

Wildlife site resource map and species information for neighbourhood planning – Ide



January 2017

Guidance notes:

1-Introduction

Any development, from a loft conversion to a housing estate has the potential to affect wildlife. By wildlife we mean the whole range of plants and animals found in Devon (also referred to as biodiversity). Sites that are important for their geology can also be affected.

With a Neighbourhood Plan, communities are able to establish general planning policies for the development and use of land in a neighbourhood. They will be able to say, for example, where new homes and offices should be built, and what they should look like. Neighbourhood Plans should take into account local need, housing targets identified by the local authority and the mitigation hierarchy. This is important, as where the local authority says that an area needs to grow, then communities can use neighbourhood planning to influence the type, design, location and mix of new development. They cannot however use neighbourhood planning to block the building of new homes and businesses.

The information below is provided to assist you in designing a neighbourhood plan, however the information DBRC holds on biodiversity can be enhanced by additional survey or species recording within the area and you may want to consider how more information could be gathered by the community. For further information on how to record biodiversity where you live, go to <http://www.dbr.org.uk>

2.1 Sites important for wildlife

There are several designations that cover sites of wildlife and geological value in Devon. These include sites with international and national statutory designation and local non-statutory designation and are shown on your map. **The best practice approach is to avoid locating development on designated sites as they have already been recognised for their high biodiversity value.**

Designated sites generally contain **semi-natural habitats**; these are areas which are not highly modified for example; rough grassland, woodland, traditional orchards, scrub, hedges, marshes and ponds, heathland, coastal habitats and old quarries and mine sites. Semi-natural habitats provide food and shelter for plants and animals, so tend to be richer in species than other areas. Some areas of semi-natural habitat are designated as **Habitats of Principle Importance** which are recognised nationally as being important for wildlife. However, many areas of semi-natural habitat lie outside designated areas and are not classed as habitats of principle importance. These areas are nonetheless important for the plant and animal species they contain and as a link between other areas important for wildlife. Ideally **development will be sited to avoid areas of semi-natural habitat.**

Site Designations in Ide

Statutory Sites:

There are no statutory sites within Ide parish.

Non-Statutory Sites:

County Wildlife Sites (CWS): these are sites of county importance for wildlife, designated on the basis of the habitat or the known presence of particular species. This is not a statutory designation like SSSIs, and does not have any legal status. The National Planning Policy framework requires local authorities to identify and map locally designated sites of biodiversity importance (such as County Wildlife Sites) as part of the Local Plan process and to draw up criteria based policies against which proposals for development affecting them will be judged. CWS recognition does not demand any particular actions on the part of the Landowner and does not give the public rights of access. However, it may increase eligibility for land management grants.

County Geological Sites (CGS) (aka Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)): these are earth science sites that are of regional or local importance. Like CWS, they are included in Local Plans and referred to under NPPF.

Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI): Ancient Woodland is a term applied to woodlands which have existed from at least Medieval times to the present day without ever having been cleared for uses other than wood or timber production. A convenient date used to separate ancient and secondary woodland is about the year 1600. In special circumstances semi-natural woods of post-1600 but pre-1900 origin are also included. The Devon Ancient Woodland Inventory was prepared in 1986 by the Nature Conservancy Council. There are two types of ancient woodland, both of which should be treated equally in terms of the protection afforded to ancient woodland in the National Planning Policy framework (NPPF):

- **Ancient semi-natural woodland (ASNW):** where the stands are composed predominantly of trees and shrubs native to the site that do not obviously originate from planting. The stands may have been managed by coppicing or pollarding in the past, or the tree and shrub layer may have grown up by natural regeneration.
- **Plantations on ancient woodland sites (or PAWS, also known as ancient replanted woodland):** areas of ancient woodland where the former native tree cover has been felled and replaced by planted stock, most commonly of a species not native to the site. These will include conifers such as Norway spruce or Corsican pine, but also broadleaves such as sycamore or sweet chestnut.

Other Sites:

Unconfirmed Wildlife Sites (UWS): these are sites identified as having possible interest but not fully surveyed. Some of these sites will be areas of significant wildlife interest. The UWS dataset may also contain **Proposed County Wildlife Sites (pCWS):** these are usually sites that have been surveyed but are awaiting consideration from the CWS Designation Panel, or sites that have been surveyed at an unfavorable time of year and are awaiting a re-survey.

