



Fosse Green Energy

EN010154

7.12 Biodiversity Net Gain Report (Clean)

VOLUME

7

Planning Act 2008 (as amended)

Regulation 5(2)(q)

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as
amended)

02 June 2026

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended)

Fosse Green Energy Development Consent Order 202[]

7.12 Biodiversity Net Gain Report

Regulation Reference	Regulation 5(2)(q)
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference	EN010154
Application Document Reference	EN010154/APP/7.12
Author	Fosse Green Energy Limited

Version	Date	Issue Purpose
Rev 1	18 July 2025	DCO Submission
Rev 2	20 March 2026	Deadline 3
Rev 3	28 April 2026	Deadline 5
Rev 4	02 June 2026	Deadline 6

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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment has been commissioned by Fosse Green Energy Limited (the 'Applicant') to inform the Development Consent Order (DCO) application for the Fosse Green Energy Solar Farm (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'). The Applicant is a partnership between Windel Energy Limited and Recurrent Energy (a subsidiary of Canadian Solar), who are both experienced developers of renewable energy projects.
- 1.1.2 This BNG assessment has been undertaken to quantify the overall effect of the Proposed Development upon the DCO Site's biodiversity value. This is achieved by comparing the DCO Site's baseline habitat value with that following implementation of the Proposed Development. Calculations consider the level of proposed habitat loss, retention, enhancement and/or creation delivered by the Proposed Development and are measured using DEFRA's Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Ref 1) in accordance with the User Guide (Ref 2) and best practice principles (Ref 3). The report sets out the results of the BNG assessment, including the methodology in Section 2, the results in Section 3, and the conclusions in Section 4.

1.2 Site Description

- 1.2.1 The overall area of the DCO Site is approximately 1,354 hectares (ha), wholly located within the administrative area of North Kesteven District Council. The land within the DCO Site and its surroundings are described in **Chapter 2: The Site and Surroundings** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.1].
- 1.2.2 The Proposed Development comprises two distinct parcels of land (refer to **Figure 1-2: DCO Site** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.2]), collectively defined as the 'DCO Site', which are:
- a. the 'Principal Site', which in turn includes the 'Solar PV Array Areas', 'Interconnecting Cable Corridors', 'Onsite Substation', and on-site Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), comprising approximately 1,055ha of land; and
 - b. the 'Cable Corridor', which is approximately 10km in length and will comprise the underground electrical infrastructure required to connect the Principal Site to the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby. The Cable Corridor partly overlaps with the Principal Site and is approximately 351ha.
- 1.2.3 The DCO Site is located approximately 9 km southwest of Lincoln City Centre, in proximity to the villages of Thorpe on the Hill, Witham St Hughes, Haddington, Thurlby, Navenby, and Bassingham. The DCO Site is centred on approximate National Grid Reference SK 90388 62514.

1.3 The Proposed Development

- 1.3.1 The Proposed Development will comprise the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of a PV electricity generating facility, with an on-site BESS and other associated infrastructure, with a total capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW), along with an import and export connection to the national transmission network at the proposed National Grid substation near Navenby. A more detailed description of the Proposed Development is provided in **Chapter 3: The Proposed Development** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.1].
- 1.3.2 The location of the Proposed Development is shown in **Figure 1-1: Proposed Development Location** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.2] with the DCO Site shown on **Figure 1-2: DCO Site** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.2]. The different elements of the DCO Site (Solar PV Array Areas, Cable Corridor, Onsite Substation and the on-site BESS) are shown on **Figures 3-2A and 3-2B** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.2]. The land within the DCO Site and its surroundings are described in **Chapter 2: The Site and Surroundings** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.1] with the consideration of alternatives and evolution of the Proposed Development design and layout described in **Chapter 4: Alternatives and Design Evolution** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.1].
- 1.3.3 The **Landscape Mitigation Plan (Figure 7.15-1)** presented in the **Framework Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP)** [EN010154/APP/7.15] has been used to determine the extent and type of habitats to be lost, retained and/or created post-development. **Figure 3-17: Maximum Vegetation Removal Plan** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.2] was also used to consider areas of habitat removal or management.
- 1.3.4 The operational life of the Proposed Development will be 60 years from the point of commissioning of the entirety of the Proposed Development (currently anticipated to be 2033 - 2093), with decommissioning to commence 60 years after final commissioning.
- 1.3.5 Further information on the design and infrastructure associated with the Proposed Development is provided in **Chapter 3: The Proposed Development** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.1].

1.4 Policy Context

National Legislation

- 1.4.1 Government policy states that “*planning decisions should minimise impacts on and provide net gain for biodiversity*” (Ref 4).
- 1.4.2 As a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), the Proposed Development will require consent via a Development Consent Order (DCO), which is not currently subject to mandatory BNG requirements. DCO applications will be required to achieve 10% net gain in biodiversity units relative to the site’s baseline biodiversity value by May 2026 under Section 98 and 99 of the Environment Act, 2021 (Ref 5).

- 1.4.3 Overarching National Policy Statement EN-1 (Ref 6) states that “*Energy NSIP proposals, whether onshore or offshore, should seek opportunities to contribute to and enhance the natural environment by providing net gains for biodiversity, or the wider environment where possible*”.

Local Planning Policy

- 1.4.4 The Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (Ref 7) includes various relevant policies relating to biodiversity. These are presented in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Central Lincolnshire Local Plan – Summary of Biodiversity Policy

Policy	Policy Text
Policy S53: Design and Amenity	<i>“...All development proposals will:...</i> <i>Incorporate and retain as far as possible existing natural features including hedgerows, trees, and waterbodies particularly where these features offer a valuable habitat to support biodiversity, aligned with policies in the Natural Environment chapter of the Local Plan;</i> <i>Incorporate appropriate landscape and boundary treatments to ensure that the development can be satisfactorily assimilated into the surrounding area, maximising opportunities to deliver diverse ecosystems and biodiverse habitats, strengthening wildlife corridors and green infrastructure networks, and helping to achieve wider goals for biodiversity net gain, climate change mitigation and adaptation and water management”</i>
Policy S60: Protecting Biodiversity and Geodiversity	<i>“All development should:</i> <i>protect, manage, enhance and extend the ecological network of habitats, species and sites of international, national and local importance (statutory and non-statutory), including sites that meet the criteria for selection as a Local Site;</i> <i>minimise impacts on biodiversity and features of geodiversity value;</i> <i>deliver measurable and proportionate net gains in biodiversity in accordance with Policy S61; and</i> <i>protect and enhance the aquatic environment within or adjoining the site, including water quality and habitat”</i>
Policy S61: Biodiversity Opportunity and Delivering Measurable Net Gains	<i>“Following application of the mitigation hierarchy, all development proposals should ensure opportunities are taken to retain, protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity features proportionate to their scale, through site layout, design of new buildings and proposals for existing buildings with consideration to the construction phase and ongoing site management.</i> <i>Development proposals should create new habitats, and links between habitats, in line with Central Lincolnshire</i>

Policy

Policy Text

Biodiversity Opportunity and Green Infrastructure Mapping evidence, the biodiversity opportunity area principles set out in Appendix 4 to this Plan and the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (once completed), to maintain and enhance a network of wildlife sites and corridors, to minimise habitat fragmentation and provide opportunities for species to respond and adapt to climate change.

