new residents and also existing residents in Church Crookham, Fleet and beyond.
- 2.5. The SANG has been designed primarily to provide informal opportunities for walkers and dog walkers, on the basis that these users are more likely to result in adverse impacts to the species for which the SPA has been designated. However following consultation with local groups, where possible the SANG has also been designed to provide opportunities for other user groups, such as wheelchair users, cyclists and horse riders, insofar as these are achievable whilst ensuring that the SANG functions effectively to mitigate for potential impacts on the SPA.
- 2.6. The SANG has also been designed to provide a variety of visitor experiences, including a range of habitats including open fields, woodlands and marshy grassland. The SANG includes a number of non-statutory designated sites – Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, or SINC's - which have been designated on account of their local

importance for biodiversity. These sites will be managed in order to enhance their biodiversity value, whilst ensuring that opportunities for informal recreation are promoted and secured throughout the area.

- 2.7. As such it is considered that the implementation of the SANG proposals will mitigate for potential impacts on the SPA, provide new and improved recreational opportunities in the local area, and also result in biodiversity benefits to non-statutory designated sites (SINCs), other habitats and species.

### **3. UPDATED SITE SURVEY**

- 3.1. In order to ascertain an up-to-date baseline with regard to the implementation of the SANG to date, a comprehensive survey of the SANG was undertaken by Ecology Solutions in early March 2015.
- 3.2. The survey involved a walkover of all areas within the SANG by an experienced surveyor, who noted on a series of plans all of the works that had been undertaken (at the time of survey). Particular reference was made to the proposals for capital works and ongoing management for each of the areas as outlined in the Management Schedule, and the extent to which works had been undertaken.
- 3.3. Further works have been undertaken on the ground by TCL since the walkover survey was undertaken in early March 2015. This has included a number of works which were agreed at the meeting between Taylor Wimpey, Natural England and Hart District Council in January 2015, including the removal of some of the wooden fencing which had been installed adjacent to the bridleway (on one side), and the provision of a finer stone 'dressing' to the stoned tracks. As such the findings of the survey have been updated to take into account these changes, and present the most up-to-date baseline situation on the ground.
- 3.4. The findings of the survey are outlined on a series of plans included at Appendix 2 of this document, with a single plan for each of the numbered Areas as identified in the 2010 Management Schedule (14 in total). The text boxes included on the plans clarify the current situation in respect of the condition on the ground.
- 3.5. Temporary signage has also been erected within the SANG in a number of locations (notably the access points where the visitor survey was undertaken). The signs provide some interim information regarding the layout of the SANG, including the various footpath routes present, features such as the location of the car park and pill boxes, and species that may be encountered during a site visit, and have been designed to inform visitors about the variety of opportunities that the SANG offers for informal recreation.

#### 4. PUBLIC CONSULTATION AND VISITOR SURVEY

- 4.1. As outlined above, a public consultation exercise was held in April 2015 in order to provide additional information regarding the current use of the SANG by local residents, and their views on the current state of the SANG. The findings of the public consultation exercise have been used in order to inform the updated Visitor Access Strategy and SANG Management Plan as outlined within this document.
- 4.2. The consultation exercise principally comprised two key elements, which are considered separately below.
- 4.3. A notice was placed in the Parish Council newsletters for both Church Crookham and Ewshot to raise local awareness of the public exhibition exercise that was being undertaken, with particular reference made to the public exhibition that was to be held and the information available on the website for Naishes Wood SANG<sup>1</sup>.
- 4.4. Natural England also identified a number of specific works that would need to be undertaken in order to address issues regarding the delivery of the SANG. These are also considered below.

##### Visitor Survey

- 4.5. In order to obtain baseline information, a comprehensive visitor survey exercise was undertaken by Ecology Solutions in April 2015. The full findings of the visitor survey are outlined in the separate report included at Appendix 3.
- 4.6. Both Natural England and Hart District Council were consulted with regard to the content of the questionnaire, the proposed survey locations and the methodology of the survey. Following guidance from Natural England, the questions were based on a previous SANG questionnaire utilised by Natural England, with an additional question included which asked residents to outline any potential improvements which could be made to the SANG.
- 4.7. The visitor survey included three main elements: face to face interviews of people utilising the SANG, a targeted mail drop of local residents, and making copies of the documents available online.

##### *Face to face interviews*

- 4.8. A total of 919 visitors were observed during the course of the survey from the seven access points. Of these, 208 (22.6% of the total number) were willing to participate in the survey, 118 (12.8%) refused to participate and 229 people (24.9%) were approached who had already been surveyed. 364 people (39.6%) were recorded as accompanying those who asked to participate in the survey.
- 4.9. The visitor survey identified a significant amount of useful information, which is summarised in the Visitor Survey report included at Appendix 3.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [www.thesangsproject.co.uk](http://www.thesangsproject.co.uk)

However Question 27, which asked visitors for their views regarding the implementation of the SANG and potential improvements, is of particular interest and is considered below.

- 4.10. Q27 asked: *"In your opinion, what (if any) improvements could be made to the SANG which would encourage you to use it more often / more frequently in future?"* A series of potential options were offered to respondents, and interviewees were able to suggest other potential improvements.
- 4.11. The findings from Q27 are summarised in Table 1 below. Please note that respondents could select more than one measure; as such the figures do not add up to 100%.
- 4.12. In a number of cases, additional comments were provided. These were collated together wherever possible and are also represented in Table 1 below.

Potential Measure	Number of respondents	%
Improved signage of car park	4	1.92
Improved signage at access points into SANG	11	5.29
Improved signage within SANG	16	7.69
Provision of information boards	11	5.29
Provision of stone / 'hoggin' circular walk	4	1.92
Improved pathways - flatter/stump removal	39	18.75
Improved pathways - width	4	1.92
Removal of existing fencing	27	12.98
Provision of additional fencing	2	0.96
Other - lighting along path	9	4.33
Other - 'more trails/routes'	2	0.96
Other - 'tidy up' / removal wire fencing / fly tipping / general maintenance	15	7.21
Other - dog bins	31	14.90
Other - 'all weather path'	5	2.40
Other - 'more natural pathways' / more natural	12	5.77
Other - play areas, cafes, toilets, picnic areas etc	10	4.81
Other - litter bins	11	5.29
Other - more information	3	1.44
Other - more paths and access points	5	2.40

Other - access points for Horses	1	0.48
Other - improve access for bikes	6	2.88
Other - improve access for prams and/or wheelchairs	14	6.73
Other - provision of benches	10	4.81
Other - no change needed	10	4.81
Other - improve drainage	4	1.92
Other - change gravel finish to footpaths	18	8.65

**Table 1:** Responses to Q27 (Visitor Survey – face to face interviews)

*Mail drop of local residents*

- 4.13. In addition to the face to face interviews, an information pack was delivered to a number of local residents in order to obtain additional information regarding Naishes Wood SANG.
- 4.14. Information packs were delivered to a total of 760 local residents, including all new Taylor Wimpey residents (within the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks and Wakefords Copse sites) and local residents living in close proximity to the SANG. Packs were delivered to residents at Quetta Park, Sandy Lane, Ewshot Lane and Humphrey Park, and a number of residents in Ewshot.
- 4.15. The information pack delivered to these addresses comprised: a covering letter; a copy of the Statement of Intent which summarised the public consultation exercise and intention of producing an updated SANG Management Plan; a copy of the SANG Questionnaire (with minor amendments to the questions to take into account that it was not being completed during a site visit); and a stamped addressed envelope to allow residents to send back the questionnaire free of charge. Copies of these documents are all included at Appendix 4.
- 4.16. Residents were asked to complete and return the questionnaire to Ecology Solutions using the enclosed envelope. In addition, residents were made aware of the forthcoming public exhibition which was to be held, and that further information could be found at Taylor Wimpey's SANG Project website.
- 4.17. A total of 88 responses have been received to date (i.e. 11.6% of those who were sent an information pack). 92.1% of people stated that they utilise Naishes Wood SANG, and that in total this would entail 239 visitors (including family members).
- 4.18. The findings of the mail drop survey are also summarised in the Visitor Survey Report included at Appendix 3.

- 4.19. The findings from Q27 returned from the mail drop survey are summarised in Table 2 below. Again please note that respondents could select more than one measure; as such the figures do not add up to 100%.

Potential Measure	Number of respondents	%
Improved signage of car park	10	11.36
Improved signage at access points into SANG	19	21.59
Improved signage within SANG	26	29.55
Provision of information boards	35	39.77
Provision of stone / 'hoggin' circular walk	24	27.27
Improved pathways - flatter/stump removal	40	45.45
Improved pathways - width	14	15.91
Removal of existing fencing	14	15.91
Provision of additional fencing	5	5.68
Other - lighting along path		0.00
Other - 'more trails/routes'	1	1.14
Other - 'tidy up' / removal wire fencing / fly tipping / general maintenance	2	2.27
Other - dog bins	4	4.55
Other - 'all weather path'	2	2.27
Other - 'more natural pathways' / more natural	1	1.14
Other - play areas, cafes, toilets, picnic areas etc	6	6.82
Other - litter bins	2	2.27
Other - more information	5	5.68
Other - more paths and access points	1	1.14
Other - access points for Horses	0	0.00
Other - improve access for bikes	1	1.14
Other - improve access for prams and/or wheelchairs	8	9.09
Other - provision of benches	4	4.55
Other - no change needed	2	2.27
Other - improve drainage	2	2.27
Other - change gravel finish to footpaths	7	7.95

**Table 2:** Responses to Q27 (Visitor Survey – mail drop of local residents)

*SANG Project Website*

- 4.20. The contents of the Information Pack (i.e. the Statement of Intent, the covering letter and a copy of the visitor survey questionnaire) were also uploaded to the SANG Project website. This allowed people who had not been delivered a copy of the questionnaire as part of the mail shot exercise, and who had not been surveyed as part of the face to face interviews, an opportunity to contribute towards the exercise.
- 4.21. The notice in the Parish Newsletters, the Statement of Intent and the covering letter submitted with the Information Pack all signposted the SANG website.
- 4.22. To date, no completed questionnaires have been received which had been downloaded and completed by visitors to the SANG. However it is noted that one person interviewed stated that they had seen the survey online, in addition to one person who was delivered the questionnaire as part of the mail shot and confirmed that they had also seen the questionnaire online.

Public Exhibition

- 4.23. A public exhibition was held in the SANG / Allotments Car Park on Thursday 16th April, between 4pm and 8pm. A variety of materials were made available, including copies of a draft temporary information board, copies of the Statement of Intent and a general information sheet regarding SANG.
- 4.24. Representatives from Taylor Wimpey, Armstrong Rigg Planning, TCL and Ecology Solutions were available to answer any queries that people had. Copies of the visitor survey questionnaire were also available for any local residents who had not received a copy via direct mail and who wished to complete one (note: the results of these were combined with those from the mail drop as outlined above).
- 4.25. A total of 32 people visited the public exhibition. Detailed comments were provided by a number of people, which are summarised in the bullet points included at Appendix 5.

Consideration of Potential Improvements to SANG (from Q27)

- 4.26. Using the information obtained from both the face-to-face interviews and the mail drop as a guide, consideration has been given to each of the potential improvement measures which could be implemented as part of the SANG review, and the extent to which these accord with the overall vision of the SANG.



4.27. Each of the potential improvements have been considered in Appendix 6 of this document, and these measures have been incorporated into the Updated SANG Management Plan where relevant.

4.28. In summary, the improvement measures which will be delivered are:

- Ensuring that the well-used footpath traversing the SANG (between access points 1 and 2) is flat and surfaced appropriately;
- Provision of new dog bins and litter bins in selected locations within the SANG (main access points);
- Provision of new information and signage, including road signage, signage of footpath routes within the SANG itself and information boards;
- Ensuring that ongoing maintenance to remove wire fencing, rubbish and fly-tipping is undertaken regularly; and
- Provision of small number of benches (3 no. total) in selected locations.

4.29. The overall Work Schedule included at Appendix 8 of this document outlines when these works are scheduled to be completed.

#### Required Works identified by Natural England

4.30. In late 2014, Natural England identified a number of areas where works would be required in order to address issues regarding the delivery of the SANG, to ensure that it is appropriate and functions effectively to mitigate for potential adverse effects on Thames Basin Heaths SPA.

4.31. The specific improvement works comprised the following:

- The production of additional signage, including the provision of information boards and the erection of further way marking where intuitive e.g. at path junctions
- The rectification of a number of remaining (at the time) circular route intrusions:
  - o Removal of instances of vegetative stumps along the route itself.
  - o Continuation of the circular route across the southern point of Naishes Lane, between Areas 11 and 12, requiring the installation of appropriate access infrastructure (e.g. a kissing gate) (NB. this area was previously fenced off and inaccessible).

- o Removal of the hostile signage restricting access present within Areas 10 and 11.
    - o The evening-out of the mown grass surface along the walking route itself in Areas 10 and 11.
    - o Widening of the most northerly access point along Naishes Lane into Area 12 which is currently narrowed with scrub, so that the width is in line with the standard along the rest of the circular route
  - Wherever double-fenced and traversing the SANG, one side of the bridleway fencing to be removed. The remaining bridleway fences to be planted with native hedge plants in their entirety to soften the visual impact of the fencing. In addition, the deer fencing around the bund in Area 8 (Ewshot Marsh) will be removed
- 4.32. A number of these works have already been undertaken, whilst others are due to be undertaken imminently. The overall Work Schedule included at Appendix 8 outlines when these works are scheduled to be completed.

## 5. VISITOR ACCESS STRATEGY

- 5.1. The following section outlines the aims and key elements which control the Visitor Access Strategy for Naishes Wood SANG, and how they have a direct effect on visitor recreation.
- 5.2. With visitors in mind, the main design and management steps are as follows:
  - Provision of a car park for SANG visitors (with approximately 40 spaces in total; shared with users of the adjacent allotments);
  - Provision of an informal circular walk of approximately 2.6km in length, comprising a route including a variety of natural habitats;
  - Provision of a 'stoned', all weather circular walk of approximately 1.3km in length, including areas of boardwalk to allow areas and routes to remain accessible at all times of year;
  - A wider footpath network that encompasses areas throughout the SANG with alternative connections allowing the distance, setting and route of the walks to be altered at the user's discretion;
  - Routes and connections to the wider footpath network, including links to public rights of way, local roads and areas of existing and new residential development;
  - Maintenance of wooded areas near to paths such that they are free of deadwood and safe;
  - Maintenance of open grassland areas such that they remain open and free for dogs to roam safely off the lead;
  - Adequately located dog bins; and
  - Controlled access to sensitive areas including on-site SINC's.

### Footpath Routes within the SANG

- 5.3. The walking routes that have been established within the SANG are illustrated on the SANG Plan which has been produced by Fabrik (included at Appendix 7 of this document). This plan forms the basis for the information boards (see below).
- 5.4. The SANG includes three waymarked routes;
  - Circular route comprising boardwalks and gravel pathways (accessible), with a length of approximately 1.3km (Route 1 on the SANG Plan; shown in Yellow);

- Circular route comprising some sections of boardwalks and gravel, but utilising a range of more informal pathways and routes, with a length of approximately 2.4km (Route 2 on the SANG Plan; shown in Purple); and
  - A woodland walk passing through the northern part of the SANG which links to the two circular routes, with a length of approximately 2.3km (Route 3 on the SANG Plan; shown in Light Blue).
- 5.5. All three of these circular routes have been marked with non-visually intrusive and robust waymarker posts.
- 5.6. It is accepted that users may wish to alter their route on different days depending on the time or distance they intend to walk. Other routes which can be used in addition to these two circular routes are shown in dashed yellow on the attached plan. These routes link up to different areas, creating shortcuts and extensions to a walk, and allow the user to tailor the length of their route whilst still experiencing a range of environments and habitats in the process. Given the wealth of different opportunities it is considered that all types of walk could be catered for within the SANG, from a short quick stroll through open fields, an accessible walk utilising hard tracks and boardwalks only, and a long and time consuming walk through woodlands and fields along rarely used mown pathways.

#### *Gravel Paths*

- 5.7. Whilst the vast majority of the paths within the SANG comprise informal footpaths, surfaced footpaths have been installed in selected locations. Indeed a 'stoned' circular route has been provided within the SANG, which is shown on the SANG Plan (see Appendix 7). This provides all weather and accessible opportunities for a range of user groups, and the condition of the gravel paths has recently been improved through dressing with a finer top material.
- 5.8. The gravel paths have been constructed following the specifications below:
- Gravel footpaths a minimum of 1.4 metres in width;
  - Gravel tracks have wooden edge boarding and a coarse gravel base, with a thin layer of topping, providing a flat and accessible surface;
  - Gravel tracks have a slight camber to allow runoff.

#### *Boardwalks*

- 5.9. Parts of the SANG, notably areas located within Area 8 (Ewshot Marsh SINC), experience seasonal flooding and support areas of boggy marshy grassland. Indeed, Area 8 will be managed to restrict water flow by way of enhancement, creating localised wet areas as a result. All localised wet areas in addition to those prone to flooding have been identified and sections of boardwalk installed to allow users to access these areas and links freely. The locations of boardwalk are shown on the SANG Plan included at Appendix 7.

- 5.10. The need for further boardwalk provision, in addition to the status of the current boardwalks will be inspected on a regular basis and any revisions realised under the discretion of the management group for the SANG. Funds will be made available to achieve this.
- 5.11. All boardwalks have been constructed following the specifications below:
- Structural support – tannalised timber;
  - Boardwalk boards – softwood with anti-slip grooves;
  - Hand rail on one side of boardwalk – softwood with one horizontal rail

#### Connections with Footpaths in the Wider Area

- 5.12. The SANG provides good connections to public right of way networks in the south and east of the SANG; however given the wealth of opportunities present within the SANG itself it is considered that the vast majority of users will simply utilise alternative routes and paths if they wish to increase the length of any walk.

#### Way Markers

- 5.13. The three main routes have been waymarked with non-visually intrusive signposts at regular intervals (as outlined on the SANG Plan at Appendix 7). The waymarkers are of natural wooden construction and have been set in concrete to ensure that they are not removed.

#### Dog Policy and Restrictions

- 5.14. The vast majority of the SANG is fully accessible to dog walkers, and provides opportunities for dogs to roam freely and safely (off lead) under their owners supervision. Dog owners, however, will be expected to act responsibly towards the actions of their dog.
- 5.15. Dog bins will be provided at the seven main access points, with information boards that will request to dog owners to behave responsibly. For example, dog owners will be asked to put dogs on a lead in areas currently grazed by livestock. Owners will be expected to pay attention to the location of stock before allowing their dog to go off the lead in a responsible manner.

#### Grazing Management

- 5.16. The proposed grazing regimes that are to be undertaken within Areas 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 will have very limited impact on public access. The use of stock will be confined to those areas requiring the management only and owners will be expected to pay attention to the location of stock before allowing their dog to go off the lead in a responsible manner.
- 5.17. The information boards will highlight the presence of stock and explain any rules relevant to public access.

- 5.18. Further details regarding the proposed grazing strategy are outlined in the SANG Management Plan below.

#### Dog Bins and Litter Bins

- 5.19. Dog and litter bins will be provided at a number of selected locations (adjacent to the main access points as outlined in the Updated SANG Management Plan below). Bins will be located in close proximity to the nearest vehicle access point in order to be emptied safely.
- 5.20. Bins will meet the following specifications:
- Galvanised metal bin, with metal hinges and hardwood surround (such as Broxap Okehampton Redwood bin / Sirius Post Mounted dog bin or similar);
  - Bins to be concreted into the ground.

#### Benches

- 5.21. Benches will be installed at suitable locations to provide opportunities for people to rest. A total of three benches will be constructed from wood and will be sparsely distributed to ensure the natural feel of the SANG remains unspoilt. Benches are to be installed along the stoned circular walk and at certain viewpoints (for example, at the northern end of Area 11).
- 5.22. Benches will follow the specifications below:
- Constructed from wood and with chunky design to avoid vandalism (such as Broxap Litchard or Cuerdon, or similar);
  - Benches to be concreted into the ground

#### Signage and Information

- 5.23. Signage of the SANG will be of high quality with information clearly set out such that it can be easily interpreted. All boards will be of the same design and layout.
- 5.24. A total of 7 No. A2 information boards will be designed and installed at various locations within the SANG (SANG car park and main access points). In the first instance temporary boards will be erected to ensure information is available from the outset, with permanent boards replacing them at a later date. These boards will show a site map (the SANG Plan produced by Fabrik) and highlight the circular routes and all other routes within the SANG, in addition to connections to the wider network of footpaths in the surrounding area. The boards will also show the location of the SANG Car Park, and other features of interest (such as the locations of pill boxes).
- 5.25. The information boards will also provide further relevant information regarding the SANG. This includes information regarding the habitats and wildlife that are likely to be seen within the SANG in addition to providing facts and illustrating locations in which they are likely to be seen. Furthermore, as previously mentioned, information regarding the grazing management and stock locations will be provided along with any other

information relevant to the responsible use of the SANG by dog walkers. Contact phone numbers for site managers and information about events will also be provided. The information boards will also include reference to the SANG Website as a source of additional information for visitors.

- 5.26. Information boards will be constructed following the specifications below:
- Boards to be made from High Pressure Laminate which is vandal proof, fade resistant, anti graffiti and environmentally friendly;
  - Information boards to be concreted into the ground.
- 5.27. New signage of the car park will be provided, with signs to be installed at the main road junctions to the north and east (Sandy Lane and Beacon Hill Roundabout) and from the new development (at Naishes Lane). The approximate locations for these signs are shown on the plan included at Appendix 9.
- 5.28. Signage of the car park will be simple, comprising a metal sign with the term 'Naishes Wood' and including a blue 'P' symbol. Signage will be metal and installed on existing posts.
- 5.29. Given that there is a short walk between the SANG Car Park and the SANG itself, simple waymarker signage (of wooden construction with arrow heads) will be provided in order to direct users to the nearest access point to the SANG (where there will be information boards to provide further information).

## 6. UPDATED SANG MANAGEMENT PLAN

- 6.1. This section of the report sets out an updated SANG Management Plan, which has been developed to accord where possible with the Management Schedule, and also to take into account the findings of the updated site survey and the public consultation exercise which have been undertaken in 2015.

### **Management Rationale**

- 6.2. As outlined previously in this document, Naishes Wood SANG has been provided primarily in order to address the potential for adverse effects to arise on Thames Basin Heaths SPA as a result of an increase in informal recreational pressure.
- 6.3. It is therefore clear that the ongoing management of the SANG must primarily focus on ensuring that it functions effectively to mitigate for any increase in recreational pressure on the SPA.
- 6.4. Management should therefore be focused on ensuring that it is attractive as possible for both new and existing local residents, providing excellent opportunities for informal recreation that are available year-round.
- 6.5. It is noted that the SANG includes a number of non-statutory designated sites (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, or SINC's), which have been designated on account of their ecological value.
- 6.6. Whilst the management of the SANG must necessarily focus on ensuring that it functions effectively to mitigate for effects on the SPA, particular consideration has been given to the reasons for designation of each SINC present within Naishes Wood, and the management prescriptions that will be adopted to maximise their ecological value to secure long term enhancements to these non-statutory designated sites. Consideration has also been given to the monitoring of works with respect to objectives and aims for each SINC.

### **Site Features**

- 6.7. In the 2010 Management Schedule, the SANG was divided into 14 separate Areas, with the proposed capital works and specific management prescriptions defined for each of the habitats present within each Area. However it has been noted that in many cases the management works proposed are very similar or identical for different areas, as the same general habitats occur in multiple locations throughout the SANG.
- 6.8. In order to simplify this Updated SANG Management Plan, a revised approach has been taken which considers 'site features', which typically represent the habitats that are present within the site, but also includes the visitor infrastructure which has been provided (e.g. information boards, signage, etc.). This document outlines the conservation status of each of these features, sets out the vision / objectives and confirms the proposed management which is to be undertaken.



- 6.9. To simplify matters for contractors and other users of the SANG, a Work Schedule has been produced which outlines the work that will be undertaken for each of the 'site features' (habitats as outlined below), and clarifies when works are due to be undertaken (both in terms of season and frequency). This work schedule is included at Appendix 8 of this document.
- 6.10. More detailed consideration is subsequently provided on an Area by Area basis in relation to objectives and targets for each Area, on the basis that a number of these comprise SINC's and therefore consideration of targets for each area would be of most benefit to ensure the most appropriate management.
- 6.11. Where additional, specific management works are proposed for each of these Areas which falls outside of the general habitat management, this is also clarified in the Work Schedule included at Appendix 8.
- 6.12. The current baseline situation in each area is outlined in the plans included at Appendix 2 of this document. Reference should be made to these plans when considering the site features and Area by Area principles as outlined below.
- 6.13. It is noted that the SANG Website previously referred to an area of land as 'Area 15' – Dog Bone Wood. This parcel of land, which comprises an area of woodland and includes part of the bridleway route, is situated to the immediate south and east of the allotments and is due to be transferred to Church Crookham Parish Council.
- 6.14. Whilst some works have previously been undertaken in this area as part of the initial capital works, this parcel falls outside of the agreed area of the SANG and therefore is not referenced in this SANG Management Plan. Nonetheless it is expected that access for visitors along the bridleway passing from Area 12 to Naishes Lane and the SANG Car Park will be retained in any event. The SANG Website will be updated accordingly to clarify this point.
- 6.15. Section 7 of this document outlines the arrangements for the implementation, monitoring and review of the Management Plan.

## **Feature 1: Woodland**

Present in Areas: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13 and 14

### *Status and Description*

- 6.16. A wide variety of woodland types are present within the SANG. Areas of Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland are present in parcels 1, 5, 6, 13 and 14, and in a number of cases underpin the designation of the SINC found within the site. Other areas within the site comprise secondary woodland, some of which has formed as a result of a lack of management of scrubby woodland.
- 6.17. Whilst many areas of woodland present within the site are in good condition, due to a lack of management in recent years large areas of woodland across the SANG support a dense understorey layer of holly. This has led to darker conditions in these areas, suppressing the growth of ground vegetation.
- 6.18. A number of areas of secondary woodland also support dense areas of less desirable species, such as sycamore and larch, which have become established as a result of a lack of management.
- 6.19. Woodland habitats are of value for a range of species, including foraging and roosting bats, nesting birds and invertebrates, with dead wood habitats of particular importance for saproxylic invertebrates.

### *General Objectives*

- Maintain all existing footpaths leading through woodlands in a safe condition for use by the public, with all repairs to be carried out in two weeks;
- Undertake an annual assessment of trees within woodlands (adjacent to footpaths) and undertake tree surgery as required in the interests of public safety;
- Thin dense areas of holly (particularly in Ancient Woodland parcels) and instigation of beneficial management practices e.g. coppicing as appropriate to improve light conditions and enhance opportunities for ground flora;
- To fell, clear or thin invasive or undesirable species, treating stumps (where appropriate) and re-growth with herbicide;
- Maintain all dead wood within woodlands, with the exception of hanging wood and dead wood near footpaths that pose a threat to the general public;
- Create discrete log piles in suitable locations, and consider use of logs to edge the path from the woods (where access into woodlands is considered to be an issue).

### *Management*

- 6.20. Given the variety of woodland types and compositions present at the site, and that many of the SINC's are designated on account of their woodland habitats, the management regime for each woodland parcel will be tailored specifically in order to achieve the maximum biodiversity benefits, whilst ensuring that it supports the primary objective of providing SANG. As such specific management works for each Area are outlined below (as informed by the specific Area objectives). However general management principles are outlined below.
- 6.21. **An annual check will be undertaken in September / October** by a suitable contractor of all trees situated in high risk areas (i.e. those adjacent to the main footpaths and circular routes marked on the SANG Plan included at Appendix 7), in order to determine whether tree surgery works are required for reasons of health and safety. Works shall then be undertaken as required to ensure that these areas remain safe for use by visitors.
- 6.22. **A biennial (every other year) check will be undertaken in September / October** by a suitable contractor of all trees situated in medium risk areas (i.e. those situated adjacent to less frequently used footpaths and routes marked on the SANG Plan). Works shall then be undertaken as required to ensure that these areas also remain safe for use by visitors.
- 6.23. Trees in low risk areas that do not receive a high level of footfall shall be checked on an *ad hoc* basis by contractors whilst undertaking general site management works.
- 6.24. Coppicing works will be undertaken in suitable woodland areas in SINC's in order to improve light levels and encourage the growth of ground flora – notably Areas 6, 13 and 14. Works shall be undertaken on a rotational basis, with target species identified (such as Hazel). Priority will be given to the most overgrown / unstable coppice stools.
- 6.25. Logs and brash from tree felling will be used to create log piles in discrete locations, for the benefit of invertebrates. The number and locations of log piles, particularly within the woodland SINC's, will be restricted in order to avoid potential adverse effects to ground flora. A maximum of four log piles will be provided in any one SINC. All brash and other arisings not stacked will either be chipped or mulched, and removed from SINC's.
- 6.26. A timetable for the management of woodland (and other habitat features) is provided in respect of each Area below.
- 6.27. Woodland management will be undertaken using chainsaws and chippers, with all works to be undertaken by suitably trained personnel.

### *Factors Influencing Management*

- 6.28. All works to trees and scrub will avoid the bird breeding season (March to August inclusive) wherever possible - i.e. works are generally to be undertaken **between September and February inclusive**. Whilst vegetation clearance should generally be undertaken outside of this

period, if essential vegetation removal works need to be carried out during the bird breeding season for reasons of public safety, the features to be affected must be thoroughly checked for breeding birds by a qualified ecologist prior to works being undertaken. Where birds are nesting, the public should be prevented from accessing the area until such time that chicks have fledged.

- 6.29. All contractors should be aware of the potential presence of roosting bats in mature trees, particularly those with features such as dead limbs, rot holes, cracks, splits and peeling bark. If management of trees supporting these features is necessary, contractors will be suitably qualified (e.g. having a 'signs of bats in trees' qualification), or advice should be sought from a suitably qualified ecologist before proceeding.
- 6.30. Extensive survey works undertaken in 2007 and 2009 did not record the presence of hazel dormice within woodlands at Naishes Wood. As such it is considered that this species is not a constraint to the management of woodland habitats.
- 6.31. All tree works near footpaths or areas of public access will be appropriately signed and protected to prevent the public entering areas of potential hazard.
- 6.32. All scrub and tree works will be carried out by a qualified chainsaw operator and in the case of tree works, all works will be carried out by a qualified tree surgeon. In addition all works requiring the operation of machinery will be carried out by suitably qualified personnel with good working knowledge of woodland management.
- 6.33. The presence of invasive species – such as Japanese knotweed and Himalayan balsam – will be monitored by contractors and as part of the ongoing monitoring works, particularly within SINC. Contractors will be provided with guidance on how to identify these species. Should these species be identified (and particularly within any SINC), then management shall be undertaken to remove them, with advice sought from a suitably qualified ecologist / specialist contractor where necessary.

## **Feature 2: Grassland**

Present in Areas: 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12

### *Status and Description*

- 6.34. As with woodlands, the grassland habitats present throughout the SANG vary significantly, from areas of species-rich wet, marshy grassland in Ewshot Marsh (Area 8) to large areas of improved grassland in Areas 11 and 12. In a number of cases the grassland habitats underpin the designation of SINC, specifically Ewshot Marsh SINC and Soanes Field SINC.
- 6.35. However due to a lack of management the extent of scrub and woodland encroachment into a number of grassland areas has been significant, reducing the area of grassland habitats. Indeed very little grassland remains in Area 4 (Soanes Field SINC) due to tree and scrub encroachment.
- 6.36. Grassland habitats are also of value for a range of species, including foraging and commuting bats, foraging birds, badgers and small mammals, reptiles, amphibians and invertebrates.

### *General Objectives*

- Maintain areas of grassland and reduce encroachment by scrub and trees, facilitating open space for the benefit of informal recreation;
- Maintain and demark footpath routes across grasslands through the provision of mown footpaths;
- Instigating management to diversify grassland habitats, providing a variety of sward lengths of benefit to biodiversity, with particular emphasis on grassland SINC;
- Management of undesirable species (such as ragwort).

### *Management*

- 6.37. As for woodlands, given the variety of grassland habitats present within the SANG, the management regime for grasslands will be tailored specifically in order to deliver opportunities for informal recreation and to achieve biodiversity benefits. However in general management of grasslands will be undertaken via two methodologies; grazing and mowing.
- 6.38. A grazing regime will be implemented for Ewshot Marsh SINC (Area 8) and other grasslands in Areas 9, 10, 11 and 12. The grazing regime for Area 8 in particular will be targeted towards achieving biodiversity benefits in line with the designation of the parcel as a SINC, with boardwalks provided to facilitate access for visitors passing across areas of wet, marshy grassland.

- 6.39. Grazing will be undertaken with cattle and horses, and with an appropriate low stocking density to achieve the specific Area objectives. Livestock grazing will help to control more aggressive species that could dominate the swards, and will reduce the level of encroachment by scrub and trees. Cattle are non-selective grazers and do not graze too close to the ground, resulting in a biodiverse sward with a varied structure.
- 6.40. It is considered that cattle grazing within the SANG will be managed on a 'rotational' basis, once established, with cattle moved from one area to another as required to achieve the desired aims, with the use of temporary fencing as required to restrict grazing. Grazing will be undertaken between September and late March each year. In order to achieve nature conservation benefits a stocking density of one animal per hectare is proposed, although this may need to be varied in order to achieve the specific targets as set out for each Area (for instance, in terms of sward height).
- 6.41. All land which is grazed will be checked regularly by the site warden, in order to ensure that stock is healthy, boundaries are intact and that areas are not becoming poached (particularly within Ewshot Marsh). Current grazing arrangements are on a two year running agreement, and the grazier is required to maintain fences and to report any concerns or damage to the site manager.
- 6.42. The presence of a low number of docile cattle and horses is considered to be consistent with the use of the fields by dog walkers, as seen on many nature reserves, heathlands or other open spaces (and indeed the SPA).
- 6.43. Areas of grassland in Areas 3 and 7 (and remnant areas of grassland in Area 4) will be managed according to a suitable mowing regime. The regime will vary according to the objectives for each area (please see below). Areas will typically be subject to a **single annual cut in late July / August** (outside of the main bird nesting season), and all arisings will be removed from the site.
- 6.44. Where informal footpath routes are provided, regular mowing will be undertaken to ensure that the informal footpaths remain accessible and open for use throughout the year. Mowing will be undertaken on a **monthly basis between March and September** to ensure a sward height of no more than 60mm along informal footpaths.
- 6.45. Grassland management will be undertaken using pedestrian mowers and tractor mowers, with all works to be undertaken by suitably qualified personnel.
- 6.46. Specific management will be undertaken to control the extent of ragwort, through hand pulling and targeted application of herbicides as appropriate. However some ragwort will be retained in selected locations as it has benefits as a nectar source (especially in late summer).

#### *Factors Influencing Management*

- 6.47. Where grassland is to be mown, the tractor operator must check for the presence of ground-nesting birds amongst any areas of tussocky or long sward. If nesting birds are present, mowing should be postponed until chicks have fledged or alternatively, the nests should be avoided. As outlined above, in general management will be undertaken after the main bird breeding season has finished.
- 6.48. Areas of longer grassland within Naishes Wood SANG may also support reptile species. As such contractors will be made aware of their potential presence, and management works such as mowing / cutting undertaken in such a way as to avoid potential harm or injury. With the exception of mown pathways (which will always be kept shorter), grasslands will be cut to a height of no less than 100mm. Works will be undertaken in a methodical manner that avoids trapping reptiles in an area of longer grassland, and instead encourages them to move away safely. Works should also be undertaken during suitable conditions (ideally warm, dry weather).
- 6.49. The extent of scrub encroachment into grassland areas – and particularly grassland SINC's such as Ewshot Marsh – shall be monitored by contractors, and as part of the regular monitoring of the site. The presence of invasive species within grassland habitats will also be monitored.

### **Feature 3: Trees, scrub and hedgerows**

Present in Areas: 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12

#### *Status and Description*

- 6.50. Individual trees, areas of scrub and hedgerows are present throughout the SANG and define many of the boundaries of each Area. The extent of these habitats has increased significantly over recent years, primarily as a result of a lack of grassland management.
- 6.51. However in order to deliver the objectives of the SANG (for both recreation and biodiversity), it is necessary to reduce the extent of some of these habitats within the SANG, although the features of greatest value will be retained and managed appropriately.
- 6.52. Trees, scrub and hedgerow offer a variety of opportunities for faunal species, such as bats, badgers, birds and invertebrates.

#### *General Objectives*

- Undertake an annual assessment of all individual trees (adjacent to footpaths) and undertake tree surgery as required in the interests of public safety;
- Control tree sapling and scrub encroachment in grasslands, particularly large stands of dense scrub and trees, in order to retain open character and enhance grassland biodiversity;
- Manage hedgerows and treelines in order to enhance their structure and ecological value;

#### *Management*

- 6.53. **An annual check will be undertaken in September / October** of all trees in high risk areas (please see woodlands above for definition) by a suitable contractor in order to determine whether tree surgery works are required for reasons of health and safety. Trees in medium risk areas will be checked on a **biennial basis**, whilst trees in low risk areas will be checked on an *ad hoc* basis during the course of normal site management. Works shall then be undertaken as required to ensure that all areas remain safe for use by visitors.
- 6.54. A limited proportion of logs and brash from vegetation removal works will be used to create log piles in discrete locations, for the benefit of invertebrates. All brash and other arisings not stacked will either be chipped or mulched in suitable locations (e.g. in woodland areas), or removed from the site. As noted above, a maximum of four log piles will be provided in any one SINC and brash and other arisings not stacked will be removed from SINC.
- 6.55. Hedgerow management will be reintroduced across the SANG, and will include both newly planted hedgerows and existing hedgerows and



treelines. Mature hedgerows will be subject to laying works in order to improve their structure. Hedgerows will be trimmed on rotation using a tractor-mounted flail. Works will be undertaken No more than 50% of any one hedge will be cut in any given year, with hedgerows managed every third year.

- 6.56. Tree, scrub and hedgerow management will be undertaken using chainsaws and hand tools, with all works to be undertaken by suitably qualified personnel.

*Factors Influencing Management*

- 6.57. All works to trees and scrub will avoid the bird breeding season (March to August inclusive) wherever possible – i.e. works are generally to be undertaken **between September and February inclusive**. Whilst vegetation clearance should generally be undertaken outside of this period, if essential vegetation removal works need to be carried out during the bird breeding season for reasons of public safety, the features to be affected must be thoroughly checked for breeding birds by a qualified ecologist prior to works being undertaken. Where birds are nesting, the public should be prevented from accessing the area until such time that chicks have fledged.

## **Feature 4: Access and Interpretation**

Present in Areas: All

### *Status and Description*

- 6.58. The SANG supports an extensive network of footpaths, including: the 'stoned' circular route, with a gravel surface and accessible by all year-round; lengths of boardwalk passing across Ewshot Marsh; bridleway track, leading east to west across the SANG, and; extensive network of informal mown footpaths.
- 6.59. A significant number of access points are available into the SANG, including both formal and informal entrances. The key entrances were identified as part of the visitor survey exercise and subject to survey.
- 6.60. A number of World War 2 pillboxes are situated throughout the SANG, providing features of particular historical interest. These have all been subject to works to make them safe for people to visit them.
- 6.61. A significant level of work to remove undesirable items such as old wire fencing and rubbish associated with previous uses has been undertaken throughout the SANG.
- 6.62. Seven information boards will be located at the main access points to the SANG (those which were subject to the visitor survey). These contain key information such as:
- The locations of footpaths, including both the 'stoned' circular route, designated public rights of way, the new bridleway, boardwalks and informal mown footpaths;
  - The locations of additional features such as pillboxes, other information boards and the location of the SANG Car Park;
  - Guidance in relation to acceptable visitor behaviour (please see Visitor Access Strategy section above);
  - Species and habitats present within the SANG; and
  - Contact numbers and sources of additional information (such as the SANG Project website)
- 6.63. Following feedback from the consultation exercise, a limited number of dog and litter bins and benches will be installed in selected key locations around the SANG; however locations have been carefully selected to ensure that the SANG remains informal in nature.
- 6.64. A number of dog bins and litter bins will be provided, with one situated at each of the following key access points: the main entrance to the SANG opposite the SANG Car Park (northern end of Area 8); the entrance to the SANG adjacent to the Village Hall Car Park (southern end of Area 9); the main access point at the eastern end of Area 7; and the well used

trackway leading from Naishes Lane to the west (south-eastern point of Area 2). These correspond to Access Points 2, 3, 6 and 7 of the visitor survey.