What about the white areas?

The areas shown white on the map may still have wildlife value, as explained in section 2.2 below. Your map gives an indication of where the most sensitive wildlife areas are located,

however, when looking at the white areas you should still consider features such as hedgerow and streams, as they provide important corridors or habitats for wildlife.

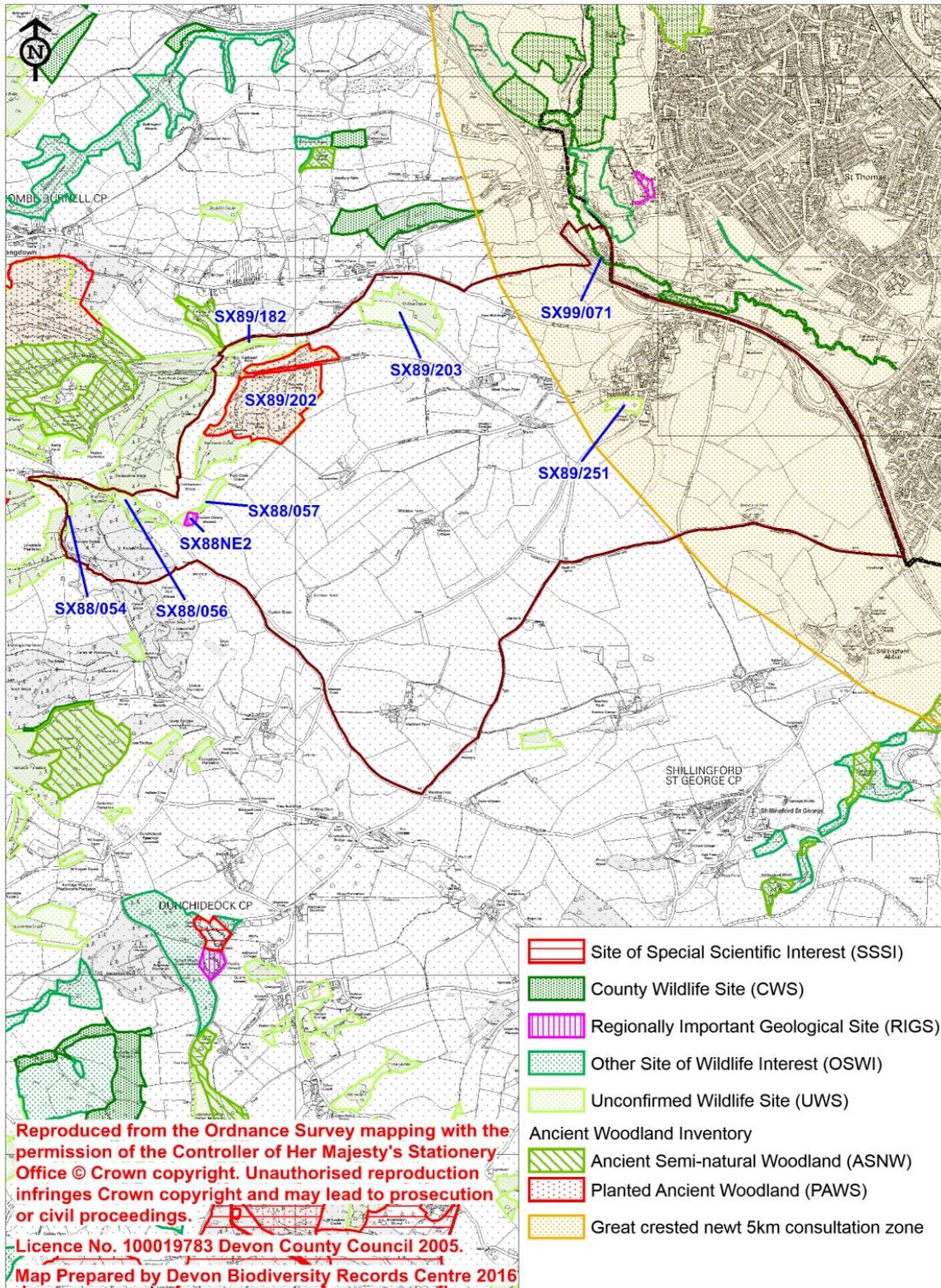
How you can use your local knowledge to add to the map?