Proposals for major and large-scale development should seek to deliver wider environmental net gains where feasible.

Biodiversity Net Gain

[...]

All qualifying development proposals must deliver at least a 10% measurable biodiversity net gain attributable to the development. The net gain for biodiversity should be calculated using Natural England's Biodiversity Metric."

Minimum BNG Requirement

- 1.4.5 There is currently no target BNG based on national or local policy, instead the requirement is for the achievement of no-net-loss ($\geq 0\%$ BNG).
- 1.4.6 Although not mandated for this NSIP, the Applicant has committed to deliver a minimum of 30% biodiversity net gain in habitat units, 50% biodiversity net gain in hedgerow units and 10% biodiversity net gain in watercourse units using DEFRA's Statutory Biodiversity Metric (SBM) (Version 1.0.4) for the Proposed Development.

2. Methodology

2.1 Statutory Biodiversity Metric

- 2.1.1 The BNG assessment involves comparing the biodiversity value of habitats present within the DCO Site before development (i.e. the 'baseline') and the predicted biodiversity value of habitats following the completion of the Proposed Development (i.e. 'post-development'). The comparison is made in terms of 'biodiversity units', with SBM providing the mechanism to allow biodiversity values to be calculated and compared.
- 2.1.2 The SBM calculates the overall loss or gain of biodiversity of development projects by assessing the distinctiveness (i.e. type of habitat and its value), condition, extent, and strategic significance of habitats on site pre- and post-development, including both permanent and temporary land-take areas. To achieve BNG, the biodiversity unit score must have a post-development score higher than the baseline score.

- 2.1.3 When calculating the post-development biodiversity units, SBM includes a series of standard 'risk multipliers' to account for the inherent risk of creating and restoring habitats, the time taken to establish habitats and the location of the mitigation in relation to the habitats lost on site. The risk multipliers reduce the value of the proposed habitats, which means larger areas, habitats of higher distinctiveness, and/or conditions are required to mitigate losses and achieve BNG.
- 2.1.4 Although DCO applications are not subject to mandatory BNG requirements, the relevant trading rules have nonetheless been considered as part of this assessment. The approach taken adheres to the mitigation hierarchy and aligns with best practice principles. As such, it is deemed sufficient to compensate for any ecological impacts and is considered ecologically appropriate. The SBM is guided by the rules set out in **Table 2**.

Table 2. SBM Rules

Rule	Explanation
Rule 1 – Trading rules	The trading rules try to prevent the 'trading down' of habitat distinctiveness. Under the trading rules, habitat losses are to be compensated for on a "like for like" or "like for better" basis.
Rule 2 – The requirement to deliver at least a 10% net gain applies to each type of unit present on the Site	The Metric assesses and generates separate outputs for area-based habitats (measured in habitat units) and linear-based habitats, including hedgerows (measured in hedgerow units) and watercourses (measured in watercourse units). To claim a net gain in biodiversity, there must be an increase across all habitats, hedgerows, and river units. The units cannot be summed to give an overall biodiversity unit value i.e., an increase in habitat and hedgerow units cannot offset a loss in watercourse units.
Rule 3 – Use of the Metric	Assessment must use the latest version of the Metric released by DEFRA ¹ .
Rule 4 – Exceptional circumstances required	In exceptional ecological circumstances, the relevant planning authority may permit deviation from the Metric methodology.
LPA engagement	

- 2.1.5 The information required to undertake the calculation is described below.

2.2 Assessment Boundary

- 2.2.1 This BNG assessment covers the areas within the Principal Site, as shown in **Figure 1-2: DCO Site** of the ES [EN010154/APP/6.2]. However, instead of assessing the full extent of the Cable Corridor, it considers a narrower indicative 30 m-wide working cable construction corridor – further reduced to

¹ Note, the SBM utilised in this assessment is Version 1.0.4.

8 m when crossing hedgerows or watercourses. This is to allow for a realistic and proportionate assessment of the Cable Corridor, given the micro siting at the detailed design stage, which would otherwise result in an unrealistic overestimate to assume the full Cable Corridor would be impacted during construction. As the final cable alignment has not yet been confirmed, the assessment takes a 'worst-case' approach: assuming that all habitat within the corridor with a 'Standard time to target condition' greater than one year is lost and must be reinstated. In practice, not all of this area will be directly affected by the Proposed Development. Should a cable alignment (requiring less land take) be suggested as the design progresses, the biodiversity units required to achieve a net gain will be lower and therefore overall unit uplift percentages will increase for the Proposed Development.

- 2.2.2 The Applicant is committed to calculating the BNG in liaison with North Kesteven District Council post-consent based on the detailed design once the alignment has been selected and has committed to delivering BNG in accordance with the commitments in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]** as secured via Requirement 8 at Schedule 2 of the **Draft Development Consent Order [EN010154/APP/3.1]**.

2.3 Terrestrial Baseline Data

- 2.3.1 Phase 1 Habitat data collected by AECOM between June and November 2023 and May to July 2024, as detailed within **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.1]**, have been utilised to determine the DCO Site's baseline area-based hedgerow and watercourse habitats. Arboricultural data collected by AECOM between March 2024 and March 2025 as detailed within **Appendix 10-H: Arboricultural Impact Assessment** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.3]** have been utilised to determine the DCO Site's baseline tree data. This arboricultural data combined with the Phase 1 Habitat data is hereafter referred to as the 'baseline' (Appendix A). The baseline habitats were converted from standard Phase 1 Habitat types to UKHab Classification categories (Ref 8) (Appendix B) before being digitised in the Geographic Information System (GIS) to provide area and length measurements of each habitat type.
- 2.3.2 At the time of the initial habitat mapping Phase 1 was still the standard habitat mapping technique. To bring the initial habitat mapping in line with requirements for BNG this was translated into UKHab classification with ground-truthing undertaken to confirm the accuracy of this translation.
- 2.3.3 A suitably qualified ecologist assigned a condition to all baseline habitats defined within the DCO Site using the condition assessment criteria outlined in the SBM Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology (Ref 10). The data was aggregated and entered into the SBM to calculate the baseline biodiversity units.
- 2.3.4 Where habitat condition data was not recorded on-site due to access restrictions, habitat conditions were assumed to be 'good' as a precautionary, 'worst-case' measure. Approximately 2.89 ha of area habitat (predominantly Modified Grassland habitat), and 25.45 km of hedgerow habitat was assumed

to be in 'good condition'. Occasionally, where access was not possible to discrete land parcels (approximately 6.20 ha), the habitat condition was inferred from immediately adjacent habitat parcels of the same type and management, surveyed at the same time, as well as what was visible in these areas when viewed from adjacent land parcels. In these instances, this approach is considered proportionate and appropriate given the level of certainty provided by surrounding surveyed habitats.

- 2.3.5 No evidence of degradation of habitats since 30 January 2020 that has resulted in a loss of on-site biodiversity value was found. Analysis of historical aerial imagery² confirms that the habitats recorded in the baseline survey accurately represent those managed on the Site prior to and since 2020.