- 6.65. A small number of wooden benches will be provided at suitable locations such as adjacent to the 'stoned' circular route (e.g. within Area 9) and at certain viewpoints (e.g. the northern end of Area 11).
- 6.66. Visually sensitive waymarkers are also situated throughout the SANG to mark selected circular routes, whilst wooden fencing has been installed to separate areas and uses within the SANG. As noted above, a significant proportion of this fencing has now been removed in order to ensure that the SANG retains a semi-natural character.
- 6.67. The SANG also includes a large car park at Naishes Lane, which is shared with users of the adjacent allotments, and which will be signposted from the main roads.
- 6.68. A plan showing the distribution of these features across Naishes Wood SANG has been produced by Fabrik and is included at Appendix 6.
- 6.69. In addition to updates to this document generally, the following matters were agreed at the latest QEB SANG Stakeholder Meeting, held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2017:
  - New signs will be erected to re-direct vehicles away from Ewshot Village Hall Car Park;
  - The provision of dog bins, currently situated at seven main access points, will be reviewed;
  - A child-safe area is required in association with the walking routes in the SANG;
  - Additional information will be provided to new residents regarding the SANG;
  - The existing SANG website will be updated, an electronic copy of the SANG map circulated and the revised management plan made available through an online storage facility;
  - TCL, the management contractor, will provide a rolling programme of issues they are addressing, issued on a semi-annual basis.

#### *General Objectives*

- Maintaining visitor access across the SANG by monitoring footpath routes and conditions, providing year-round recreational opportunities for users;
- Ensure SANG remains safe for users and provides opportunities for a range of user groups (with a focus on the user types which could affect the SPA);

- Ensuring that information on routes, access etc. remains available for users to enhance their visitor experience;
- Undertaking ongoing maintenance to address issues

### *Management*

- 6.70. Maintenance of the SANG features will be undertaken by TCL, and will include a regular schedule of checks of all SANG features (including fences, gates, benches, bins, information boards, pill boxes, etc.) to ensure that they are in good condition, safe and free from damage. Repairs will be undertaken within two weeks of first being identified or reported.
- 6.71. The contact number for the Estate Manager is provided on the information boards, allowing visitors to contact him to inform of any works that need to be undertaken.
- 6.72. Litter and dog bins will be emptied on a regular basis (every week).

### **Area by Area Principles**

- 6.73. This section outlines specific principles, objectives and targets for each Area, in order to deliver the overall Vision and Objectives for the SANG. Reference is made in the plans below to the baseline situation, as outlined on the Figures included at Appendix 2 of this document.
- 6.74. Having consulted Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre (HBIC), no formal citation documents for the SINC's present within Naishes Wood SANG have been prepared. However the reasons for designation of each SINC have been highlighted below, in the light of the criteria outlined in HBIC. The full list of criteria for designation of SINC's are included at Appendix 10 of this document.
- 6.75. This section has been updated in January 2018 to reflect the first review of management undertaken in line with paragraph 7.6 of this document.

### *Area 1 – Soanes Copse / Wood Copse SINC (Figure 1)*

Reasons for designation: Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (Criterion 1A); and Pasture woodland and wooded commons, not included in any of the above, which are of considerable biological and historical interest (Criterion 1D) (see Appendix 10 for full list of criteria).

Size: Approximately 8.4 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- Existing old damaged fencing and wire has been removed from Soanes Copse and Wood Copse SINC as part of the work. In addition 1.5 metre tall post and rail fencing has been installed around the perimeter of the woodland.
- Three kissing gates and a five bar gate have been installed to facilitate access into Area 1 from Sandy Lane to the north and Area 3 to the south-east, to facilitate access through Area 1 and linkages to Area 3 and beyond.
- An existing footpath sign is located adjacent to Sandy Lane, although no other signage is present or proposed within Area 1.
- Necessary tree surgery has been undertaken in the interests of health and safety.

Specific Targets:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Upper Limit</b>	<b>Lower Limit</b>
Extent of canopy cover	90%	75%
Cover of temporary or permanent open spaces (along wayleave)	25%	10%
Locally native tree and shrub species	100%	90%
Dead wood	N/A	> 3 trees / ha
Ground flora referable to relevant woodland communities	100%	80%

Specific Management Actions:

- Thin, by 20%, dense areas of holly in Ancient Woodland to improve light conditions. Some removal of holly has been undertaken to date. Works to be undertaken on a ten year cycle.

*Area 2 – Secondary Woodland and plantation to east of Wood Copse SINC (Figure 2)*

Size: Approximately 3.3 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A number of informal pathways have been provided within Area 2 which link up to routes within Areas 3 and 4. Access into the parcel is possible from Sandy Lane (to the north) and Naishes Lane (to the east). An informal pathway has also been provided alongside the ASU building into Area 1.
- Post and rail fencing has been provided along the northern and eastern boundaries of the woodland.
- Necessary tree surgery has been undertaken in the interests of health and safety.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Extent of canopy cover	80%	70%
Cover of temporary or permanent open spaces (cleared areas)	25%	10%
Locally native tree and shrub species	100%	80%
Dead wood	N/A	> 3 trees / ha
Ground flora referable to relevant woodland communities	100%	80%

Specific Management Actions:

- Area of larch plantation to be managed to encourage a gradual succession to mature oak woodland over a 25 year cycle. Regeneration within the plantation area will be managed appropriately through mowing and cutting on a three year cycle.
- Selective thinning of dense single age stands will be carried out as considered appropriate in the area of secondary woodland closest to Sandy Lane. Selective thinning will also be undertaken in the area of mature secondary woodland immediately to the north of the former ASU building site.
- All sycamore saplings in the area of secondary woodland to the south of the ASU building site will be cleared, with stumps treated.
- Coppice management of hazel to be reintroduced in the western part of the secondary woodland, to the south of the ASU building site, with 10% of hazel stools to be coppiced on a rolling five year cycle.





*Area 3 – Field to south of Wood Copse SINC (Figure 3)*

Size: Approximately 1.9 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A two metre wide mown footpath has been created in the western part of Area 3 as outlined on Figure 3. Furthermore other informal footpaths have been noted in the eastern part of the parcel, which link to the various access points leading to Area 1 and Area 2.
- A crossing point and a number of kissing gates are present along the boundaries of Area 3, providing good connections with routes into other areas. These routes link up to the well-used footpath which is present along the southern boundary of Area 3.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of grassland communities	90%	75%
Cover of trees and scrub	20%	10%

Specific Management Actions:

- A 4-year rotational mowing regime will be introduced by dividing the field into 4 compartments. One compartment per year will be mown to a sward height of approximately 50mm in August, with all arisings to be removed from the site. This will include removal of some Bramble scrub which is present within the grassland.
- Where required additional management will be undertaken on a selective basis in order clear areas of self-seeded trees and/or dense Bramble scrub.

#### *Area 4 – Soanes Field SINC (Figure 4)*

Reason for designation: Grasslands that have become impoverished through inappropriate management but which retain sufficient elements of relic unimproved grassland to enable recovery (Criterion 2D)

Size: Approximately 2.9 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been provided around the perimeter of Soanes Field SINC. Existing old damaged fencing and wire has also been removed from Area 4.
- A two metre wide footpath has been created leading into and across Area 4, which links the two kissing gates situated to the north (adjacent to the existing public right of way) and south. This provides a link between Areas 1 and 3 to the north and the area of new development to the south.

Specific Targets:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Upper Limit</b>	<b>Lower Limit</b>
Initial: clearance of secondary woodland	50% of parcel	25% of parcel
Ongoing tree / scrub cover of cleared areas	10%	5%
Ongoing canopy cover of wooded areas	70%	50%
Dead wood within wooded areas	N/A	>3 trees / ha

Specific Management Actions:

- Due to a lack of management Area 4 comprises secondary woodland and scrub, with no grassland currently present. In order to restore areas of grassland, tree and scrub removal will be undertaken within the woodland to create a number of large clearings. Consideration will be given to the use of selective scraping to remove the nutrient layer, in order to promote the re-establishment of grassland habitats. Ongoing management of these clearings will seek to retain scrub growing adjacent to the pathway, but keep the clearings open, in order to discourage visitors from accessing the grassland areas.
- Woodland management in Area 4 will include: felling areas of young oak woodland by 30% to reduce extent; extensively thinning dense single age stands of trees in woodland; and encouraging scrub habitat along the woodland/grassland boundary.
- Once grassland has become established, a 2 year rotational cutting regime will be introduced (dividing the grassland area into two compartments). Every other year, each will be mown to a height of approximately 50mm. All arisings will be removed from the site.

### *Area 5 – Wakefords Copse SINC (Figure 5)*

Reasons for designation: Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (Criterion 1A); and Pasture woodland and wooded commons, not included in any of the above, which are of considerable biological and historical interest (Criterion 1D)

Size: Approximately 6.0 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- Existing old damaged fencing and wire has been removed from Wakefords Copse SINC, and a 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been provided around the perimeter of the SINC. In addition two kissing gates and a five bar gate have been installed to provide access into the woodland.
- An informal pathway has been provided through Area 5, which leads through Wakefords Copse from the kissing gate on Naishes Lane (opposite Area 2) to the kissing gate on Leipzig Road (opposite Area 6). This has involved the removal of a number of trees.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Extent of canopy cover	85%	70%
Cover of temporary or permanent open spaces (clearings and ride)	25%	10%
Locally native tree and shrub species	100%	90%
Dead wood	N/A	> 3 trees / ha
Ground flora referable to relevant woodland communities	100%	80%

Specific Management Actions:

- The management emphasis of Area 5 will be less intensive than other areas within the SANG, in order to promote a 'wild character' and in order to promote the copse as a wildlife refuge area.
- The stand of secondary birch, sycamore, oak and rowan woodland in north east corner of Wakefords Copse will be thinned, as considered appropriate, as part of ongoing management works. Emphasis will be placed on the removal of sycamore and promotion of oak development. Groups of trees in the secondary woodland will be selectively felled, with some individuals ring-barked to provide alternative deadwood habitat.
- Dense areas of holly understorey will be thinned by 20% to improve light conditions within the woodland generally. Canopy branches will

be cut back along rides and the line of the informal footpath as necessary.

- The bat building provided within the new development to the south of Area 5 will continue to be monitored in line with the conditions of the bat licence (to be undertaken by ecologist).

### *Area 6 – Long Gut Copse SINC (Figure 6)*

Reasons for designation: Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (Criterion 1A); and sites which support one or more notable species (narrow-leaved everlasting pea *Lathyrus sylvestris*) (Criterion 6A).

Size: Approximately 6.7 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been provided around the perimeter of the woodland in Area 6 (with bollards provided along the northern and eastern boundary). A total of three kissing gates and a five bar gate have been installed to provide access into Area 6.
- The informal footpath leading through Area 6 links to Leipzig Road (and therefore Area 5) to the north, Area 7 to the south and the existing area of open space adjacent to Quetta Park to the west.
- Necessary tree surgery has been undertaken in the interests of health and safety.
- Areas of existing old damaged fencing and wire have been removed.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Extent of canopy cover	90%	75%
Cover of temporary or permanent open spaces (way-leaves)	25%	10%
Locally native tree and shrub species	100%	90%
Dead wood	N/A	> 3 trees / ha
Ground flora referable to relevant woodland communities	100%	80%

Specific Management Actions:

- As with Area 5, the management emphasis of Area 6 will be less intensive than other areas to promote a 'wild character' and in order to promote the woodland as a wildlife refuge area.
- A number of trees within Area 6 will be selectively felled as appropriate, with some individuals ring-barked to provide alternative deadwood habitat.
- Dense areas of holly understorey will be thinned by 20% to improve light conditions within the woodland, and a rotational coppice regime

for hazel will be established. In first year, priority should be given to most overgrown/unstable coppice stools.

- All young sycamore with a dbh (diameter at breast height) of less than 20cm will be removed, retaining only mature specimens. The woodland will be monitored for establishment of sycamore, with any re-growth treated and any new saplings removed on an annual basis.
- Increasing light levels within the woodland through thinning of dense holly stands and coppicing of hazel will enhance conditions for ground flora including narrow-leaved everlasting pea.

### *Area 7 – Fields to north-east of Ewshot Marsh SINC (Figure 7)*

Size: Approximately 10.0 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre high post and rail fencing has been installed around the perimeter of the Area 7.
- A bridleway has been provided along the southern boundary of Area 7. This provides a link between Naishes Lane (to the west) and Tadpole Lane (to the east). Moreover the bridleway provides a link to areas of boardwalk provided in the northern and southern parts of Area 8, and the stoned route beyond
- A significant number of kissing gates and five bar gates have been installed around the perimeter of Area 7, which provide very good connections to Area 6 to the north, Area 8 to the south, Naishes Lane to the west and Tadpole Lane to the east.
- A series of regularly mown informal routes link these various access points, providing an extensive network of routes available for users.
- New hedgerow planting has been undertaken adjacent to the bridleway (along the northern side).
- Visually sensitive and robust way markers have been provided to demark circular routes which pass through Area 7.
- Information boards have been placed at the main access points leading into Area 7, including adjacent to the bridleway in the north-western corner (closest point to the SANG Car Park), and in the south-eastern corner adjacent to the kissing gate. Dog bins and litter bins have also been provided in these locations.
- Areas of existing old damaged fencing and wire have been removed from Area 7 as part of the ongoing works.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of trees / scrub (across whole Area)	25%	10%
Sward length in summer (main grassland area, in mm)	1500	100
Sward length in summer (mown pathways, in mm)	60	10
Canopy cover (woodland / scrub area)	70%	60%

### Specific Management Actions:

- Grassland fields will be mown once annually in July or August. All arisings will be removed from the site.
- The stand of scrubby woodland adjacent to Long Gut Copse SINC will be thinned by felling individual trees as appropriate.
- The pond is to be subject to suitable management to include the removal of debris and pollutants where required.
- Dense shrub along the north of Area 7 is to be subject to suitable management, with works to be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season wherever possible.



### Area 8 – Ewshot Marsh SINC (Figure 8)

Reason for designation: Agriculturally unimproved grassland (Criterion 2A); fens, flushes, seepages, springs, inundation grasslands etc. that support a flora and fauna characteristic of unimproved and waterlogged (seasonal or permanent) conditions (Criterion 5B), and; sites which support one or more notable species (common bistort *Persicaria bistorta*) (Criterion 6A)

Size: Approximately 6.2 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- Areas of existing old damaged fencing and wire have been removed from Ewshot Marsh SINC and a 1.5 metre high post and rail fencing installed around the perimeter of the parcel.
- A significant number of kissing gates have been installed along the north-eastern and south-western boundaries of Area 8, which provide very good links between Area 7 to the north and Areas 9 and 10 to the south.
- Two sections of boardwalk have been provided to allow visitors to pass over areas of wet marshy grassland within Ewshot Marsh. These boardwalks traverse the northern and southern parts of the SINC and ensure that access passing through the SINC is possible year-round, regardless of the ground conditions within Area 8.
- In order to restrict water flow from the marsh and provide wetter ground conditions, an engineered red brick structure has been provided at the north-eastern part of Area 8. This has caused waterbodies to form in the northern part of Ewshot Marsh SINC.
- Visually sensitive and robust way markers have been provided to demark the circular routes as they pass through Area 8 (across the two boardwalk sections).

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of trees / scrub (across whole Area)	20%	10%
Cover of trees / scrub (in northern half of Area)	10%	5%
Extent of open water / waterlogged ground (in northern half of Area)	10%	5%
Average sward length in summer (marshy grassland area, in mm)	1500	1000
Ground flora relevant to marshy grassland / wet grassland communities (number of species)	N/A	8

### Specific Management Actions:

- Grassland management at Ewshot Marsh SINC will be undertaken through the use of grazing by cattle. Consideration will be given to the use of selective scraping to remove the nutrient layer (in locations where scrub removal is required), in order to promote the re-establishment of wetland and grassland habitats.
- Monitoring of scrub and woodland encroachment and removal as required. The majority of the initial overshadowing vegetation has been removed.
- The boardwalks passing through Area 8 will be regularly inspected (weekly) and maintained in order to ensure that they function effectively and are safe for users.
- Watercourses and wetter areas to be subject to suitable management to include the removal of debris and pollutants where required

### *Area 9 – Field to the south of Ewshot Marsh SINC (Figure 9)*

Size: Approximately 2.3 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- Existing old damaged fencing and wire has been removed from Area 9, and a 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been provided around the boundaries of the parcel. A total of seven kissing gates and two five-bar gate have been installed to provide access into Area 6 from Areas 8, 10 and 11, Tadpole Lane (to the east) and the Ewshot Village Hall Car Park to the south.
- A gravel path has been provided, leading through Area 9 from the kissing gates adjoining Area 10 in the north-west to the kissing gate adjoining the boardwalk in Area 8 in the east. This forms part of the stoned circular route.
- In addition a number of informal pathways have been created throughout Area 9 through the provision of a network of mown footpaths.
- Visually sensitive and robust way markers have been provided to demark the circular routes as they pass through Area 9
- An information board has been placed at the main access point in the southern part of Area 9 (leading from the Village Hall Car Park). A dog bin and litter bin was also provided in this location.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of trees / scrub (across 'grassland' area)	25%	10%
Sward length in summer (main grassland area, in mm)	1500	100
Sward length in summer (mown pathways, in mm)	60	10
Canopy cover (secondary woodland area)	90%	75%

Specific Management Actions:

- The grassland within Area 9 will be managed through the implementation of a grazing regime using cattle
- Bramble scrub will be controlled in favour of the woody element of the hedgerow with mature Oak standards along the south-west boundary.
- The encroachment of Bramble scrub and self-seeded trees within the wider area will be controlled/removed on a selective basis as required.

### *Area 10 – Field to west of Ewshot Marsh SINC (Figure 10)*

Size: Approximately 3.4 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been provided around the boundaries of the parcel. A total of six kissing gates and three five-bar gate have been installed, which provide access to Naishes Lane to the west, Area 8 to the north, Area 9 to the east and Area 11 to the south.
- A gravel path has been provided, leading through Area 10 from the kissing gates adjoining Area 9 in the south-east to the kissing gate adjoining the boardwalk in Area 8 in the north-west. This forms part of the stoned circular route.
- Furthermore a network of informal mown footpaths has been provided throughout Area 10 which link the various access points and the gravel path.
- Visually sensitive and robust way markers have been provided to demark the circular routes as they pass through Area 10.
- Areas of existing old damaged fencing and wire have been removed from Area 10.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of trees / scrub (across whole Area)	30%	15%
Sward length in summer (main grassland area, in mm)	1500	100
Sward length in summer (mown pathways, in mm)	60	10

Specific Management Actions:

- The grassland within Area 10 will be managed through the implementation of a grazing regime using cattle. However given the significant level of scrub and tree encroachment into this parcel, areas of scrub and trees will need to be removed in order to facilitate effective grazing of this parcel. Consideration will be given to the use of selective scraping to remove the nutrient layer, in order to promote the re-establishment of grassland habitats.
- Hazel present in the hedgerows along the southern, north-western and western boundaries will be laid, with the understorey and canopy trees thinned as appropriate on a six year cycle.

### *Area 11 – Field at the southern boundary (Figure 11)*

Size: Approximately 7.3 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been provided in selected locations. A total of eight kissing gates and four five-bar gate have been installed, which provide access to Areas 9 and 10 to the north, Ewshot Lane to the south and Naishes Lane to the west.
- A kissing gate has been installed in the south-western corner of Area 11 in order to provide a better link to Naishes Lane to the west, and Area 12 beyond.
- The existing footpath network through Area 11 has been formalised through the introduction of regular mowing of routes, which link up to the various access points and provide a variety of alternative route permutations and walk lengths.
- Visually sensitive and robust way markers have been provided to demark the informal circular route as it passes through Area 11
- Areas of existing old damaged fencing and wire have been removed from Area 11.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of trees / scrub (across whole Area)	25%	10%
Sward length in summer (main grassland area, in mm)	1500	100
Sward length in summer (mown pathways, in mm)	60	10
Canopy cover (secondary woodland area)	90%	75%

Specific Management Actions:

- The grassland within Area 11 will be managed through the implementation of a grazing regime with cattle

## *Area 12 – Fields to west of Naishes Lane (Figure 12)*

Size: Approximately 9.8 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre high post and rail fencing has been installed around the perimeter of the parcel.
- A bridleway has been provided leading across Area 12 from Ewshot Lane to the west to Naishes Lane in the east.
- A significant number of kissing gates have been installed throughout Area 12, providing access points leading to the south and west (to Ewshot Lane), to the east (to Naishes Lane and Areas 10 and 11 beyond) and to the north (adjacent to the allotments).
- In addition a network of informal pathways have been provided throughout Area 12 through the introduction of regular mowing of routes, which link up to the various access points and provide a variety of alternative route permutations and walk lengths.
- Visually sensitive and robust way markers have been provided to demark the informal circular route as it passes through Area 12
- Areas of existing old damaged fencing, wire and concrete posts have been removed from Area 12.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Cover of trees / scrub (across whole Area)	15%	5%
Sward length in summer (main grassland area, in mm)	1500	100
Sward length in summer (mown pathways, in mm)	60	10

Specific Management Actions:

- The management of grasslands within Area 12 will be undertaken through the implementation of a grazing or mowing regime, including grazing by Horses.
- Young, tall oaks to create future standards along the eastern boundary with Naishes Lane will be monitored and selectively thinned where necessary.
- Management works within Area 12 will have regard to the artificial Badger sett situated in close proximity to the parcel, and the potential use of the site by Badgers.

### *Area 13 – Shaw Copse SINC (Figure 13)*

Reasons for designation: Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (Criterion 1A)

Size: Approximately 0.7 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- Existing old damaged fencing and wire has been removed from Shaw Copse SINC, and a 1.5 metre tall post and rail fence has been installed around the boundary of the woodland. A five-bar gate has been installed to allow access for management.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Extent of canopy cover	90%	75%
Locally native tree and shrub species	100%	90%
Dead wood	N/A	> 3 trees / ha
Ground flora referable to relevant woodland communities	100%	80%

Specific Management Actions:

- A rotational coppice regime for the woodland has been reintroduced. This involves coppicing every fifth year at the rate of 25% of stools per year.
- Dense areas of holly will be thinned by 20% to improve light conditions.

#### *Area 14 – Riddings Copse SINC (Figure 14)*

Reasons for designation: Ancient Semi-Natural Woodland (Criterion 1A)

Size: Approximately 4.5 hectares

Capital Works undertaken:

- A 1.5 metre high post and rail fencing has been installed around the perimeter of the woodland. A total of four kissing gates have been provided to facilitate access into this parcel, with an informal footpath linking access point.
- Areas of existing old damaged fencing and wire have been removed from Riddings Copse SINC.

Specific Targets:

Criteria	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Extent of canopy cover	90%	75%
Cover of temporary or permanent open spaces (way-leave)	25%	10%
Locally native tree and shrub species	100%	90%
Dead wood	N/A	> 3 trees / ha
Ground flora referable to relevant woodland communities	100%	80%

Specific Management Actions:

- An initial programme of coppicing will be undertaken in order to help achieve the desired criteria for the SINC. A rotational coppice regime has begun and will involve coppicing at the rate of 25% of stools every fifth year. Priority is being given to the most overgrown/unstable coppice stools.
- Dense areas of holly are being thinned as appropriate to improve light conditions.



## 7. MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES, MONITORING AND REVIEW

- 7.1. The initial establishment / remediation works and management of the SANG has been undertaken by TCL on behalf of Taylor Wimpey. The ongoing management and maintenance works within the SANG will continue to be undertaken by TCL, under the guidance of the Management Company which was established as part of the Section 106 Agreement for the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks development.
- 7.2. In line with the wording of the Section 106 Agreement, the SANG Land will be maintained in accordance with the requirements of this Updated SANG Management Plan (which replaces the Management Schedule) for 80 years.
- 7.3. In order to discuss the implementation of the Management Plan, and to address any issues as they arise, biannual (six monthly) stakeholder meetings will be held. Attendees at the meetings will include Taylor Wimpey, the management contactor (TCL), Natural England and Hart District Council, in addition to other relevant local groups including Church Crookham Parish Council and Ewshot Parish Council. Meetings will typically be undertaken in Spring and Autumn. Where issues are raised that require action, these will be implemented by TCL in the subsequent six month period and the situation re-assessed at the next meeting.
- 7.4. In order to take on board comments from the general public regarding the management of the SANG, the SANG Website will be expanded to include a discussion board where visitors can leave comments regarding any concerns, issues or areas where they believe works are required. Consultation responses shall be collated and discussed at the next stakeholder meeting, with actions undertaken to address concerns as appropriate.
- 7.5. The presence of the discussion board shall be highlighted on the SANG information boards, and visitors encouraged to provide comments using this forum.

### *Monitoring and Review*

- 7.6. It is recommended that there is a review of all management **every two years** following the adoption of this Management Plan (taken to represent a robust baseline in 2015). The review of management would entail the following elements:
  - Undertaking a full site walkover and update regarding the delivery and maintenance of SANG features and infrastructure, such as footpaths, information boards, bins, dog bins, gates and signs;
  - An assessment of the quality of SINCs present within the SANG (as per paragraph 7.8 below), with recommendations provided for future management to enhance their ecological value; and
  - Taking into account the views of SANG users by assessing responses provided on the SANG website discussion boards (rather

than a full visitor survey and consultation exercise). This exercise would be promoted by adding notices to information boards to make SANG users aware of the online survey

- 7.7. Following this review, and following consultation with Natural England and Hart District Council, amendments will be made (where necessary) to the Work Schedule included at Appendix 8 of this document to outline the updated arrangements for future management, together with amendments to the text of this document as required (such as amending the habitat targets for SINC's). The updated version of these parts of the document will subsequently be used to inform future stakeholder meetings
- 7.8. In order to inform the specific management of the SINC's present within Naishes Wood SANG, all non-statutory designated sites will be periodically monitored (at least once during every five year period) by a suitably qualified ecologist (potentially Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre) in order to ascertain their current ecological value, and to identify future management recommendations. These recommendations should be included as part of the review of the SANG Management Plan, wherever possible, and will inform the ongoing status of these non-statutory designated sites.
- 7.9. Ongoing monitoring will also be undertaken to monitor the level of use of the SANG by visitors. This would entail visitor surveys being undertaken in Years 5 and 10, based on the methodology for the 'face to face' interview surveys that were undertaken in 2015 to inform this Updated SANG Management Plan (see Appendix 3).
- 7.10. Simpler monitoring of visitor usage at the SANG (e.g. a 'counter' survey or similar) will be undertaken every two years. The findings of the surveys would be analysed in relation to SANG capacity, and also views regarding management that is being undertaken. The visitor survey results would be used to inform any updates to the Management Plan moving forward.

## **APPENDICES**

## **APPENDIX 1**

**Queen Elizabeth Barracks and Wakeford Copse, Church Crookham  
– Management Schedule (Ecology Solutions, December 2010)**



TAYLOR WIMPEY

QUEEN ELIZABETH  
BARRACKS &  
WAKEFORDS COPSE,  
CHURCH CROOKHAM

## **Management Schedule**

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## A. INTRODUCTION

A.1. The following schedules relate to individual management areas within the Queen Elizabeth Barracks and Wakefords Copse application site, including the Southern Area. Each area is numbered and its location is shown on Figure A.

A.2. All specific capital and long-term management works pertaining to each compartment are set out in the schedules that follow. General provisions relating to all compartments, and which need to be included within the legal document, are set out below:

- all scrub and tree works will be carried out by a qualified chainsaw operator and in the case of tree works, all works will be carried out by a qualified tree surgeon;
- all works requiring the operation of machinery will be carried out by suitably qualified personnel;
- all works to hedgerows, trees and scrub will avoid the bird breeding season (March to August). In the event that tree works need to be carried out during the bird breeding season for reasons of public safety, the tree must be thoroughly checked for breeding birds by a qualified ecologist prior to felling/lopping. Where birds are nesting, the public should be prevented from accessing the area until such time that chicks have fledged;
- all tree works near footpaths or areas of public access will be appropriately signed and protected to prevent the public entering areas of potential hazard;
- where grassland is to be mown, the tractor operator must check for the presence of ground-nesting birds amongst any tussocky sward. If nesting birds are present, mowing should be postponed until chicks have fledged or alternatively, the nests should be avoided;
- a number of information boards to be installed as appropriate;
- it is recommended that there is a review of all management every 5 years for a period of 80 years after the first residential occupation. Following each review, a management plan will be drawn up for the next 5-year period;

- it is recommended that annual monitoring of the effectiveness of the SANGS is undertaken in an appropriate form to be agreed with Natural England; and
- it is recommended that site infrastructure (fences, gates, etc.) is monitored and repaired as required. Repairs to be undertaken within two weeks of first being identified or reported.

## **1. AREA 1 – SOANES COPSE / WOOD COPSE SINC (FIGURE 1)**

### **1.1. Capital Works**

- remove existing old damaged fencing and wire from Soanes and Wood Copse SINC;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail fencing or equivalent around perimeter of woodland, as shown on Figure 1;
- install x4 kissing gates at the locations shown on Figure 1;
- install x2 5-bar gates at locations shown on Figure 1;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

### **1.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- create log piles on glade edges during all tree works;
- maintain all dead wood within all woodland with the exception of hanging wood and dead wood near footpaths that pose a threat to the general public;
- thin, by 20%, dense areas of Holly in ancient woodland as appropriate to improve light conditions, repeating management on a ten year cycle;
- fell/clear invasive species and treat stumps (where appropriate), treating any re-growth with herbicide;
- maintain footpaths in safe condition for use by the public, carry out all repairs within two weeks;
- carry out an annual assessment of trees and undertake tree surgery in the interests of public safety;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

## **2. AREA 2 – SECONDARY WOODLAND AND PLANTATION TO EAST OF WOOD COPSE SINC (FIGURE 2)**

### **2.1. Capital Works**

- install a new, surfaced footpath along the route shown on Figure 2;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINCs. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

### **2.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- manage Larch plantation to encourage a gradual succession to mature Oak woodland over a 25 year cycle;
- control regeneration in plantation area through mowing and cutting on a three year cycle;
- carry out selective thinning of dense single age stands as considered appropriate in the area of secondary woodland closest to Sandy Lane;
- carry out selective thinning in the area of mature secondary woodland immediately north of the ASU building;
- clear all Sycamore saplings in the area of secondary woodland to the south of the ASU building, and treat all stumps;
- reintroduce coppice management of Hazel in the west of the secondary woodland, south of the ASU building. 10% of Hazel stools will be coppiced on a rolling five year cycle;
- create log piles comprising on the edges of glades;
- monitor the condition of surfaced footpaths, carrying out any repairs within two weeks of having been identified;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

### **3. AREA 3 – FIELD TO SOUTH OF WOOD COPSE SINC (FIGURE 3)**

#### **3.1. Capital Works**

- create a 2m wide mown footpath along the route shown on Figure 3;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

#### **3.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- introduce a 4-year rotational mowing regime by division of the field into 4 compartments. One compartment per year will be mown to a sward height of approximately 50mm in August. All arisings will be removed from the site;
- maintain the mown footpath. Footpath will be mown to maintain sward at a height of no more than 60mm. Mowing will commence in February and will continue until the end of September;
- maintain landscape plantings in field through replacement of any failed, damaged or diseased stock in the next planting season;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

#### **4. AREA 4 – SOANES FIELD SINC (FIGURE 4)**

##### **4.1. Capital Works**

- create a 2m wide footpath along the route shown on Figure 4;
- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire from Soanes Field SINC;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail fencing or equivalent around the perimeter of the SINC as shown on Figure 4;
- install x1 5-bar gate at location shown on Figure 4;
- install x2 kissing gate at locations shown on Figure 4;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

##### **4.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- introduce a 2 year rotational cutting regime for the grassland (dividing the grassland area into two compartments). Every other year, each will be mown to a height of approximately 50mm. All arisings will be removed from site. Strimming will be undertaken in July / August;
- footpath will be mown to maintain sward at a height of no more than 60mm. Mowing will commence in February and will continue until the end of September;
- fell and remove saplings and maturing trees from grassland area as necessary, with the exception of scrub developing adjacent to created path;
- fell young Oak woodland to reduce extent as considered appropriate;
- extensively thin dense single age stands of trees in woodland as considered appropriate;
- create discrete log piles at the edge of grassland and within woodland;
- encourage scrub habitat along the woodland/grassland boundary by felling approximately 75% of trees within first 20m of woodland where considered appropriate, where adjacent to grassland;

- encourage development of Holly scrub along fence line;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

## **5. AREA 5 – WAKEFORDS COPSE SINC (FIGURE 5)**

### **5.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire from Wakefords Copse;
- install x1 5-bar gate at location shown on Figure 5;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail fencing or equivalent around the woodland edge and x2 kissing gates to facilitate access (see Figure 5).

### **5.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- thin stand of secondary Birch, Sycamore, Oak and Rowan in north east corner of Wakefords Copse as considered appropriate. Emphasis to be placed on the removal of Sycamore and promotion of Oak development;
- selectively fell groups of trees in secondary woodland. Some individuals will be ring-barked to provide alternative deadwood habitat;
- thin dense areas of Holly understorey as appropriate to improve light conditions;
- cut back canopy branches along ride as necessary;
- stack timber in dead wood piles throughout secondary and semi-natural woodland. All brash and other arisings not stacked will be chipped or mulched;
- encourage development of Holly scrub along fence line;
- management emphasis to be less intensive to promote 'wild character' and objective for copse to serve as a wildlife refuge area;
- monitor the bat building twice yearly and carry out repairs as necessary.



## **6. AREA 6 – LONG GUT COPSE SINC (FIGURE 6)**

### **6.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire from Area 6;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fencing around the woodland edge with x2 kissing gates to facilitate access;
- install x3 5-bar gates at locations shown on Figure 6.

### **6.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- fell trees as appropriate and ring-bark some individuals to provide alternative deadwood habitat;
- thin by 20% dense areas of Holly understorey to improve light conditions;
- establish a rotational coppice regime for Hazel. In first year, priority should be given to most overgrown/unstable coppice stools;
- remove all young Sycamore with a dbh (diameter at breast height) of less than 20cm, retaining only mature specimens. Check woodland for establishment of Sycamore, treating any re-growth and removing any new saplings on an annual basis.
- Create discrete log piles adjacent to the woodland edge/edge of the way-leave;
- stack timber in dead wood piles throughout the woodland. All brash and other arisings not stacked will be chipped or mulched;
- retain all standing and hanging dead wood in situ, with the exception of trees on the edge of the woodland that pose a risk to public safety;
- management emphasis to be less intensive to promote 'wild character' and objective for copse to serve as a wildlife refuge area.

## **7. AREA 7 – FIELDS TO NORTH-EAST OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC (FIGURE 7)**

### **7.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire from area 7;
- erect 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fencing around the perimeter of Area 7 and around the tree lines as shown on Figure 7;
- install x4 stiles at the locations shown on Figure 7;
- install x2 5-bar gates adapted for horses at the locations shown on Figure 7;
- install x3 kissing gates at the locations shown on Figure 7;
- install x2 5-bar gates at locations shown on Figure 7;
- establish informal footpath network along routes shown on Figure 7;
- formalise existing footpath network through introduction of regular mowing of routes (routes shown on Figure 7);
- install signage and markers to encourage visitors to use area as intended;
- inspect pill box and oversee any remedial works necessary to render structure safe for incidental recreational use by members of the public. Works to be carried out by the developer;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths;
- dredge and re-establish existing pond at location shown on Figure 7;
- create three small ponds for Great Crested Newt translocation in the location shown on Figure 7.

### **7.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- mow the fields once annually in July or August. All arisings will be removed from site;
- assess trees in tree line and carry out any necessary tree surgery, with the objective of maintaining and enhancing the ecological value of the trees, whilst ensuring that they do not pose a risk to the public. Thereafter,

carry out annual monitoring of any risks to public safety presented by trees on the edge of the woodland;

- reinforce tree lines as necessary by the planting of new whips;
- lay hedgerows to return to favourable status, maintaining on a five year cycle;
- thin scrub woodland stand adjacent to Long Gut Copse SINC by felling individual trees as appropriate;
- supervise maintenance of pillbox such that it does not pose a threat to the health & safety of visitors to the field;
- maintain footpaths through grassland by mowing. Mowing will commence in mid March each year until September dependent on growth rates and will maintain grassland sward on paths at no more than 60mm in length;
- control Ragwort through hand pulling, appropriate safeguards to be taken;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

## **8. AREA 8 – EWSHOT MARSH SINC (FIGURE 8)**

### **8.1. Capital Works**

- remove existing old damaged fencing and wire from Ewshot Marsh;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fence around periphery of Ewshot Marsh as shown on Figure 8, with stock netting to ensure livestock are contained;
- install x1 kissing gate in fence at location shown on Figure 8;
- install a length of boardwalk to act as crossing points over locations shown on Figure 8;
- install x1 5-bar gate at locations shown on Figure 8;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths;
- strengthen hedgerow by additional planting where necessary;
- create an engineered structure to facilitate water retention within the marsh and encourage standing water. I

### **8.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- manage marshy grassland through employing a suitable grazing regime
- control Ragwort as required;
- manage scrub/sapling encroachment to restore species-rich marshy grassland habitat
- create several discrete log piles within the tree line;
- remove all arisings from scrub and tree clearance from Ewshot Marsh;
- maintain boardwalks in a safe condition, repairs will be carried out within two weeks of having been reported/identified;
- management of grasslands to be undertaken through the implementation of a grazing regime using stock. Stock levels to be determined and implemented as considered appropriate;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

## **9. AREA 9 – FIELD TO SOUTH OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC (FIGURE 9)**

### **9.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fence in the locations shown on Figure 9;
- install x1 kissing gate in fence at location shown on Figure 9;
- install x2 stiles in fence at locations shown on Figure 9;
- install x1 5-bar gates at locations shown on Figure 9;
- formalise existing footpath network through introduction of regular mowing of routes (routes shown on Figure 9);
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINCs. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

### **9.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- management of grasslands to be undertaken through the implementation of a grazing regime using stock. Grazing to take place between September and late March;
- control Bramble scrub in favour of the woody element of the hedgerow with mature Oak standards along the south-west boundary;
- assess trees in secondary woodland and carry out tree surgery as necessary to ensure their long-term survival and to maintain their conservation value;
- create log piles along wooded edges with appropriate material from tree works and hedgerow maintenance;
- maintain informal footpaths with regular mowing as necessary, to ensure that sward remains no more than 60mm in height. Mowing will commence in late March of each year;
- control Ragwort through use of a herbicide or hand pulling as appropriate;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

## **10. AREA 10 – FIELD TO WEST OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC (FIGURE 10)**

### **10.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fence in the locations shown on Figure 10;
- install x1 kissing gate in fence at location shown on Figure 10;
- install x1 stile in fence at location shown on Figure 10;
- install x1 5-bar gate adapted for horses at location shown on Figure 10;
- formalise existing footpath network through introduction of regular mowing of routes (routes shown on Figure 10);
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

### **10.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- management of grasslands to be undertaken through the implementation of a grazing regime using stock;
- lay Hazel in hedgerow along southern, north-western and western boundaries, thinning understorey and canopy trees as appropriate on a six year cycle;
- undertake monitoring of all trees to ensure that they do not pose a risk to public safety;
- maintain informal footpaths with regular mowing as necessary, to ensure that sward remains no more than 60mm in height. Mowing will commence in late March of each year;
- control Ragwort through use of a herbicide or hand pulling as appropriate;
- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

## **11. AREA 11 – FIELD AT SOUTHERN BOUNDARY (FIGURE 11)**

### **11.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fence in the locations shown on Figure 11;
- inspect pill box and supervise any remedial works necessary to render structures safe for incidental recreational use by members of the public. Works to be carried out by the developer;
- install x4 kissing gates in fence at locations shown on Figure 11;
- install x3 stiles in fence at locations shown on Figure 11;
- install x2 5-bar gate at location shown on Figure 11;
- formalise existing footpath network through introduction of regular mowing of routes (routes shown on Figure 11);
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC's. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

### **11.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- management of grasslands to be undertaken through the implementation of a grazing regime using stock. Grazing will take place between September and late March;
- control Ragwort through use of a herbicide or hand pulling as appropriate with usual safeguards;
- introduce hedgerow management, cutting a maximum of 50% of the hedgerow every third year;
- create log piles along edge of secondary woodland with appropriate material from tree works and hedgerow maintenance;
- maintain informal footpaths with regular mowing as necessary, to ensure that sward remains no more than 60mm in height. Mowing will commence in late March of each year;

- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.



## **12. AREA 12 – FIELDS TO WEST OF NAISHES LANE (FIGURE 12)**

### **12.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail fence or equivalent around periphery of Area 12;
- install x2 lockable 5 bar gate in fence at location shown on Figure 12;
- install x4 kissing gates in fence at locations shown on Figure 12;
- inspect pill boxes and supervise any remedial works necessary to render structures safe for incidental recreational use by members of the public. Works to be carried out by the developer;
- formalise existing footpath network through introduction of regular mowing of routes (as shown on Figure 12);
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINC. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

### **12.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- management of grasslands to be undertaken through the implementation of a grazing or mowing regime;
- control Ragwort through use of herbicide or hand pulling as appropriate;
- reintroduce hedgerow management by cutting and laying Hazel in hedgerow and trim back sections of hedgerow using a tractor-mounted flail; no more than 50% of any one hedge should be cut in a given year. Appropriate signage will be used to warn users of the Public Highway/Public Right of Way that works are being undertaken;
- selectively thin young, tall Oaks to create future standards along eastern boundary with Naishes Lane. Selectively fell trees as necessary;
- carry out annual monitoring of Badger use of the site and of the artificial Badger sett in February of each year;
- maintain informal footpaths with regular mowing as necessary, to ensure that sward remains no more than 60mm; and

- maintenance of waymarked routes as necessary, including maintenance of signage and paths.