The semi-natural habitat information on your map is derived from a range of sources including aerial photographs, for this reason it is worth you **checking this information** on the ground as there may be patches of semi-natural habitat that have been missed.

You may have people in the Parish who can add information to the map. For example, surveys of road verges or hedges may highlight particular stretches that are very important for wildlife due to their function of linking areas of semi-natural habitats, their structure, age or the animal and plant species they contain.

This data search has been undertaken using data held by DBRC at the time of the enquiry. Please be aware that a lack of species records does not necessarily mean that a species is absent from an area, just that it has not been recorded. Detailed species information and surveys will be required by developers when they are drawing up individual planning proposals. More detailed species information would be available from the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (DBRC) on a site specific basis at that time. For more information go to <http://www.dbrc.org.uk/data-search-2/>

**Non-statutory sites
within the parish of Ide (January 2017)**



**Statutory & non-statutory sites within the Parish of Ide
(January 2017)**

Statutory sites within Ide parish

There are no statutory sites within Ide parish

Non-statutory sites within Ide parish

| File Code | Site Name | Grid Reference | Area (ha) | Description | Status |
|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--|---------------|
| SX99/071 | Alphinbrook | SX903907 | 3.1 | Mesotrophic running water and wet woodland | CWS |
| SX88NE2 | Knowle Quarry, Ide | SX874895 | 0.4 | Quarry with good exposure of Basalt Lava resting on both Carboniferous & Permian rocks | RIGS |
| | POLLARDS HILL BRAKE | SX878901 | 17 | Ancient Replanted Woodland | PAWS |

Other Sites within Ide parish

| File Code | Site Name | Grid Reference | Area (ha) | Description | Status |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|--|---------------|
| SX88NE2 | Knowle Quarry, Ide | SX874895 | 0.4 | Quarry with good exposure of Basalt Lava resting on both Carboniferous & Permian rocks | RIGS |
| SX88/054 | Langsdale Plantation | SX866893 | 7 | Broadleaved woodland & open water | UWS |
| SX88/056 | Brockham Plantation | SX868896 | 6.4 | Broadleaved and coniferous woodland | UWS |
| SX88/057 | Knowle Quarry | SX875896 | 1.6 | Broadleaved woodland | UWS |
| SX89/182 | Perridge Woods | SX869903 | 75.3 | Plantation on an ancient woodland site | UWS |

| | | | | | |
|----------|----------------------|----------|------|--|-----|
| SX89/202 | Pollards Hill Brakes | SX878902 | 25.7 | Ancient woodland & plantation on ancient woodland site | UWS |
| SX89/203 | Chillies Copse | SX886907 | 7.4 | Mixed plantation & semi-improved neutral grassland | UWS |
| SX89/251 | Pynes Cottages | SX898901 | 1.3 | Orchard | UWS |

2.2 Species information

There is a whole range of animal and plant species in Devon that are protected under national and/or international species protection legislation. Designated sites and other areas of semi-natural habitat are particularly rich in protected species but protected species are also often found outside designated sites. There are many other species which have no legal protection and **a best practice approach would be to aim to enhance wildlife generally** as part of a development, not just protected species.

The protected species groups that are particularly relevant to development in Devon are:

Bats - are present across the county and have international protection. They feed on insects so are more likely to be found where there is **semi-natural habitat**. Bats also use linear features such as **hedges** and **streams** as navigation routes to travel to and from feeding areas and summer and winter roost sites. A whole range of **buildings and structures** can be used for breeding roosts and hibernation roosts. Bats are affected indirectly by **lighting associated with new developments** and some will desert roosts and foraging areas when there is light pollution.

Dormice - are found within areas of Devon, they are particularly associated with woodland, scrub and hedge habitats, especially old or ancient boundaries.

Otters - are present across the whole county, are associated with rivers and streams and have international protection. Otters will cross roads where their passage is blocked by culverts or flooding under bridges. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes.

Badgers - have national protection. They are found across the county in many habitats, they are often affected by developments. A licence is required if badgers are likely to be disturbed as part of a development.