2.4 Watercourse Baseline Data

- 2.4.1 A desk study was undertaken to identify all watercourse habitats present within the DCO Site and to assign an initial habitat category as defined in the SBM User Guide (Ref 2) (Priority Habitat, Other Rivers and Streams, Ditches, Canals, or Culvert).
- 2.4.2 Following the initial desk study, Site surveys, including relevant condition assessments and Modular River Physical (MoRPh) surveys were undertaken. The habitat category was confirmed during Site surveys and the condition of each watercourse was determined. Information on watercourse and riparian encroachment was also gathered during surveys.
- 2.4.3 Further desk studies were undertaken following Site surveys to determine the Strategic Significance, watercourse encroachment and riparian encroachment.
- 2.4.4 Further details on the watercourse assessment are provided in Appendix C.

2.5 Post-Development Data

- 2.5.1 The **Landscape Mitigation Plans (Figure 7.15-1)** presented in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]** has been used to determine the extent and type of habitats to be lost, retained and/or created post-development. The **Maximum Vegetation Removal Plan (Figure 3-17)** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.2]** was also used as it shows the maximum extent of vegetation removal to facilitate the Proposed Development. Exact locations of removal may change in the Cable Corridor, however the extent would remain the same. Habitats were converted to UKHab Classification categories (Appendix B) before being digitised into GIS to produce the 'Post-Development' Plan (Appendix D). Target condition scores for the proposed habitats were selected in accordance with the Metric User Guide (Ref 2) using professional judgement to ensure the condition scores selected were realistic. The data was utilised to predict the post-development biodiversity units.
- 2.5.2 Guidance published by Building Research Establishment recognises that, on average, 95% of a site used for solar farm development remains "*accessible*

² Google Earth Pro (2024). Available at: <https://www.google.com/earth/> (Accessed: 26 January 2026).

for plant growth and potentially for wildlife enhancements and complementary agricultural activities such as conservation grazing” (Ref 11). This is expected to be an underestimate and, based on the illustrative layout it is expected that over 95% of the Solar PV Array Areas will be available for wildlife, but 95% is considered to be a robust assumption for the purpose of this assessment. Accordingly, 95% of the Solar PV Array Area footprint within the Principal Site has been categorised as the ‘Grassland – Modified grassland’, while the remaining 5% is categorised as ‘Urban – Developed land; sealed surface’ to account for the Solar PV Panel and supporting infrastructure. This approach is supported by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (Ref 12). It is noted that the DCO application allows for the selection of either fixed south facing or single axis tracker arrangement panels. The differences between these panel types are considered negligible and are expected to have a limited impact on the BNG results. The methodology used to account for panel hardstanding and shading effects on grassland represents a worst-case scenario that applies to both panel arrangements and is therefore considered appropriate regardless of the final panel selection.

- 2.5.3 All works within the Cable Corridor are temporary (less than 6 months in any particular location). It is intended that the habitats will be reinstated post-construction. The SBM User Guide (Ref 2) states “*Where a habitat is disturbed for a short period of time, it may be considered temporary loss if specific criteria are met. If these criteria are met, then the habitat may be recorded as ‘retained’ within the metric tool. The temporary loss option is only available for disturbed habitats that can be restored (in full) to their baseline condition (or better) within 2 years from the date of impact*”. It is considered for the purpose of this calculation that a portion of the temporary works within the Cable Corridor will not qualify for the ‘retained’ status within the SBM, as they will not be reinstated within a two-year time period to their prior condition (using the ‘Standard time to target condition’ data within the SBM) for the majority of the area and hedgerow habitats. In this assessment, all area and hedgerow habitats have been considered lost and re-created with the same condition status unless the ‘Standard time to target condition’ is only 1 year.
- 2.5.4 For the creation and enhancement of habitats, this assessment has taken a worst-case scenario approach, as the predicted construction phase for the Solar PV Array Areas is anticipated to be between 24 and 30 months, therefore a delay of three years has been included in the Metric.
- 2.5.5 Where baseline habitat condition data was assumed, the habitat is either lost or retained within the post-development scenario and is not enhanced, as the assumed baseline condition prevents confirmation of the habitat’s enhancement potential.

Habitat Distinctiveness

- 2.5.6 Habitat distinctiveness is a classification based on the type of habitat and its defining characteristics. Habitats of higher distinctiveness are typically rarer, more ecologically valuable, and more difficult to recreate if lost, and often correspond to priority habitats. In contrast, habitats of lower distinctiveness

are generally more widespread and easier to recreate. Distinctiveness is categorised as: Very High, High, Medium, Low, and Very Low.

Trading Rules

2.5.7 DEFRA define the trading rules as: “*minimum habitat creation and enhancement requirements to compensate for specific habitat losses, up to the point of no net loss. They are based on the habitat type and distinctiveness of the lost habitat*” (Ref 2). Trading rules apply to all habitat modules, with the offsetting requirements differing for each. See **Table 3** for a summary of these requirements.

Table 3: Trading Rules Summary

Habitat Distinctiveness	Area Habitats	Hedgerow Habitats	Watercourse Habitats
Very High	Priority should be given to replacing losses with area habitat units of the same habitat type	Losses must be replaced with hedgerow units of the same habitat type.	Priority should be given to replacing losses with watercourse units of the same habitat type
High	Losses must be replaced with area habitat units of the same habitat type	Losses must be replaced with hedgerow units of the same habitat type or of a higher band	Losses must be replaced with watercourse units of the same habitat type
Medium	Losses must be replaced by area habitat units of either: 'Medium' distinctiveness habitat within the same broad habitat type or, any habitat of higher distinctiveness.	Losses must be replaced with hedgerow units of the same or of a higher band	Losses must be replaced with watercourse units of the same habitat type
Low	Losses must be replaced with area habitat units of the same or higher band	Losses must be replaced with hedgerow units of the same or of a higher band	Losses must be replaced with watercourse units of a higher band
Very Low	Not applicable	Losses must be replaced with hedgerow units	Not applicable

Habitat Distinctiveness	Area Habitats	Hedgerow Habitats	Watercourse Habitats
		of the same or of a higher band	

2.6 Strategic Significance

- 2.6.1 The SBM requires that the strategic significance (SS) of all baseline and post-development habitats is defined. SS refers to strategic locations for local biodiversity and nature improvements, identified within local planning policies.
- 2.6.2 Lincolnshire County Council, on behalf of North Kesteven District Council, has yet to publish a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS), and because of this, North Kesteven District Council have requested the use of specified alternative documents in assigning SS to habitats in line with guidance set out in the SBM User Guide (Ref 2). This methodology was further approved by North Kesteven District Council in their response to the Examination Authority First Written Questions[REP2-045]. The SS guidance is presented in **Table 4**.

Table 4. Strategic Significance Guidance

SS Category	Description
High	Where there is a published Local Nature Recovery Strategy (Ref 13) (LNRS) assign 'High' SS if: – The location of the habitat parcel has been mapped in the Local Habitat Map as an area where a potential measure has been proposed to help deliver the priorities of that LNRS; and, – The Proposed Development is consistent with the potential measure proposed for that location. OR – Where there is no published LNRS, but the habitat type is mapped within a specific location within alternative documents specified by the relevant planning authority. – If the Proposed Development is proposed to contribute towards priorities or measures set out in the LNRS (or alternative strategy), assign 'Low' SS to the baseline habitat and 'High' SS to the proposed habitat.
Medium	This category cannot be applied where the LNRS is published, or where the habitat and location is included within other strategic documents specified by the relevant planning authority. Using professional judgement, assign 'Medium' SS if: – It can be explained how the habitat type is ecologically important within a specific location; and/or, – It can be demonstrated the importance of that habitat in providing ecological linkage to other strategically significant locations.