### **13. AREA 13 – SHAW COPSE SINC (FIGURE 13)**

#### **13.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fence around woodland periphery;
- install x2 5-bar gates in fence at location shown on Figure 13 to allow access for management.

#### **13.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- encourage Holly along the periphery of the woodland, reinforcing the post and rail fencing;
- reintroduce a rotational coppice regime, coppicing every fifth year at the rate of 25% of stools per year;
- away from the woodland periphery, thin dense areas of Holly as appropriate to improve light conditions,
- create discrete log piles along the woodland edges to diversify habitat opportunities;
- all standing/hanging deadwood, with the exception of peripheral trees that pose a risk to public safety, will be retained in situ;
- annually assess trees on the woodland periphery and carry out surgery as necessary to ensure that trees do not pose a threat to the health & safety of visitors to the adjacent fields;

## **14. AREA 14 – RIDDINGS COPSE SINC (FIGURE 14)**

### **14.1. Capital Works**

- remove any existing old damaged fencing and wire;
- erect a 1.5m post and rail or equivalent fence around woodland periphery and x2 kissing gates to facilitate access;
- install a x1 5-bar gate to allow access to woodland for management at location shown on Figure 14;
- delineation of waymarked routes, with signage as appropriate, from new and existing development areas to facilitate access to informal recreation areas, Southern Area and on-site and off-site SINCs. Routes will link up with routes in other areas to form a path network and facilitate multiple route permutations and walk lengths.

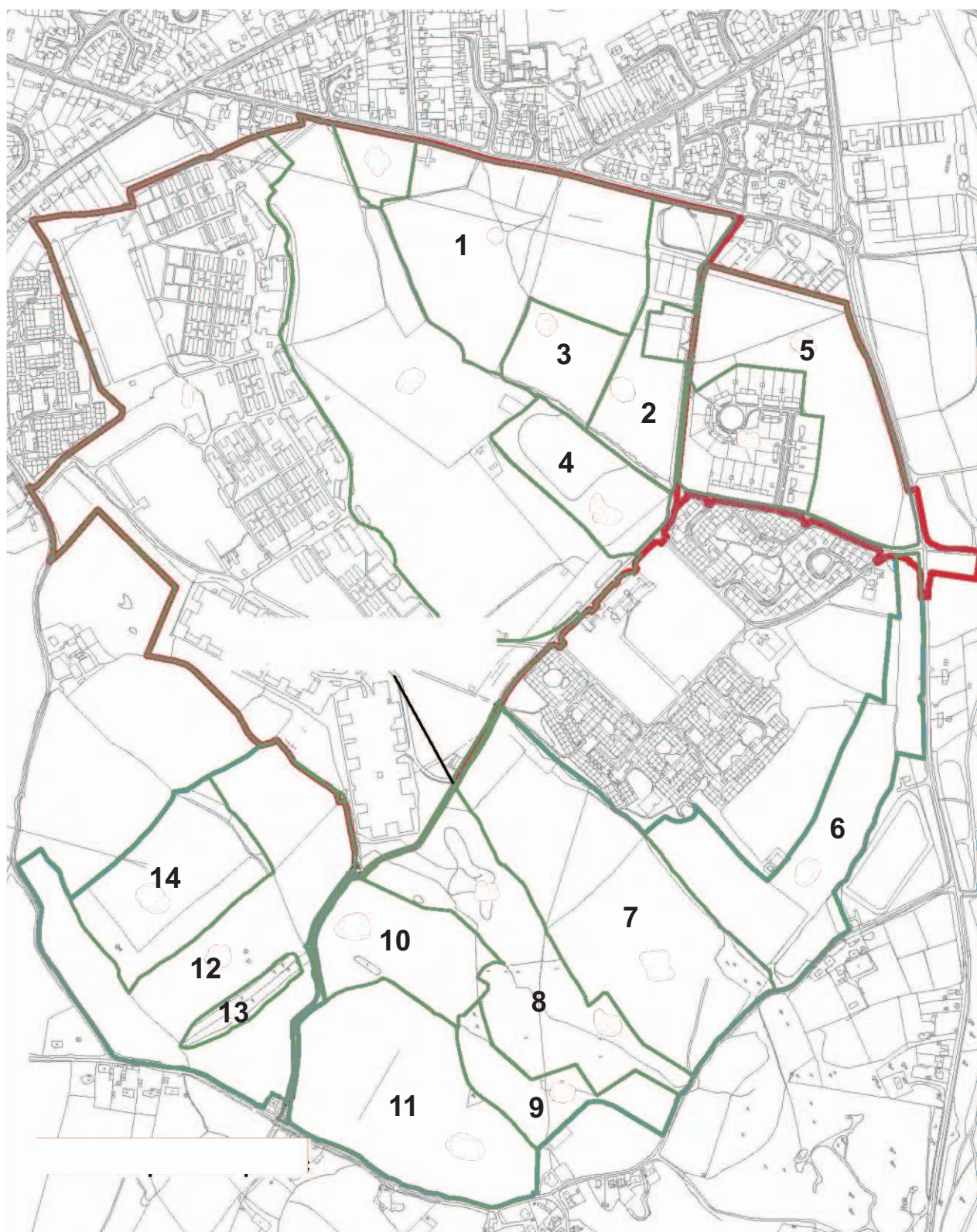
### **14.2. Long term Management and Monitoring**

- reintroduce a rotational coppice regime, coppicing at the rate of 25% of stools every fifth year, priority to be given to the most overgrown/unstable coppice stools
- create log piles from tree and coppicing works to diversify habitat opportunities in woodland;
- retain all standing/hanging deadwood, with the exception of peripheral trees where there may be a risk to public safety, in situ;
- encourage Holly along the periphery of the woodland, reinforcing the post and rail fencing;
- away from the woodland periphery, thin dense areas of Holly as appropriate to improve light conditions;

## FIGURES

**FIGURE A**

**Site Management Areas**



KEY:

 Application sites



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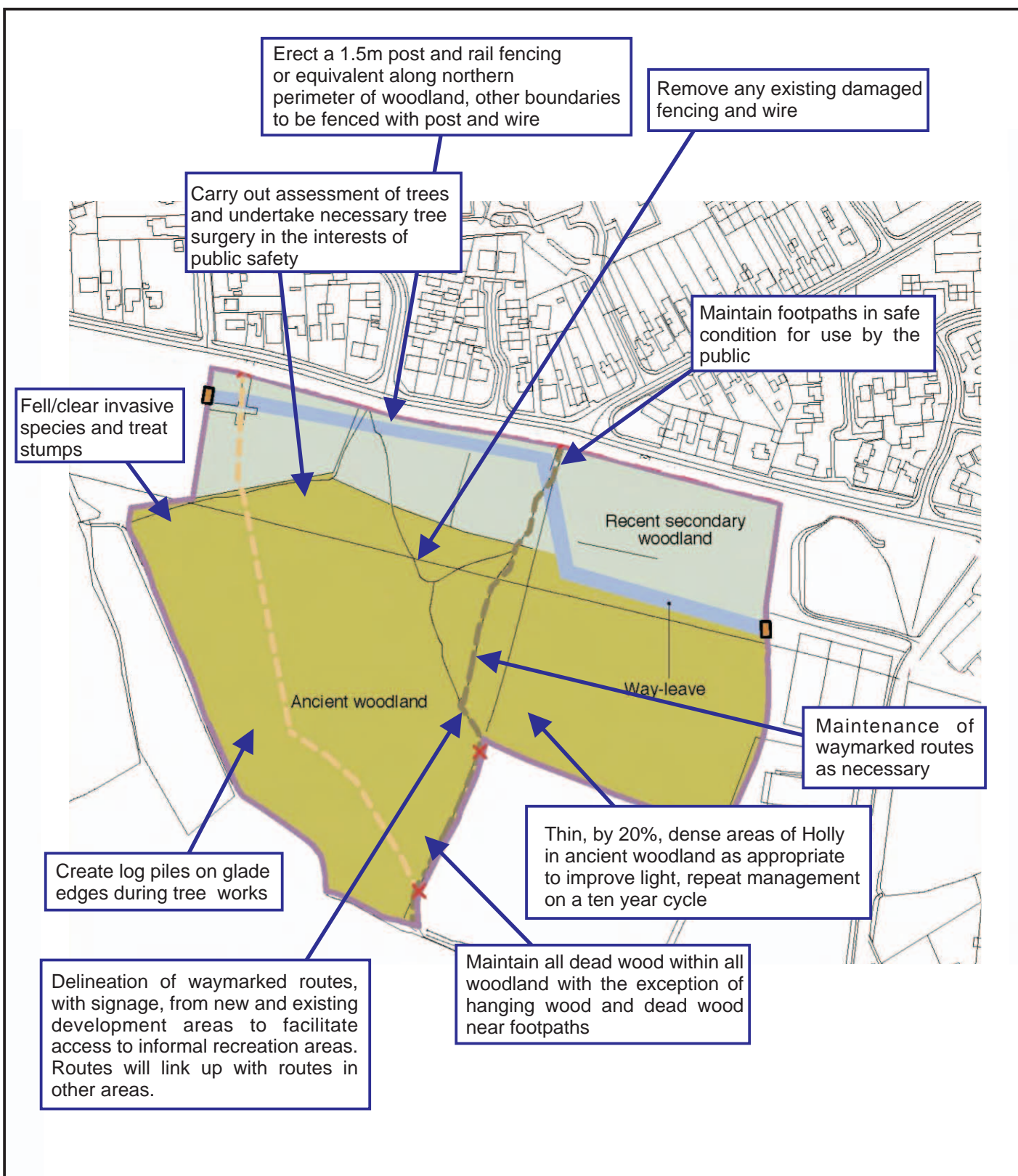
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FIGURE A:  
SITE MANAGEMENT AREAS






**FIGURE 1**

**Area 1 – Soanes Copse / Wood Copse SINC**





KEY:

-  Fence
-  Existing footpath
-  Existing public right of way
-  Kissing gate
-  5 Bar gate



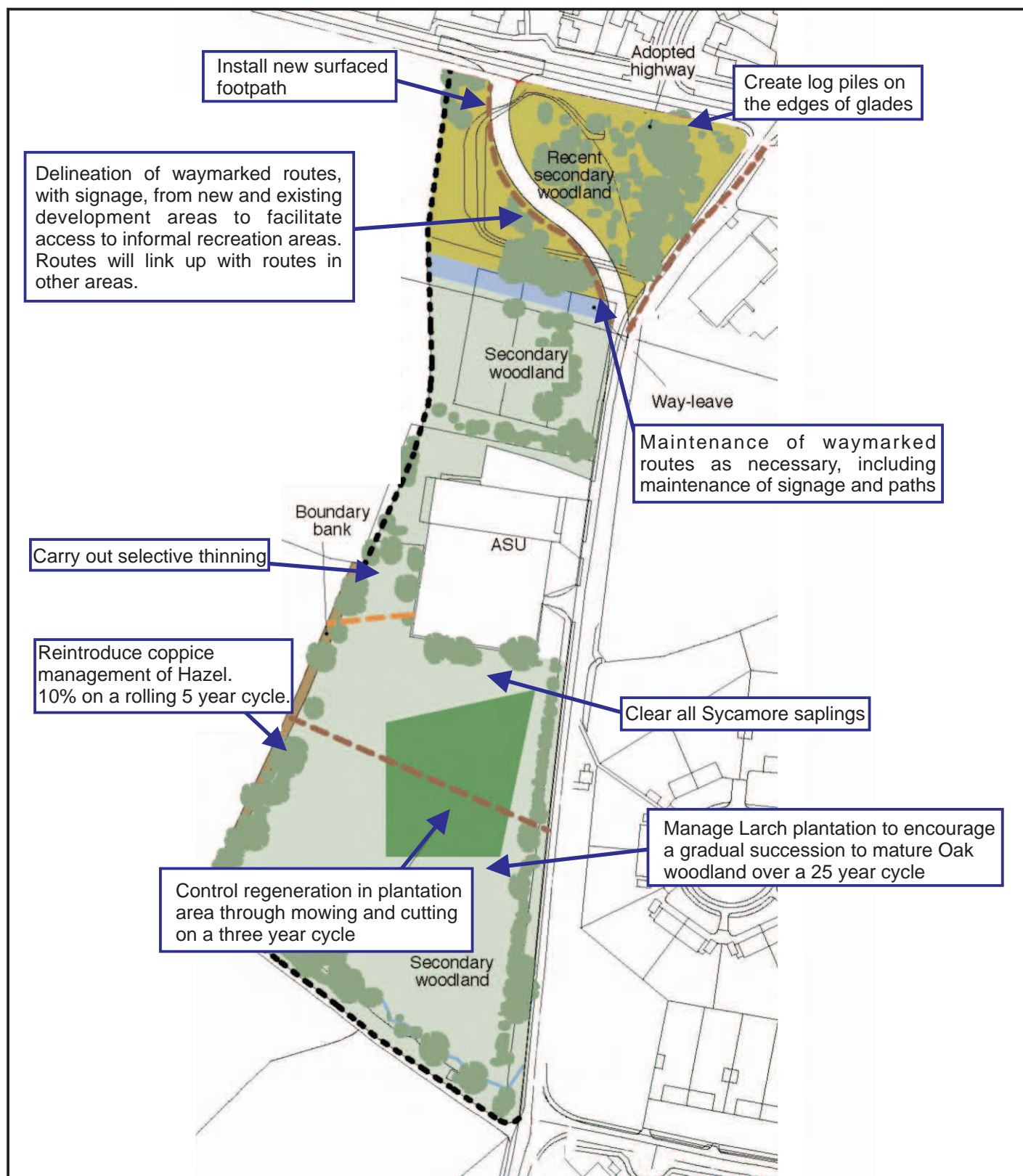
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FIGURE 1: AREA 1 - SOANES  
COPSE / WOOD COPSE SINC

**FIGURE 2**

**Area 2 – Secondary Woodland and Plantation to the East of  
Wood Copse**



**KEY:**

- ..... Shared fence section
- Proposed footpath
- Proposed foul drainage
- Ditch
- Retained trees



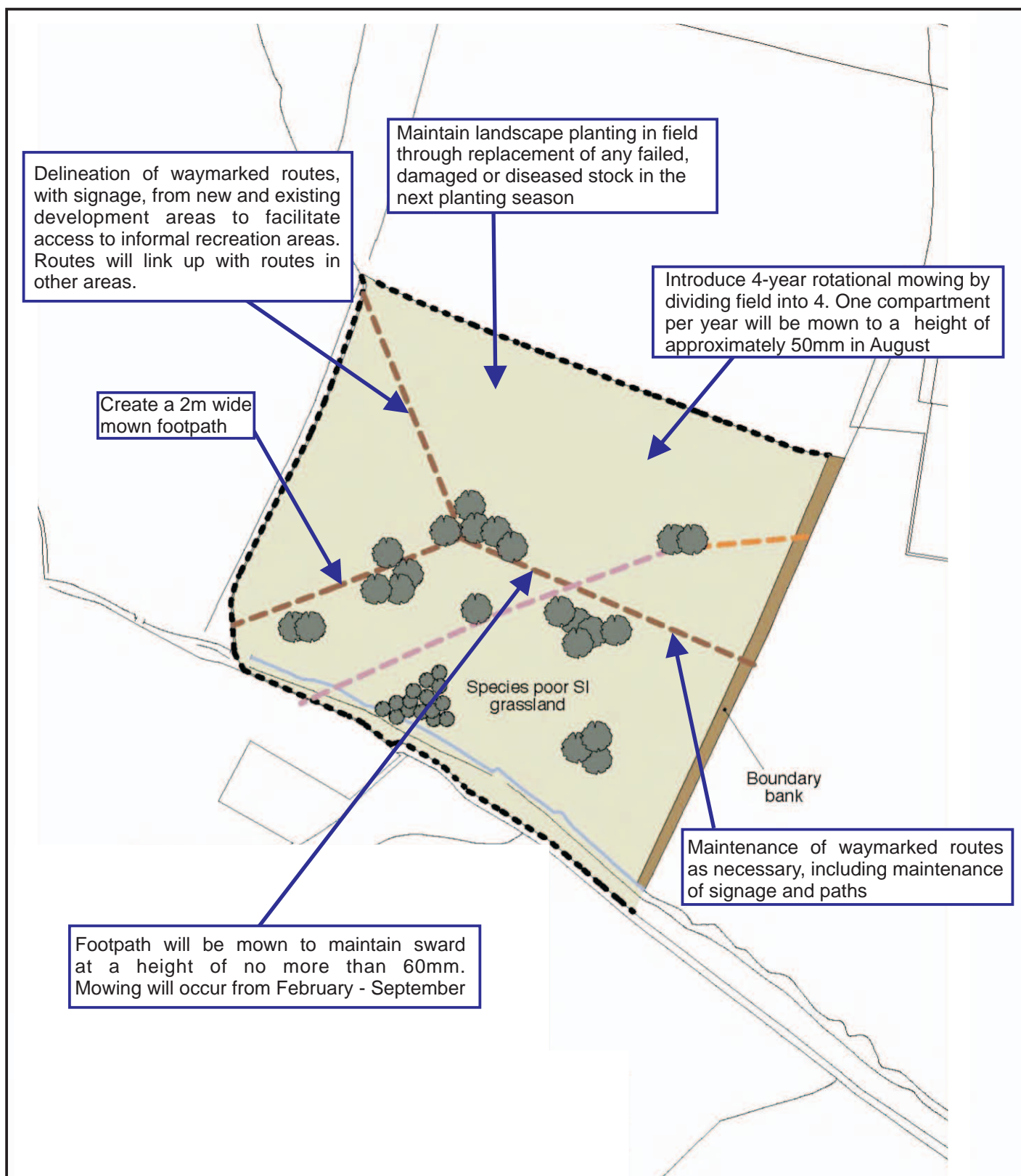
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FIGURE 2: AREA 2 - SECONDARY  
WOODLAND AND PLANTATION  
TO EAST OF WOOD COPSE SINC

**FIGURE 3**

**Area 3 – Field to South of Wood Copse**



KEY:

- Shared fence section
- Proposed footpath
- Foul water drains
- Proposed foul water drains
- Parkland trees
- Ditch



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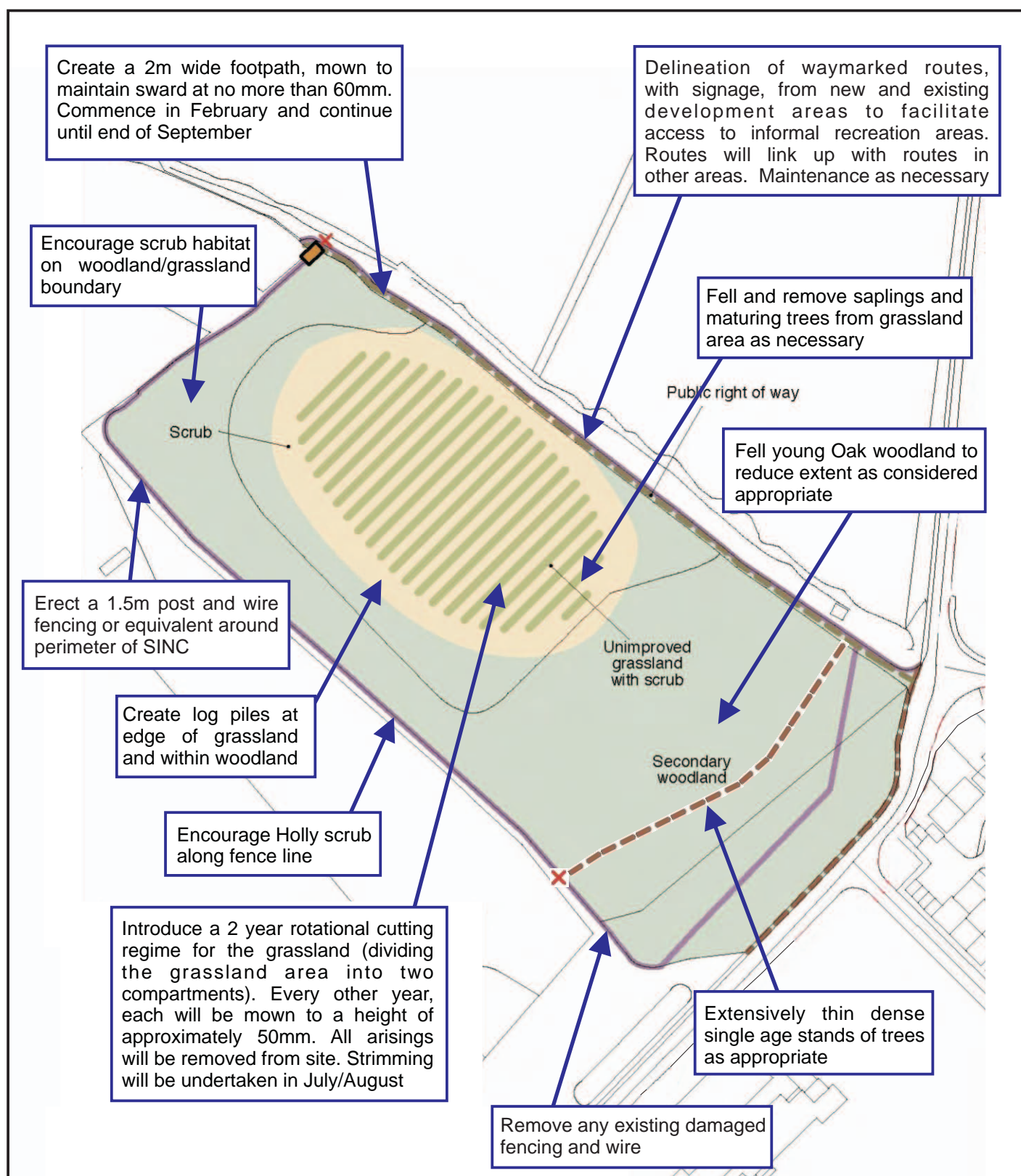
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AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 3: AREA 3 - FIELD TO  
SOUTH OF WOOD COPSE SINC

**FIGURE 4**

**Area 4 – Soanes Field SINC**





KEY:

- Proposed footpath
- Fence
- X Kissing gate
- ◇ 5 bar gate



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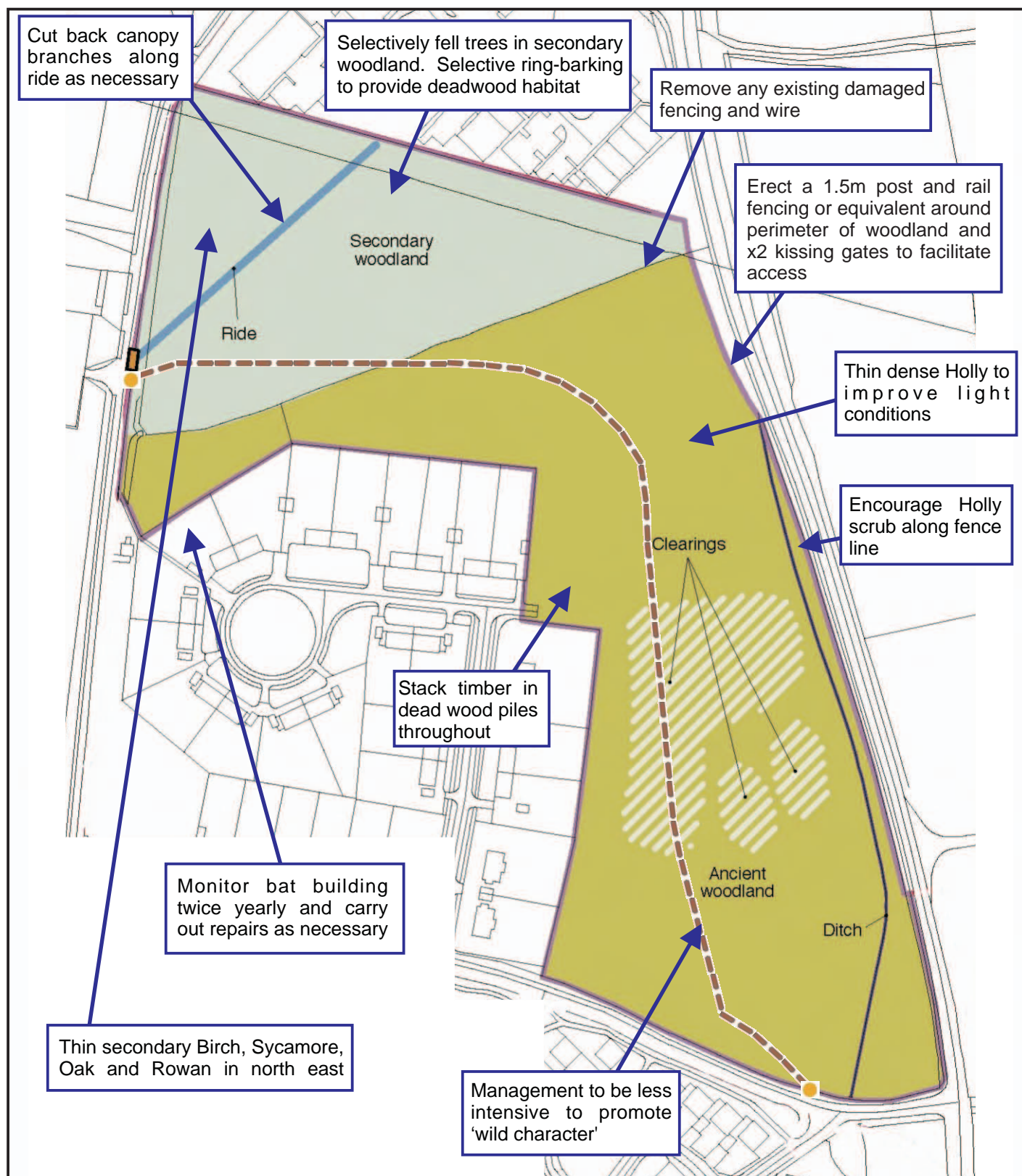
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FIGURE 4:  
AREA 4 - SOANES FIELD SINC

**FIGURE 5**

**Area 5 – Wakefords Copse SINC**





KEY:

-  Fence
-  5 bar gate
-  Proposed footpath
-  Kissing gate



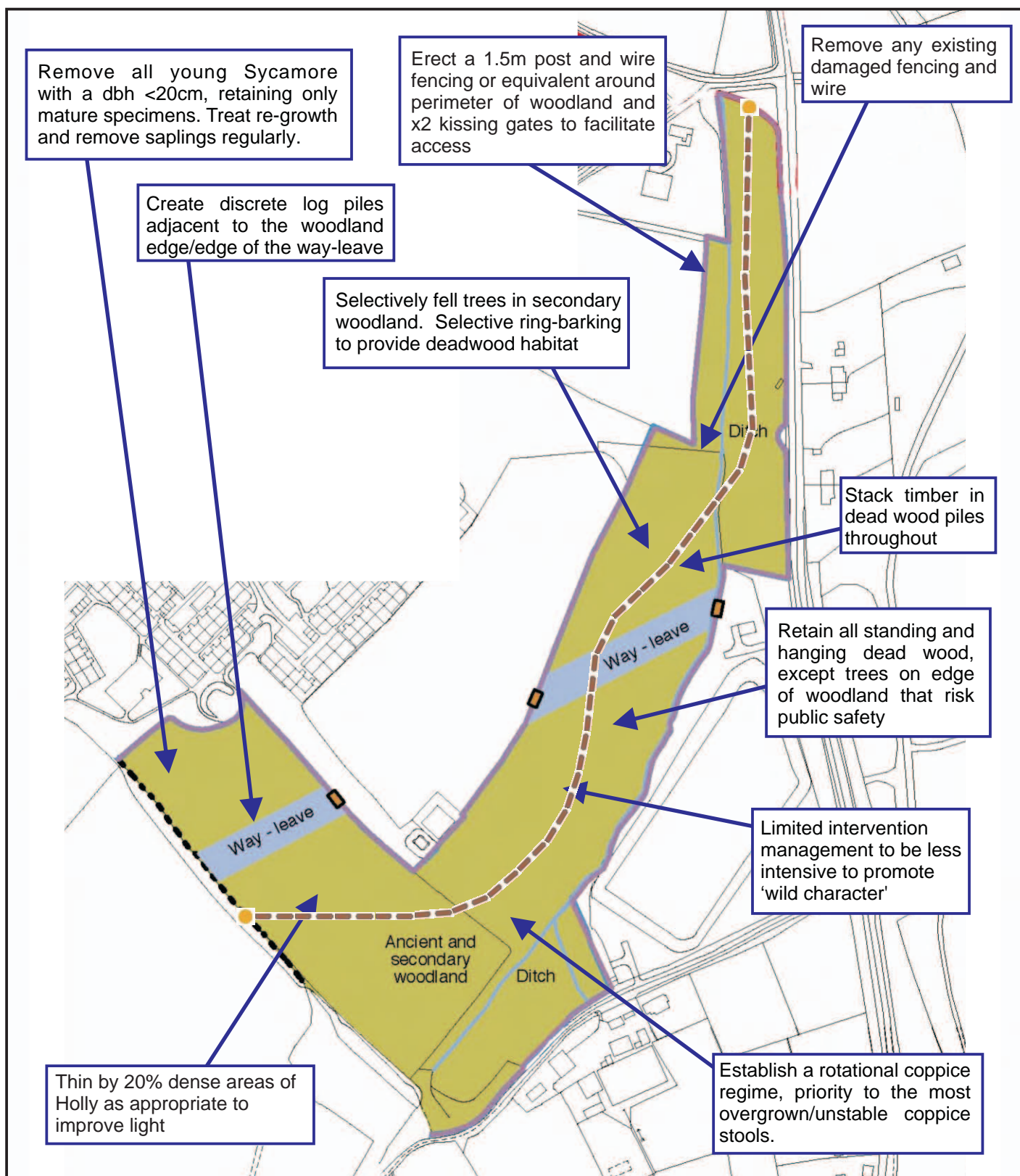
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FIGURE 5: AREA 5 -  
WAKEFORDS COPSE SINC

**FIGURE 6**

**Area 6 – Long Gut Copse SINC**



KEY:

- Fence
- Shared fence section
- 5 bar gate
- Kissing gate
- Proposed footpath



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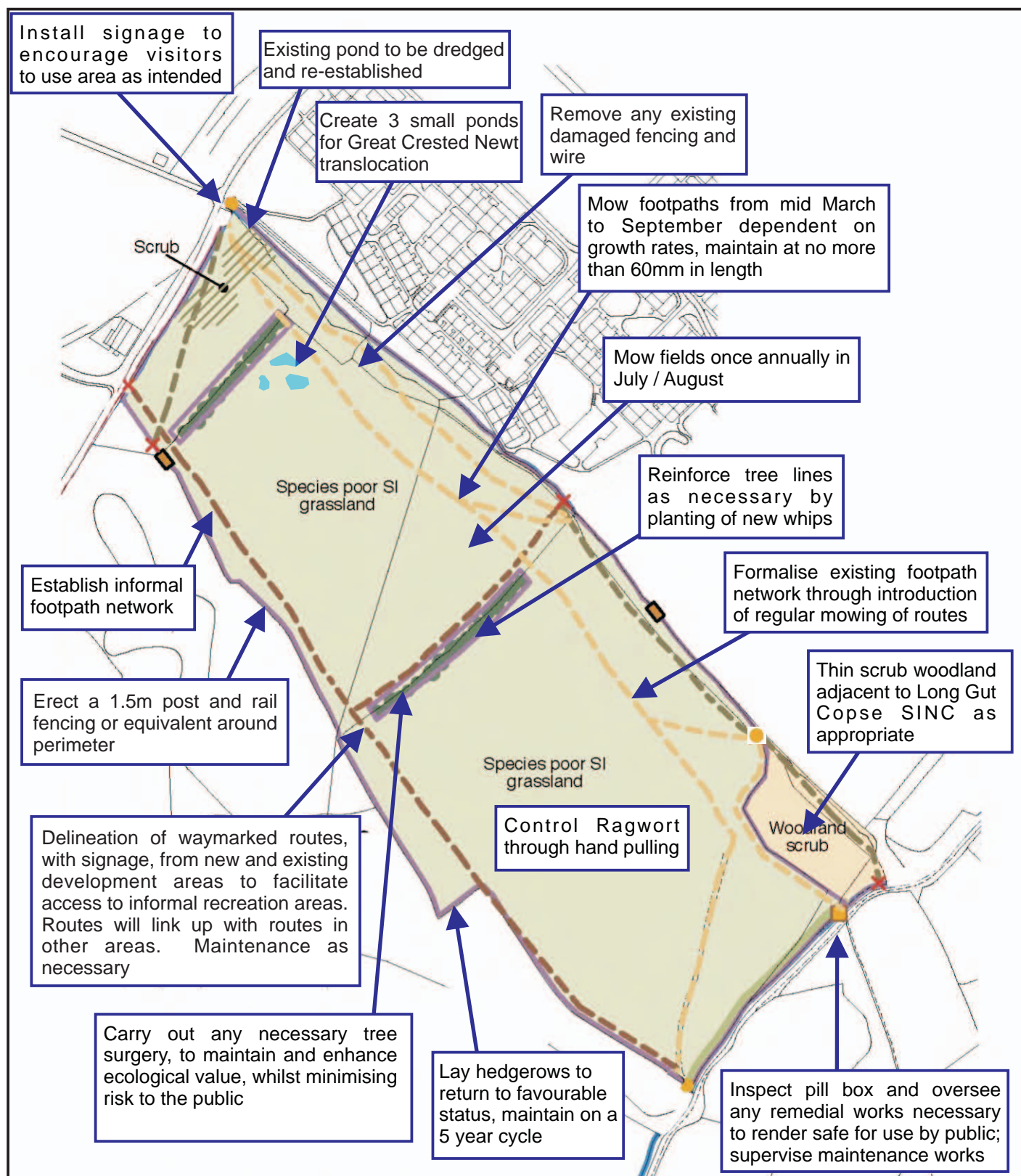
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FIGURE 6:  
AREA 6 - LONG GUT COPSE SINC

**FIGURE 7**

**Area 7 – Fields to North-East of Ewshot Marsh SINC**





KEY:

- |                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Existing public right of way | Pill box          |
| Treeline                     | Existing footpath |
| Fence                        | Proposed footpath |
| Stile                        | 5 bar gate        |
| Kissing gate                 |                   |

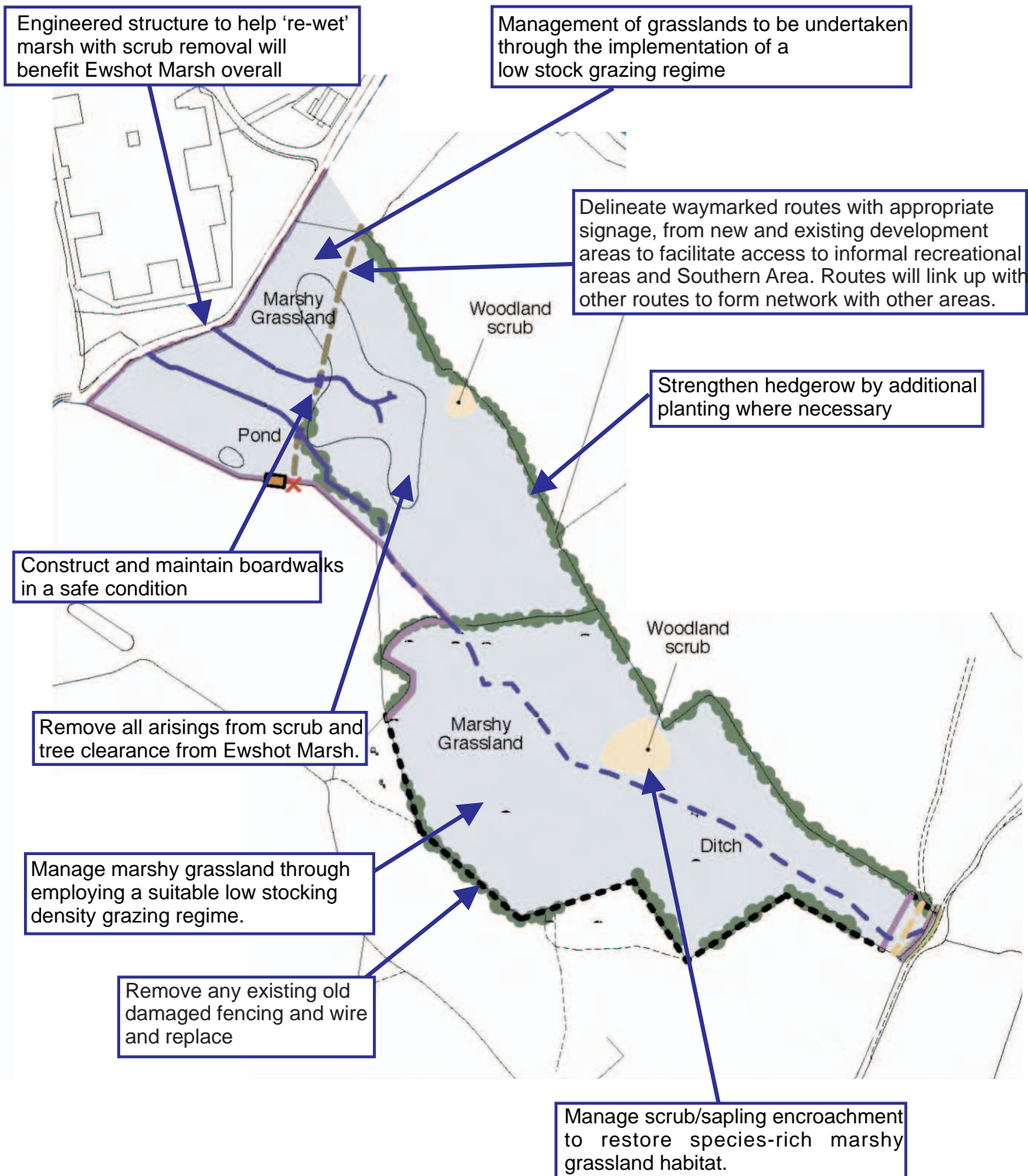


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FIGURE 7: AREA 7 -  
FIELDS TO NORTH-EAST  
OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC

**FIGURE 8**

**Area 8 – Ewshot Marsh SINC**



KEY:

- |  |                              |  |  |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|
|  | Kissing gate                 |  | Treeline                                   |
|  | 5 bar gate                   |  | Fence                                      |
|  | Crossing point               |  | Shared fence section (see areas 10 and 12) |
|  | Existing public right of way |  | Hedgerow                                   |
|  | Existing footpath            |  |  |
|  | Surface water features       |  |  |



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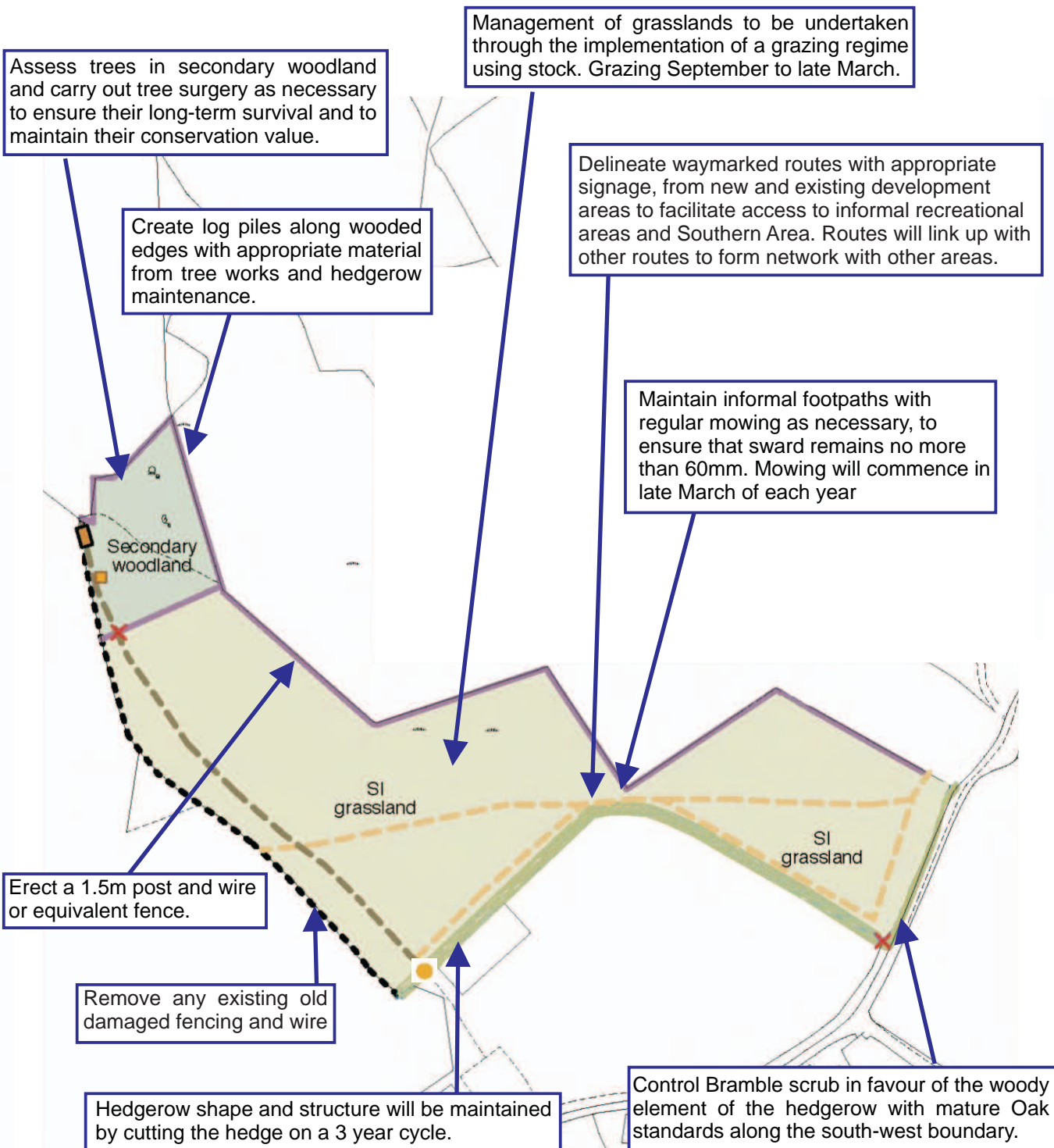
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FIGURE 8:  
AREA 8 - EWSHOT MARSH SINC