Birds - have differing levels of protection depending on the species. They must not be disturbed during the nesting season from early spring through the summer. New developments can include enhancements for birds such as nesting sites and appropriate planting schemes. In winter birds can congregate in large numbers on agricultural grassland that has no designation and little semi-natural habitat.

Amphibians and Reptiles - some amphibians and all reptiles have some protection. They are generally associated with semi-natural habitats and gardens. Hibernation sites are important in the winter months.

Great Crested Newt Consultation Zones:

There is a Great crested newt consultation zone within your parish. These are five kilometre buffers around existing and historical (post 1970) great crested newt records.

For more information please go to:

http://www.devon.gov.uk/index/environmentplanning/natural_environment/wildlife.htm.

Invertebrates - rare and protected insects and other invertebrates are generally associated with designated sites and semi-natural habitats.

Flowering plants, fungi, lichens, liverworts, mosses and stoneworts - Many species in these groups are protected but these are generally associated with designated sites and semi-natural habitats so impacts can often be avoided by careful site selection.

Invasive species

Non-native invasive species such as **Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam** may be present and are likely to have a cost implication for developers since they may need to be removed from a site. Removal of invasive species could be carried out as an enhancement for biodiversity either on or off-site.

Development control species* within Ide parish

| Common Name | Scientific Name | UK protection | International protection | Status | Taxon |
|--------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Common Kingfisher | Alcedo atthis | WCA 1 | | Amber | Bird |
| Eurasian Badger | Meles meles | WCA 6, BA | Bern III | | Mammal |
| European Otter | Lutra lutra | WCA 5; NERC 41 | EC IIa, IIIa; Bern II | UKBAP (P); DBAP | Mammal |
| Fieldfare | Turdus pilaris | WCA 1 | | Red | Bird |
| Japanese Knotweed | Fallopia japonica | WCA 9 | | | Plant |
| Red Kite | Milvus milvus | WCA 1, 9 | | | Bird |

***Developmental control species**

These are species that are considered most important by local authorities in the planning process.

They include certain species on the NERC Act (2006) Section 41, those that have European protection and those on the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) 1, 5, 5 (KIS), 8 and Japanese Knotweed.

Other legally protected and notable species within Ide parish

| Common Name | Scientific Name | UK protection | International protection | Status | Taxon |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Brown Hairstreak | Thecla betulae | WCA 5 (S); NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P); Nb | Invertebrate |
| Brown Hare | Lepus europaeus | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P); DBAP | Mammal |
| Cloaked Carpet | Euphyia biangulata | | | Nb | Invertebrate |
| Common Bullfinch | Pyrrhula pyrrhula | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P); Amber | Bird |
| Corky-Fruited Water-Dropwort | Oenanthe pimpinelloides | | | DN3 | Plant |

| Common Name | Scientific Name | UK protection | International protection | Status | Taxon |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Dusky Brocade | <i>Apamea remissa</i> | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P) | Invertebrate |
| False Mocha | <i>Cyclophora porata</i> | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P) | Invertebrate |
| Hawfinch | <i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i> | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P); Red | Bird |
| Jersey Tiger | <i>Euplagia quadripunctaria</i> | | | Nb | Invertebrate |
| L-Album Wainscot | <i>Mythimna l-album</i> | | | Nb | Invertebrate |
| Mullein Wave | <i>Scopula marginepunctata</i> | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P) | Invertebrate |
| Primrose | <i>Primula vulgaris</i> | | | DBAP | Plant |
| Ruddy Carpet | <i>Catarhoe rubidata</i> | | | Nb | Invertebrate |
| Small Eggar | <i>Eriogaster lanestris</i> | | | Nb | Invertebrate |
| Song Thrush | <i>Turdus philomelos</i> | | | UKBAP (P); Red | Bird |
| Spinach | <i>Eulithis mellinata</i> | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P) | Invertebrate |
| Wall | <i>Lasiommata megera</i> | NERC 41 | | UKBAP (P) | Invertebrate |
| West European Hedgehog | <i>Erinaceus europaeus</i> | WCA 6; NERC 41 | Bern III | UKBAP (P) | Mammal |
| White Admiral | <i>Ladoga camilla</i> | NERC 41 | | Decline | Invertebrate |

NERC 41 **NERC Act (2006) Section 41:** Species listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). These are the species found in England which have been identified as requiring action under the UK BAP. All local authorities and other public authorities in England and Wales have a duty to promote and enhance biodiversity in all of their functions.