SS Category Description

Low	Where the definitions for 'High' and 'Medium' strategic significance are not met. If the Proposed Development falls within a plan area, but either of the baseline or post-development habitats do not contribute to specific actions and priorities outlined in these plans, 'Low' SS should be assigned.
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2.6.3 As part of this assessment, North Kesteven District Council request the use of the Lincolnshire Biodiversity Opportunity Map (Ref 14) as the specified alternative documents to determine the SS of the habitats on the DCO Site.

2.6.4 Further information is presented in Appendix E regarding how SS has been assigned.

2.7 BNG Good Practice Principles for Development

2.7.1 The BNG Good Practice Principles for Development are a set of ten principles which "*set out good practice for achieving Biodiversity Net Gain and must be applied all together, as one approach*" (Ref 3). These principles are as follows:

- a. Principle 1. Apply the Mitigation Hierarchy;
- b. Principle 2. Avoid losing biodiversity that cannot be offset by gains elsewhere;
- c. Principle 3. Be inclusive and equitable;
- d. Principle 4. Address risks;
- e. Principle 5. Make a measurable Net Gain contribution;
- f. Principle 6. Achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity;
- g. Principle 7. Be additional;
- h. Principle 8. Create a Net Gain legacy;
- i. Principle 9. Optimise sustainability; and
- j. Principle 10. Be transparent.

2.7.2 This assessment has adhered to this step-by-step process to ensure that good practices are followed. A comprehensive breakdown of how the Proposed Development aligns with these principles is provided in Appendix F.

2.8 Assumptions

Area Based Habitats and Hedgerows

2.8.1 As per the **Landscape Mitigation Plan (Figure 7.15-1)** presented in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]**, a total of 147.11 ha has been identified for potential use as either retained arable land or for species-rich

grassland habitat creation, if required (shown on **Figure 7.15-1** as 'Proposed Species Rich Grassland or Retained Arable – outside solar PV areas'). For the purposes of the assessment presented in Section 3.2 and 3.3 of this report, a precautionary approach has been adopted. Apart from areas to buffer watercourses (see paragraph 2.8.13 below), it is assumed that this land will comprise retained arable land, without any additional biodiversity enhancements. Consequently, this land has been retained in the BNG assessment as predominantly arable, reflecting its lower biodiversity value and allowing for a robust, worst-case assessment. Section 3.4 of this report presents a Sensitivity Analysis for context, which explores the potential biodiversity unit uplift should these areas be converted to Other Neutral Grassland.

- 2.8.2 1.60 ha of Arable field margin habitat will be delivered each year within parcels of retained Cereal crops habitat. In order for this to meet the Priority Habitat criteria, the delivery location will rotate with the existing arable farming rotation. Arable Field Margins will be prepared/sown in the appropriate seasonal window prior to the required growing/flowering season. This will ensure that, in any given year, the amount of retained Cereal crop habitat and functional Arable Field Margin habitat will remain consistent. As such, no exact location is displayed on the Post-Development Habitat Plan (Appendix D).
- 2.8.3 Habitats created as part of the Proposed Development will be subject to appropriate ongoing management, as set out in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]**, **Framework Operational Environmental Management Plan (OEMP) [EN010154/APP/7.8]** and **Appendix 10-H: Arboricultural Impact Assessment** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.3]** and will be monitored to ensure successful establishment. Where habitats do not establish or develop as expected, remedial measures (such as reseeded) will be implemented to achieve the target conditions, in accordance with the requirements of the SBM, as set out in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]**.
- 2.8.4 Habitats affected within the Cable Corridor are assumed to be reinstated following construction. As cable installation will be phased and is expected to take less than six months, the reinstatement is not considered delayed. Therefore, the time delay function within the metric has not been applied.
- 2.8.5 It is assumed that habitat creation and enhancement within the Principal Site will commence post-construction. Given the anticipated construction duration of 24 – 30 months, a three-year delay has been applied to post-development habitats in this area within the SBM.
- 2.8.6 For the purposes of this assessment, the habitat loss associated with temporary construction compounds has been assessed in line with the indicative locations set out on **Figure 3-1: Construction Compound and Access Locations** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.2]**. Whilst these locations are indicative, and the final locations may slightly differ, the temporary construction compounds will not be greater than 2 ha in size and will be located on existing Cropland habitat at a minimum distance of 4.5 m from hedgerow habitats, as set out in the **Framework CEMP [EN010154/APP/7.7]** and the Design

Commitments (**Design Approach Document, Appendix A - Design Commitments [EN010154/APP/7.3]**).

- 2.8.7 All baseline habitats of the same type and condition have been aggregated within the SBM due to the findings from the ecology survey concluding relative uniformity within habitat types across the DCO Site.
- 2.8.8 All discrete parcels falling below the Minimum Mapping Unit (MMU) for this project of 0.005 ha were excluded from the Metric calculations. The MMU is considered appropriate and proportionate for a development of this scale (over 1,000 ha). Habitats below this threshold are typically small, fragmented, or transitional features that contribute minimally to overall biodiversity value at a landscape scale and are unlikely to be reliably mapped or meaningfully affected by the Proposed Development. The cumulative area of such features is negligible relative to the total site area, and their exclusion is therefore not expected to materially influence BNG calculations. This approach enables a proportionate and transparent application of the Metric, focusing the assessment on ecologically functional habitats of sufficient extent to influence the BNG outcome.
- 2.8.9 Where temporary access points or visibility splays are proposed, hedgerows have been assumed to be lost and reinstated.
- 2.8.10 Where permanent access points or visibility splays are proposed, permanent hedgerow loss has been assumed.

Watercourse Habitats

- 2.8.11 It is assumed that bridge abutments (relating to new bridge crossings), where relevant, may encroach on the riparian zone but will not encroach on the watercourse.
- 2.8.12 It is assumed, where cables will cross watercourses, that all major watercourses would be crossed via trenchless methods as set out in **Framework CEMP [EN010154/APP/7.7]**. All other crossings for cable installation are assumed to be via trenched crossings as a worst-case scenario for assessment. It is assumed that any watercourses impacted by trenched crossings would be fully reinstated within two years.
- 2.8.13 A band of grassland (Other Neutral Grassland) up to 10m wide will be planted adjacent to watercourses within the retained arable land within the Principal Site (as secured by the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]**). It is assumed that maintaining this 10m buffer of Other Neutral Grassland alongside watercourses will prevent riparian encroachment, thereby enhancing the biodiversity value of these watercourses. This has been applied across the 156.34ha identified for potential use as either retained arable land or for species-rich grassland habitat creation (as noted in paragraph 2.8.1 above).