**FIGURE 9**

**Area 9 – Field to the South of Ewshot Marsh SINC**





KEY:

- |                                    |                              |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fence                              | Existing footpath            |
| Shared fence section (see area 14) | Existing public right of way |
| Stile                              | Hedgerow                     |
| 5 bar gate                         | Pill box                     |
| 5 bar gate adapted for horses      | Kissing gate                 |



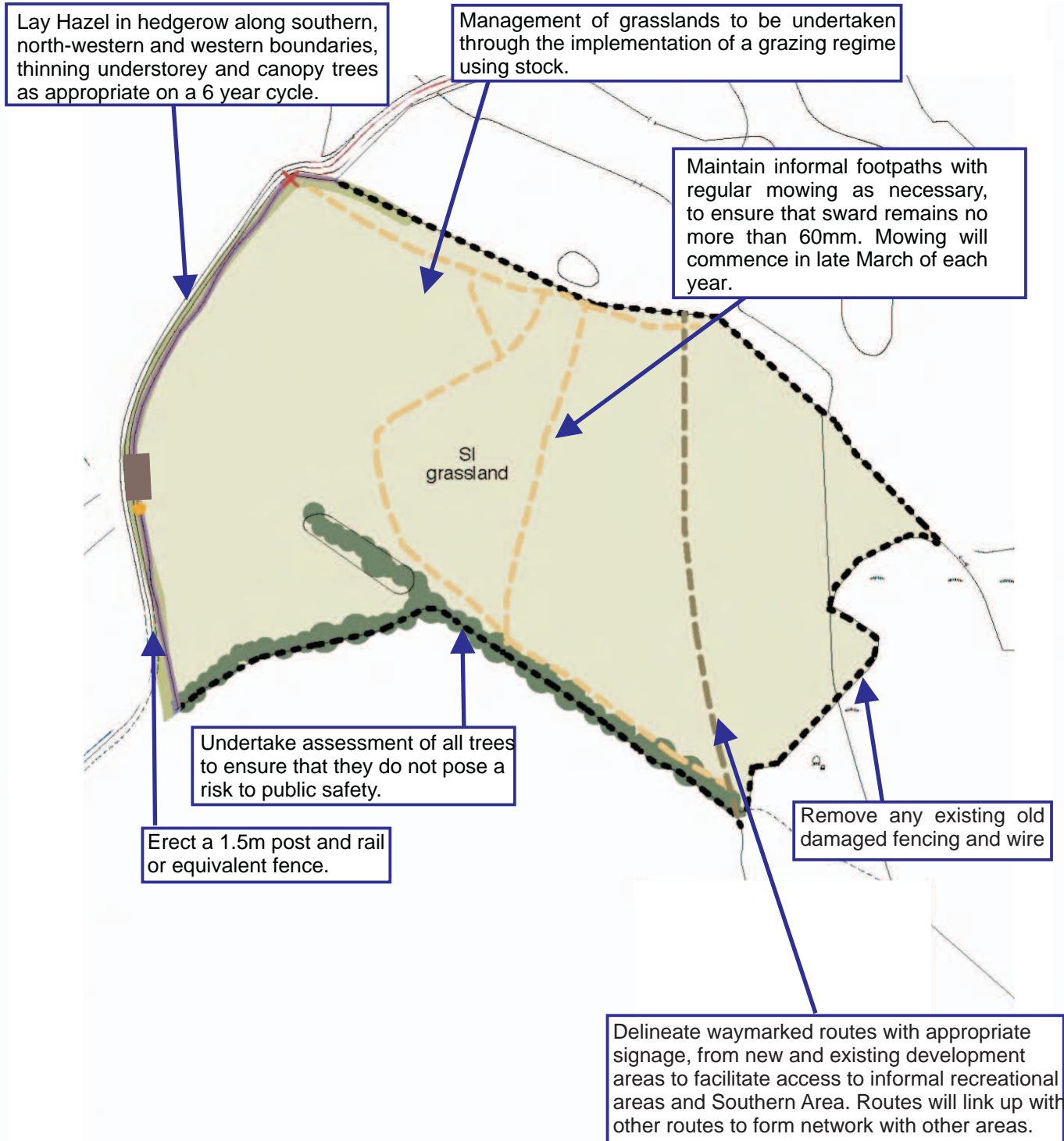
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FIGURE 9: AREA 9 - FIELD TO  
SOUTH OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC

**FIGURE 10**

**Area 10 – Field to the West of Ewshot Marsh SINC**



**KEY:**

- Stile
- Kissing gate
- 5 bar gate
- Fence
- Shared fence section (see areas 11, 12, 14 and 15)

- Treeline
- Existing footpath
- Hedgerow
- Existing public right of way



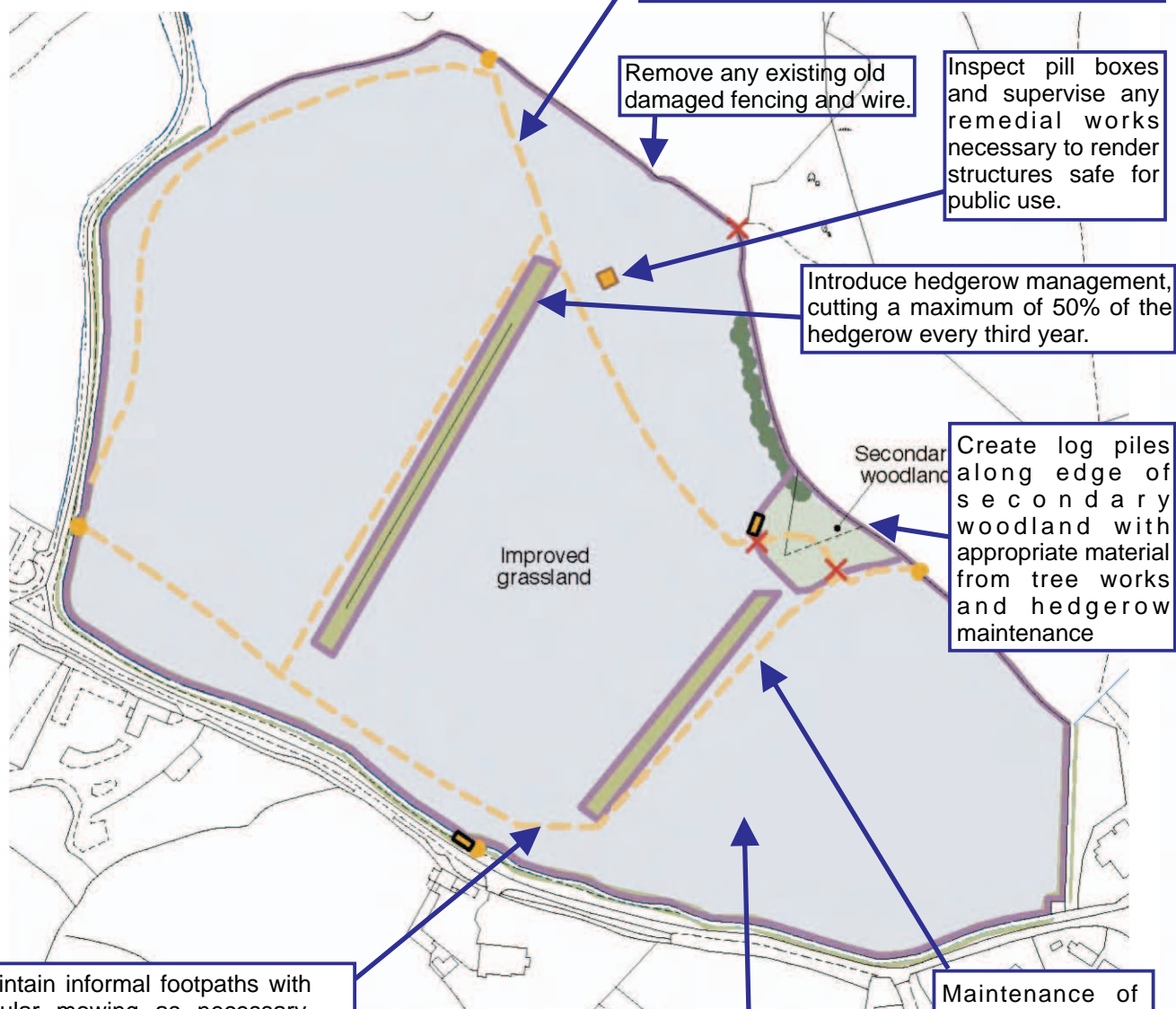
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**FIGURE 10: AREA 10 - FIELD TO  
WEST OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC**

**FIGURE 11**

**Area 11 – Field at Southern Boundary**



KEY:

- |                   |              |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Treeline          | Stile        |
| Existing footpath | Kissing gate |
| Hedgerow          | 5 bar gate   |
| Pill box          | Fence        |



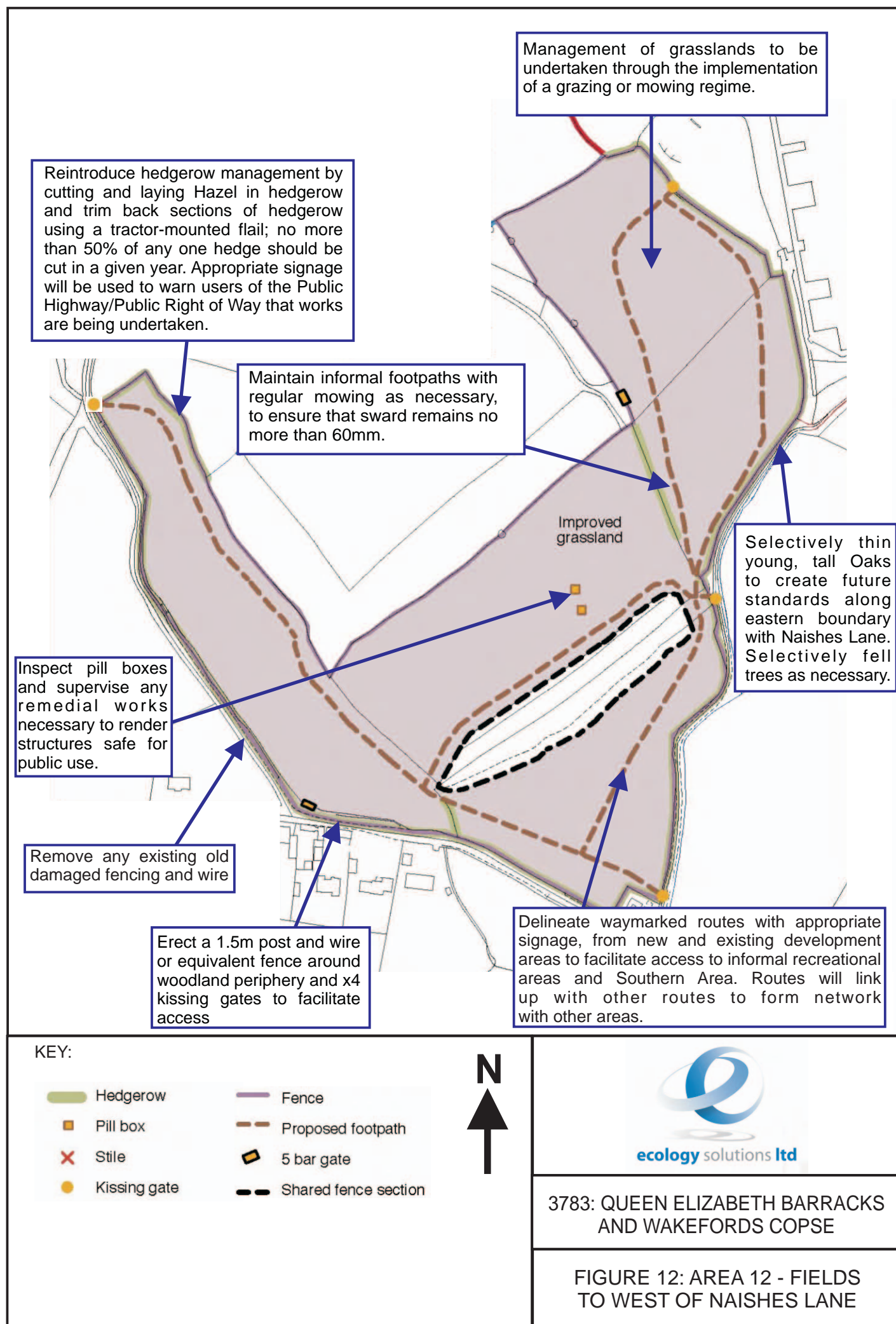
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FIGURE 11: AREA 11 - FIELD AT  
SOUTHERN BOUNDARY

**FIGURE 12**

**Area 12 – Fields to the West of Naishes Lane**

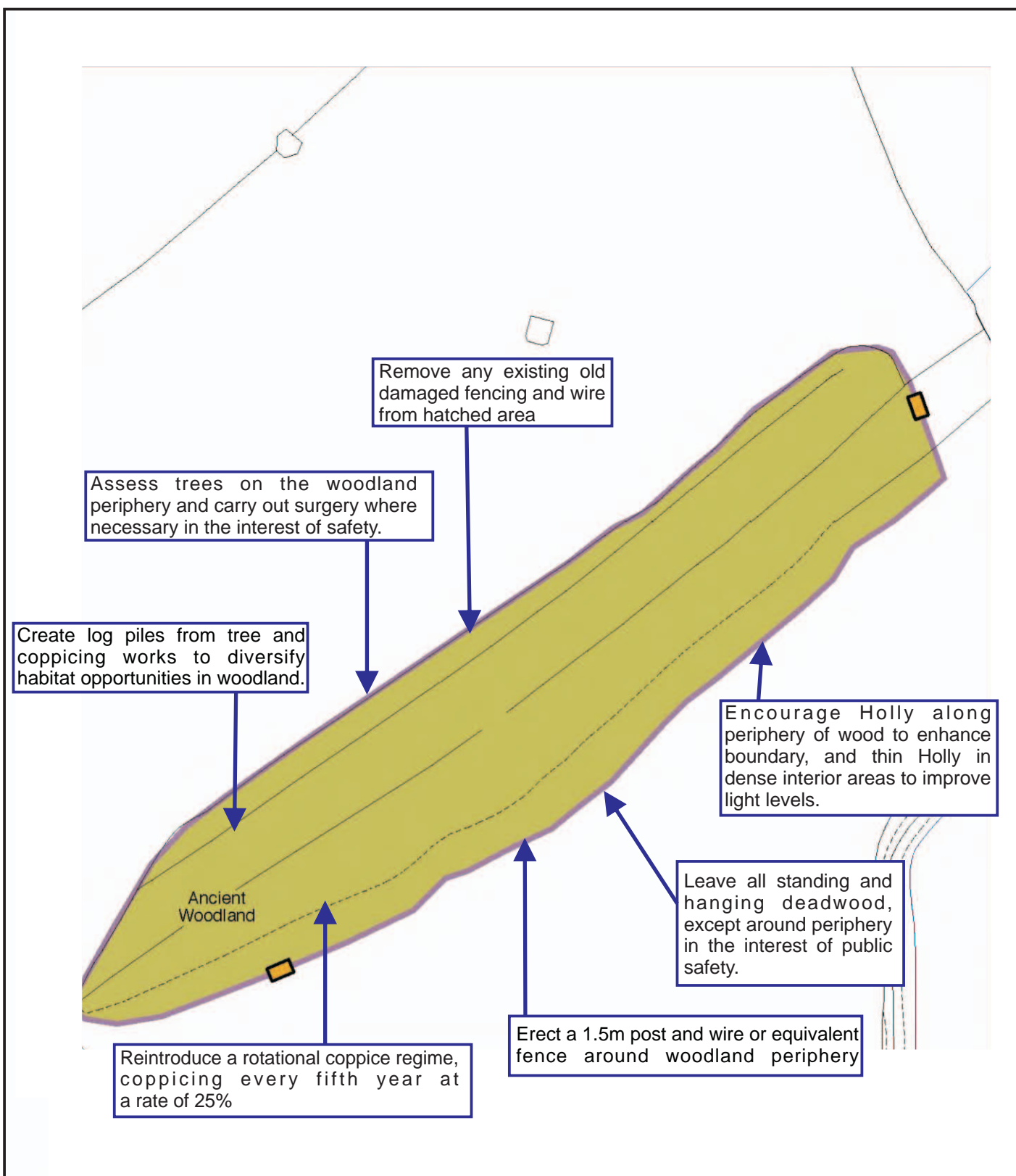






**FIGURE 13**

**Area 13 – Shaw Copse SINC**





KEY:

-  Fence
-  5 bar gate



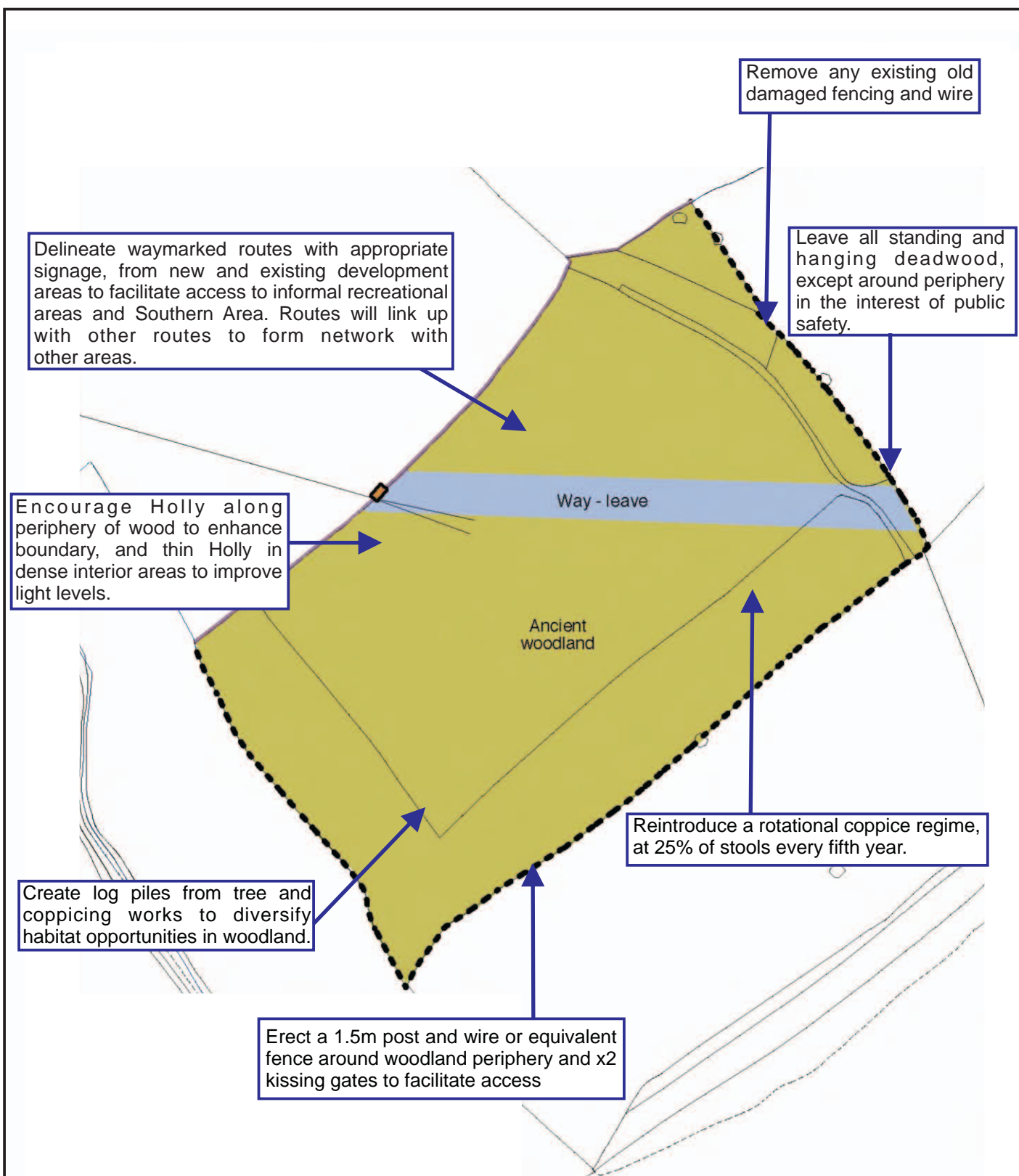
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FIGURE 13: AREA 13 -  
SHAW COPSE SINC

**FIGURE 14**

**Area 14 – Riddings Copse SINC**



KEY:

-  Fence
-  Shared fence section
-  Five bar gate



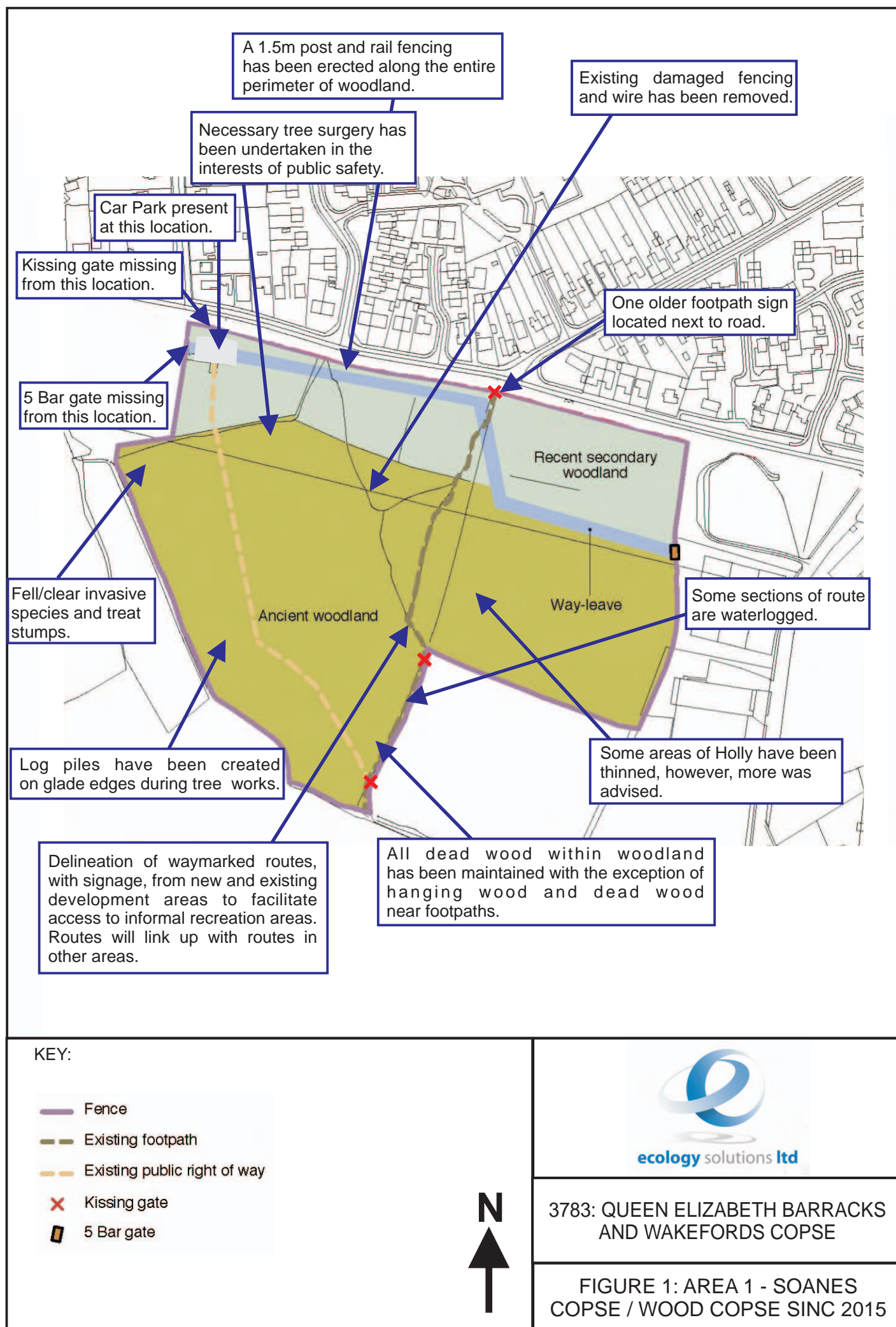
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AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

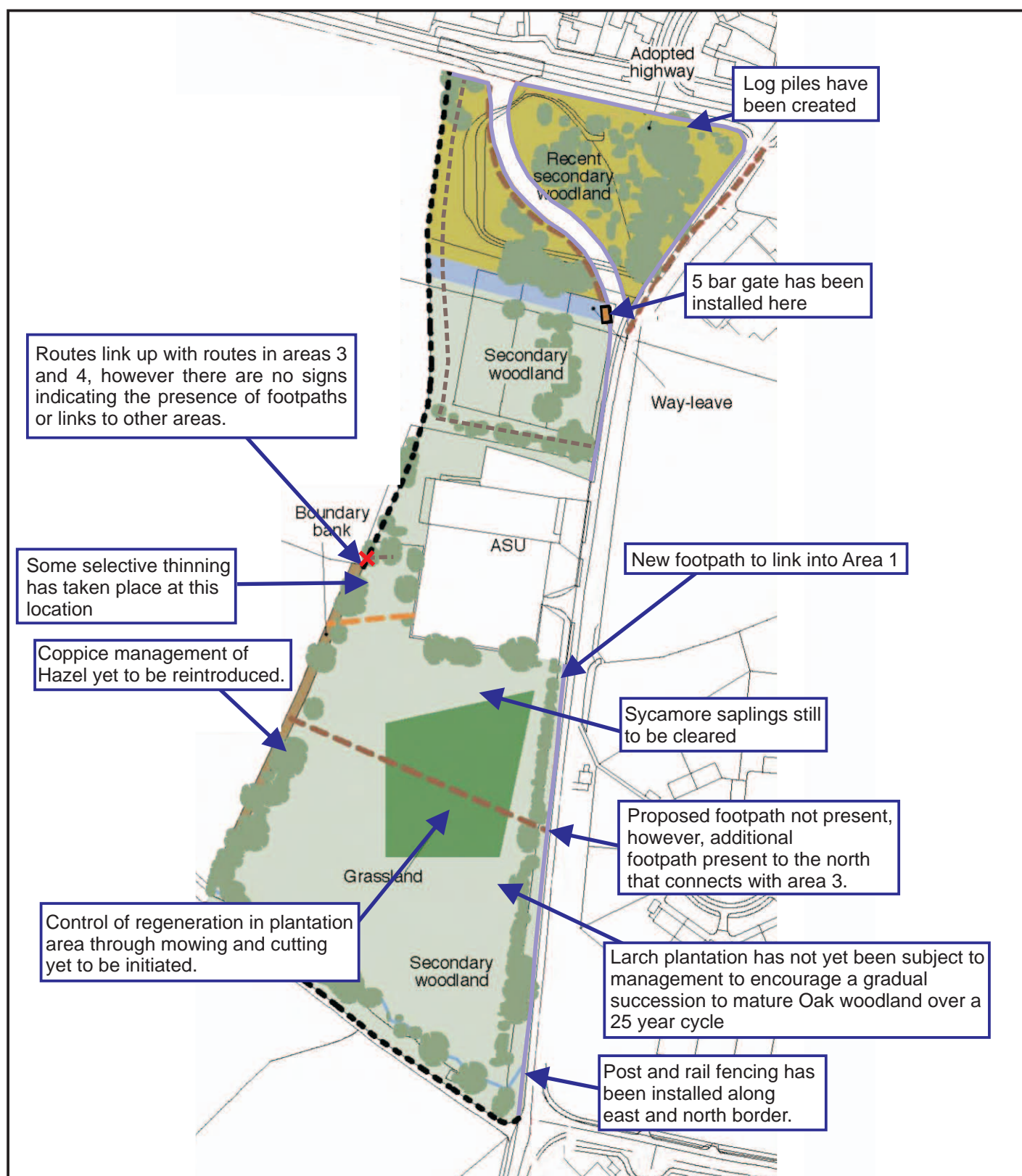
FIGURE 14: AREA 14 -  
RIDDINGS COPSE SINC

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **Updated Site Survey Plans – June 2015**







KEY:

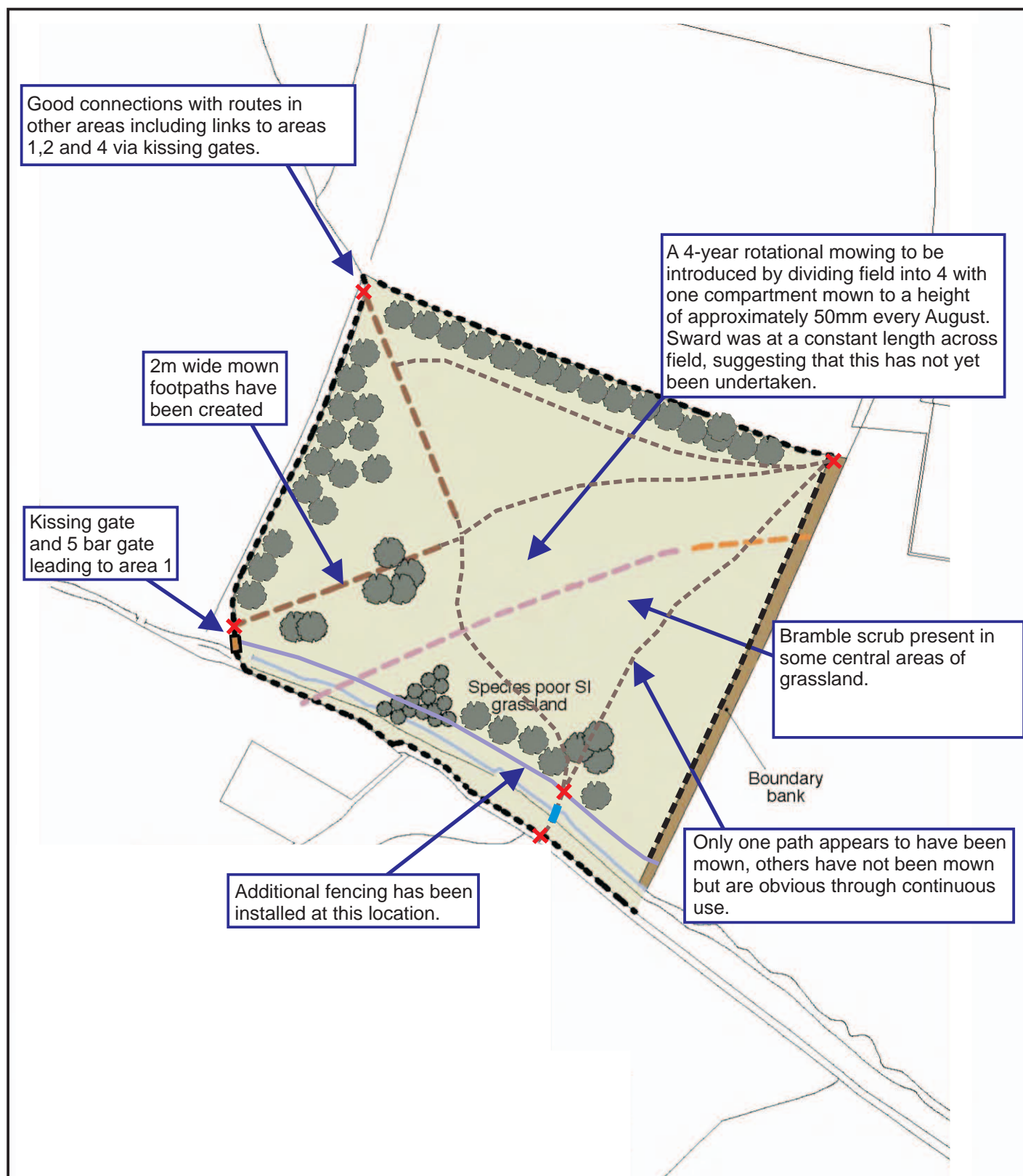
-  Kissing gate
-  Shared fence section
-  Proposed footpath
-  Proposed foul drainage
-  Ditch
-  Retained trees
-  Fence



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FIGURE 2: AREA 2 - SECONDARY  
WOODLAND AND PLANTATION TO  
EAST OF WOOD COPSE SINCE 2015



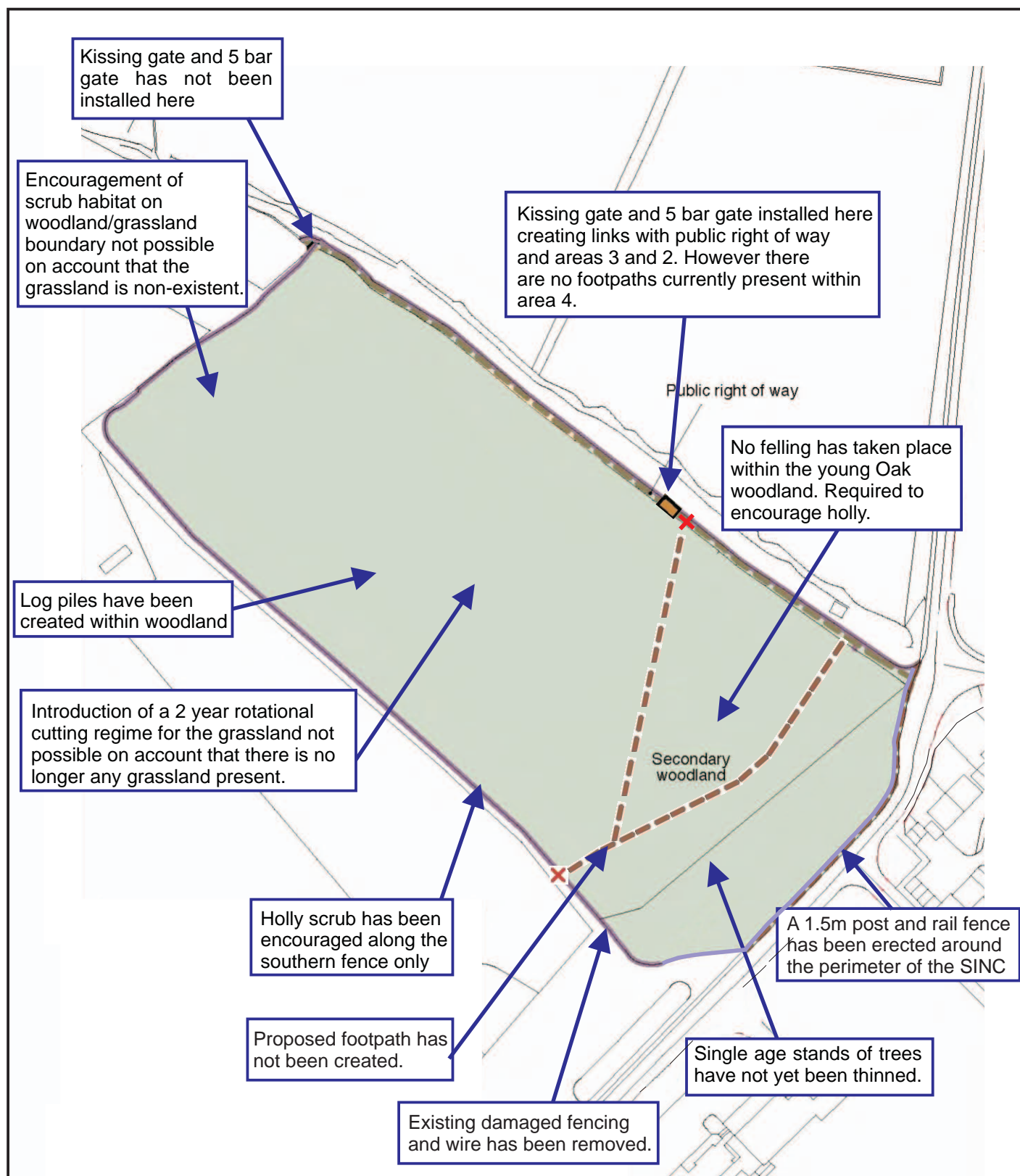
KEY:

- |                              |                    |
|------------------------------|--------------------|
| ●●● Shared fence section     | — Fence            |
| — Proposed footpath          | — Crossing point   |
| — Foul water drains          | — Current footpath |
| — Proposed foul water drains |                    |
| ● Parkland trees             |                    |
| — Ditch                      |                    |
| ✕ Kissing gate               |                    |
| ■ 5 Bar gate                 |                    |



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AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 3: AREA 3 - FIELD TO  
SOUTH OF WOOD COPSE  
SINC 2015



KEY:

-  Proposed footpath
-  Fence
-  Kissing gate
-  5 bar gate

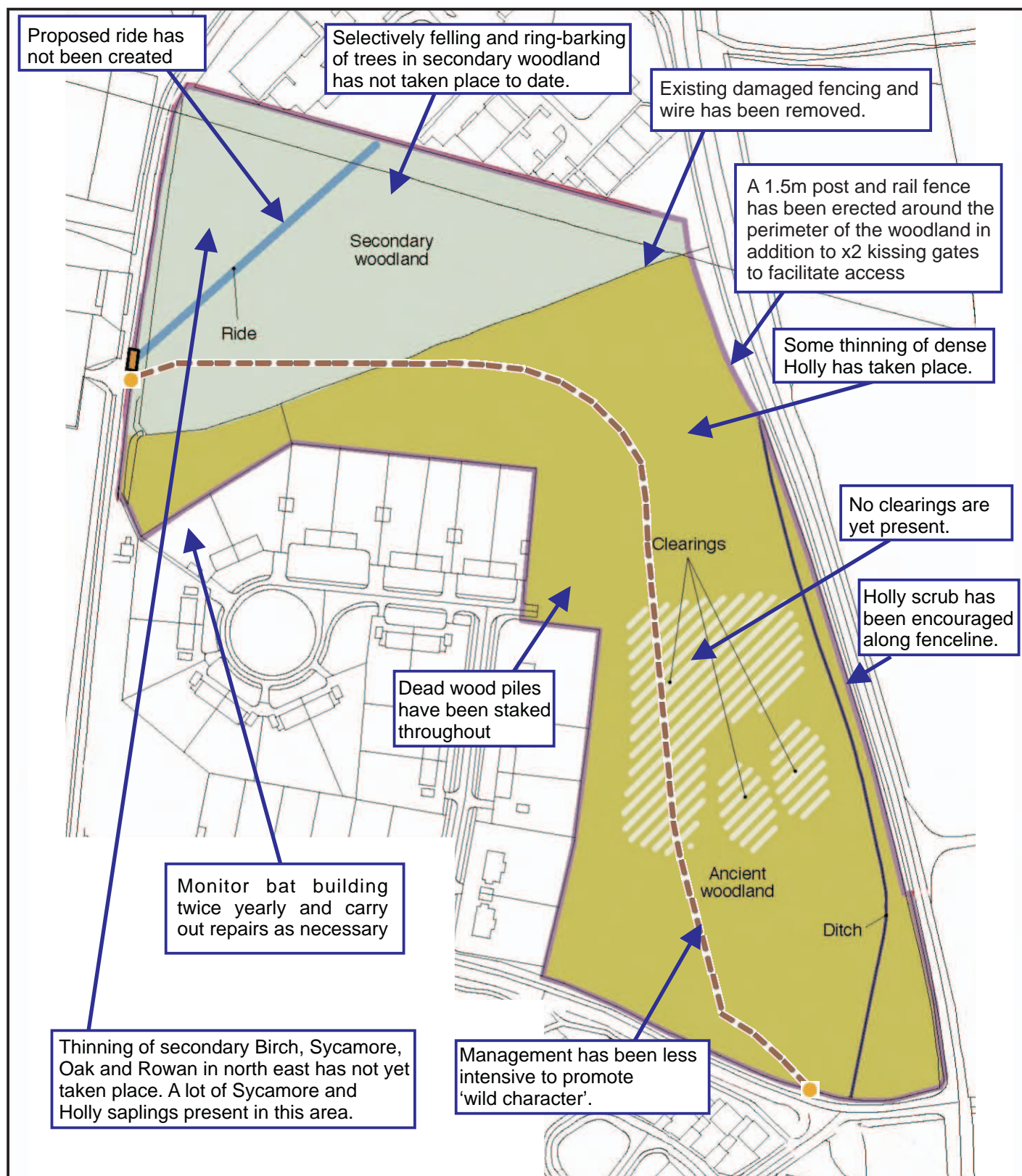


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AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 4:  
AREA 4 - SOANES FIELD SINC 2015