WCA 1 **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 1:** birds which are protected by special penalties at all times.

WCA 5 **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5:** species protected against killing, injury, disturbance and handling.

WCA 5 (S) **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5: (sale):** species protected against sale only.

WCA 5 (KIS) **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 5: (killing & injury):** species protected against killing, injury and sale only.

WCA 6 **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 6:** animals (other than birds) which may not be killed or taken by certain methods

WCA 9 **Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) Schedule 9:** animals and plants for which release into the wild is prohibited.

- BA** **Protection of Badgers Act 1992:** badgers may not be deliberately killed, persecuted or trapped except under licence. Badger setts may not be damaged, destroyed or obstructed.
- Bern II** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix II:** Special protection for listed animal species and their habitats.
- Bern III** **Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) Appendix III:** Exploitation of listed animal species to be subject to regulation
- ECIIa, IIb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex IIa and IIb:** Designation of protected areas for animal and plant species listed.
- ECIIIa, IIIb** **EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (Habitats & Species Directive) Annex IIIa and IIb:** Species used as criteria for designating Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).
- UKBAP(P)** **UK Priority Species (Short and Middle Lists - UK Biodiversity steering Group Report 1995)** i.e. species that are globally threatened and rapidly declining in the UK (by more than 50% in the last 25 years). Has a Species Action Plan.
- DBAP** **Devon Biodiversity Action Plan species:** these have been identified as species of key conservation concern in Devon.
- Devon Notable Species:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2km squares in the Atlas of Devon Flora 1984 (R.B. Ivimey-Cook, Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Exeter).
- DN3** **Devon Notable³:** Selected species recorded from over 50 2 km squares in Atlas of Devon Flora 1984.
- Nb** **Nationally Notable B:** known from 100 or fewer 10km squares. Taken from the Invertebrate Site Register.
- Red List** Bird species of high conservation concern, such as those whose population or range is rapidly declining, recently or historically, and those of global conservation concern.
- Amber List** Bird species of medium conservation concern, such as those whose population is in moderate decline, rare breeders, internationally important and localised species and those of unfavourable conservation status in Europe.

As well as incidental records and records from consultants, our data search includes data from: the Botanical Society for the British Isles (BSBI); British Dragonfly society; Butterfly Conservation; Cetacean recording network; Devon Bird Watching and Preservation Society (only 2001, 2006 records at moment), Devon Mammal Group; Devon Reptile and Amphibian Group; Devon Moth group; Devon Wildlife Trust nature reserves; Environment Agency (fish

and invertebrate records); Natural England (bat records); Seasearch and the MNCR database; Seawatch foundation. Please note we do not hold information for the Devon Bat Group (<http://www.dbg.me.uk/>) or Devon Invertebrate Forum. For more information on the species records we hold. See our website <http://www.dbr.org.uk/species-datasets/>.

DBRC have provided this report in PDF format and are unable to provide it in GIS or other formats.

3. Key principles to protect wildlife and geology in Neighbourhood Plans- These can be written into Development Policies in your plan

- Avoid both **statutory** and **non-statutory designated** sites
- Avoid non-designated areas which contain large or linked areas of **semi-natural habitat**
- Consider the potential **protected species implications** of sites before finalising plans-it is far better to scope these at the outset to prevent costly delays later
- Where sites contain patches of **semi-natural habitat** make sure these can be **retained and ideally linked** together as part of the intended end land use.
- Ensure there is potential to retain, restore and re-create **habitat linkages such as hedges** as part of developments
- Look for **enhancement** opportunities to **create, expand, buffer and link semi-natural habitats** on-site
- Consider the potential for **creating new semi-natural habitat off-site** if opportunities on-site are limited, this is known as 'biodiversity offsetting'. It may be possible to pool contributions from several developments.

An ecological consultant can help to interpret data from DBRC and give recommendations for your neighbourhood plan. You can find an Ecological consultant here: www.cieem.net/members-directory/search .

The information within this report is provided for use within the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan, The information contained within can be used for this sole purpose and should not be copied, republished or passed on to third parties without DBRC's consent