2.9 Constraints or Limitations

Area Habitats, Hedgerows and Watercourse Habitats

- 2.9.1 The BNG assessment has assessed the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]**, which represents the minimum planting, and a likely concept layout based on maximum design parameters. The calculation will therefore be updated as part of the detailed design stage of the Proposed Development to reflect the final design, to demonstrate BNG is achieved and with aspirations to improve the BNG outcome presented in this report. Any additional data collected in pre-construction surveys will also be included when data is updated.
- 2.9.2 All habitat areas and lengths have been measured using ArcGIS based on the Phase 1 Habitat data (see **Chapter 8: Ecology and Nature Conservation** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.1]** for details) and the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]**, as such habitat areas and lengths are approximations only.
- 2.9.3 Where baseline habitats were not assigned a condition during field surveys, for example due to access restrictions, a 'Good' condition has been applied in line with good practice. This approach may overstate the ecological impact where such habitats are lost and therefore represents a reasonable worst case.
- 2.9.4 **Appendix 10-H: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010154/APP/6.3]** data has been used to assign sizes to 'Individual trees – Rural tree' present on the DCO Site. As a result, stem diameter was used as opposed to diameter at breast height to assess tree size which may impact the results by slightly inflating the baseline value.
- 2.9.5 In line with the **Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans [EN010154/APP/2.3]**, one culvert at access C-015 is noted as having the potential to be extended subject to detailed design, and as such has been considered in the assessment presented in this report. Other culvert extensions may be required, although this is subject to detailed design. It is assumed that any existing culverts are minor and primarily used for farm access. As culverts have a relatively low weighting within the SBM, their exclusion is not expected to significantly influence the outcome of the assessment.

3. Results

3.1 Baseline Habitats

- 3.1.1 The DCO Site for which this BNG assessment is based covers a total area of 1076.59 ha. The habitats identified on-site vary in ecological value, ranging from 'V. High' to 'V. Low' distinctiveness. The most dominant habitat on-site is 'Cropland – Cereal crops'. A total of 68.42 km of hedgerow habitat is present on-site and 16.99 km of watercourse habitats are present on-site, all of which

are classified as 'Other rivers and streams' or 'Ditches'. The 'Baseline Habitat Plan' is provided in Appendix A.

Irreplaceable Habitat

- 3.1.2 The Biodiversity Gain Requirements (Irreplaceable Habitat) Regulations 2024 defines 'Irreplaceable habitats' for BNG, which includes ancient trees and veteran trees (Ref 16).
- 3.1.3 The tree survey identified a total of 123 veteran trees and two ancient trees within and immediately adjacent to the DCO Site. These trees are not to be impacted by the Proposed Development. Details of these trees are provided in **Appendix 10-H: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010154/APP/6.3]** of the ES. Specific tree references can be provided upon request.
- 3.1.4 Two additional veteran trees were captured within the **Appendix 10-H: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [EN010154/APP/6.3]** of the ES that have not been included in the BNG assessment. These include T68NGN and T1527. These trees are present within the Cable Corridor, but not within the indicative 30 m-wide working cable construction corridor. Similarly, G306 has not been included within the BNG assessment, as the veteran tree present within this group is already accounted for (T300); thus, has been excluded to avoid double counting.

Baseline Habitats SS

- 3.1.5 As outlined in Section 2.6, 'Low' SS has been assigned to all baseline habitats present within the DCO Site in line with the methodology where a specified alternative document is identified by the Council in the absence of an adopted LNRS.

Baseline Habitat Units

- 3.1.6 The baseline biodiversity value was calculated as 2375.52 units for area-based habitats, 708.96 units for hedgerow habitats and 66.80 for watercourse habitats. See Appendix G for further detail.

3.2 Post-Development Habitats

- 3.2.1 The **Landscape Mitigation Plan (Figure 7.15-1)** presented in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]** includes the retention of 378 ha of baseline area-based habitat, the creation of 689.45 of area-based habitat and the enhancement of 15.24 ha of baseline area-based habitat. The habitats identified on the DCO Site post-development vary in ecological value, ranging from 'V. High' to 'V. Low' distinctiveness.
- 3.2.2 A total of 1.97 km of hedgerow habitat will be lost as a result of the Proposed Development. A further 15.70 km of hedgerows will be retained in their current condition. Enhancement works are proposed for 50.75 km of hedgerow habitat, while 18.83 km of new hedgerow habitat will be created.

- 3.2.3 A singular culvert extension will result in a 1 m loss of a watercourse. No other watercourse habitats will be lost as a result of new culvert construction or open-cut crossings. A total of 11.20 km of watercourse habitat will be retained in its current condition, and 5.79 km will be enhanced. These enhancements predominantly result from reduced riparian zone management along several watercourses scoped into the assessment.
- 3.2.4 The post-development habitats are shown on the 'Post-Development Habitat Plan' in Appendix D.

Post-Development Habitats SS

- 3.2.5 As outlined in Section 2.6, SS has been assigned to post-development habitats as follows:
- a. 'High' SS has been assigned to habitats if they fall within the Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping Areas for both the 'Ecological networks and opportunities for creation', and any of the relevant habitat priority layers (Ref 14). These areas are considered strategically significant and thus meet the requirement for habitats achieving 'High' SS.
 - b. 'Low' SS has been assigned to all habitats that are not located within both the 'Ecological networks and opportunities for creation' layer and any other relevant habitat priority layer within the Policies Map or designated sites (Ref 14).

Retained Habitats

- 3.2.6 The habitats that are due to be retained within the Proposed Development are detailed in Appendix G.2. In total, 904.30 area-based habitat units, 247.14 hedgerow units, and 41.59 watercourse units are proposed to be retained.

Enhanced Habitats

- 3.2.7 The habitats due to be enhanced within the Proposed Development are detailed in Appendix G.3. In total, the proposed enhancements will result in the delivery of 113.70 area-based habitat units (uplift of 57.0856.40 area-based habitat units), 674.90 hedgerow units (uplift of 236.34 hedgerow units) and 34.03 watercourse units (uplift of 8.83 watercourse units).

Created Habitats

- 3.2.8 The habitats due to be created within the Proposed Development are detailed in Appendix G.4. In total, 2218.49 area-based habitat units and 141.99 hedgerow units are proposed to be created. A small length of culvert is proposed which doesn't result in any additional watercourse units being created.

3.3 Summary of Results

- 3.3.1 All baseline habitats and habitats created and retained are present within the accompanying Metric (Ref. 1) assessment for the Proposed Development (Appendix H). A summary of the results is shown in **Table 5**.

Table 5. Summary of Results

Habitat Type	Baseline	Post-Development	Total Net Change	Unit Total Net Change	%
Area-Based Units	2375.52	3236.50	+860.98	36.24%	
Hedgerow Units	708.96	1064.03	+355.07	50.08%	
Watercourse Units	66.80	75.62	+8.82	13.20%	

Trading Rules

3.3.2 For area habitats, the trading rules within the SBM are currently **satisfied** for each distinctiveness level (**Table 6**).

3.3.3 The loss of Mixed scrub and Arable field margin habitats are mitigated by the creation of Traditional orchard habitats, a higher distinctiveness habitat.