KEY:

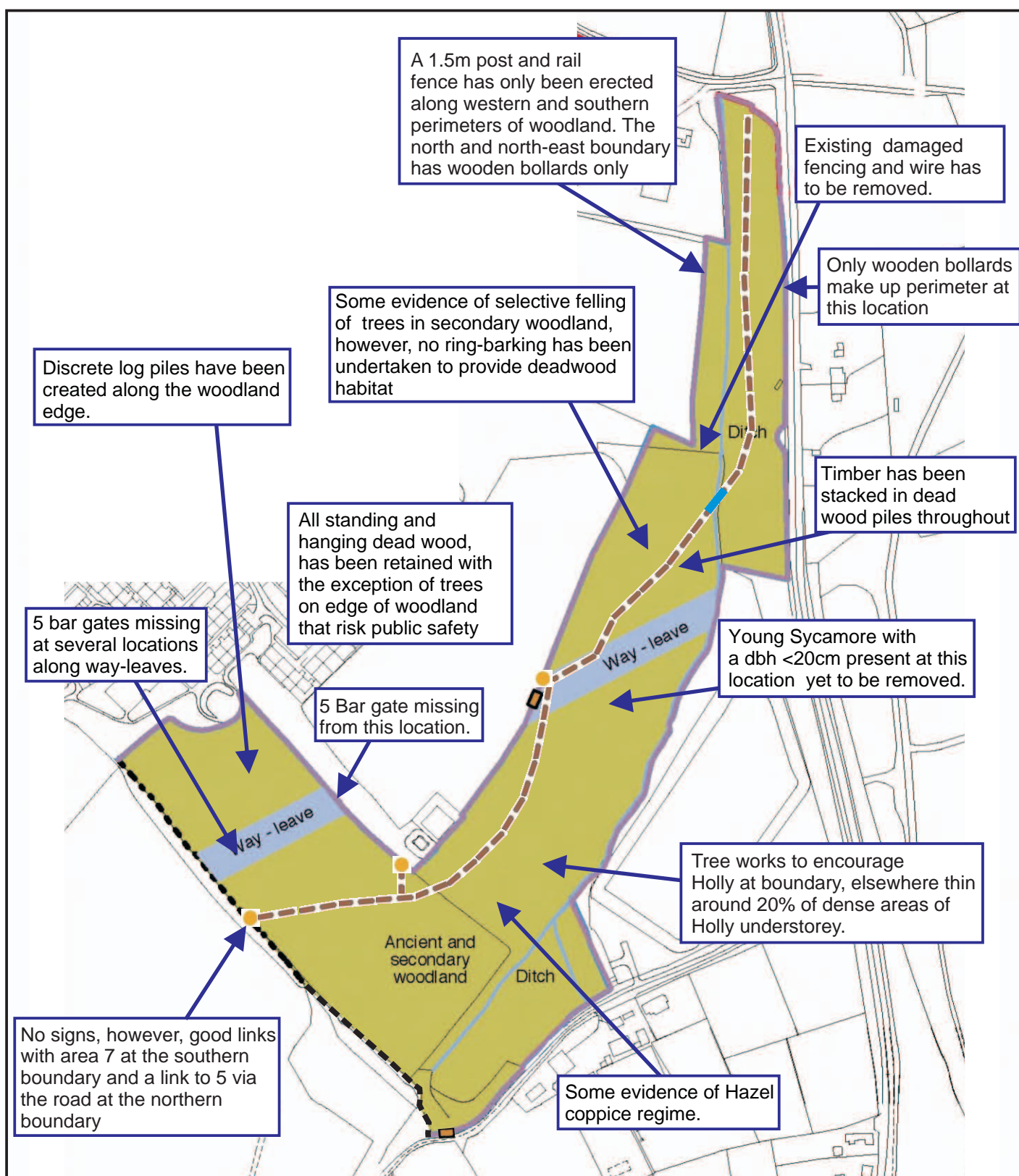
-  Fence
-  5 bar gate
-  Proposed footpath
-  Kissing gate



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FIGURE 5: AREA 5 -  
WAKEFORDS COPSE SINCE 2015



#### KEY:

- Fence
- Shared fence section
- 5 bar gate
- Kissing gate
- Proposed footpath
- Crossing point

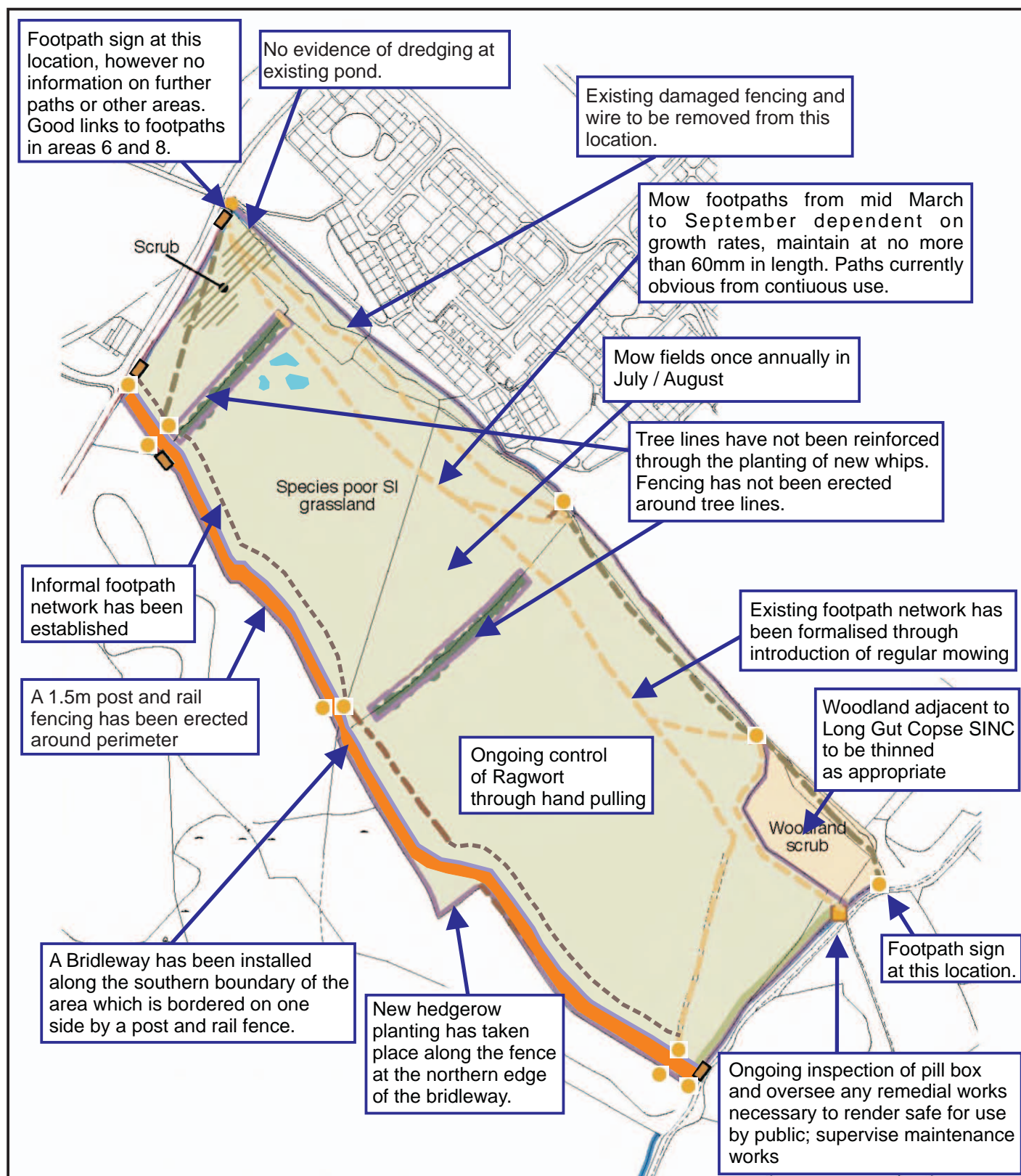


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FIGURE 6: AREA 6 -  
LONG GUT COPSE SINC 2015





KEY:

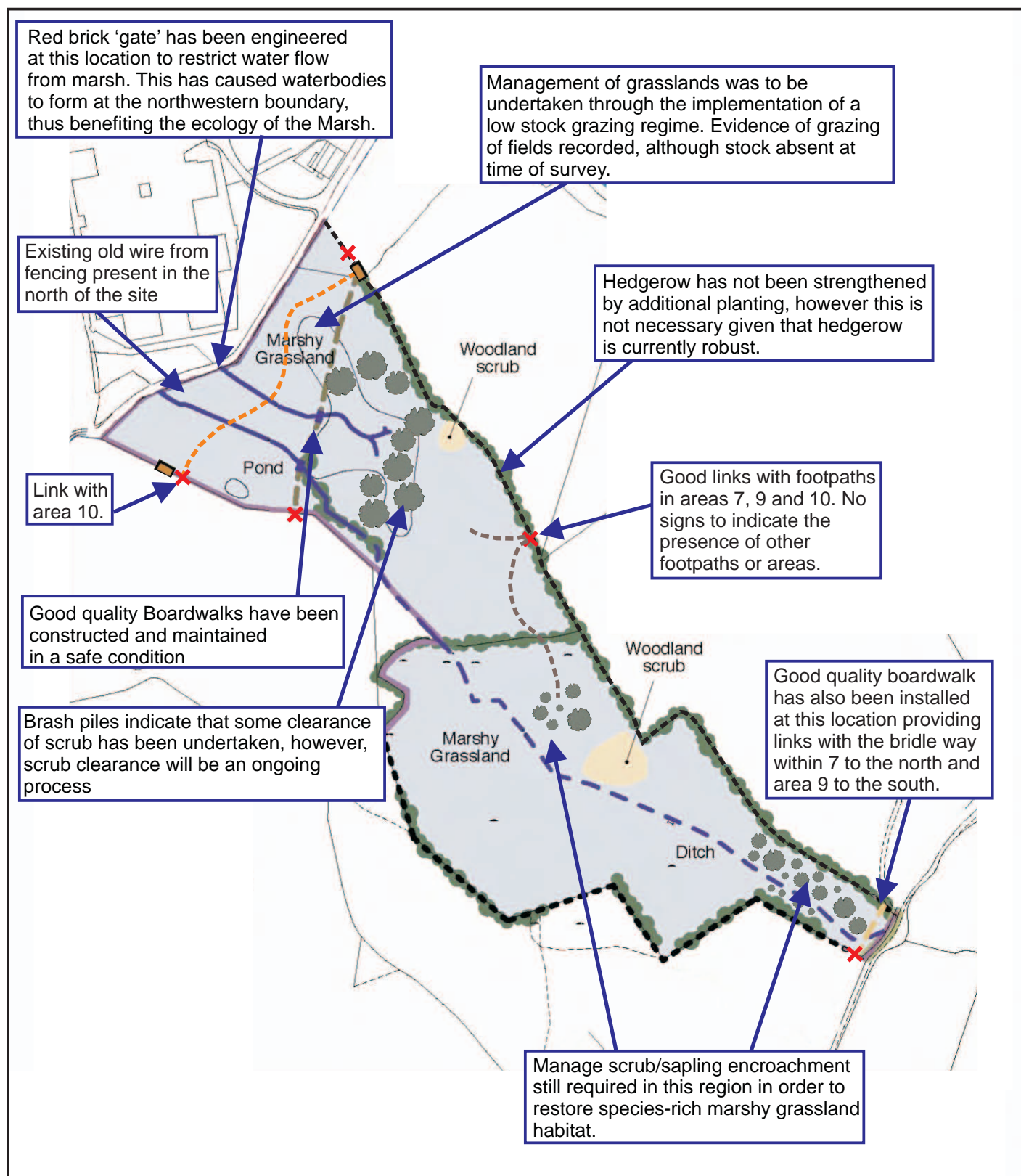
- |                              |                   |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Existing public right of way | Pill box          |
| Treeline                     | Existing footpath |
| Fence                        | Proposed footpath |
| Stile                        | 5 bar gate        |
| Kissing gate                 |                   |
| Bridleway                    |                   |



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3783: QUEEN ELIZABETH BARRACKS  
AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 7: AREA 7 - FIELDS TO  
NORTH-EAST OF EWSHOT  
MARSH SINC 2015



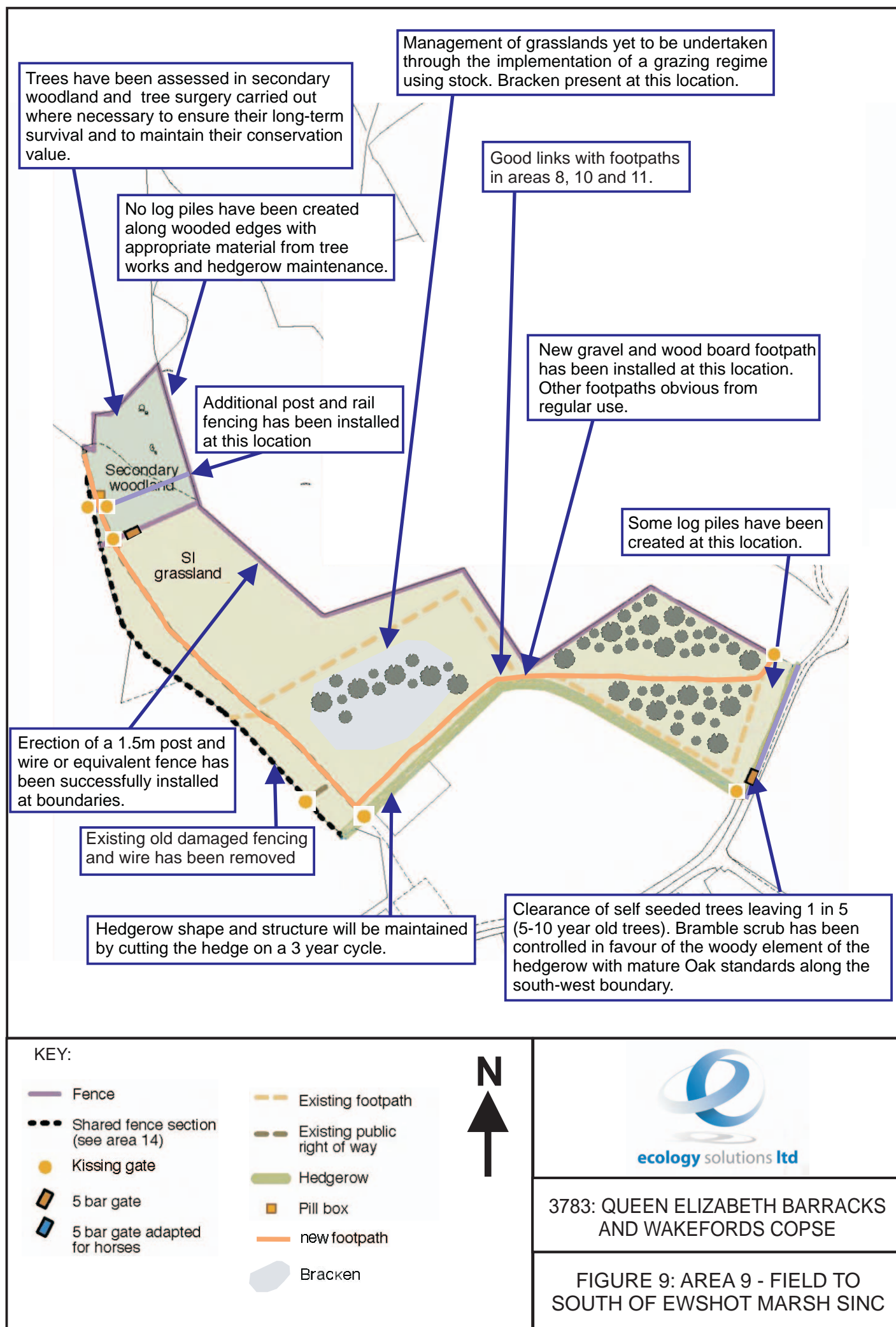
KEY:

- |  |                              |  |  |
|--|------------------------------|--|--|
|  | Kissing gate                 |  | Treeline                                   |
|  | 5 bar gate                   |  | Fence                                      |
|  | Crossing point               |  | Shared fence section (see areas 10 and 12) |
|  | Existing public right of way |  | Hedgerow                                   |
|  | Existing footpath            |  |  |
|  | Surface water features       |  |  |

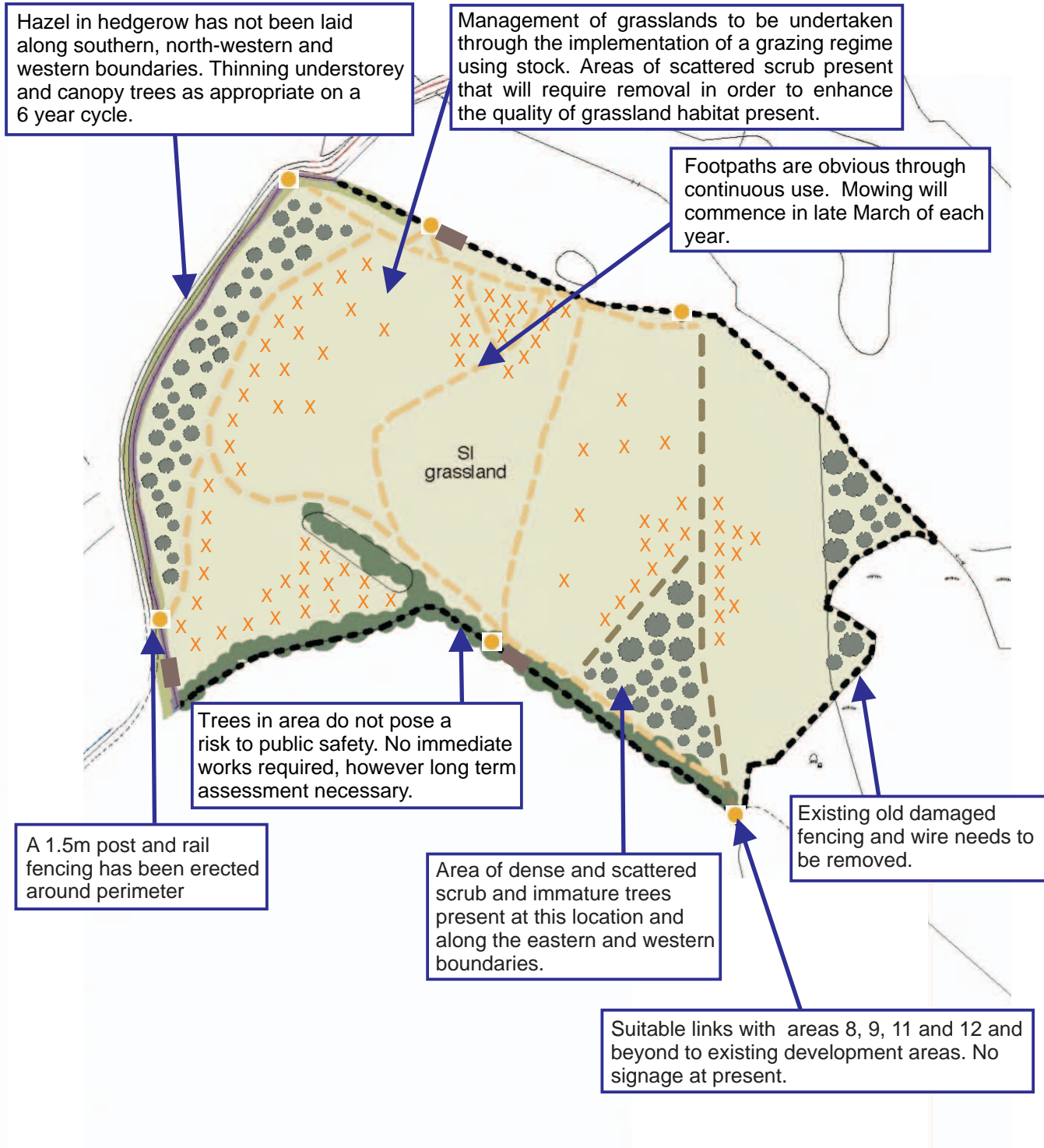


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FIGURE 8: AREA 8 -  
EWSHOT MARSH SINCE 2015







KEY:

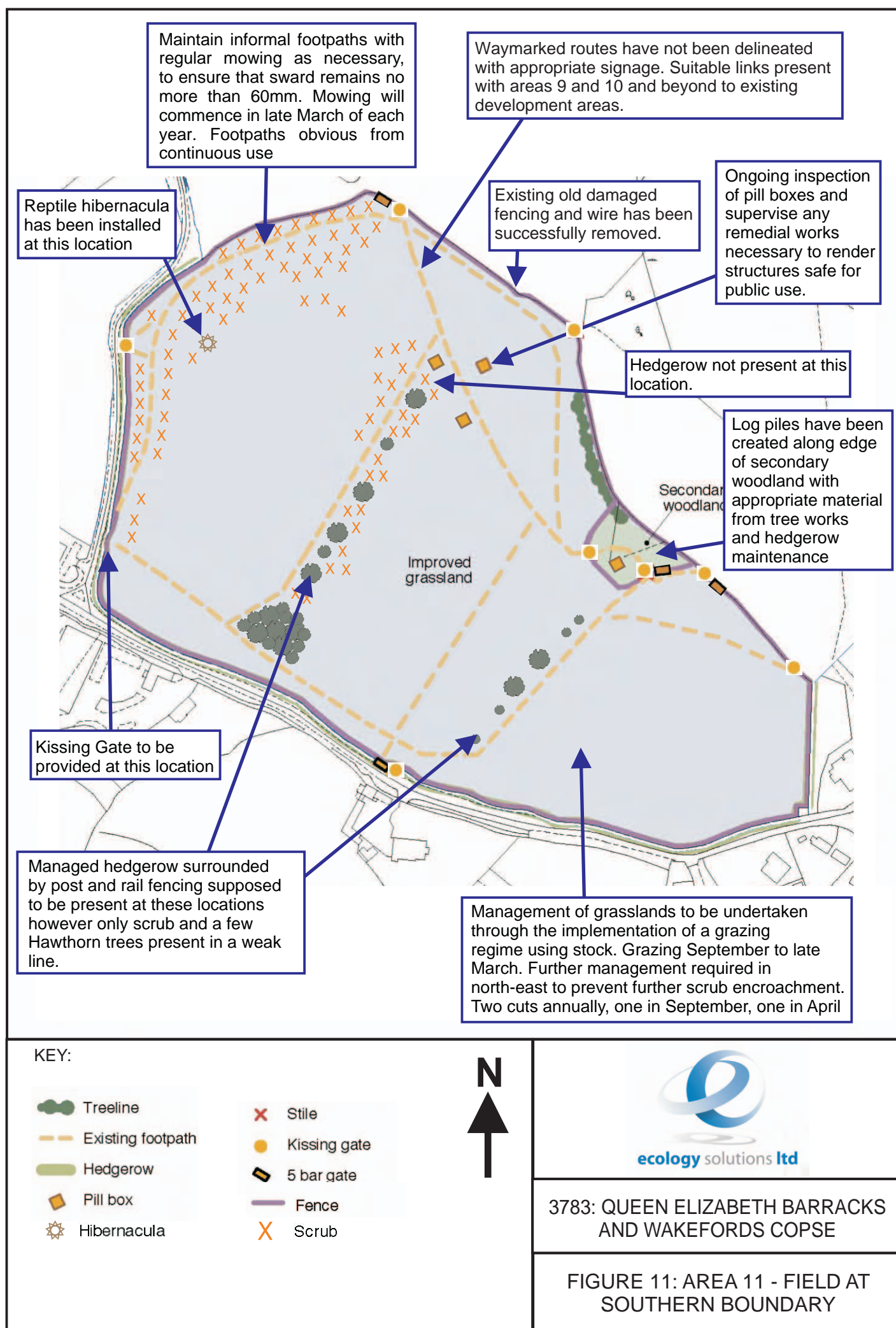
- |  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| Stile  | Treeline                     |
| Kissing gate                                       | Existing footpath            |
| 5 bar gate   | Hedgerow                     |
| Fence  | Existing public right of way |
| Shared fence section (see areas 11, 12, 14 and 15) | Scrub                        |

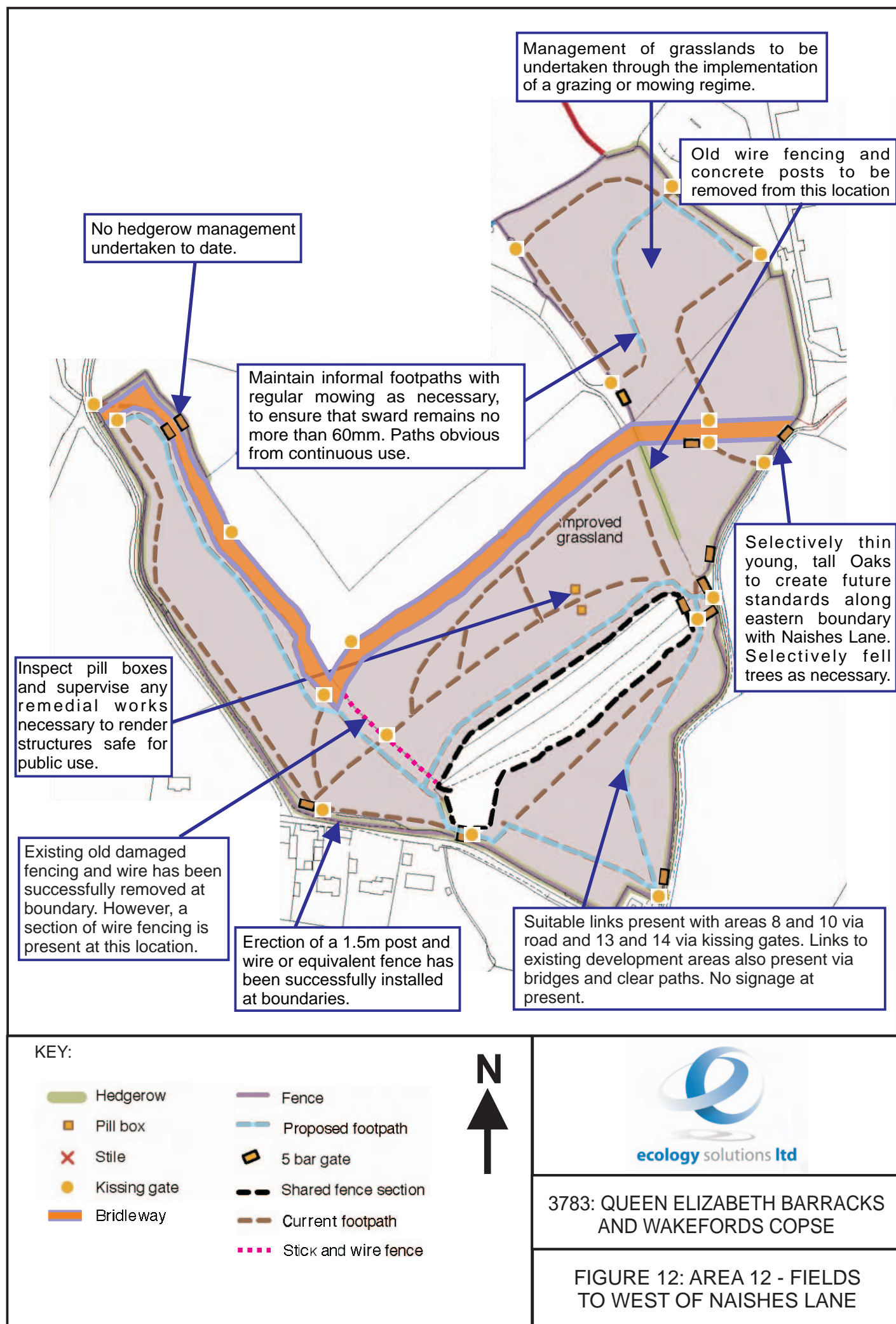


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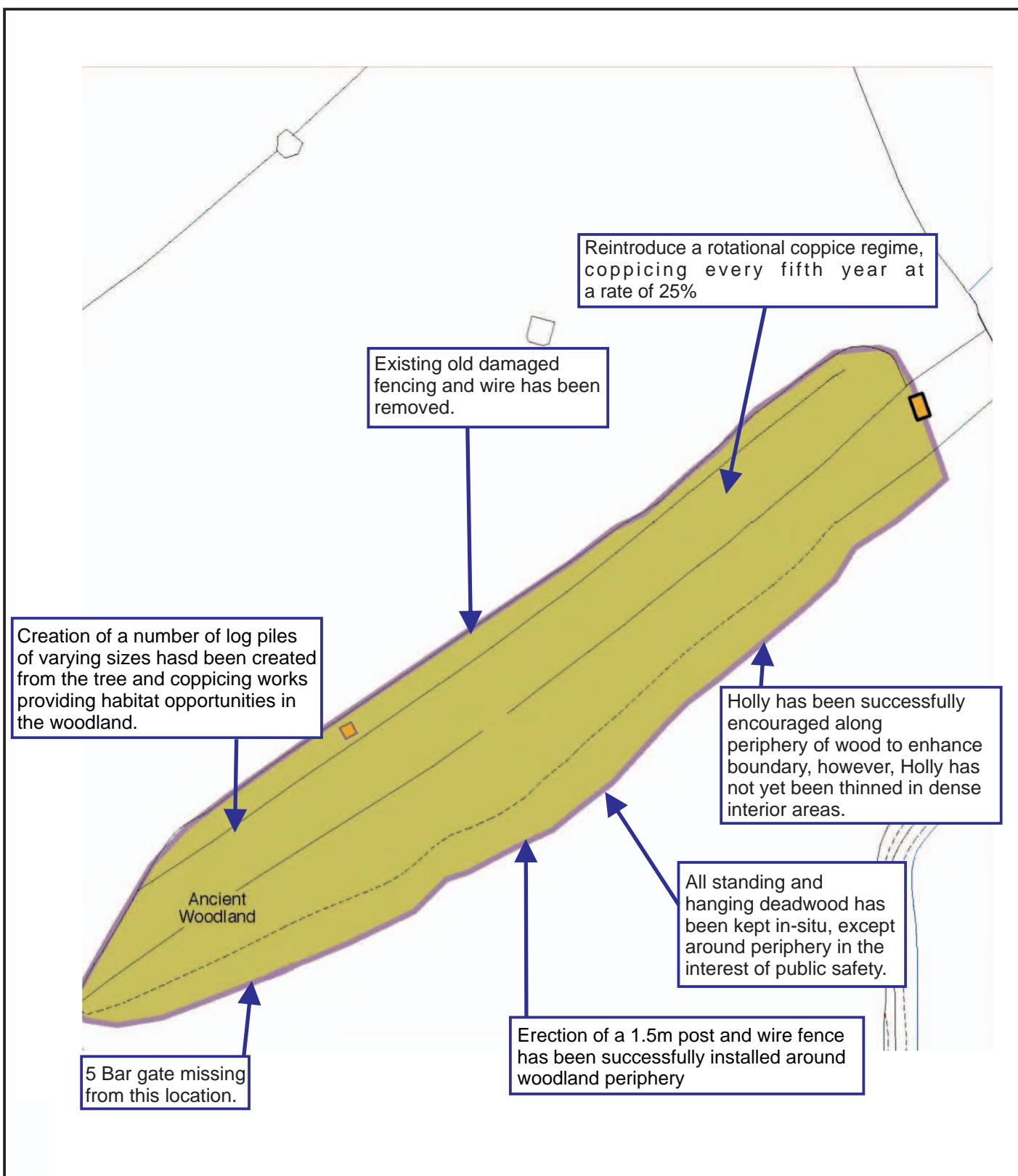
3783: QUEEN ELIZABETH BARRACKS  
AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 10: AREA 10 - FIELD TO  
WEST OF EWSHOT MARSH SINC












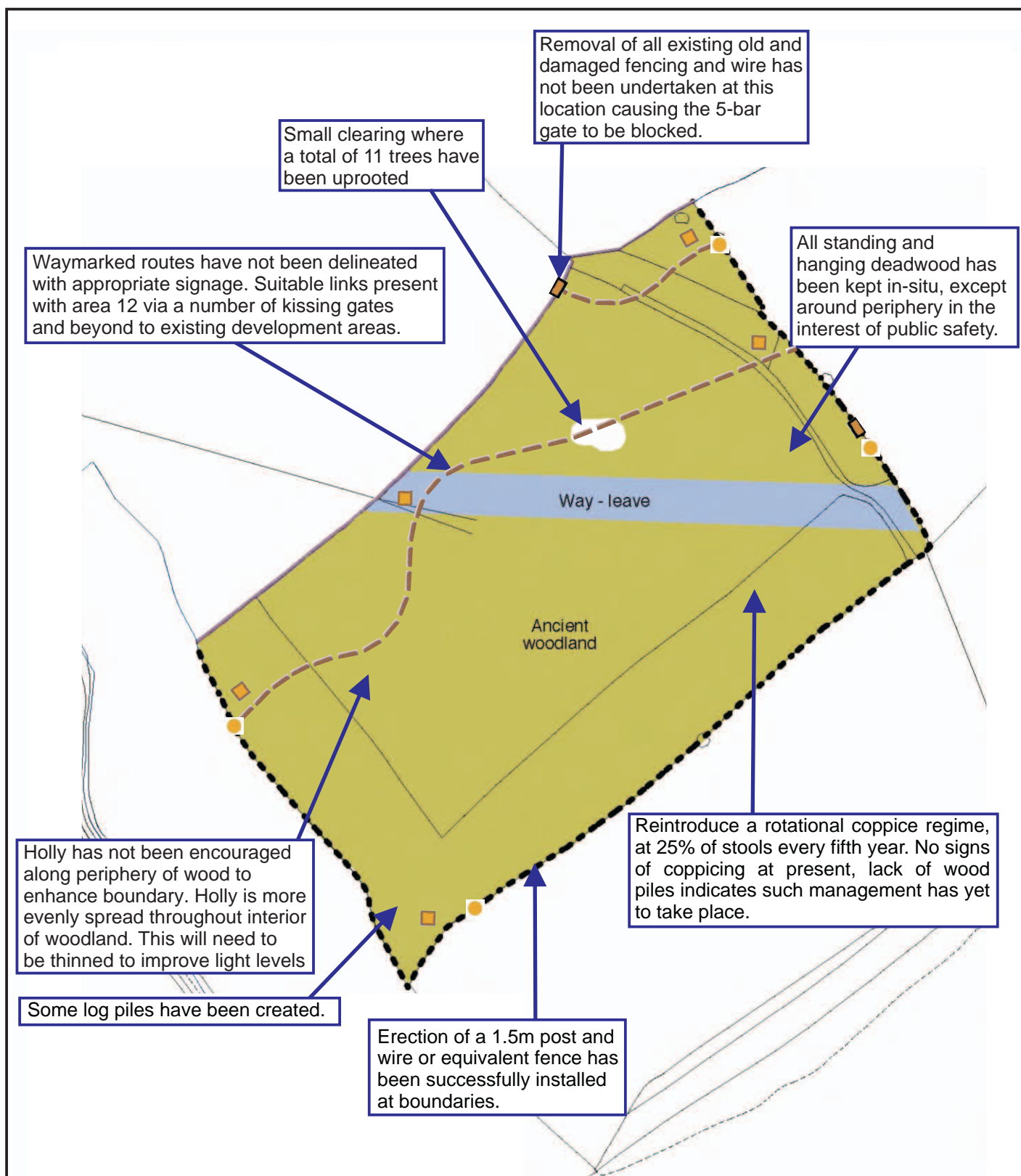
KEY:

-  Fence
-  5 bar gate
-  Pill box



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AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 13: AREA 13 -  
SHAW COPSE SINC



KEY:

- Fence
- Shared fence section
- Five bar gate
- Pill box
- Kissing gate
- Current footpath



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AND WAKEFORDS COPSE

FIGURE 14: AREA 14 -  
RIDDINGS COPSE SINC

### **APPENDIX 3**

#### **Naishes Wood SANG 2015 Visitor Survey Report (Ecology Solutions, June 2015)**



TAYLOR WIMPEY

NAISHES WOOD SANG,  
CHURCH CROOKHAM

## **2015 Visitor Survey Report**

June 2015  
3783.vs.report.vf

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## **ANNEX**

ANNEX 1	Crookham Park SANG Access and Use Survey Questionnaire (VS Version)
ANNEX 2	Crookham Park SANG Access and Use Survey Questionnaire (LR Version)

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1. Background**

- 1.1.1. Ecology Solutions was commissioned to undertake visitor surveys to ascertain the current use and visitor behaviour of people utilising Naishes Wood Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG), Church Crookham, Hampshire.
- 1.1.2. Surveys were undertaken in order to provide information regarding the current use of the SANG by local residents, and their views on the current state of the SANG and potential improvements which could be made. The findings of the exercise have been used in order to inform the updated Visitor Access Strategy and updated SANG Management Plan (to which this document is appended).
- 1.1.3. The location of Naishes Wood SANG relative to the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) is shown on Plan ECO1.

### **1.2. Purpose of the Report**

- 1.2.1. The purpose of this report is to document the methodology and findings of the visitor surveys that have been undertaken at Naishes Wood SANG in April 2015.
- 1.2.2. This report also documents the methodology and findings of the mail drop exercise that was undertaken for local residents in the vicinity of Naishes Wood SANG to gain additional information.

## **2. SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1. Visitor Survey Methodology**

- 2.1.1. The survey conducted by Ecology Solutions in April 2015 was developed based on principles put forward in work by Clarke et al. (2006) on the Dorset Heathlands on behalf of English Nature (as was), with reference to other studies in the Thames Basin Heaths region, including those by Bracknell Forest Borough Council & Leisure-net Solutions (2006) and Liley (2007).

#### Face to Face Interviews

- 2.1.2. A total of seven survey points for the face to face interviews were selected on the basis of site visits. The survey points covered all of the key footpaths and entry points into Naishes Wood SANG, although it was recognised that there are numerous additional areas where access into the SANG is possible.
- 2.1.3. The selected access points were surveyed over a total of six days; three days during the Easter holiday period for local schools and three days at the start of the Summer term. Surveys were undertaken on Thursday 16th, Friday 17th and Saturday 18th April (during the Easter holidays), and on Thursday 23rd, Friday 24th and Saturday 25th April (during the Summer term) respectively.
- 2.1.4. The survey points were covered between the hours of 7am to 9am, 10am to 12pm, 1pm to 3pm and 5pm to 7pm. All visitors passing the survey point were asked to complete a short questionnaire, giving details of their use of the survey location in addition to other greenspace areas. In the event that people were not willing to answer the questions, as much information as possible was recorded so as to inform the exercise.
- 2.1.5. Natural England and Hart District Council were consulted with regard to the scope, geographical location and timing of the work, with regard taken to comments provided and amendments to the methodology made as appropriate.
- 2.1.6. A copy of the questionnaire utilised at each survey point ('VS' version) is included at Annex 1.

#### Mail Drop of Local Residents

- 2.1.7. In addition to the face to face interviews, an information pack was delivered to a number of local residents in order to obtain additional information regarding Naishes Wood SANG.
- 2.1.8. Information packs were delivered to a total of 760 local residents, including all new Taylor Wimpey residents (within the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks and Wakefords Copse sites) and local residents living in close proximity to the SANG. Packs were delivered to residents at Quetta Park, Sandy Lane, Ewshot Lane and Humphrey Park, and a number of residents in Ewshot.



- 2.1.9. The information pack delivered to these addresses included a copy of the SANG Questionnaire, with minor amendments to the questions to take into account that it was not being completed during a site visit, and a stamped addressed envelope to allow residents to send back the questionnaire free of charge. A copy of the questionnaire sent as part of the information pack ('LR' version) is included at Annex 2.
- 2.1.10. Residents were asked to complete and return the questionnaire to Ecology Solutions using the enclosed envelope. In addition, residents were made aware of the forthcoming public exhibition which was to be held, and that further information could be found at Taylor Wimpey's SANG Project website<sup>1</sup>.

## 2.2. Overview of Survey Locations

- 2.2.1. The access points covered during the visitor survey are shown on Plan ECO2 and a description of each is given below:
- **Access Point 1:** North-western end of access track leading from the new development (adjacent to Sandy Lane), passing towards the south-east (towards Naishes Lane) [At the south-western corner of Area 1]. All visitors passing along the track were recorded.
  - **Access Point 2:** South-eastern end of access track leading from Naishes Lane towards the new development (adjacent to Sandy Lane) [Passing between Areas 2 and 4]. All visitors passing along the track were recorded.
  - **Access Point 3:** Access track and bridleway leading into Areas 7 / 8 from Naishes Lane (opposite SANG Car Park). All visitors accessing the SANG from the west in this location were recorded.
  - **Access Point 4:** Access track leading from the new development towards the south into northern part of Area 12 (to the west of the allotments). All visitors passing along the track were recorded.
  - **Access Point 5:** Bridleway leading from Ewshot Lane into western part of Area 12. All visitors passing along the bridleway were recorded.
  - **Access Point 6:** Access track leading from Ewshot Village Hall car park towards the north into the southern part of Area 9. All visitors passing along the track were recorded.

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<sup>1</sup> Available at [www.thesangsproject.co.uk](http://www.thesangsproject.co.uk)

- **Access Point 7:** Access track leading from Tadpole Lane westwards into Area 7. All visitors passing along the track were recorded.

## 2.3. Analysis of Visitor Survey Results

- 2.3.1. Please note that all figures quoted throughout this report are correct to one decimal place, unless otherwise stated.

### 3. SURVEY RESULTS AND EVALUATION – FACE TO FACE INTERVIEWS

#### 3.1. Visitor Numbers and Demographics

- 3.1.1. The visitor survey was carried out for a total of 48 hours over the course of the six days.
- 3.1.2. A total of 919 visitors were observed during the course of the survey from the seven access points. Of these, 208 (22.6% of the total number) were willing to participate in the survey, 118 (12.8%) refused to participate and 229 people (24.9%) were approached who had already been surveyed. 364 (39.6%) were recorded as accompanying those who asked to participate in the survey.
- 3.1.3. Of those who were previously surveyed, most people confirmed that they had been interviewed previously, either on the same day (cited by 48.9% of respondents) or on another day (cited by 37.1%). 10.9% stated that they had previously been sent the survey questions via the mail drop exercise. One person (0.4%) stated that they had seen the questionnaire online, and six people (2.6%) did not state where they had come across the questions before.
- 3.1.4. The age of the visitors surveyed varied, with most being aged between 19 and 40 (38.0%), 27.6% between 41 and 65, 25.8% under 18 and 7.3% over 65. The age of 12 visitors (1.3%) was not recorded.

#### 3.2. Visitor Numbers at each Access Point

- 3.2.1. Table 1 below outlines the number of people recorded by survey point (including all of those who accompanied those asked to participate in the survey).

Access Point	Total Number of people recorded	%
1	173	18.8
2	216	23.5
3	198	21.5
4	71	7.7
5	45	4.9
6	116	12.6
7	100	10.9
	919	

**Table 1.** Summary of people recorded by access point

- 3.2.2. Of the seven access points, three were clearly subject to a higher amount of use in comparison with the others: Access Points 2 (23.5% of people recorded), Access Point 3 (21.5%) and Access Point 1 (18.8%). In contrast, Access Points 4 and 5 were subject to lower levels of use (7.7% and 4.9% of people recorded respectively).

### 3.3. Home Location of Visitors

- 3.3.1. The vast majority of visitors at the access points (92.3%) stated that they were visiting from home. Eight people (3.9%) stated that they were visiting from a friend or relative's house. Eight people (3.9%) did not state where they had travelled from, or provided an alternative answer.
- 3.3.2. Of those visitors who participated in the survey, 76.7% provided either a partial postcode (e.g. GU52) or a full postcode, with 48.6% providing their full postcode and 28.1% a partial one. The remaining 13.3% provided a place name as opposed to a postcode and 10.0% did not specify a location.
- 3.3.3. As a number of visitors only provided partial postcodes for their home address, in order to provide as much information as possible data was grouped together where possible. Where either a full or partial postcode was provided, information on locations was grouped together into a single category under the postcode district; for instance, respondents from GU52 1AA and GU52 were grouped together into the category 'Fleet (GU52)'.
- 3.3.4. Table 2 below shows the locations from which people travelled to Naishes Wood SANG, combining information from all access points, and having grouped locations as described above.

Location	Total	%
Billericay, Essex (CM11)	1	0.5
Kent (CT9)	2	1.0
Warwickshire (CV12)	1	0.45
Farnham (GU10)	36	17.1
Aldershot (GU11)	1	0.5
Aldershot (GU12)	2	1.0
Farnborough (GU14)	1	0.5
Camberley (GU15)	1	0.5
Camberley (GU16)	2	1.0
Camberley (GU17)	1	0.5
Fleet (GU51)	3	1.4
Fleet (GU52)	101	48.1
Farnham (GU9)	3	1.4
Hook (RG27)	4	1.9
Surrey (RH1)	1	0.5
Southampton (SO16)	1	0.5
Church Crookham	19	9.1
Camberley	1	0.5
Crondall	2	1.0
Ewshot	1	0.5
Fleet	4	1.9
Shropshire	1	0.5
Unspecified	21	10

**Table 2.** Summary of locations from which people travelled to Naishes Wood SANG (grouped, all access points)

- 3.3.5. The vast majority of visitors were from postcodes in the Fleet area, particularly GU52 (48.1% of respondents). The Farnham area GU10 (17.1% of respondents) and Church Crookham area (9.1% of respondents) were also key areas from which respondents were from. A maximum of four visitors came from any other root postcode area, with 10% (21 people) not specifying the area they were from.
- 3.3.6. Plan ECO3 shows the postcode locations of those people accessing Naishes Wood SANG (all access points) where the postcode was provided. Plans ECO4 to ECO10 inclusive show the postcode locations of people accessing each of these access points respectively.
- 3.3.7. The distance between home addresses and each access point was measured as a straight line between the two points ('as the crow flies'). In most cases the calculated distance is likely to be much less than the actual distance travelled by visitors in accessing the site, and as such they should only be considered as a guide.
- 3.3.8. The vast majority of people travelled less than 2km from their home address to reach the access point at which they were surveyed, with 24.5% travelling less than 0.5km, 37.3% travelling between 0.5km and 1km, 15.7% travelling between 1km and 1.5km and 4.9% travelling between 1.5km and 2km.
- 3.3.9. 3.9% travelled between 2km and 5km from their home address. Fourteen people (13.7%) travelled more than 5km from their home address, with 5.9% travelling between 5km and 10km and 7.8% travelling more than 10km.

### 3.4. Mode of Transport

- 3.4.1. Table 3 below gives a summary of the mode of transport used by people to travel to Naishes Wood SANG.

Transport	Total	%
On foot	158	75.9
By car	39	18.8
Bicycle	7	3.4
Horse	3	1.4
Public Trans	0	0.00
Not stated	1	0.5

**Table 3.** Summary of modes of transport used

- 3.4.2. The most popular means of transport to the survey location was on foot (75.9%). 18.8% of people accessed the survey locations by car, with a minority of people travelling by bicycle (3.4%) and horse (1.4%). 0.5% either travelled to the survey location using other means or did not state their means of transport.

### 3.5. Parking Locations

- 3.5.1. Table 4 below gives a summary of parking locations cited by respondents. Percentages are given in relation to the total number of people who stated that they accessed the survey location by car.

Frequency	Total	%
SANG CP	16	41.0
Lay By	4	10.3
Village Hall	5	12.8
Tadpole Lane	1	2.6
Beech Hill Road	1	2.6
Sandy Lane	1	2.6
Sainsburys	1	2.6
Naishes Lane	1	2.6
Ewshot Lane	1	2.6
Not stated	8	20.5

**Table 4.** Summary of car parking locations.

- 3.5.2. It is apparent that 41.0% of respondents utilised the car park at the Naishes Wood SANG. 10.3% stated that they used a nearby lay by, with 12.3% stating that they used the village hall car park. Six people each stated that they used a specific locations on nearby roads/lanes (2.6% each) and 20.5% did not state where they parked.

### 3.6. Frequency of Visits

- 3.6.1. Table 5 below gives a summary of the frequency of visits by people visiting Naishes Wood SANG.

Frequency	Total	%
More than once a day	43	20.7
At least once a day	61	29.3
At least once a week	67	32.2
At least once a month	14	6.7
First Visit	15	7.2
Sporadically	8	3.9

**Table 5.** Summary of visit frequency data

- 3.6.2. By combining the totals given for the responses “more than once a day” and “at least once a day”, it can be seen that 50.0% of respondents make a minimum of one visit per day to the Naishes Wood SANG. 32.2% stated that they visit at least once a week, with 6.7% stating that they visit at least once a month. Fifteen people (7.2%) stated it was their first visit, and eight respondents (3.9%) stated that they visit sporadically.
- 3.6.3. The vast majority of the respondents (68.8%) stated that they visit Naishes Wood SANG throughout the year rather than during any particular season. 14.4% stated that they visit more in the summer,

4.3% stated that they visit more in the spring, no people stated that they visit more in the autumn and 1% stated that they visit more in the winter. 12.0% stated that it was either their first visit or didn't have a preference to the season in which they visited.

3.6.4. With regards to the days of the week, the majority of visitors (52.4%) were likely to visit Naishes Wood SANG at any day, with no preference to the day of the week. 21.2% of visitors stated that they are more likely to visit on weekdays, whereas 18.8% stated that they were more likely to visit at weekends. 7.7% stated that it was either their first visit or did not state which days they preferred to visit.

3.6.5. Following on from a preferred day, the preferred time of day was asked within the questionnaire. The percentages of preferred times was fairly constant throughout suggesting the flow of people through Naishes Wood SANG is even throughout the day. 23.6% of people preferred to visit in the early morning (before 9am), 25% preferred the late morning (9am to 12pm), 26.9% preferred the afternoon (12pm to 5pm) and 21.6% of people used the SANG in the evening (after 5pm). Lastly a further 25.0% of people stated that their visiting time varied from day to day.

### 3.7. Reason for Visiting

3.7.1. A summary of data collected for the footpath survey points combined is presented in Table 6 below.

Purpose of Visit	Total	%
Dog walking	118	56.7
Walking	68	32.7
Jogging / exercise	28	13.5
Horse riding	4	1.9
Cycling	6	2.9
Bird spotting / nature	4	1.9
Picnic/outing	4	1.9
(shopping)	10	4.8
(school)	11	5.3
(walk to work)	2	1.0
Allotment visit	1	0.5

**Table 6.** Summary of reasons for visiting Naishes Wood SANG

3.7.2. Overall, the majority of people were visiting for dog walking (56.7%) or walking (32.7%). Jogging was also a common activity relative to other reasons at 13.5%. All other activities (e.g. horse riding, cycling, walking etc.) are undertaken at markedly lower levels.

### 3.8. Number of Dogs

3.8.1. A total of 183 dogs were seen during the visitor surveys. Of these dogs the vast majority were seen to be running free (63.4%), a

total of 61 (33.3%) were seen on a lead and 3.3% of people asked did not state.

- 3.8.2. The majority of dogs were recorded as being under close control (59.0%).

### 3.9. Length of Visit

- 3.9.1. A summary of data collected for the survey locations combined is presented in Table 7.

Usual Duration	Total	%
Under 1/2 hour	65	31.3
1/2hr to 1hr	99	47.0
1hr to 3hrs	35	16.8
3hrs to 6hrs	1	0.5
Over 6hrs	0	0.0
Don't know	8	3.9

**Table 7.** Summary of duration of visit data

- 3.9.2. The vast majority of respondents visit the Naishes Wood SANG for less than an hour, with 47.6% visiting for between 30 minutes and an hour and 31.3% visiting for less than 30 minutes. 16.8% stated that they visited for between 1 and 3 hours, with one respondent (0.5%) stating that they visit for between 3 and 6 hours. Eight visitors (3.9%) did not know or did not state the length of time that they would be visiting.

### 3.10. Normal Route

- 3.10.1. The visitors were asked to state if the route they followed on the day of the survey was their normal route or whether they varied the route on the day. A summary of data collected for the routes taken is presented in Table 8.

Normal Route	Total	%
Yes	122	58.7
Varies	52	25.0
Longer	7	3.4
Shorter	6	2.9
First visit	16	7.7
Don't know / not stated	5	2.4

**Table 8.** Summary of route taken data

- 3.10.2. The majority of respondents (58.7%) stated that they utilise a set out route every time they visited Naishes Wood SANG. 25.0% stated that they varied their route on each occasion they visited the SANG. Only a small minority stated that they altered their route by distance, with 3.4% walking a longer route and 2.9% walking a shorter one. The remaining 10.1% stated it was their first visit or did not know.



- 3.10.3. Further to this, the visitors were asked if there was a specific influence that caused them to utilise their current route on the day. Of the visitors, 48 (23.1%) stated that the weather was the main influence for their choice of route, 18.3% stated that their dog (the route in which the dog chose on the day) was their influence whereas 14.4% simply walked a marked trail. 10.1% of the visitors were influenced by the time of day, suggesting that some routes are considered safer to walk in lighter conditions. The remaining 5.8% were influenced by other footpaths in the surrounding area, the location of their work or use of the allotments.

### 3.11. Attraction to visit Naishes Wood SANG

- 3.11.1. A summary of data collected is presented in Table 9. In a number of cases visitors provided more than one factor that attracted them to visit; hence they are not mutually exclusive and do not add up to 100%.

Attraction	Total	%
Location	128	61.5
Car Parking	0	0.0
No CP charges	2	1.0
Circ footpaths	10	4.8
All weather paths	7	3.4
Diff route lengths	7	3.4
Views	6	2.9
Natural Habitats	17	8.2
Lack dog restrictions	25	12.0
Meeting people	0	0.0
Security	4	1.9
Peace	21	10.1
Habit	25	12.0

**Table 9.** Summary of factors attracting visitors to Naishes Wood SANG.

- 3.11.2. The most popular factor attracting visitors is that the site is its convenient location (close to home address), which was cited by 61.5% of the respondents. 12.0% are attracted by a lack of restrictions on dogs, 10.1% are attracted by the peace and quiet, 8.2% are attracted by the variety of natural habitats and 4.8% are attracted by the circular footpath networks present. 12.0% stated that they visit the SANG out of habit. The other factors proposed in the survey were cited by fewer respondents as being important in terms of attracting them to the site.

### 3.12. Length of time that visitors have visited Naishes Lane SANG

- 3.12.1. A summary of data collected is presented in Table 10.

Attraction	Total	%
First visit	19	9.1
Less than 1yr	46	22.1
1-3yrs	64	30.8
Over 3yrs	75	36.1

Don't know / Not Stated	4	1.9
-------------------------	---	-----

**Table 10.** Summary of how long visitors had used Naishes Wood SANG.

- 3.12.1. The vast majority of visitors had been visiting the SANG for some time, with 36.1% having visited for over 3 years and 30.8% having visited between 1 and 3 years. Of the visitors, 22.1% are fairly recent users and have been using the SANG for less than a year. A total of 19 people (9.1%) were using the SANG for the first time and 1.9% did not state the length of time they had been visiting.

### 3.13. Proportion of visits taken at SANG

- 3.13.1. The visitors were asked what proportion of their weekly activities (e.g. walking, cycling, jogging, dog walking) take place at Naishes Wood SANG. A summary of data collected is presented in Table 11 below.

Proportion of visits to SANG	Total	%
All (100%)	23	11.1
75%+	73	35.1
50-74%	44	21.2
25-49%	21	10.1
Less than 25%	30	14.4
First visit	11	5.3
Don't know	6	2.9

**Table 11.** Summary of proportion of visits that are at Naishes Wood SANG.

- 3.13.2. The majority of visitors use the SANG on a frequent basis with 11.1% using the SANG on every outing and 35.1% visiting the SANG on more than 75% of their outings. Accumulating all the data together, 67.4% of people visit the SANG on more than half of their weekly outings. 10.1% of people stated that they visit the SANG between 25-49% of their outings and 14.4% stated that they visit the SANG on less than 25% of their outings. The remaining 8.2% stated that it was either their first visit or did not know what proportion of their weekly walks were at the SANG.

### 3.14. Lived locally before 2012

- 3.14.1. The visitors were asked if they had lived locally before 2012. A summary of data collected is presented in Table 12 below.

Proportion of visits to SANG	Total	%
Yes	120	57.7
No	64	30.8
Don't know	24	11.5

**Table 12.** Summary of people who lived locally before 2012

- 3.14.2. Most people had lived locally before 2012 (57.7%) and 30.8% stated that they had moved to the area since 2012. The remaining 11.5% didn't know if they had lived locally before 2012.
- 3.14.3. Visitors were then asked if there was a change in their proportion of visits since 2012 compared to other sites in the local area. The majority (35.1%) stated that they did visit the site more and 27.9% stated that there was no change in the proportion of visits. Only 7 people (3.4%) stated that they visited the site less since 2012 and 6.7% stated that it was their first visit. The remaining 26.9% didn't know if they had visited the site more or less since 2012.

### **3.15. Other sites visited in the local area**

- 3.15.1. In addition to specific questions relating to the SANG, visitors were asked to provide information regarding to other sites that they commonly visited in the local area. The most frequently used sites in the local area were Tweseldown Racecourse and Caesars Camp (both parts of Thames Basin Heaths SPA), which 46 people and 38 people stated they visited respectively. Other sites used in the local area include Fleet Pond (Site of Special Scientific Interest) and Ewshot, stated by 32 and 14 people respectively.
- 3.15.2. Of these alternative sites the visitors were asked how frequently they would visit them based on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. The majority of the visitors (40.4%) used these alternative sites at least once a week with 15.9% stating that they would visit only once a month. With regards to daily visits, 14.9% stated that they would visit these sites at least once a day and a very small minority (0.5%) stated that they would visit these sites more than once a day. 8.2% stated that they visit alternative sites sporadically and 20.2% stated that they didn't know how often they visited alternative sites.
- 3.15.3. Visitors were then asked what days of the week they tended to visit these alternative sites. The majority of visitors (37%) used these alternative sites equally throughout the week with no preference to the day. 32.7% used the alternative sites on weekends whereas a minority (11.1%) used them on weekdays. 19.2% of the visitors did not state on which day they tended to visit these alternative sites.
- 3.15.4. The number of years the visitors had been using these sites was also asked. The majority of people asked had been using these alternative sites for many years. 25.5% of visitors had been utilising the alternative sites between 2-5 years, 11.1% between 6-10 years and 24.0% for over 10 years. Only 14.9% had been utilising these sites for up to a year and 24.5% did not state how long they had been utilising these alternative sites.
- 3.15.5. In terms of the mode of transport utilised to reach these alternative sites, most of the visitors arrived either by car (40.4%) or on foot (34.1%). A total of 7 people (3.4%) arrived by bicycle and 1

individual (0.5%) arrived by horse. The remaining 21.6% did not state the mode of transport in which they utilised.

- 3.15.6. Lastly the preference in choice towards visiting these alternative sites as opposed to Naishes Wood SANG was asked. A summary of data collected is presented in Table 13. In a number of cases visitors provided more than one factor that attracted them to alternative sites; hence they are not mutually exclusive and do not add up to 100%.

Why visit	Total	%
Location	36	17.3
Car Parking	7	3.4
No CP charges	6	2.9
Circ footpaths	6	2.9
All weather paths	6	2.9
Diff route lengths	19	9.1
Views	8	3.9
Natural Habitats	45	21.6
Lack dog restrictions	13	6.3
Meeting people	5	2.4
Security	3	1.4
Peace	14	6.7
Habit	12	5.8

**Table 13.** Summary of factors attracting visitors to alternative sites.

- 3.15.7. Of these reasons the vast majority of people choose to visit these alternative sites on account of the location (17.3%) and the natural habitats they provide (21.6%). The other factors proposed in the survey were cited by fewer respondents as being important in terms of attracting them to the alternative sites.

#### 4. SURVEY RESULTS AND EVALUATION – MAIL DROP

- 4.1. A total of 88 responses to the mail drop have been received to date (i.e. 11.6% of those who were sent an information pack).
- 4.2. 92.1% of people stated that they utilise Crookham Park SANG, and that in total this would entail 239 visitors (including family members).
- 4.3. 52.3% of respondents stated that they were existing residents, whilst 45.5% lived within the new Taylor Wimpey properties.
- 4.4. In line with the face to face surveys, the vast majority of people travel from home (88.6%) and access the SANG on foot (85.2%). 30.7% stated that the visit a minimum of once a day, with 31.8% visiting at least once a week and 17.1% visiting at least once a month.
- 4.5. Most people stated that they visit throughout the year (55.7%), with the majority of people stating that they visit for walking (56.8%). Other reasons cited for visiting the site include dog walking (31.8%), jogging / exercise (20.5%) and cycling (14.8%)<sup>2</sup>.
- 4.6. 60.2% stated that they visit the SANG for less than an hour, with 10.2% visiting for less than half an hour and 50.0% visiting for between half an hour and an hour.
- 4.7. Again in line with the face to face interviews the most cited feature of the SANG was its convenient location close to home, cited by 79.6% of respondents, with other attractive features including the peace and quiet of the site (cited by 42.1% of respondents), the provision of circular footpaths (cited by 23.9%), the presence of a variety of natural habitats (20.5%) and 20.5% stating that they visit out of habit.
- 4.8. The majority of respondents stated that over half of their weekly visits to undertake their chosen activity (whether it is dog walking, walking, cycling, etc) take place at Crookham Park SANG compared to other sites (60.2%).
- 4.9. 50.0% of respondents stated that they lived locally before 2012. 42.1% of visitors stated that they visit the SANG more often since the implementation works have been undertaken, with only 2.3% stating that they visit less. 30.7% of visitors stated that the works have not changed their visiting habits.
- 4.10. Visitors stated that they tend to visit alternative sites less frequently than Crookham Park SANG (with only 3.4% visiting a minimum of once a day), and that they access these sites by car (cited 62.5%).
- 4.11. The most popular reasons cited as to why they visit these alternative sites are due to the natural habitats present (cited by 39.6%), the

---

<sup>2</sup> Respondents could cite more than one reason for visiting the SANG; as such the reasons are not mutually exclusive and the totals do not add up to 100%

convenient location close to home (38.6%) and the different length routes which are available (37.5%).

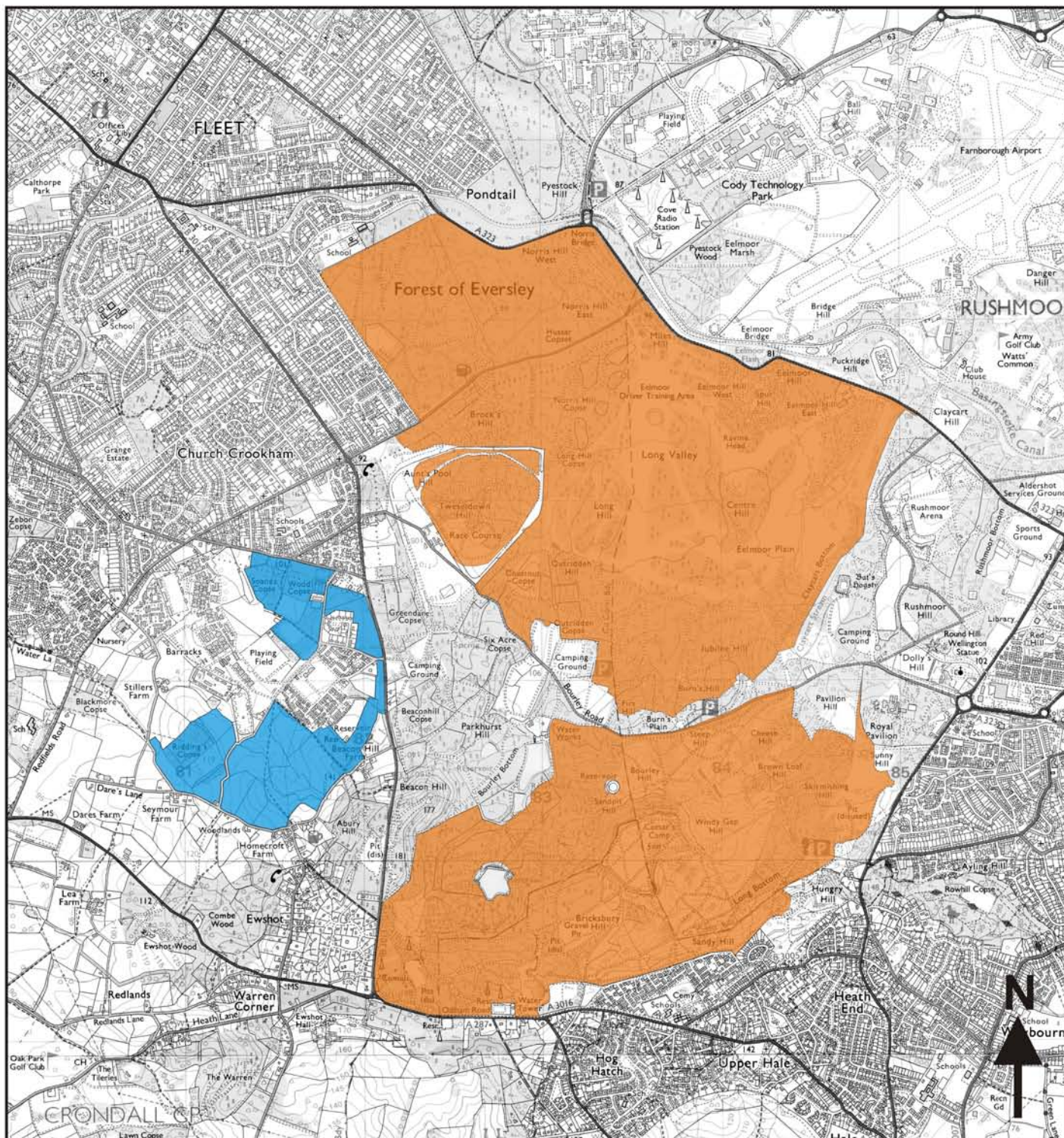
## **PLANS & ANNEXES**

## PLANS



## **PLAN ECO1**

Locations of Naishes Wood SANG and  
Thames Basin Heaths SPA



# KEY:



NAISHES WOOD SANG



THAMES BASIN HEATHS SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA (SPA)



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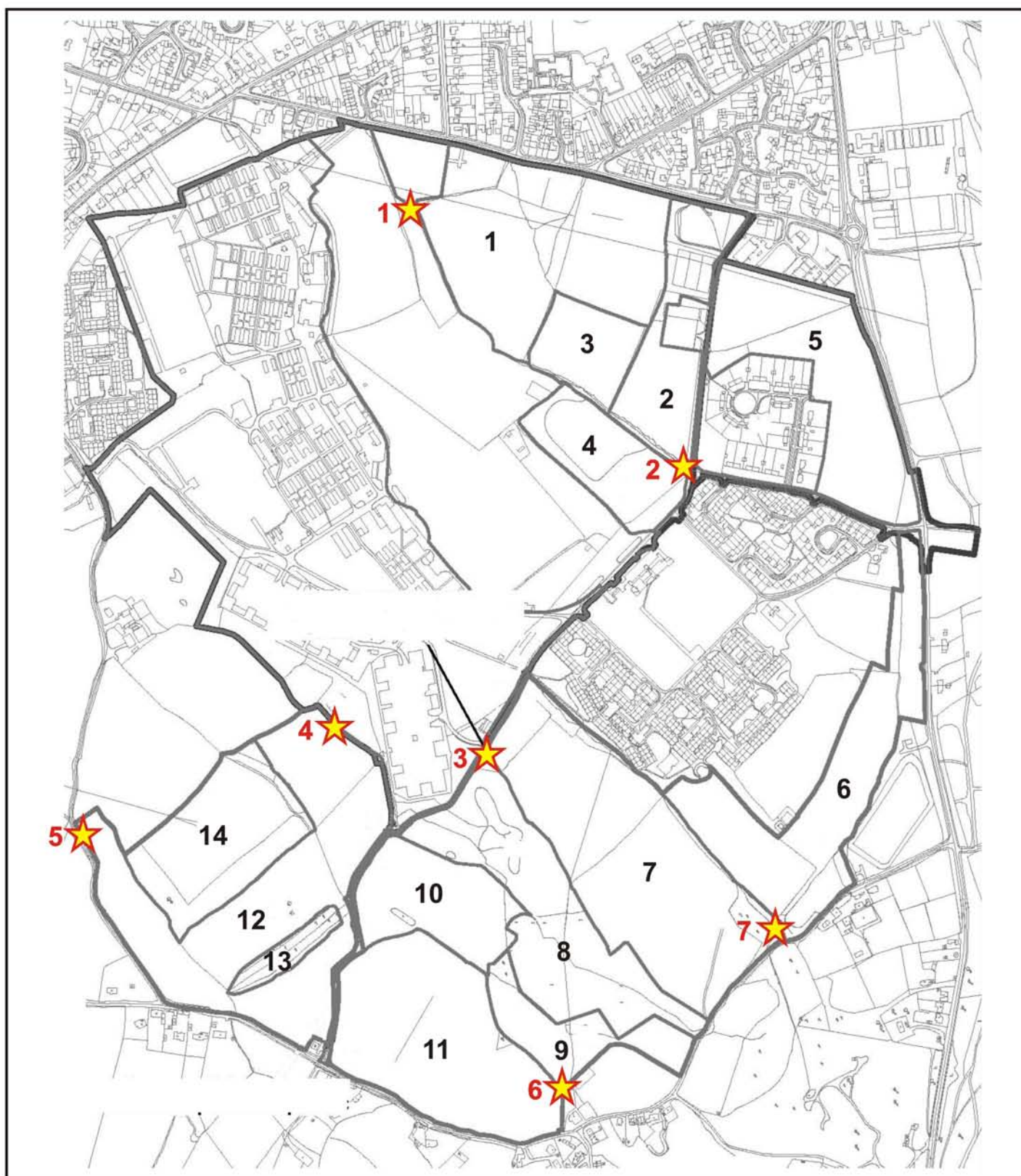
3783: NAISHES WOOD SANG,  
CHURCH CROOKHAM

PLAN ECO1:  
LOCATION OF NAISHES WOOD SANG  
AND THAMES BASIN HEATHS SPA

## **PLAN ECO2**

Locations of Access Points Used





Access Point Location



ecology solutions ltd

3783: NAISHES WOOD SANG  
CHURCH CROOKHAM

PLAN ECO2: LOCATIONS OF  
ACCESS POINTS USED

## **PLAN ECO3**

Home Locations of Visitors (All Access Points)





LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



**ecology solutions ltd**

3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

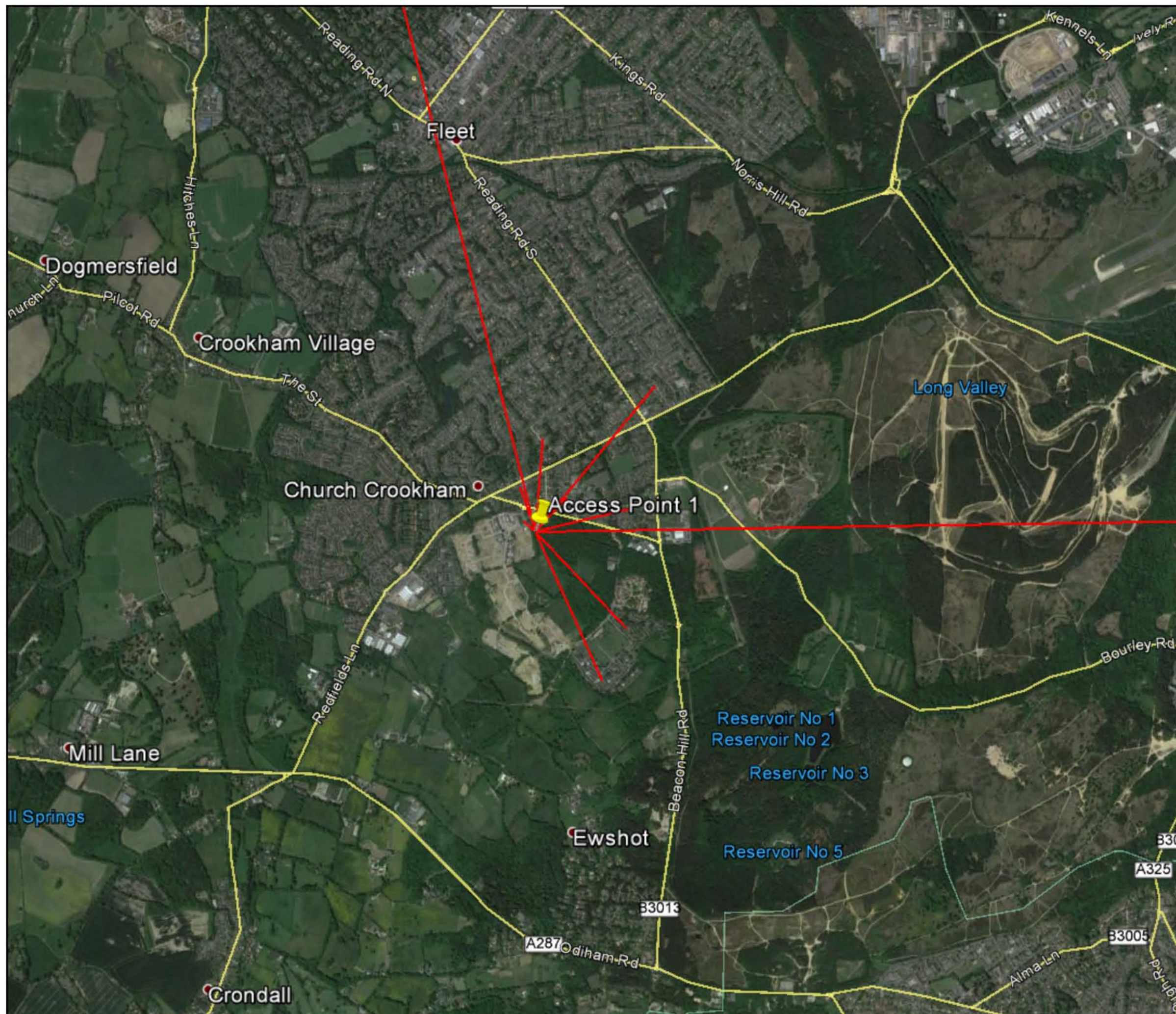
PLAN ECO3: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
(ALL ACCESS POINTS)



## **PLAN ECO4**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 1





KEY:



ACCESS POINT LOCATION



LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



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3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

PLAN ECO4: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 1



## **PLAN ECO5**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 2



 AP7

LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



**ecology solutions ltd**

3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

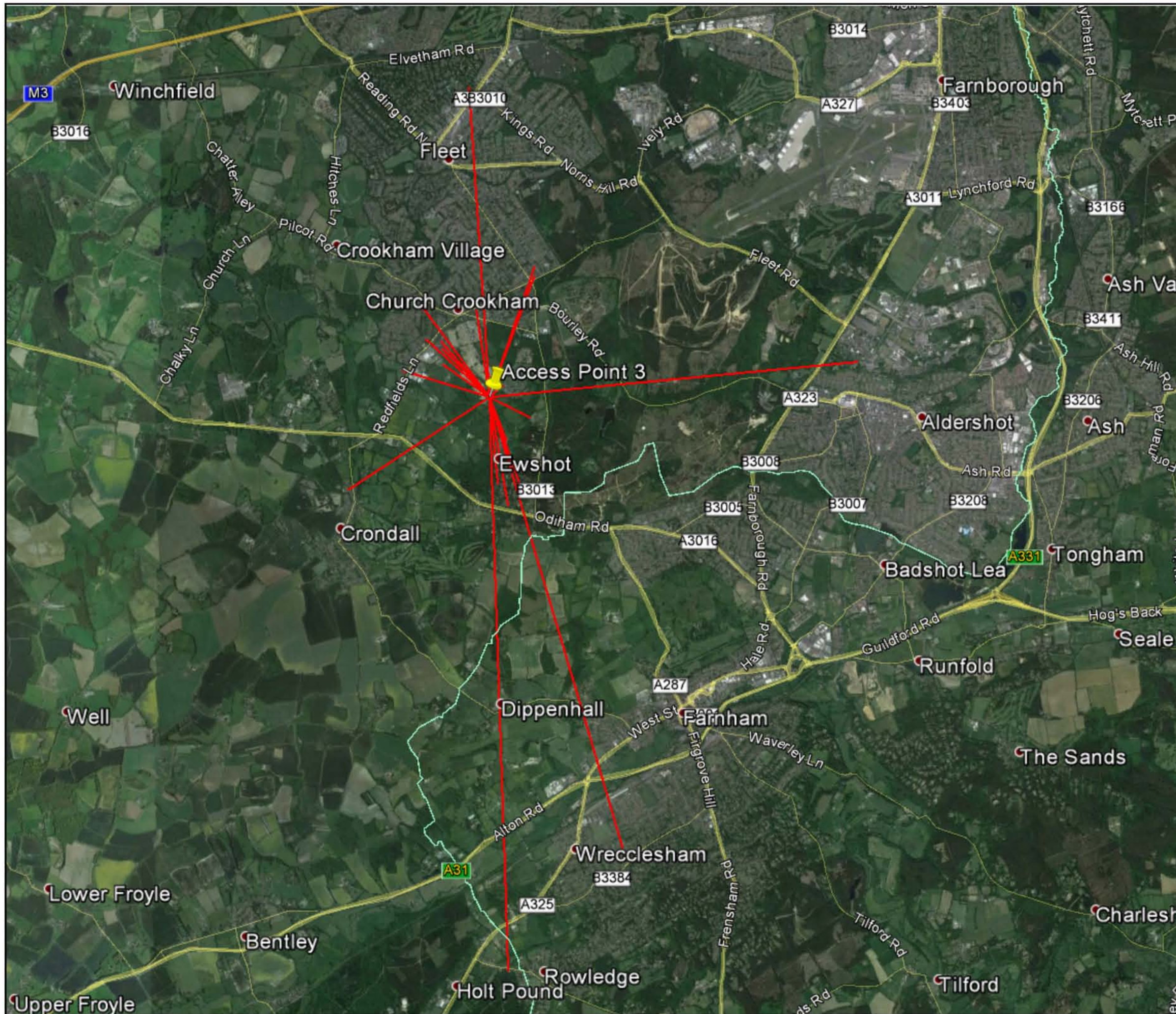
PLAN ECO5: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 2



## **PLAN ECO6**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 3





KEY:



ACCESS POINT LOCATION



LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



ecology solutions ltd

3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

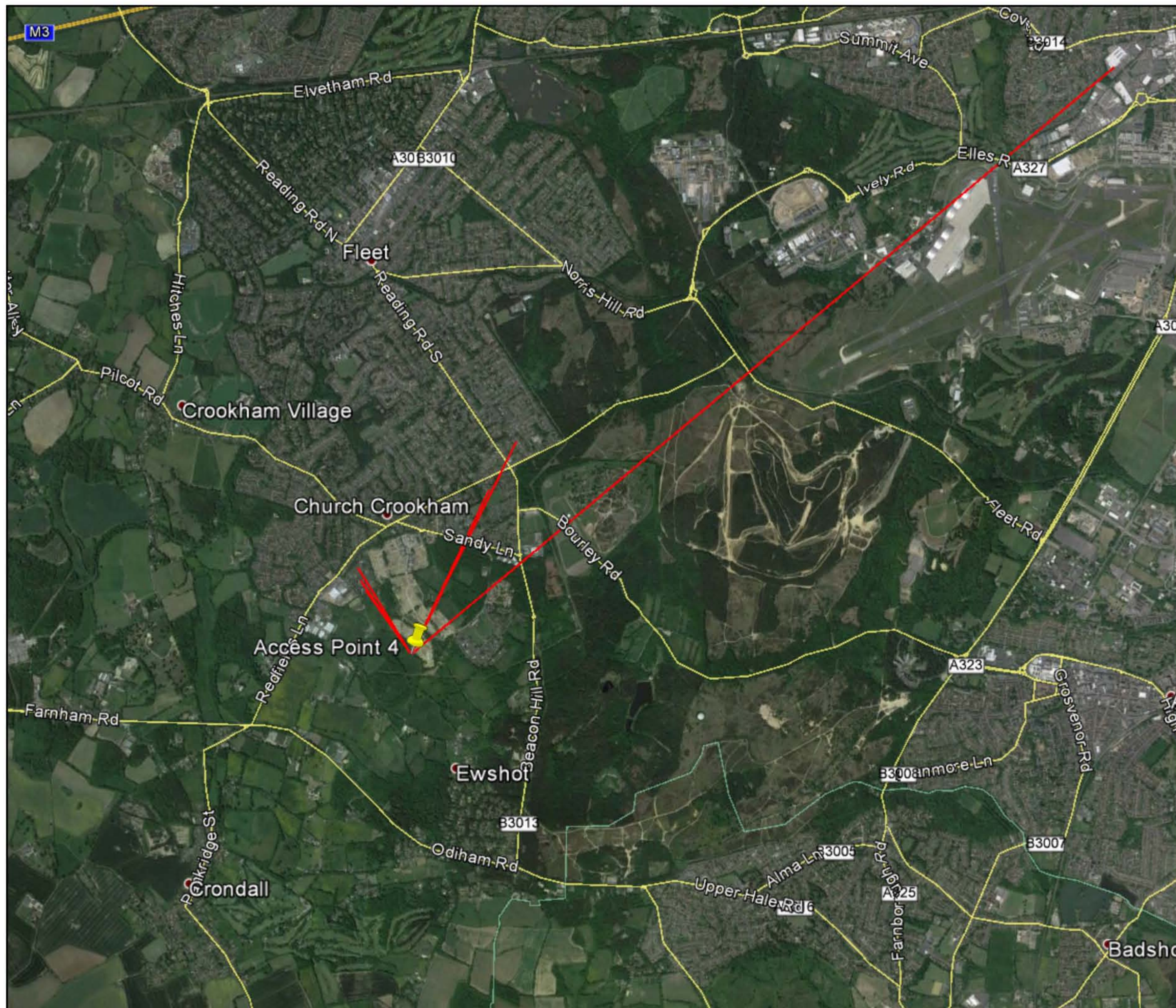
PLAN ECO6: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 3