Table 6. Trading Rules – Area-Based Habitats

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Distinctiveness Group	Trading Rule	Unit Change per habitat	Trading Satisfied ?
Grassland	Traditional Orchard	High	Same habitat required	+8.12	Yes
Cropland	Arable field margins cultivate annually	Medium	Same broad habitat or a higher distinctiveness habitat required	+5.31	Yes*
Cropland	Arable field margins pollen and nectar			-2.24	
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky			-10.28	
Grassland	Other neutral grassland			+727.71	
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub			-0.08	
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)			+1.16	
Individual trees	Rural tree			+0.05	

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Distinctive ness Group	Trading Rule	Unit Change per habitat	Trading Satisfied ?
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved			+21.12	
Cropland	Cereal crops	Low	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required	-1126.27	Yes*
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys			-207.54	
Grassland	Modified grassland			+1451.75	
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/ ephemeral			-2.14	
Urban	Bare ground			-5.70	
Total				860.98	

*The loss of 'Low', and 'Medium' distinctiveness habitats has been offset by a surplus of 'Medium' and 'High' distinctiveness habitats.

3.3.4 For hedgerow habitats, the trading rules are currently satisfied for each distinctiveness level (**Table 7**).

Table 7: Trading Rules - Hedgerow habitats

Habitat Group	Distinctiveness Group	Trading Rule	Unit Change per habitat	Trading Satisfied?
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	V. High	Same habitat required =	+40.25	Yes
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	High	Like for like or better	+487.65	Yes*
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch			-23.46	
Species-rich native hedgerow	Medium	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required	+266.28	Yes*
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch			-6.12	

Native hedgerow with trees			-257.54	
Native hedgerow	Low / V. Low	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required	-152.15	Yes*
Line of trees			+0.17	
Total			355.08	

*The loss of 'Low', 'Medium' and 'High' distinctiveness habitats has been offset by a surplus of 'High' and 'Very High' distinctiveness habitats.

3.3.5 For watercourse habitats, the trading rules within the SBM are currently satisfied for each distinctiveness level (**Table 8**).

Table 8: Trading Rules - Watercourse Habitats

Habitat Group	Distinctiveness Group	Trading Rule	Unit Change per habitat	Trading Satisfied?
Other rivers and streams	High	Same habitat required =	+6.41	Yes
Ditches	Medium	Same habitat required =	+2.40	Yes
Total			8.82	

3.4 Sensitivity Analysis

3.4.1 The **Landscape Mitigation Plan (Figure 7.15-1)** presented in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]** includes 147.11 ha of land to be managed as either grassland or arable land. For the purposes of the assessment presented in Section 3.3 above, a conservative 'worst-case' assumption (precautionary approach) has been applied —assuming this area (with the exception of the committed 10m buffers around watercourses, as discussed in Section 2.8), remains under its existing land use (arable) —to calculate the minimum percentage biodiversity uplift resulting from the Proposed Development. Given this element of habitat flexibility sought, there is therefore the potential for a greater proportion of Other Neutral Grassland Habitat to be delivered on-site, which would provide a higher BNG with regards to area habitats.

- 3.4.2 Where the DCO allows for either grassland or arable land areas, the Applicant is currently in dialogue with landowners over whether they have a preference and how this land will be managed. This detail will be finalised following determination of the DCO in the detailed LEMP, which will form the basis of an updated BNG assessment
- 3.4.3 A sensitivity analysis has therefore been conducted (as reported in this section) to evaluate the BNG outcomes under an alternative scenario, in which the full 156.34 ha that can be either grassland or arable are used exclusively to establish Other Neutral Grassland habitat. This represents a 'best-case' scenario in assessment terms and provides some context to the results presented above within Section 3.3 of this report in order to demonstrate the BNG range which feasibly could be achieved by the Proposed Development.
- 3.4.4 Under this scenario, the post-development habitat units increase to 4014.53 for area habitats. This corresponds to a net gain of 68.99% for area habitats, 50.07% for hedgerow habitats, and 13.66% for watercourse habitats.
- 3.4.5 Detailed results of these calculations may be provided upon request.