## **PLAN ECO7**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 4





KEY:



ACCESS POINT LOCATION



LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



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3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

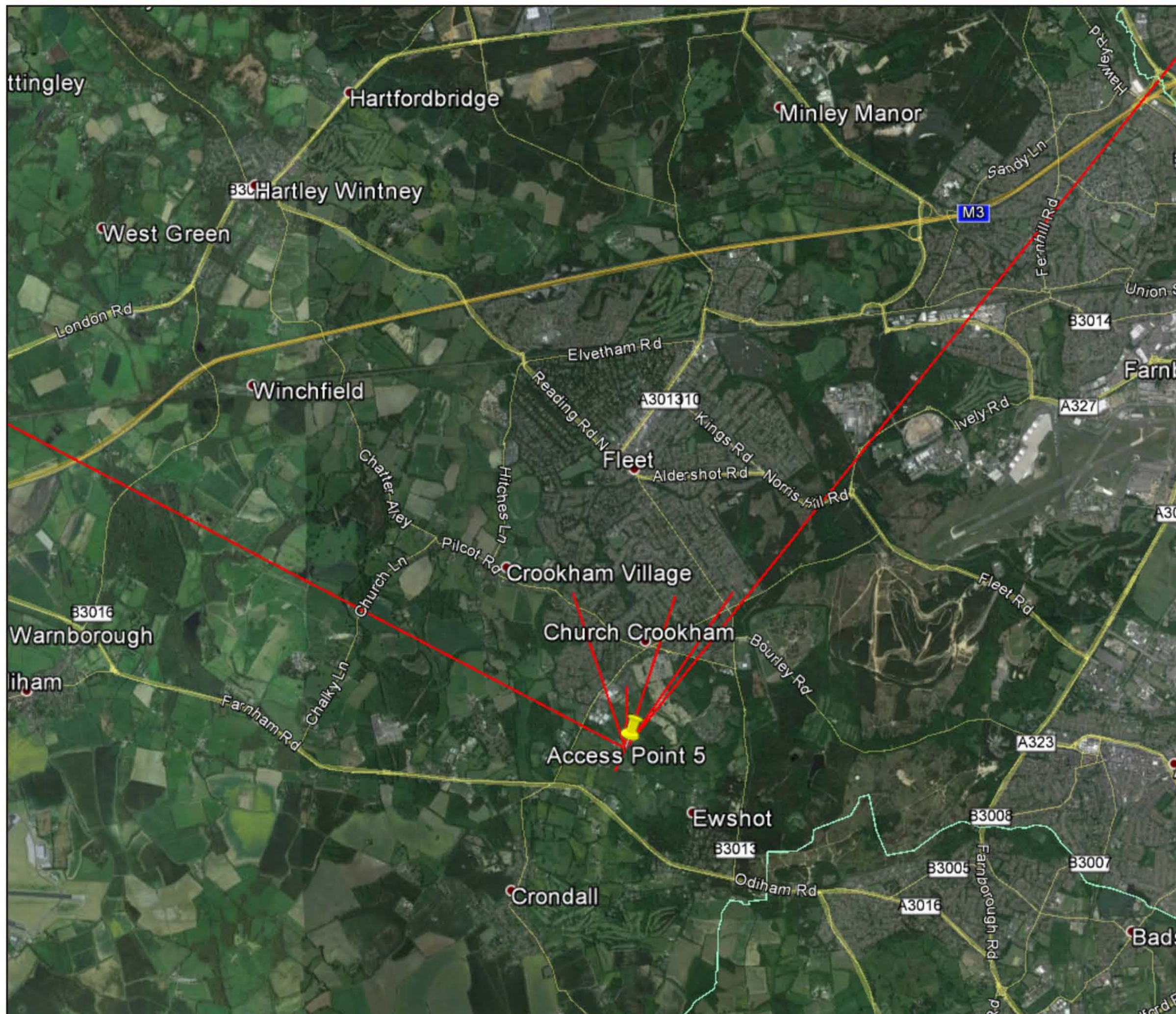
PLAN ECO7: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 4



## **PLAN ECO8**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 5





KEY:



ACCESS POINT LOCATION



LINE BETWEEN ACCESS POINT AND HOME POSTCODE OF RESPONDENT



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3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

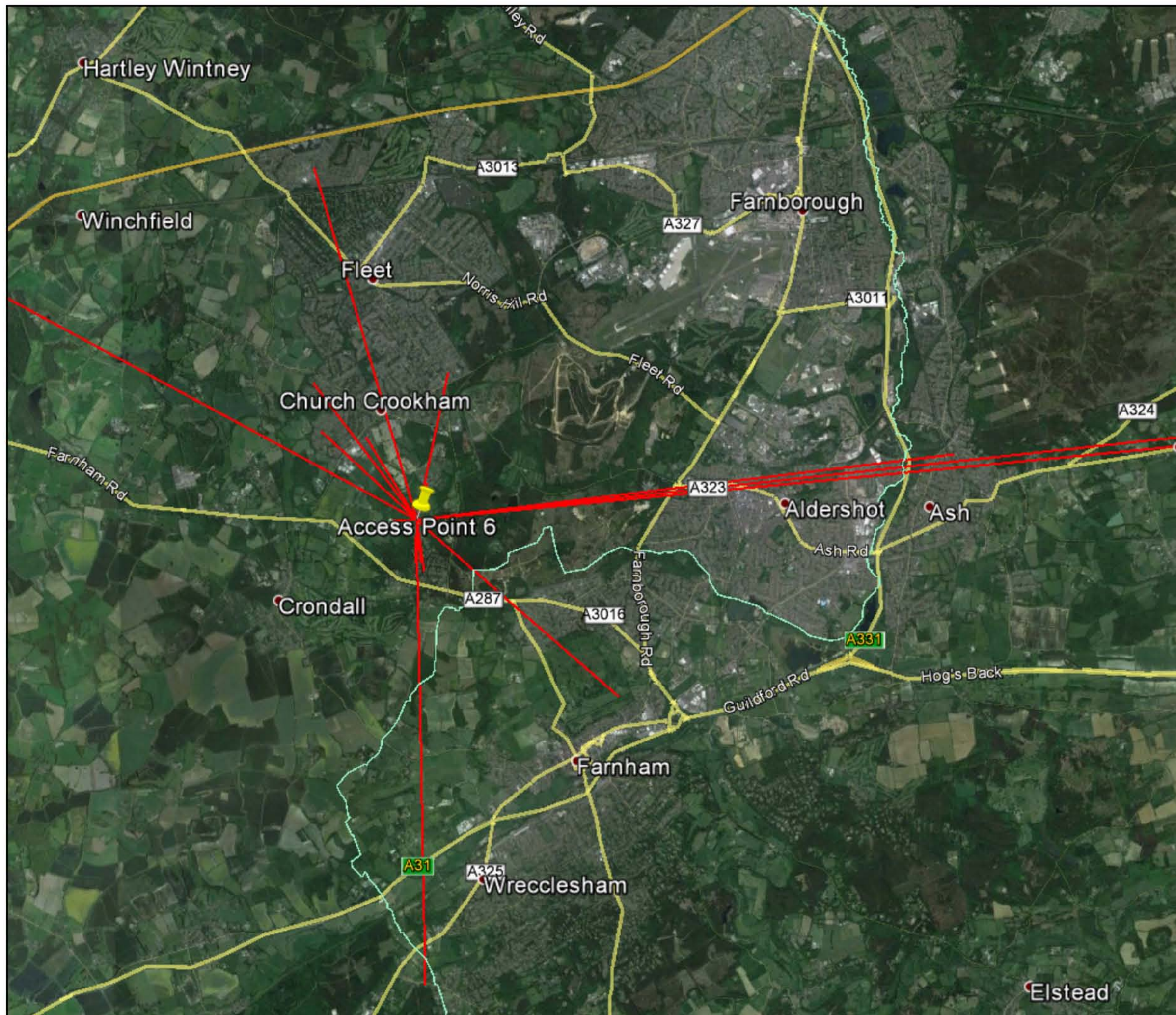
PLAN ECO8: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 5



## **PLAN ECO9**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 6





KEY:



ACCESS POINT LOCATION



LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



ecology solutions ltd

3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

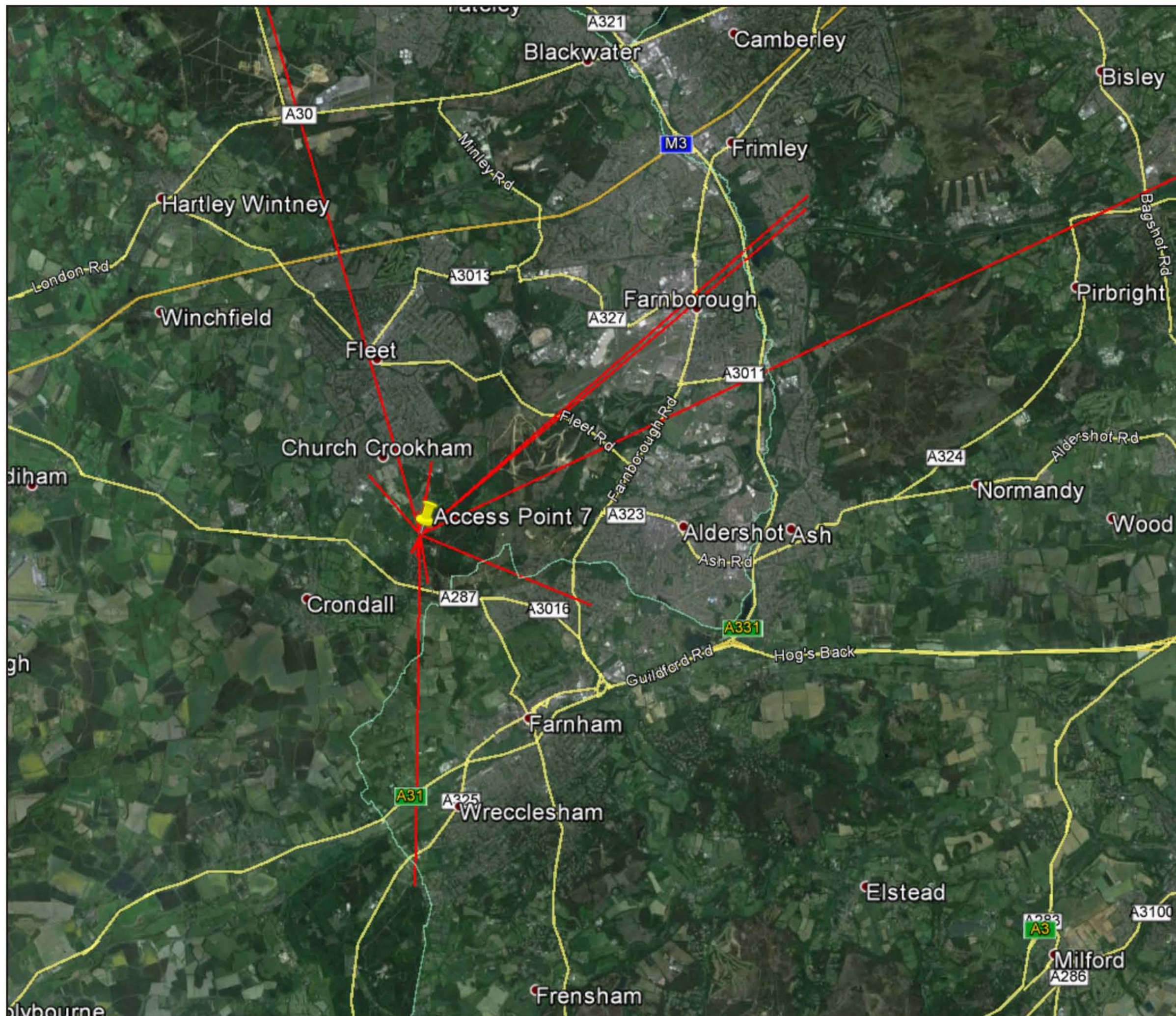
PLAN ECO9: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 6



## **PLAN ECO10**

Home Locations of Visitors at Access Point 7





KEY:



ACCESS POINT LOCATION



LINE BETWEEN ACCESS  
POINT AND HOME POSTCODE  
OF RESPONDENT



ecology solutions ltd

3783: NAISHES WOOD  
SANG, CHURCH CROOKHAM

PLAN ECO10: HOME LOCATIONS  
OF VISITORS  
AT ACCESS POINT 7



## **ANNEX**

## **ANNEX 1**

### **Crookham Park SANG Access and Use Survey Questionnaire (VS Version)**



## **Crookham Park SANG:** **Access & Use Survey Questionnaire 2015**

This Visitor Survey is being undertaken in order to ascertain the current use of Crookham Park SANG by visitors. The data gathered as part of this exercise will be used to inform the future management of the SANG, to ensure that it provides an area of attractive, desirable and popular semi-natural open space in the long-term, and that it provides a viable alternative for local people who would otherwise visit Thames Basin Heaths SPA.

**1. Access Point Number and Date (DD/MM/YY)**

--	--

**2. Time Period (*tick one*):**

7am – 9am		1pm – 3pm	
10am – 12pm		5pm – 7pm	

**3. Current Weather Conditions (*tick most suitable option only*):**

Dry, sunny	
Dry, overcast / cloudy	
Showers	
Steady rain	
Heavy rain	
Other (please specify below)	

**4. Participation (*tick one option only*):**

“Hello, could you spare me a couple of minutes to answer some brief questions regarding your visit to Crookham Park SANG today. This is part of a study of visitor access patterns being carried out by Ecology Solutions Ltd.”

A) Willing to participate (Go to Question Q1 below)	
B) Have previously been surveyed (Go to 5 below, and then 6)	
C) Not willing to participate (Go to 6)	

**5. Previous survey information (*Only to be answered if 4B is ticked*)**

When did you previously come across the questions in this visitor survey? (*tick one option only*)

Interview – today	
Interview – on a previous day	
Delivered to home	
Online	

**6. Passive Annotation (Only to be completed by surveyor if 4B or 4C are ticked)**

Record the following where possible:

Number of visitors in group (put 1 if single visitor)	
Number of visitors in each age band	Under 18:  19-40:  41-65:  65+:
How visitors arrived (e.g. by foot, car, bike, etc.)	
Possible purpose of visit	
Length of visit (in hours)	
Total number of dogs	
Number of dogs on lead	
Number of dogs roaming free	
Dogs under close control? (Y or N)	

*In addition, clearly annotate on the map (at the back of the questionnaire) where they entered the site (with a star) and any areas of the site which they are known to have been using (cross hatch on the map)*

-----

**7. About you and your group**Q1 – What is the size of the group? (*Mark as 1 if a single visitor*)

--

Q2 – How many of the group fall into the following age bands:

Under 18	
19-40	
41-65	
65+	

Q3 – Where have you come from today?

*All respondents must be asked to provide a full or at least root postcode. If visitor is unwilling to provide a postcode, then please ask for street/road name and town/village*

--

Q4 – Which of the following best describes your situation today? (*Read options, tick only one*)

On a day trip / short visit and travelled from home	
On a day trip / short visit and staying with friends or family	
On holiday in the area, staying away from home	
Other (please specify):	

Q5 – How did you get here? (*single answer only*)

By car / motor vehicle	
On foot	
Bicycle	
Horse	
Public transport (please specify)	
Other (please specify)	

Q6 [If visitor arrived by car / motor vehicle] Where did you park? (*tick one only, do not prompt. If visitor states on road, ask for road name*)

SANG Car Park	
Lay by	
On road (specify road name)	

Q7 – How frequently do you visit Crookham Park SANG? (*single answer only*)

First visit to SANG	
More than once a day	
At least once a day	
At least once a week	
At least once a month	
Sporadically (varies throughout the year)	
Don't know	

Q8 – Do you tend to visit the SANG more at a particular time of year? (*single answer only*)

First visit to SANG	
No	
Yes – visit more in the summer	
Yes – visit more in the winter	
Yes – visit more in the spring	
Yes – visit more in the autumn	
Don't know	

Q9 – Which days of the week do you tend to visit the SANG? (*tick one only, tick closest answer, do not prompt*)

First visit to SANG	
Weekdays	
Weekends	
Equally over weekdays and weekends	
Other (please specify)	

Q10 – Do you tend to visit the SANG at a certain time of the day? (*tick any which apply*)

First visit to SANG	
No – varies	
Yes – early morning (before 9am)	
Yes – morning (9am to midday)	
Yes – afternoon (midday to 5pm)	
Yes – evening (after 5pm)	
Don't know	

## 8. About your visit today

Q11 – What was the main purpose of your visit to Crookham Park SANG today? (*tick any which apply, do not prompt*)

Walking	
Dog walking	
Jogging / running / exercise	
Cycling	
Horse-riding	
Picnic / outing	
Bird spotting / nature study	
Other (please specify below)	

Q12 – If visiting for dog walking only:

Total number of dogs	
How many on a lead?	
How many running free?	
Dogs under close control? (Y/N)	

“Looking at the SANG on the map, can you show me where you started your walk or visit today, where you will finish and your route please” (*refer to map at back of questionnaire*)

Use **P** to indicate where the visitor parked [if applicable], **E** to indicate start point and **X** to indicate exit. Mark route with a line, a solid line for actual route and dotted line for expected / remaining route

Q13 – Is the route taken reflective of your usual route when you visit the SANG?  
(*tick one, do not prompt*)

First visit to SANG	
Yes, normal	
Longer than normal	
Shorter than normal	
Route varies	
Not sure / don't know	

Q14 – What, if anything, has influenced / will influence your choice of route here today? (*tick all that apply, do not prompt*)

Weather	
Daylight	
Time of Day	
Dog (actions / activities of dog)	
Marked trail	
Other (please specify below)	

Q15 – Roughly how long has your visit today lasted / how long will your visit today last? (*tick one box only*)

Under ½ hour	
½ hour to 1 hour	
1 hour to 3 hours	
3 hours to 6 hours	
Over 6 hours	
Don't know	

Q16 – Why did you choose to specifically visit Crookham Park SANG today, rather than another local site? (*tick all that apply, do not prompt*)

Location of open space (close to home)	
Availability of adequate car parking	
No parking charges	
Provision of circular footpaths with alternative routes	
All weather paths	
Provision of different route lengths	
Far reaching views	
A variety of natural habitats	
A lack of restrictions on dogs	
Opportunities to meet people	
Sense of security	
Peace and quiet	
Habit / familiarity	
Other (please specify below):	

Q17 – How long have you been visiting Crookham Park SANG? (*tick one only, prompt if necessary*)

First visit to SANG	
Less than 1 year	
1 – 3 years	
Over 3 years (i.e. prior to SANG being created)	
Don't know	

## 9. About alternative sites you might visit

Q18 – What proportion of your weekly visits for [given activity] take place at Crookham Park SANG compared to other sites? Can you give a rough percentage? (*do not prompt*)

All take place here	
75% or more	
50-74%	
25-49%	
Less than 25%	
First visit to SANG	
Not sure / don't know	

Q19 – Crookham Park SANG has been substantially improved to promote access since 2012. Did you live locally before 2012?

Yes	
No	
Don't know	

Q20 – Since 2012, would you say the proportion of your visits for [given activity] at Crookham SANG compared to other sites has changed?

Yes – visit SANG more	
Yes – visit SANG less	
No change	
First visit to SANG	
Not sure / don't know	

Q21 – Please could you tell us the name of 3 other locations in the local area that you visit most often for informal recreation




Q22 – How frequently do you visit these alternative sites? (*single answer only*)

More than once a day	
At least once a day	
At least once a week	
At least once a month	
Sporadically (varies throughout the year)	
Don't know	

Q23 – Which days of the week do you tend to visit these alternative sites? (*tick one only, tick closest answer, do not prompt*)

Weekdays	
Weekends	
Equally over weekdays and weekends	

Q24 – What form of transport do you use to get to these alternative sites? (*tick one only*)

Car / motor vehicle	
On foot	
Bicycle	
Horse	
Varies	
Other	

Q25 – How many years have you visited these alternative sites for? (*enter number of years, if less than 1 year, enter 1*)

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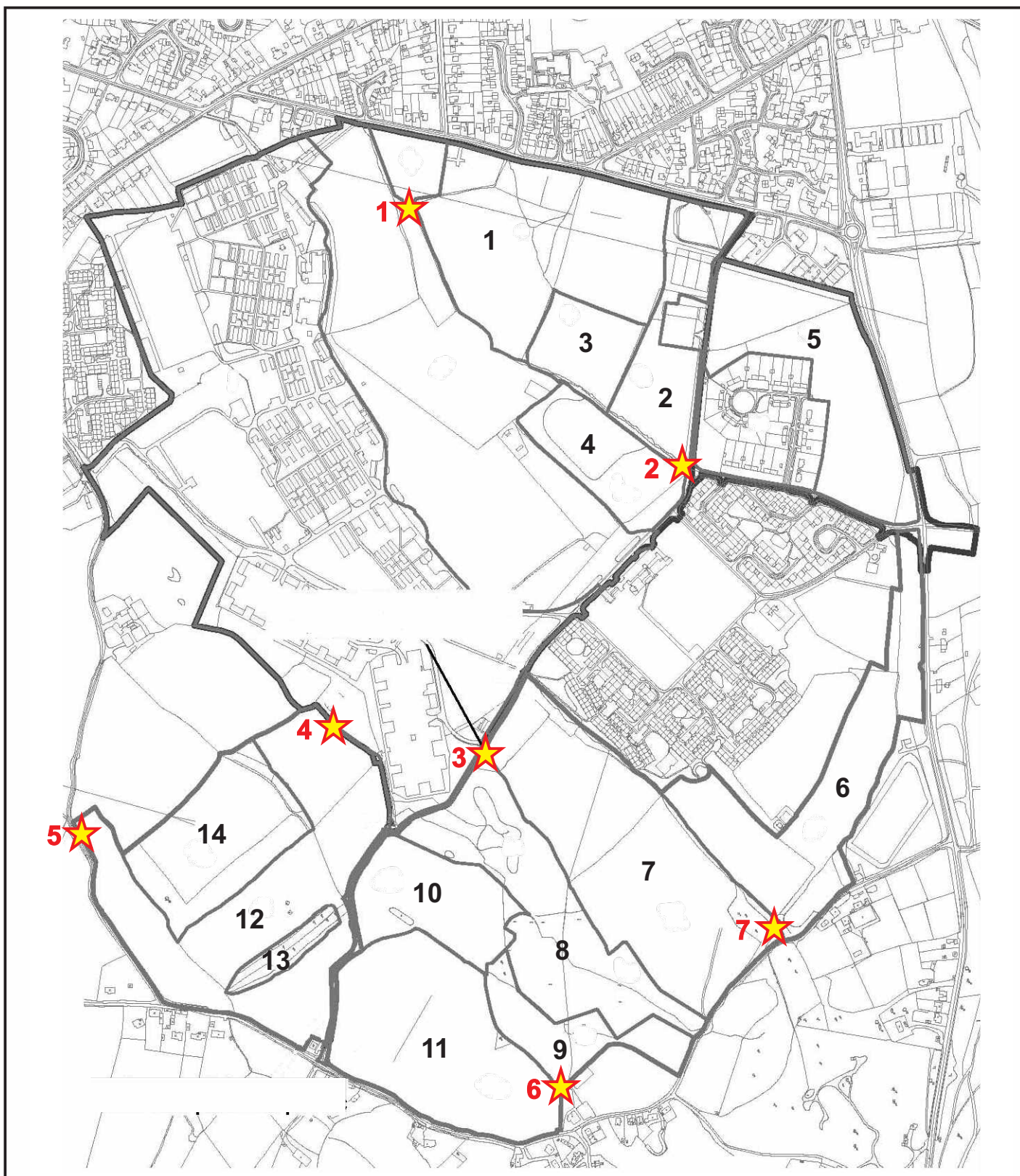
Q26 – Why do you choose to visit these alternative sites, in preference to Crookham Park SANG? (*tick all that apply, do not prompt*)


Location of open space (close to home)	
Availability of adequate car parking	
No parking charges	
Provision of circular footpaths with alternative routes	
All weather paths	
Provision of different route lengths	
Far reaching views	
A variety of natural habitats	
A lack of restrictions on dogs	
Opportunities to meet people	
Sense of security	
Peace and quiet	
Habit / familiarity	
Other (please specify below):	

Q27 – In your opinion, what (if any) improvements could be made to the SANG which would encourage you to use it more often / more frequently in future? (*tick all that apply, do not prompt IMPORTANT*)

Improved signage of car park	
Improved signage at access points into SANG	
Improved signage within SANG (e.g. way markers)	
Provision of information boards	
Provision of stone / 'hoggin' circular walk	
Improved pathways – flatter, removal of stumps, etc.	
Improved pathways – width	
Removal of existing fencing	
Provision of additional fencing	
Other (please specify below):	

**Thank the respondent and end the interview**



 Access Point Location



ecology solutions ltd

3783: CROOKHAM PARK SANG  
VISITOR SURVEY 2015

LOCATIONS OF SURVEY POINTS

## **ANNEX 2**

### **Crookham Park SANG Access and Use Survey Questionnaire (LR Version)**

## **Crookham Park SANG:** **Access & Use Survey Questionnaire 2015**

This Visitor Survey is being undertaken in order to ascertain the current use of Crookham Park SANG by visitors. The data gathered as part of this exercise will be used to inform the future management of the SANG, to ensure that it provides an area of attractive, desirable and popular semi-natural open space in the long-term, and that it provides a viable alternative for local people who would otherwise visit Thames Basin Heaths SPA.

We would be grateful if you could please include as much information as possible – thank you.

### **1. Date (DD/MM/YY)**

### **2. Participation**

Have you previously provided information as part of the SANG visitor surveys at Crookham Park before? *(tick one option only)*

No	
Yes – in a face to face interview today	
Yes – in a face to face interview on a previous day	
Yes – on questionnaire previously delivered to home	
Yes - online	

### **3. About you and your group**

Q1 – Do you utilise any of the areas of open space associated with Crookham Park SANG? *(tick one only)*

*Crookham Park SANG is shown on the plan at the back of this questionnaire – the area is subdivided into a number of smaller parcels, labelled 1 to 14.*

Yes	
No	
Don't Know / Not Sure	

*In terms of the following questions, please could you answer these based on a typical visit that you may make to Crookham Park SANG.*

Q2 – What is the size of the group? *(Mark as 1 if a single visitor)*

Q3 – How many of the group fall into the following age bands:

Under 18	
19-40	
41-65	
65+	

Q4 – Where have you come from today?

*Please provide a full postcode, or if you are not happy to do this, then a street/road name and town/village*

--

Do you live in a new Taylor Wimpey property at the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks (QEB) site, or are you an existing resident who resides in the local area? *(tick one only)*

*The former Queen Elizabeth Barracks (QEB) site includes all land shown within the dark line on the plan attached at the back of this questionnaire.*

New resident at former QEB site	
Existing resident from local area (i.e. outside former QEB site)	
Don't Know / Not Sure	

Q5 – Which of the following best describes your typical situation? *(Tick only one)*

On a day trip / short visit and travelled from home	
On a day trip / short visit and staying with friends or family	
On holiday in the area, staying away from home	
Other (please specify):	

Q6 – How did you get here? *(single answer only)*

By car / motor vehicle	
On foot	
Bicycle	
Horse	
Public transport (please specify)	
Other (please specify)	

Q7 – [If you arrive by car / motor vehicle] Where did you park? *(tick one only)*

SANG Car Park	
Lay by	
On road (specify road name)	

Q8 – How frequently do you visit Crookham Park SANG? *(single answer only)*

First visit to SANG	
More than once a day	
At least once a day	
At least once a week	
At least once a month	
Sporadically (varies throughout the year)	
Don't know	



Q9 – Do you tend to visit the SANG more at a particular time of year? (*single answer only*)

First visit to SANG	
No	
Yes – visit more in the summer	
Yes – visit more in the winter	
Yes – visit more in the spring	
Yes – visit more in the autumn	
Don't know	

Q10 – Which days of the week do you tend to visit the SANG? (*tick one answer only*)

First visit to SANG	
Weekdays	
Weekends	
Equally over weekdays and weekends	
Other (please specify)	

Q11 – Do you tend to visit the SANG at a certain time of the day? (*tick any which apply*)

First visit to SANG	
No – varies	
Yes – early morning (before 9am)	
Yes – morning (9am to midday)	
Yes – afternoon (midday to 5pm)	
Yes – evening (after 5pm)	
Don't know	

#### 4. About your visit today

Q12 – What was the main purpose of your visit to Crookham Park SANG today? (*tick any which apply*)

Walking	
Dog walking	
Jogging / running / exercise	
Cycling	
Horse-riding	
Picnic / outing	
Bird spotting / nature study	
Other (please specify below)	

Q13 – If visiting for dog walking only:

Total number of dogs	
How many on a lead?	
How many running free?	
Dogs under close control? (Y/N)	

“Looking at the SANG on the map, can you show me where you started your walk or visit today, where you will finish and your route please”

*Please annotate the map at the back of this questionnaire. Use **P** to indicate where you park [if applicable], **E** to indicate start point and **X** to indicate exit. Mark route with a line.*

Q14 – Is the route taken reflective of your usual route when you visit the SANG? (tick one)

First visit to SANG	
Yes, normal	
Longer than normal	
Shorter than normal	
Route varies	
Not sure / don't know	

Q15 – What, if anything, influences your choice of route? (tick all that apply)

Weather	
Daylight	
Time of Day	
Dog (actions / activities of dog)	
Marked trail	
Other (please specify below)	

Q16 – Roughly how long is your visit to the SANG? (tick one box only)

Under ½ hour	
½ hour to 1 hour	
1 hour to 3 hours	
3 hours to 6 hours	
Over 6 hours	
Don't know	

Q17 – Why did you choose to specifically visit Crookham Park SANG today, rather than another local site? (tick all that apply)

Location of open space (close to home)	
Availability of adequate car parking	
No parking charges	
Provision of circular footpaths with alternative routes	
All weather paths	
Provision of different route lengths	
Far reaching views	
A variety of natural habitats	
A lack of restrictions on dogs	
Opportunities to meet people	
Sense of security	
Peace and quiet	
Habit / familiarity	
Other (please specify below):	

Q18 – How long have you been visiting Crookham Park SANG? (*tick one only*)

First visit to SANG	
Less than 1 year	
1 – 3 years	
Over 3 years (i.e. prior to SANG being created)	
Don't know	

## 5. About alternative sites you might visit

Q19 – What proportion of your weekly visits for [given activity] take place at Crookham Park SANG compared to other sites? Can you give a rough percentage?

All take place here	
75% or more	
50-74%	
25-49%	
Less than 25%	
First visit to SANG	
Not sure / don't know	

Q20 – Crookham Park SANG has been substantially improved to promote access since 2012. Did you live locally before 2012?

Yes	
No	
Don't know	

Q21 – Since 2012, would you say the proportion of your visits for [given activity] at Crookham SANG compared to other sites has changed?

Yes – visit SANG more	
Yes – visit SANG less	
No change	
First visit to SANG	
Not sure / don't know	

Q22 – Please could you tell us the name of 3 other locations in the local area that you visit most often for informal recreation


Q23 – How frequently do you visit these alternative sites? (*single answer only*)

More than once a day	
At least once a day	
At least once a week	
At least once a month	
Sporadically (varies throughout the year)	
Don't know	

Q24 – Which days of the week do you tend to visit these alternative sites? (*tick one only*)

Weekdays	
Weekends	
Equally over weekdays and weekends	

Q25 – What form of transport do you use to get to these alternative sites? (*tick one only*)

Car / motor vehicle	
On foot	
Bicycle	
Horse	
Varies	
Other	

Q26 – How many years have you visited these alternative sites for? (*enter number of years, if less than 1 year, enter 1*)

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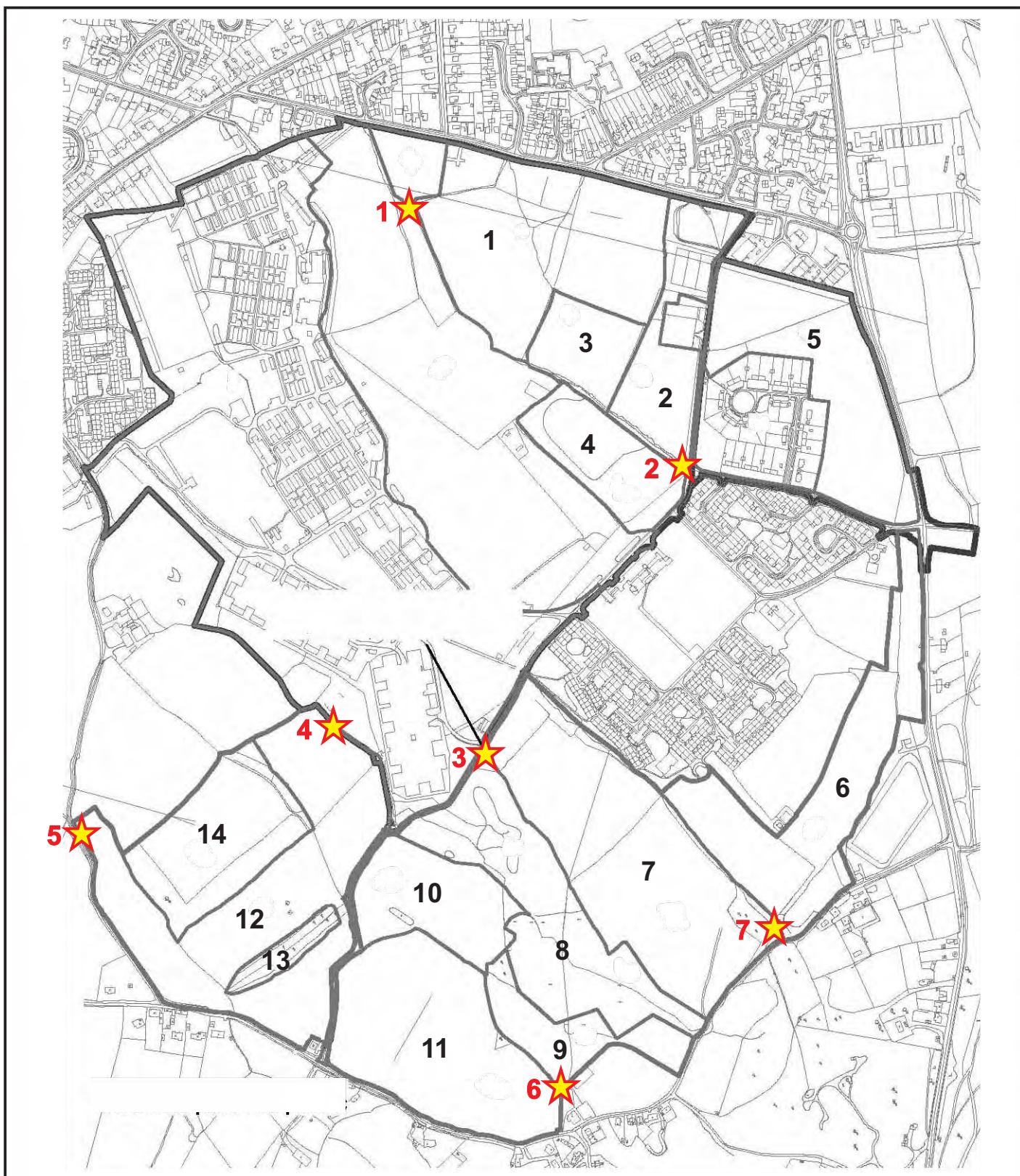
Q27 – Why do you choose to visit these alternative sites, in preference to Crookham Park SANG? (*tick all that apply*)

Location of open space (close to home)	
Availability of adequate car parking	
No parking charges	
Provision of circular footpaths with alternative routes	
All weather paths	
Provision of different route lengths	
Far reaching views	
A variety of natural habitats	
A lack of restrictions on dogs	
Opportunities to meet people	
Sense of security	
Peace and quiet	
Habit / familiarity	
Other (please specify below):	

Q28 – In your opinion, what (if any) improvements could be made to the SANG which would encourage you to use it more often / more frequently in future? (*tick all that apply*)

Improved signage of car park	
Improved signage at access points into SANG	
Improved signage within SANG (e.g. way markers)	
Provision of information boards	
Provision of stone / 'hoggin' circular walk	
Improved pathways – flatter, removal of stumps, etc.	
Improved pathways – width	
Removal of existing fencing	
Provision of additional fencing	
Other (please specify below):	

**Many thanks for completing the questionnaire**



Access Point Location



ecology solutions ltd

3783: CROOKHAM PARK SANG  
VISITOR SURVEY 2015

LOCATIONS OF SURVEY POINTS



## **APPENDIX 4**

**Contents of Information Pack delivered to Local Residents as part  
of public consultation exercise**

Our Ref: 3783/TG/ST/054.let.vs

Dear Sir/Madam,

**RE: Crookham Park SANG**

As you may be aware, part of the planning permission that was granted in November 2011 for the redevelopment of the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks site included the delivery of a large area of accessible open space in order to provide new and improved opportunities for informal recreation. This area of open space is now known as Crookham Park Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (or Crookham Park SANG for short).

During the implementation of the SANG proposals by Taylor Wimpey, a number of issues have arisen regarding the use and management of the SANG going forward, and it is noted that some of the issues raised are contradictory. In order to address these issues, a suite of work including updated surveys and public consultation is to be undertaken at Crookham Park SANG in the coming months. Further information regarding the work that is being undertaken is outlined within the Statement of Intent, a copy of which is included within this information pack.

Furthermore, in order to obtain up to date baseline information regarding the use of Crookham Park SANG, a comprehensive visitor survey exercise is being undertaken, which will include face-to-face interviews of people utilising the SANG both during and after the Easter holidays. As part of this exercise, a copy of the Visitor Survey Questionnaire is being provided to local residents as part of this information pack, and we would be very grateful if you could please complete a copy of the questionnaire and send this back to us in the enclosed stamped address envelope. The information submitted will be used to inform any necessary amendments and changes to the SANG, in order to ensure that it is an attractive and popular area of informal public open space that is valued and used by local people.

A public exhibition will be held on Thursday 16th April from 4pm to 8pm in the SANG Car Park (next to the allotments), where there will be an opportunity to review some material and fill in a visitor survey questionnaire if you have not already done so. Further information regarding the SANG and the consultation exercise may be found on the Taylor Wimpey SANG website at [www.thesangsproject.co.uk](http://www.thesangsproject.co.uk)

Kind regards,



**Tim Goodwin**  
Director, Ecology Solutions

**On behalf of Taylor Wimpey Ltd**

ecology solutions ltd

farncombe house

farncombe estate

worcestershire • WR12 7LJ

**directors:**

tim goodwin

dominic farmer

Registered in England No.

527 6191

## **Crookham Park SANG: Statement of Intent**

Planning permission was granted by Hart District Council in November 2011 for the redevelopment of the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks site in Church Crookham. An important part of the planning application was the delivery of a large area of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace, or SANG. The delivery of Crookham Park SANG (as it is now known) forms an integral part of the mitigation package to avoid likely significant effects on Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area (SPA) by providing new and improved opportunities for informal recreation.

During the implementation of the SANG proposals by Taylor Wimpey, a number of issues have arisen regarding the use and management of the SANG going forward. It is noted that some of the issues raised are contradictory. In order to fully address the concerns raised to the satisfaction of all parties, it has been agreed that a series of actions will be undertaken in the coming months. The scope and timescales of these works are set out below.

### *Site Survey*

Taylor Wimpey has undertaken comprehensive surveys of the site in early March 2015 in order to establish the latest situation regarding the implementation of the SANG. This survey has sought to catalogue all of the works that have been undertaken, in order to provide a clear baseline for all stakeholders moving forward.

Shortly we intend to complete a circular path which will be fully stoned, providing ease of access in all weather conditions. In addition, there will be some temporary signs helping the public to identify directional routes and also some temporary interpretation boards.

### *Consultation Process*

Taylor Wimpey will be undertaking a series of consultations over the coming months in order to identify visitor behaviour and the current level of use of the SANG for informal recreation. The consultation process will also take on board the views of the local community in relation to any changes which they would like to see at the SANG. The consultation process will involve the following:

- Circulating this **statement of intent** to local residents (including new residents within the Crookham Park scheme) to explain the purpose of the SANG, summarise the current issues and outline what is being done to address these (March 2015);
- Undertaking a **visitor survey** of the SANG, involving three days of survey during the Easter holidays and three days following the holidays, to obtain information regarding current visitor behaviour and usage of the site (April 2015);
- Circulating a **visitor questionnaire** to local residents (including new residents) to obtain additional information regarding their use of the SANG (April 2015);
- A **public exhibition** will be held on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April from 4pm to 8pm in the SANG Car Park (next to the allotments) where there will be an opportunity to review some material and fill in a visitor survey questionnaire if you have not already done so; and
- **Ongoing consultation with stakeholders** such as Natural England, Hart District Council and Ewshot and Church Crookham Parish Councils (ongoing)

### *Implementation of changes to SANG*

Having analysed the findings of the consultation process (including visitor surveys), any necessary amendments to the SANG proposals will be considered and agreed with Natural England and Hart District Council.

These amendments will be outlined in detail in an updated **SANG Management Plan**, a comprehensive document which will set out the overarching vision of the SANG, the works which have been undertaken to date, the findings of the consultation process and any amendments which will be undertaken to address issues raised by the key stakeholders. This document will also confirm the arrangements for ongoing management at the SANG. A draft of the Management Plan will be produced and circulated to stakeholders in early May, with the final version of the document to be submitted to Hart District Council by the end of May 2015 for their approval.

The draft Management Plan, together with the results of the visitor survey, will be posted in due course on the Taylor Wimpey SANG webpage, available at: [www.thesangsproject.co.uk](http://www.thesangsproject.co.uk)

## **Crookham Park SANG:** **Access & Use Survey Questionnaire 2015**

This Visitor Survey is being undertaken in order to ascertain the current use of Crookham Park SANG by visitors. The data gathered as part of this exercise will be used to inform the future management of the SANG, to ensure that it provides an area of attractive, desirable and popular semi-natural open space in the long-term, and that it provides a viable alternative for local people who would otherwise visit Thames Basin Heaths SPA.

We would be grateful if you could please include as much information as possible – thank you.

### **1. Date (DD/MM/YY)**

### **2. Participation**

Have you previously provided information as part of the SANG visitor surveys at Crookham Park before? *(tick one option only)*

No	
Yes – in a face to face interview today	
Yes – in a face to face interview on a previous day	
Yes – on questionnaire previously delivered to home	
Yes - online	

### **3. About you and your group**

Q1 – Do you utilise any of the areas of open space associated with Crookham Park SANG? *(tick one only)*

*Crookham Park SANG is shown on the plan at the back of this questionnaire – the area is subdivided into a number of smaller parcels, labelled 1 to 14.*

Yes	
No	
Don't Know / Not Sure	

*In terms of the following questions, please could you answer these based on a typical visit that you may make to Crookham Park SANG.*

Q2 – What is the size of the group? *(Mark as 1 if a single visitor)*

Q3 – How many of the group fall into the following age bands:

Under 18	
19-40	
41-65	
65+	

Q4 – Where have you come from today?

*Please provide a full postcode, or if you are not happy to do this, then a street/road name and town/village*

--

Do you live in a new Taylor Wimpey property at the former Queen Elizabeth Barracks (QEB) site, or are you an existing resident who resides in the local area? *(tick one only)*

*The former Queen Elizabeth Barracks (QEB) site includes all land shown within the dark line on the plan attached at the back of this questionnaire.*

New resident at former QEB site	
Existing resident from local area (i.e. outside former QEB site)	
Don't Know / Not Sure	

Q5 – Which of the following best describes your typical situation? *(Tick only one)*

On a day trip / short visit and travelled from home	
On a day trip / short visit and staying with friends or family	
On holiday in the area, staying away from home	
Other (please specify):	

Q6 – How did you get here? *(single answer only)*

By car / motor vehicle	
On foot	
Bicycle	
Horse	
Public transport (please specify)	
Other (please specify)	

Q7 – [If you arrive by car / motor vehicle] Where did you park? *(tick one only)*

SANG Car Park	
Lay by	
On road (specify road name)	

Q8 – How frequently do you visit Crookham Park SANG? *(single answer only)*

First visit to SANG	
More than once a day	
At least once a day	
At least once a week	
At least once a month	
Sporadically (varies throughout the year)	
Don't know	



Q9 – Do you tend to visit the SANG more at a particular time of year? (*single answer only*)

First visit to SANG	
No	
Yes – visit more in the summer	
Yes – visit more in the winter	
Yes – visit more in the spring	
Yes – visit more in the autumn	
Don't know	

Q10 – Which days of the week do you tend to visit the SANG? (*tick one answer only*)

First visit to SANG	
Weekdays	
Weekends	
Equally over weekdays and weekends	
Other (please specify)	

Q11 – Do you tend to visit the SANG at a certain time of the day? (*tick any which apply*)

First visit to SANG	
No – varies	
Yes – early morning (before 9am)	
Yes – morning (9am to midday)	
Yes – afternoon (midday to 5pm)	
Yes – evening (after 5pm)	
Don't know	

#### 4. About your visit today

Q12 – What was the main purpose of your visit to Crookham Park SANG today? (*tick any which apply*)

Walking	
Dog walking	
Jogging / running / exercise	
Cycling	
Horse-riding	
Picnic / outing	
Bird spotting / nature study	
Other (please specify below)	

Q13 – If visiting for dog walking only:

Total number of dogs	
How many on a lead?	
How many running free?	
Dogs under close control? (Y/N)	

“Looking at the SANG on the map, can you show me where you started your walk or visit today, where you will finish and your route please”

*Please annotate the map at the back of this questionnaire. Use **P** to indicate where you park [if applicable], **E** to indicate start point and **X** to indicate exit. Mark route with a line.*

Q14 – Is the route taken reflective of your usual route when you visit the SANG? (tick one)

First visit to SANG	
Yes, normal	
Longer than normal	
Shorter than normal	
Route varies	
Not sure / don't know	

Q15 – What, if anything, influences your choice of route? (tick all that apply)

Weather	
Daylight	
Time of Day	
Dog (actions / activities of dog)	
Marked trail	
Other (please specify below)	

Q16 – Roughly how long is your visit to the SANG? (tick one box only)

Under ½ hour	
½ hour to 1 hour	
1 hour to 3 hours	
3 hours to 6 hours	
Over 6 hours	
Don't know	

Q17 – Why did you choose to specifically visit Crookham Park SANG today, rather than another local site? (tick all that apply)

Location of open space (close to home)	
Availability of adequate car parking	
No parking charges	
Provision of circular footpaths with alternative routes	
All weather paths	
Provision of different route lengths	
Far reaching views	
A variety of natural habitats	
A lack of restrictions on dogs	
Opportunities to meet people	
Sense of security	
Peace and quiet	
Habit / familiarity	
Other (please specify below):	

Q18 – How long have you been visiting Crookham Park SANG? (*tick one only*)

First visit to SANG	
Less than 1 year	
1 – 3 years	
Over 3 years (i.e. prior to SANG being created)	
Don't know	

## 5. About alternative sites you might visit

Q19 – What proportion of your weekly visits for [given activity] take place at Crookham Park SANG compared to other sites? Can you give a rough percentage?

All take place here	
75% or more	
50-74%	
25-49%	
Less than 25%	
First visit to SANG	
Not sure / don't know	

Q20 – Crookham Park SANG has been substantially improved to promote access since 2012. Did you live locally before 2012?

Yes	
No	
Don't know	

Q21 – Since 2012, would you say the proportion of your visits for [given activity] at Crookham SANG compared to other sites has changed?

Yes – visit SANG more	
Yes – visit SANG less	
No change	
First visit to SANG	
Not sure / don't know	

Q22 – Please could you tell us the name of 3 other locations in the local area that you visit most often for informal recreation


Q23 – How frequently do you visit these alternative sites? (*single answer only*)

More than once a day	
At least once a day	
At least once a week	
At least once a month	
Sporadically (varies throughout the year)	
Don't know	

Q24 – Which days of the week do you tend to visit these alternative sites? (*tick one only*)

Weekdays	
Weekends	
Equally over weekdays and weekends	

Q25 – What form of transport do you use to get to these alternative sites? (*tick one only*)

Car / motor vehicle	
On foot	
Bicycle	
Horse	
Varies	
Other	

Q26 – How many years have you visited these alternative sites for? (*enter number of years, if less than 1 year, enter 1*)

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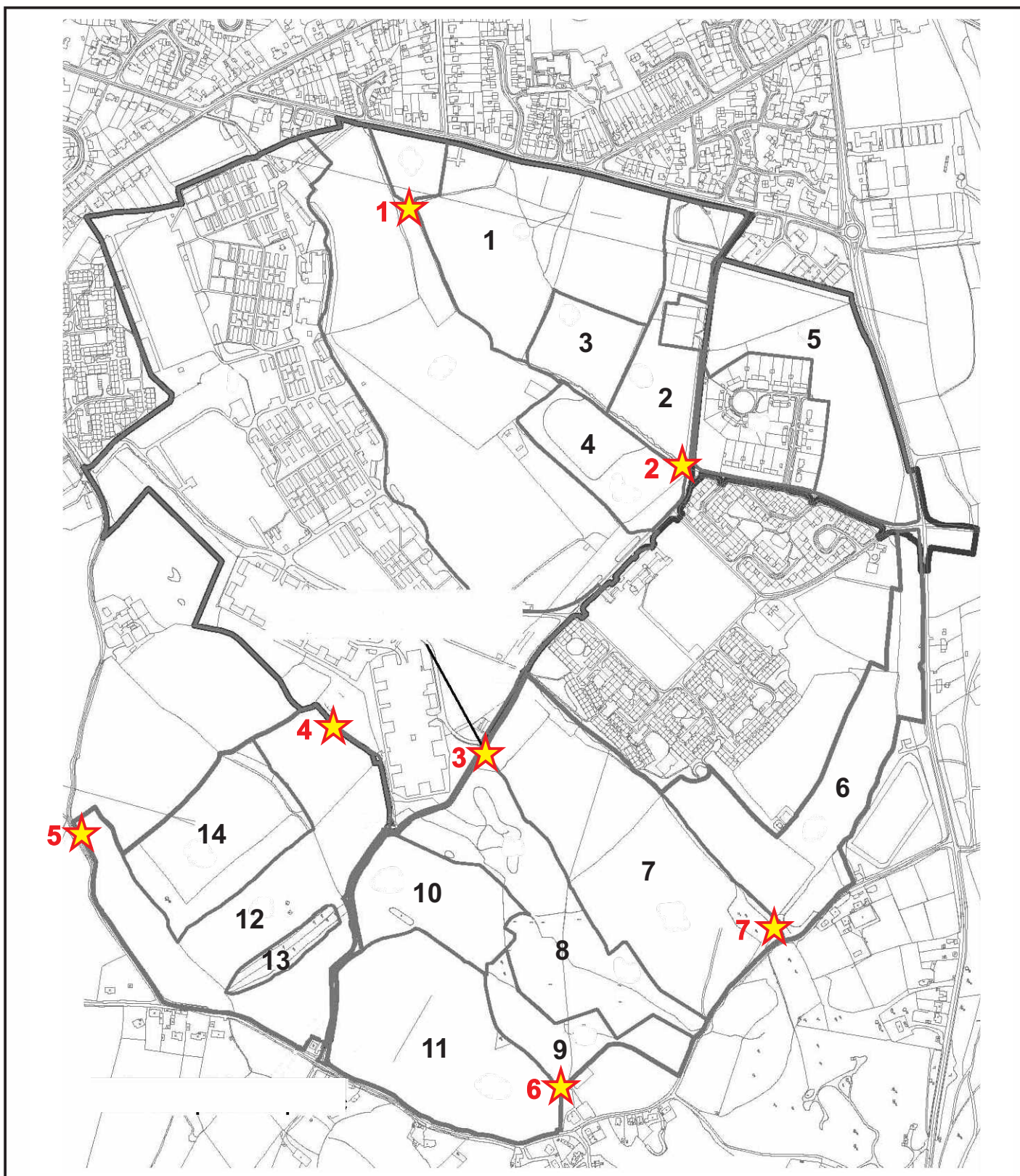
Q27 – Why do you choose to visit these alternative sites, in preference to Crookham Park SANG? (*tick all that apply*)

Location of open space (close to home)	
Availability of adequate car parking	
No parking charges	
Provision of circular footpaths with alternative routes	
All weather paths	
Provision of different route lengths	
Far reaching views	
A variety of natural habitats	
A lack of restrictions on dogs	
Opportunities to meet people	
Sense of security	
Peace and quiet	
Habit / familiarity	
Other (please specify below):	

Q28 – In your opinion, what (if any) improvements could be made to the SANG which would encourage you to use it more often / more frequently in future? (*tick all that apply*)

Improved signage of car park	
Improved signage at access points into SANG	
Improved signage within SANG (e.g. way markers)	
Provision of information boards	
Provision of stone / 'hoggin' circular walk	
Improved pathways – flatter, removal of stumps, etc.	
Improved pathways – width	
Removal of existing fencing	
Provision of additional fencing	
Other (please specify below):	

**Many thanks for completing the questionnaire**



 Access Point Location



ecology solutions ltd

3783: CROOKHAM PARK SANG  
VISITOR SURVEY 2015

LOCATIONS OF SURVEY POINTS



## **APPENDIX 5**

**Comments received at Public Exhibition on 16 April 2015**

## **APPENDIX 5 - COMMENTS RECEIVED AT PUBLIC EXHIBITION ON 16 APRIL 2015**

A Public Exhibition was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2015 where the public could meet with the various team members involved with the development of the SANG Management Plan review process (including representatives from Taylor Wimpey, ALS, Ecology Solutions and Armstrong Rigg Planning). A total of 32 local people attended the public exhibition and, as regular users of the SANG, the consultation allowed users to express their thoughts on the implementation of the SANG and potential areas for improvement. The bullet points below highlight the comments received.

- Too many unnatural additions (e.g. fenced in paths, gravel paths) and needs a more free-form feel with less humanisation.
- Clear wire from areas.
- Improve path along to school such that it is easier for mums with pushchairs.
- Bins to be located at all access points and emptied regularly.
- Signs on road where bridleway meets road to improve safety (e.g. at Ewshot Lane).
- Alter entrance to bridleway on account some horses refuse to step over gate.
- Circular routes for horse riders with specific signage for riders also.
- Change website name to 'Crookham Park SANG'.
- Mark different circular routes depending on difficulty (e.g. colour coded bollards).
- Barn Owl nest present (provide a nest box?).
- Upgrade/replace divots in track from Naishes Lane and Ewshot Lane.
- Information boards are desperately needed.
- Add reference to the fact that Adders are present onto information board to inform users of their presence.
- Signage for both SANG and its car park from Jubilee Drive and Naishes Lane.
- An annual survey to test effectiveness of SANG.
- Chicken wire on boardwalk wears away too quickly and can be uncomfortable to dogs.

## **APPENDIX 6**

### **Potential Improvements to SANG (from visitor survey)**

## APPENDIX 6 – POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS TO SANG (FROM VISITOR SURVEY)

Potential Improvement	Number of respondents (face-to-face interviews)	% of respondents (face-to-face interviews)	Number of respondents (mail drop survey)	% of respondents (mail drop survey)	Accords with SANG Vision and Objectives?	Improvement Adopted?
Improved signage of car park	4	1.92	10	11.36	Yes – assists local residents to find location of on-site car park to access the SANG.	Yes – two road signs are to be installed (main road and Naishes Lane).
Improved signage of access points into SANG	11	5.29	19	21.59	Yes – assists local residents to find suitable access points into SANG.	Yes – information boards are to be installed at the seven main access points.
Improved signage within SANG	16	7.69	26	29.55	Yes – encourages visitors to utilise demarked footpath / circular routes within the SANG.	Yes – waymarkers are to be provided on circular routes.
Provision of information boards	11	5.29	35	39.77	Yes – informs users of features within the SANG, such as the footpath network (including marked routes) and the location of the car park.	Yes – information boards are to be installed at the seven main access points.
Provision of stone / 'hoggin' circular walk	4	1.92	24	27.27	In part – facilitates use of areas within the SANG by different user groups; however important to ensure that the majority of the SANG remains semi-natural in nature (i.e. similar to the SPA).	Yes – 'stoned' circular route (including boardwalks) provided (approx 1.3km in length); other footpaths / tracks to remain natural (e.g. mown only).
Improved pathways - flatter/stump removal	39	18.75	40	45.45	Yes – encourages visitors to utilise demarked footpaths.	Yes – 29 of the 39 comments received from the face-to-face interviews came from people interviewed at access points 1 and 2. It is therefore considered that these concerns relate primarily to conditions in this part of the SANG, specifically the east-west footpath. Improvements will be made to the surface of this gravel track, and also areas where new footpaths pass through woodland.
Improved pathways - width	4	1.92	14	15.91	In part – facilitates use of areas within the SANG; however important to ensure that the majority of the SANG remains semi-natural in nature.	In part – ongoing management will take into consideration accessibility of key routes, although paths themselves (including stoned route) will not to be widened further.
Removal of existing fencing	27	12.98	14	15.91	Yes – ensures that SANG retains a semi-natural character similar to the SPA.	Yes – following consultation with Natural England and Hart District Council Officers in January 2015, significant lengths of fencing have been removed and hedgerows planted to screen some lengths of retained fences, 'softening' their character. Further works have been undertaken since the visitor survey was completed.
Provision of additional fencing	2	0.96	5	5.68	No – potential to result in visually intrusive features that detract from the semi-natural nature of the SANG	No – no new fencing is proposed within the SANG
Other - lighting along path	9	4.33	0	0.00	No – lighting is visually intrusive, 'urbanising' feature that does not reflect the requirement to mitigate for potential adverse effects on the SPA	No – no new lighting is proposed within the SANG
Other - 'more trails/routes'	2	0.96	1	1.14	Yes – encourages visitors to utilise SANG for informal recreation by providing variety of options	Yes – circular routes are to be demarked using visually sensitive waymarkers, and information boards will inform visitors of the network of routes available across the SANG, encouraging them to discover new areas not previously visited
Other - 'tidy up' / removal wire fencing / fly tipping / general maintenance	15	7.21	2	2.27	Yes – ensures SANG remains safe and attractive for visitors	Yes – significant works have been undertaken to date to remove lengths of wire fencing and other hazardous materials, and will continue to be undertaken as part of the general management and maintenance of the SANG by the landscape contractor

Potential Improvement	Number of respondents (face-to-face interviews)	% of respondents (face-to-face interviews)	Number of respondents (mail drop survey)	% of respondents (mail drop survey)	Accords with SANG Vision and Objectives?	Improvement Adopted?
Other - dog bins	31	14.90	4	4.55	Yes – encourages use of the SANG by dog walkers (key target group to mitigate for impacts on SPA)	Yes – dog bins are to be installed at the seven main access points
Other - 'all weather path'	5	2.40	2	2.27	In part – facilitates use of areas within the SANG by different user groups; however important to ensure that the majority of the SANG remains semi-natural	Yes – 'stoned' circular route (including boardwalks) provided (approx 1.3km in length); other footpaths / tracks to remain natural (e.g. mown only).
Other - 'more natural pathways' / more natural	12	5.77	1	1.14	Yes – provides informal network of routes across the SANG, retaining a semi-natural character similar to the SPA.	Yes – network of footpaths will be promoted through use of waymarked routes, and information boards to inform visitors of alternative options.
Other - play areas, cafes, toilets, picnic areas etc	10	4.81	6	6.82	No – providing more formal recreational facilities such as those suggested is likely to result in visually intrusive impacts, and has the potential to significantly detract from the semi-natural nature of the SANG (not found within the SPA)	No – none of these facilities are to be provided within the SANG
Other - litter bins	11	5.29	2	2.27	In part – minimises litter that can detract from value of a SANG; although important to restrict number of bins to ensure the SANG retains its semi-natural nature	Yes – litter bins are to be installed at the seven main access points
Other - more information	3	1.44	5	5.68	Yes – informs users of features within the SANG, such as the footpath network (including marked routes) and the location of the car park.	Yes – information boards are to be installed at the seven main access points, and will include reference to the SANG website which provides more information
Other - more paths and access points	5	2.40	1	1.14	Yes – provides variety of informal routes for use by visitors	Yes - network of footpaths will be promoted through use of waymarked routes, and information boards to inform visitors of alternative options
Other - access points for horses	1	0.48	0	0.00	In part – whilst horse riders utilise the SPA, impacts on features for which the SPA is designated are minimal compared to other users (e.g. dog walkers), and as such are not intended to be the main focus of SANG	In part – opportunities for horse riders will be maintained, including the bridleway passing through the SANG
Other - improve access for bikes	6	2.88	1	1.14	In part – similarly, whilst cyclists utilise the SPA, impacts on features for which the SPA is designated are minimal compared to other users (e.g. dog walkers), and as such are not intended to be the main focus of SANG	In part – opportunities for cyclists will be maintained, including the bridleway passing through the SANG and the 'stoned' circular route
Other - improve access for prams and/or wheelchairs	14	6.73	8	9.09	In part – whilst providing access for prams and wheelchair users is beneficial, impacts from these users on the SPA are negligible compared to other users (e.g. dog walkers), and as such are not intended to be the main focus of SANG	Yes – 'stoned' circular route (including boardwalks) provided which allows an accessible circular route of approx 1.3km for these users. Improvements will also be made to the gravel track passing east-west across the SANG (between access points 1 and 2)
Other - provision of benches	10	4.81	4	4.55	In part – attractive feature for use by visitors to the SANG; although important to restrict number to ensure it retains semi-natural nature	Yes – three benches to be installed at suitable locations (e.g. viewpoints) within SANG
Other - no change needed	10	4.81	2	2.27	N/A	N/A
Other - improve drainage	4	1.92	2	2.27	In part – important to ensure that year-round accessibility is provided, although there is a need to ensure that SANG retains semi-natural character	In part – boardwalk ensures year-round accessibility for visitors at Ewshot Marsh, no further drainage works considered necessary
Other - change gravel finish to footpaths	18	8.65	7	7.95	In part – ensures gravel footpaths are suitable for a variety of users; however important to ensure that the majority of the SANG remains semi-natural in nature (i.e. similar to the SPA)	Yes – fine surface dressing has been applied to the 'stoned' route to improve the nature of the path since the visitor survey was completed.

## **APPENDIX 7**

### **Naishes Wood SANG Plan (Fabrik)**





Notes  
1. This drawing is the property of fabrik ltd. It must not be copied or reproduced without written consent.  
2. Only figured dimensions are to be taken from this drawing. All contractors must visit site and be responsible for taking and checking all dimensions related to the works shown on the drawing.

- Route 1 - approx. 1.3km Circular Route (Boardwalk and Gravel)
- Route 2 - approx. 2.4km Circular Route (Informal)
- Route 3 - approx. 2.3km Woodland Route
- Location of Benches
- Public Right of Way Bridleway
- Public Right of Way Footpath
- Informal Footpath
- Boardwalk
- Footpath - Hard
- Waymarked Link to SANG from Car Park
- Location of Information Board (SANG Car Park)
- Location of Information Boards, Bins and Dog Bins (1 at each Location)
- Pill Box Location
- SANG Carpark

Scale 1:1,500 @ A0  
Date May '15  
Checked sag  
Drawn jam

Drawing No. D1817 L.800  
Revision  
Preliminary  
Issued for Planning Approval  
Issued for Construction  
Issued for Design/Information  
Issued for Tender  
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No. Date Reason  
Revisions  
Referred References:  
- -

Project  
Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Fleet  
for Taylor Wimpey

Drawing  
SANGs Landscape Masterplan

Name





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- Route 1 - approx. 1.3km Circular Route (Boardwalk and Gravel)
- Route 2 - approx. 2.4km Circular Route (Informal)
- Route 3 - approx. 2.3km Woodland Route
- Location of Benches
- Public Right of Way Bridleway
- Public Right of Way Footpath
- Informal Footpath
- Boardwalk
- Footpath - Hard
- Waymarked Link to SANG from Car Park
- Location of Information Board (SANG Car Park)
- Location of Information Boards, Bins and Dog Bins (1 at each Location)
- Pill Box Location
- SANG Carpark

Scale 1:1,500 @ A0  
Date May '15  
Checked sag  
Drawn jam  
Drawing No. D1817 L.800  
Revision -

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Legend  
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## **APPENDIX 8**

### **Work Schedule**



## APPENDIX 8 – WORK SCHEDULE

Please also refer to the 'Notes' at the bottom of end of this Work Schedule. These tables should be read in conjunction with the Updated SANG Management Plan

### 1. Capital Works

Feature and Task	Improvement measure identified by Natural England?	Improvement measure identified by SANG visitors?	To Be Completed By	Notes
Provision of information boards	Yes	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	Temporary information boards installed at the main access points identified during the visitor survey (7 No. in total). Repeated acts of vandalism have led to temporary signs being replaced as necessary instead of the installation of permanent boards.
Provision of waymarked routes	Yes	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	Three waymarked routes are present at the SANG, including the two circular routes. These routes are shown on the SANG Plan and the information boards.
Provision of signage to SANG Car Park	Yes	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	Signage was installed in late 2015.
Removal of stumps along circular routes	Yes	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	Works to remove stumps were completed as part of ongoing management works by ALS in 2015.
Continuation of circular route between Areas 11 and 12, requiring installation of kissing gate	Yes	No	<b>Already completed</b>	The informal pathway route and kissing gate to permit access across Naishes Lane (between Areas 11 and 12) has been installed. This link forms part of the circular Route 2, with waymarkers also installed in this location.
Removal of hostile signage in Areas 10 and 11	Yes	No	<b>Already completed</b>	All signage restricting access for visitors was removed in late 2014.
Evening out of mown grass surface in Areas 10 and 11	Yes	Yes	<b>Already completed</b> – with ongoing maintenance	Works to 'even out' areas of mown grassland was completed as part of ongoing management works by ALS in 2015. Ongoing management will have regard to the accessibility of these routes, with remedial works undertaken as necessary.
Widening of most northerly access point along Naishes Lane into Area 12 through scrub control	Yes	No	<b>Already completed</b> - with ongoing maintenance	Scrub removal works to widen access to the SANG at this location were completed as part of ongoing management works by ALS in 2015.
Wherever double-fenced and traversing the SANG, removal of one side of bridleway fencing with remaining fencing to be planted with native hedge plants	Yes	No	<b>Already completed</b>	Significant lengths of fencing adjacent to the bridleway were removed as part of ongoing management works by ALS in 2015, with new hedgerows planted where fences have been retained.
Removal of deer fencing around the bund in Area 8	Yes	No	<b>Already completed</b>	Deer fencing previously installed around the bund in Area 8 has been removed.
Provision of new dog bins and litter bins	No	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	Dog and litter bins have been installed at the main access points identified during the visitor survey (7 No. in total).
Provision of new benches	No	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	3 No. benches have been installed in three suitable locations with viewpoints (e.g. the northern part of Area 11). Locations are adjacent to existing routes.
Ensuring well-used footpath traversing the SANG between access points 1 and 2 is flat and surfaced appropriately	No	Yes	<b>Already completed</b>	The surface of the footpath that traverses the SANG (situated to the south of Areas 1, 2 and 3) was improved as part of ongoing management works by ALS in 2015. This forms part of the waymarked Woodland route (Route 3).

### 2. Ongoing Management

The following tables outline the proposed management works which are to be undertaken at Naishes Wood SANG, in order to ensure that it meets the objectives as set out in the Updated SANG Management Plan.

**Table A** outlines the general management works that are to be undertaken for each habitat type present at the SANG, such as woodland, grassland, etc. This table also specifies which of the specific Areas within the SANG this is relevant to.

**Table B** outlines specific management works that are to be undertaken in each Area in order to ensure that the SANG meets the specific objectives for that Area (including SINC objectives), as outlined in the Updated SANG Management Plan document.

Site contractors should manage the site in light of the information provided in both of these tables.

### Table A

[illegible]

Trees, Scrub and Hedgerows	Habitats included:	Scrub, Individual Trees, Hedgerows														
	Relevant to Areas:	3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12														
	Annual / biennial assessment of trees (high / medium risk)													Yr 1-10	Annual check in high risk areas / biennial check in medium risk areas to be undertaken in September / October	
	Tree surgery													Yr 1-10, a/w		If tree or scrub removal works are required outside this period, they may proceed but will require a check for nesting birds by a suitably qualified ecologist immediately prior to commencement (and adoption of any required mitigation measures if nesting birds are found to be present). Hedgerow management to be undertaken on rotation
	Felling and scrub removal (e.g. in areas of grassland)													Yr 1-10, a/w		
	Hedgerow management													Yr 1, 4 and 7		
	Control of invasive or undesirable species													Yr 1-10, a/w		
Access and Interpretation	Features included:	Footpaths, Boardwalks, Information Boards, Litter Bins, Dog Bins, Waymakers / Signage, Fences, Benches														
	Relevant to Areas:	All Areas (1-14)														
	Monitoring and maintenance of SANG features (e.g. signage, information boards, bins, benches, etc.)													Yr 1-10, a/w	Condition of all signage, information boards, fences, waymarkers, bins, car park and benches to be monitored throughout the year as part of general maintenance and management works. Repairs and replacement to be implemented as necessary and as soon as possible after identification.	
	Monitoring and maintenance of boardwalks and stoned footpaths													Yr 1-10, a/w	General condition of boardwalks and stoned footpaths to be monitored throughout the year as part of general management and maintenance works. Specific checks to be undertaken in September and April to identify any remedial works for the following year. Repairs and replacement to be implemented as necessary and as soon as possible after identification	
	Emptying of dog and litter bins													Yr 1-10	Dog and litter binds to be emptied on a regular basis (every week)	
	Removal of rubbish / fly tipping													Yr 1-10, a/w	Presence of any rubbish or fly tipping to be monitored throughout the year as part of general maintenance and management works, and removed as necessary as soon as possible after identification.	

### Table B

[illegible]

Specific Features	Specific Tasks	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Frequency	Notes
Area 8 <b>SINC</b>	Grazing of grassland sward													Yr 1-10	Sward to be grazed with cattle
	Monitoring of scrub encroachment and removal													Yr 1-10, a/w	
	Monitoring of boardwalks													Yr 1-10, a/w	
	Watercourse / wetland management													Yr 1-10, a/w	Watercourses and wetter areas to be monitored for debris and pollutants on monthly basis, with removal of any rubbish or contaminants as required
Area 9	Grazing of grassland sward													Yr 1-10	Sward to be grazed with cattle
	Control of scrub / trees, hedgerow management													Yr 1-10, a/w	Bramble scrub to be controlled in favour of woody element of the hedgerow with mature Oak standards along south-west boundary
Area 10	Scrub and tree removal													Yr 1-10	Significant initial management to be undertaken in Yrs 1 and 2 to significantly reduce scrub and tree cover to enable effective grazing management. Consideration to be given to use of selective scraping to remove nutrient layer. Ongoing management in Yrs 6-10 to ensure extent of scrub is maintained
	Grazing of grassland sward													Yr 2-10	Grazing to be implemented as soon as sufficient scrub and tree removal has been undertaken to enable effective management (anticipated Yr 2)
	Hedgerow management													Yr 1-10	Hazel in hedgerows along southern-north-western and western boundaries to be laid with understorey and canopy trees thinned as appropriate on six year cycle
Area 11	Grazing of grassland sward													Yr 1-10	Sward to be grazed with cattle
Area 12	Grazing of grassland / mowing													Yr 1-10	Sward to be grazed or mown, including grazing by horses
	Selective thinning of oak trees adjacent to Naishes Lane													Yr 1-10	Young tall oaks to be monitored and selectively thinned to create future standard trees
Area 13 <b>SINC</b>	Coppice management													Yr 1 and 6	Rotational coppice regime involving coppicing every fifth year at rate of 25% of stools per year
	Thinning of dense areas of holly by 20%													Yr 1-10	Works to be undertaken on 10 year cycle
Area 14 <b>SINC</b>	Thinning works													Yr 1-4	Initial programme of thinning works to improve light levels
	Coppice management													Yr 5 and 10	Rotational coppice regime involving coppicing every fifth year at rate of 25% of stools per year. Priority to be given to most overgrown / unstable coppice stools
	Thinning of dense areas of holly by 20%													Yr 1-10	Works to be undertaken on 10 year cycle

**Notes:** The Work Schedule above outlines the management tasks by feature, and divides the work up into 10 years. The Work Schedule acts as a guide for contractors and site managers and should be flexible if necessary. The Work Schedule is likely to form the basis of the biannual stakeholder meetings which are to be held, and will be reviewed every 5 years as outlined in the Updated SANG Management Plan (Section 7)

Year 1 comprises the second half of 2015, and starts in September 2015. Year 2 starts in April 2016 and each subsequent year runs from April to March. Blue boxes indicate when tasks should be carried out; white boxes indicate that work should not normally be carried out, typically in order to avoid potential adverse impacts to protected species.

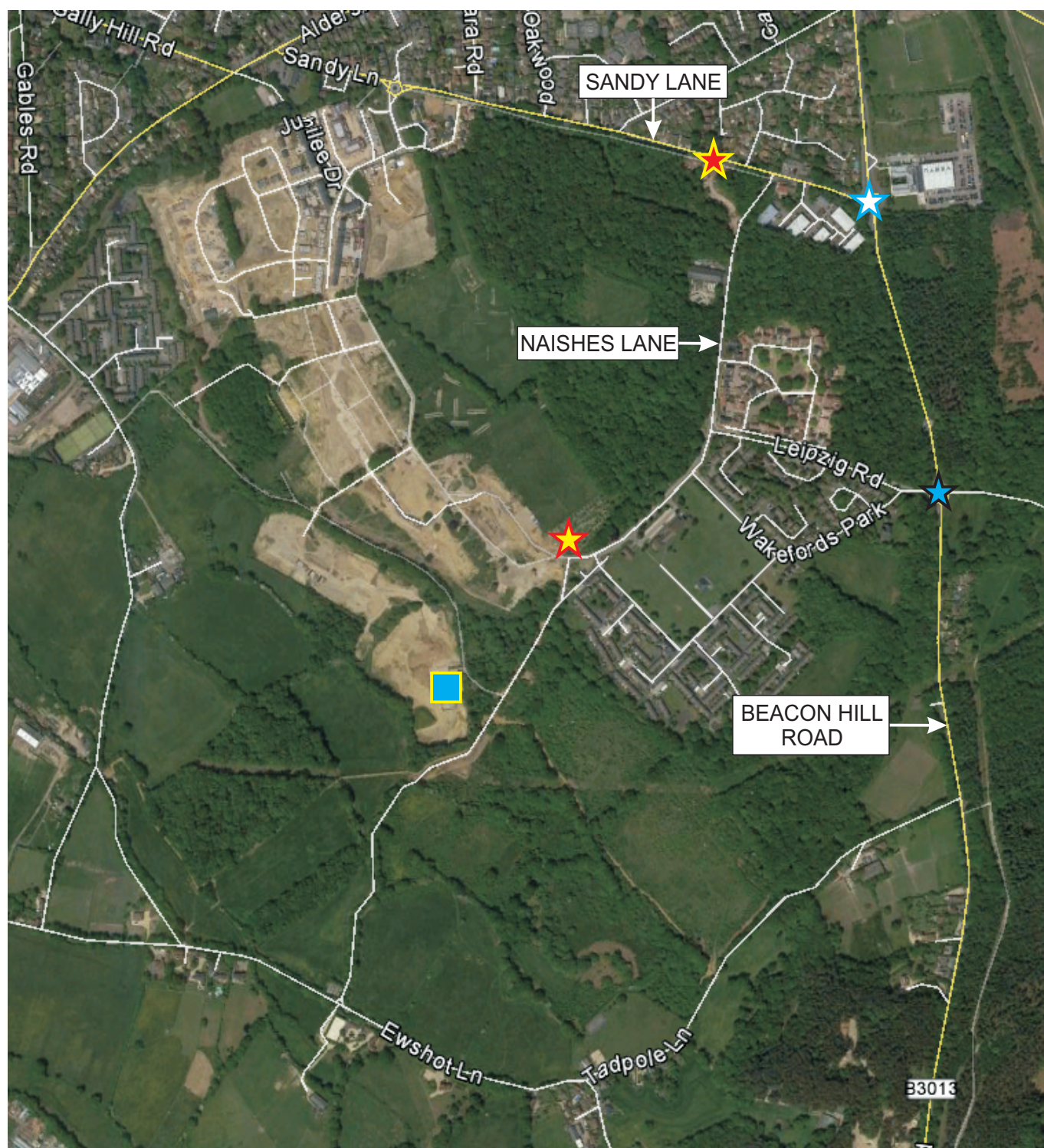
a/w – ‘as and when’ management to be undertaken as required

**SINC** – Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (non-statutory designated sites)

## **APPENDIX 9**

### **Approximate Locations for New Car Park Signage (Ecology Solutions, July 2015)**





LOCATION OF SANG CAR PARK



PROPOSED SIGN ON NAISHES LANE



PROPOSED SIGNS ON SANDY LANE ROUNDABOUT  
(EASTBOUND AND WESTBOUND)



PROPOSED SIGN ON BEACON HILL / SANDY  
LANE ROUNDABOUT (SOUTHBOUND)



PROPOSED SIGN ON BEACON HILL / LEIPZIG  
ROAD ROUNDABOUT (NORTHBOUND)



ecology solutions ltd

3783: NAISHES WOOD SANG  
CHURCH CROOKHAM

APPENDIX 9: APPROXIMATE LOCATIONS  
FOR NEW CAR PARK SIGNAGE

## **APPENDIX 10**

### **Criteria for selecting Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Hampshire**

## Criteria for selecting Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation in Hampshire

The criteria below define those sites which are considered to be of particular importance for nature conservation within Hampshire. These sites are in addition to the statutorily designated sites and are referred to as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).

### Woodland

- 1A** Ancient<sup>1</sup> semi-natural<sup>2</sup> woodlands.
- 1B** Other woodland where there is a significant element of ancient semi-natural woodland surviving.
- 1C** Other semi-natural woodland if;
  - (ii) they comprise important community types of restricted distribution in the County, such as yew woods and alder swamp woods
- 1D** Pasture woodland and wooded commons, not included in any of the above, which are of considerable biological and historical interest.

<sup>1</sup> *Ancient - refers to woodlands which have developed particular ecological characteristics as a result of their long continuity. Those identified to date which are over 2ha are included on the Hampshire Inventory of Ancient Woodlands (Provisional).*

<sup>2</sup> *Semi-natural - modified types of vegetation in which the dominant and constant species are accepted natives to Britain and that locality, and the structure of the community conforms to the range of natural vegetation types.*

### Neutral/acid/calcareous grassland

- 2A** Agriculturally unimproved grasslands<sup>3</sup>
- 2B** Semi-improved grasslands which retain a significant element of unimproved grassland.
- 2D** Grasslands which have become impoverished through inappropriate management but which retain sufficient elements of relic unimproved grassland to enable recovery.

<sup>3</sup> *Agriculturally unimproved grassland - grassland that is composed of a mixed assemblage of indigenous species in essentially semi-natural communities which has been allowed to develop without the major use of herbicides or inorganic fertilisers.*

### Heathland

- 3A** Areas of heathland vegetation; including matrices of dwarf shrub, acid grassland, valley mires and scrub.
- 3B** Areas of heathland which are afforested or have succeeded to woodland if;
  - (i) they retain significant remnants of heathland vegetation which would enable their recovery, or
  - (ii) they are contiguous with, or form an integral part of an open area of heathland,

## Coastal habitats

- 4A** Semi-natural coastal and estuarine habitats, including saltmarsh, intertidal mudflats, sand dunes, shingle, brackish ponds, grazing marsh and maritime grasslands.

## Wetlands

- 5A** Areas of open freshwater (eg. lakes, ponds, canals, rivers, streams and ditches) which support outstanding assemblages of floating/submerged/ emergent plant species, invertebrates, birds or amphibians.
- 5B** Fens, flushes, seepages, springs, inundation grasslands etc. that support a flora and fauna characteristic of unimproved and waterlogged (seasonal or permanent) conditions.

## Species

- 6A** Sites which support one or more notable species<sup>4</sup>.
- 6B** Sites which regularly support a significant population of a species which has a restricted distribution or has substantially declined in population or range. Such sites may be used seasonally or for only one part of a species life-cycle.
- 6C** Sites which support an outstanding assemblage of species.

<sup>4</sup> *Notable species include Red Data Book species, Nationally Scarce species, species covered under Schedules 1,5 and 8 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, Annex 1 of the EC Bird Directive 79/409 and Annex II & IV of the EC Directive 92/43/EEC 'The Habitats Directive', and those covered by the Bern, Bonn and Ramsar Conventions. Notable species will also include species which are considered 'County Rare' or 'County Scarce'. County Rare = those species recorded in 1% or less tetrads in Hampshire or either of the two vice-counties (11 & 12) separately. County Scarce = 4% or less tetrads.*

## Social value

- 7A** Sites of nature conservation interest which occur in areas otherwise deficient in such interest, and/or are known to be of particularly high value to local communities e.g. community wildlife sites.

*Sites selected under this criteria will be rigorously confined to those which, if lost, would result in a considerable and demonstrable loss to the local community which would be very difficult/impossible to replace. Because of the widespread distribution of sites of nature conservation interest in Hampshire, and the high threshold used to define critical importance, only a limited number of sites are likely to meet this criteria.*

## Geology and geomorphology

- 8A** Sites which have been designated as Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)

*Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites are sites of regional importance excluding SSSIs. RIGS are analogous to biological non-statutory sites.*