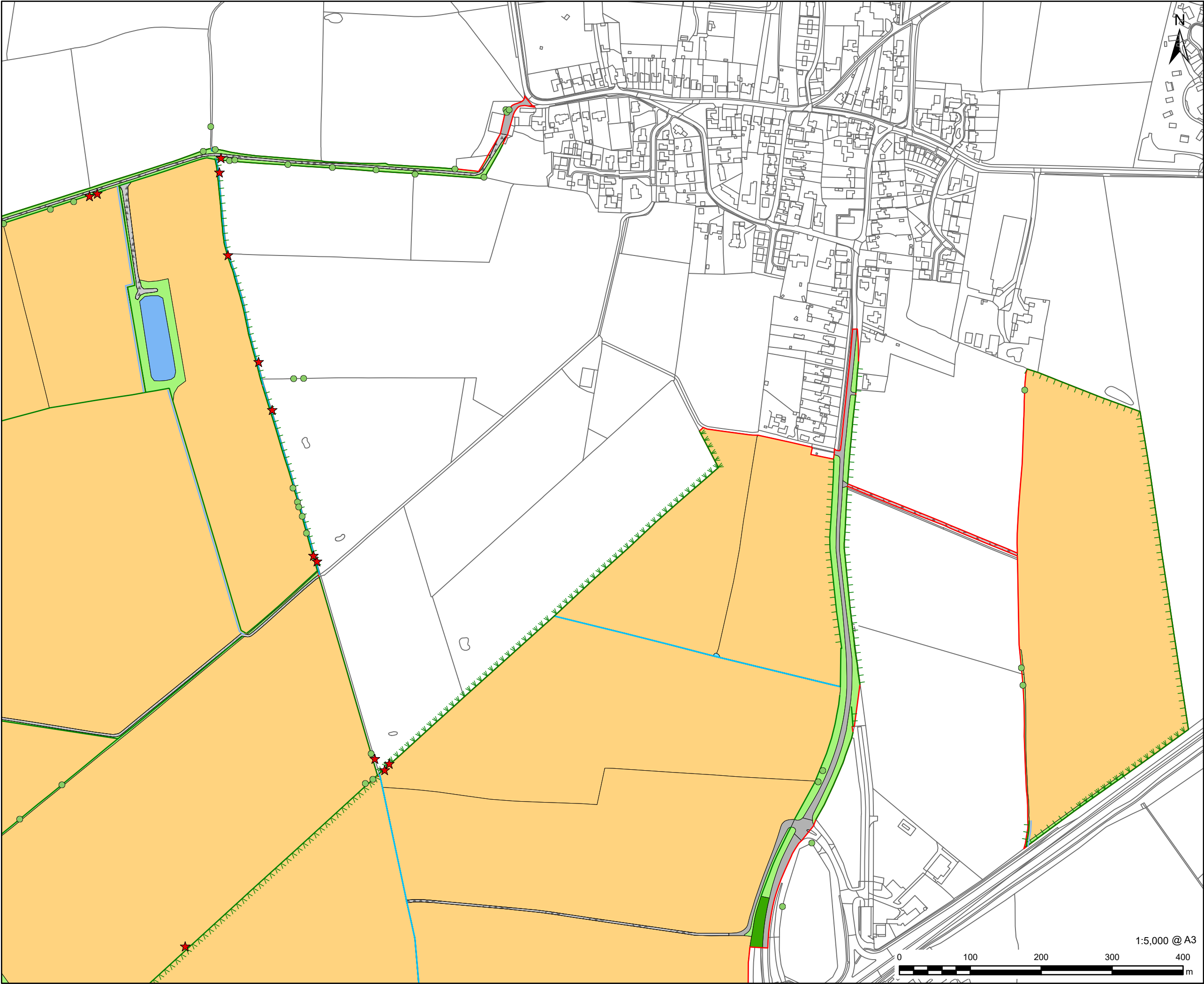
4. Conclusion

- 4.1.1 Based on the current plans for the DCO Site, the Proposed Development is predicted to result in a net gain of 36.24% for area habitat units, 50.08% for hedgerow units, and 13.20% for watercourse units. The Proposed Development, therefore, is considered to exceed the BNG target of $\geq 0\%$ BNG and the Applicant's commitment to deliver a minimum of 30% biodiversity net gain in habitat units, 50% biodiversity net gain in hedgerow units and 10% biodiversity net gain in watercourse units based on SBM Version 1.0.4. The satisfaction of trading rules is not a requirement for DCO projects.
- 4.1.2 The outputs of the SBM depend on all created and enhanced habitats meeting the target conditions, subject to the criteria outlined within SBM User Guide (Ref 2).
- 4.1.3 Habitats will be monitored to ensure correct establishment and growth, and remedial action would be taken if establishment and growth does not proceed, as provided for in the **Framework LEMP [EN010154/APP/7.15]** to ensure the delivery of the committed biodiversity units. Otherwise, the target conditions used in the calculations may not be met, and the predicted biodiversity units might not be achieved.

Abbreviations

Abbreviation/Term	Meaning
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
BNG	Biodiversity Net Gain
DCO	Development Consent Order
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
ES	Environmental Statement
GIS	Geographic Information System
ha	Hectares
km	Kilometres
LEMP	Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
LNRS	Local Nature Recovery Strategy
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MAGIC	Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
PV	Photovoltaic
SBM	Statutory Biodiversity Metric
SS	Strategic Significance
UKHab	UK Habitat Classification

Appendix A Baseline Habitat Plan



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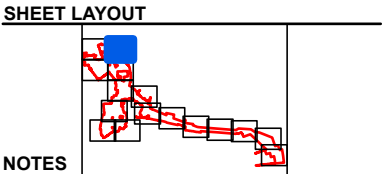


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- LEGEND**
- Assessment Boundary
 - Rural tree
 - Veteran tree
 - Ditch
 - Native hedgerow
 - Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
 - Native hedgerow with trees
 - Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
 - Species-rich native hedgerow
 - Species-rich native hedgerow with trees
 - Cropland - Cereal crops
 - Grassland - Modified grassland
 - Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
 - Lakes - Reservoirs
 - Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
 - Urban - Bare ground
 - Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
 - Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
 - Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint



NOTES

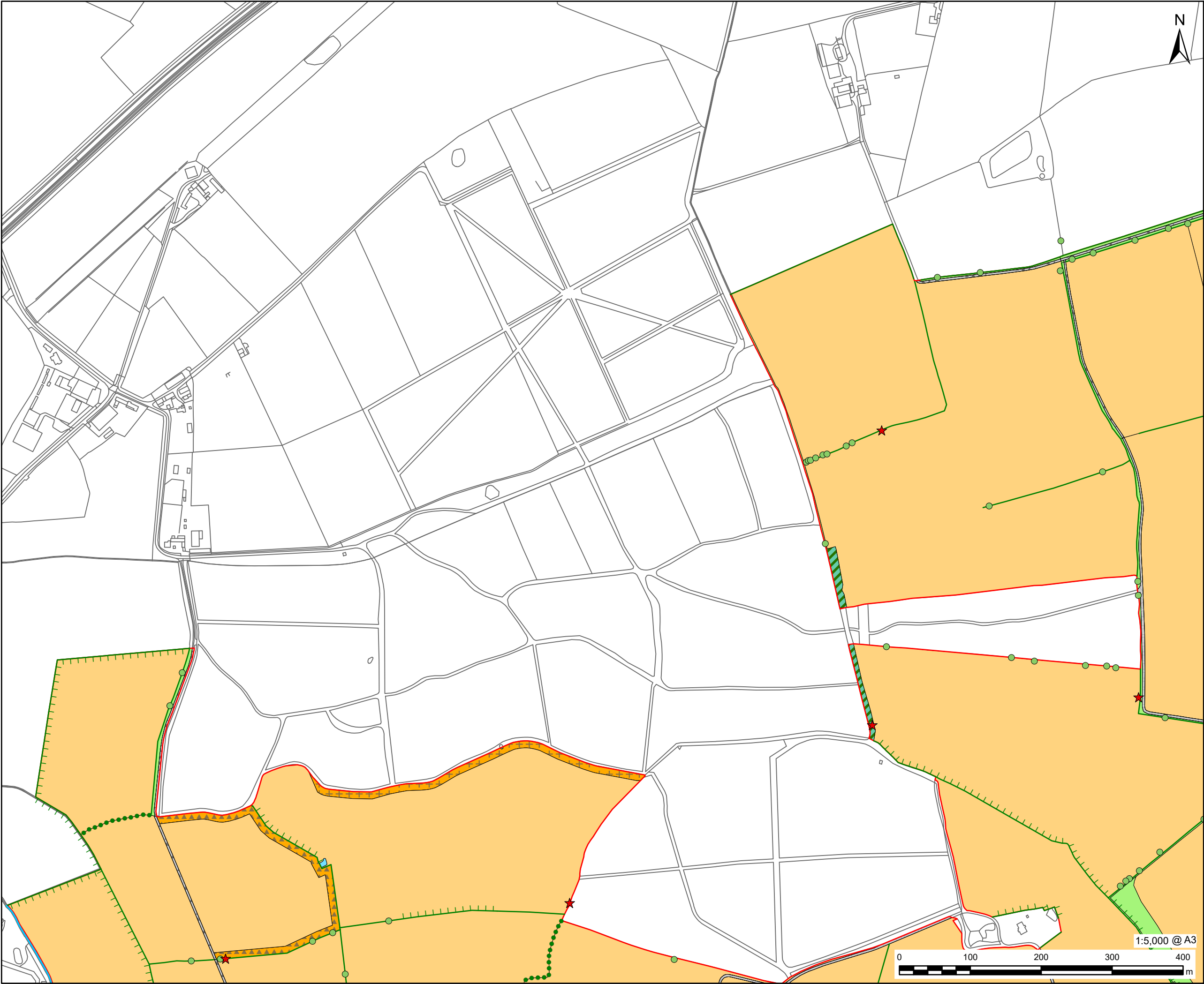
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ISSUE PURPOSE
Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

PROJECT NUMBER
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FIGURE TITLE
Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER
Figure 1-1



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- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
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- Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- Urban - Bare ground
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed

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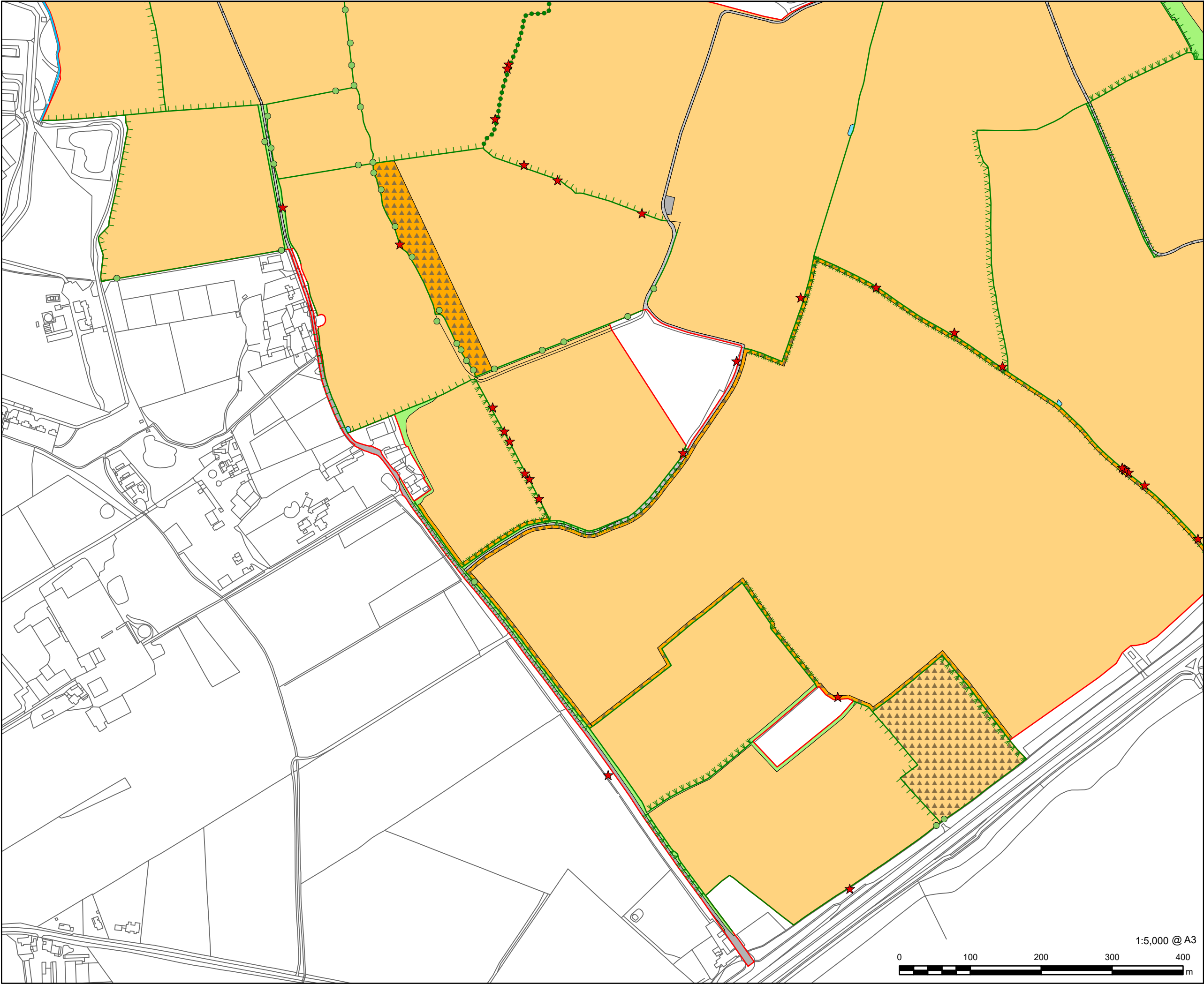
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 2 of 16



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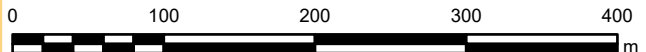
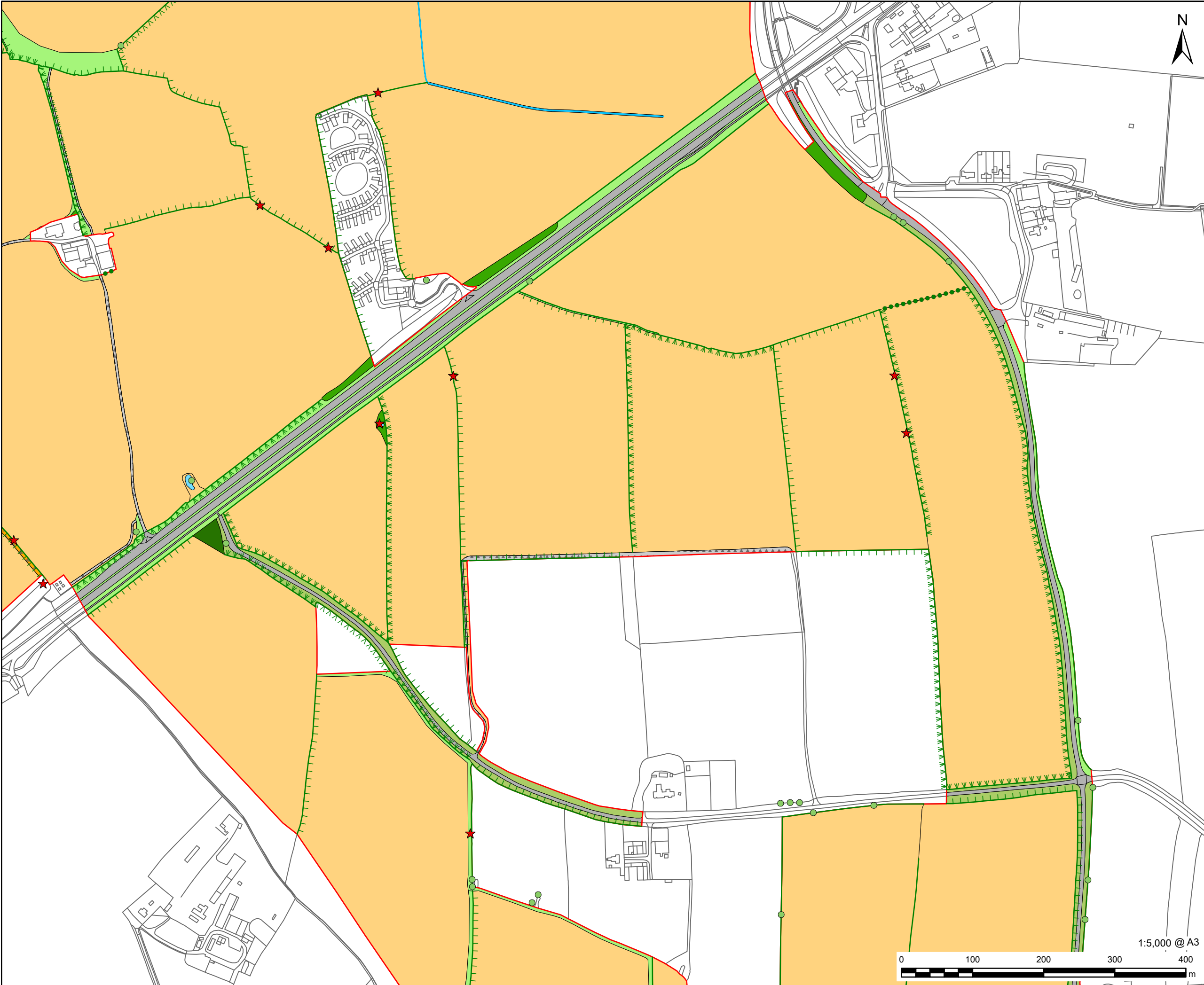
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FIGURE TITLE

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Figure 1-1 Page 3 of 16



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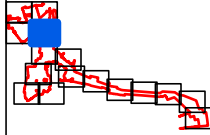
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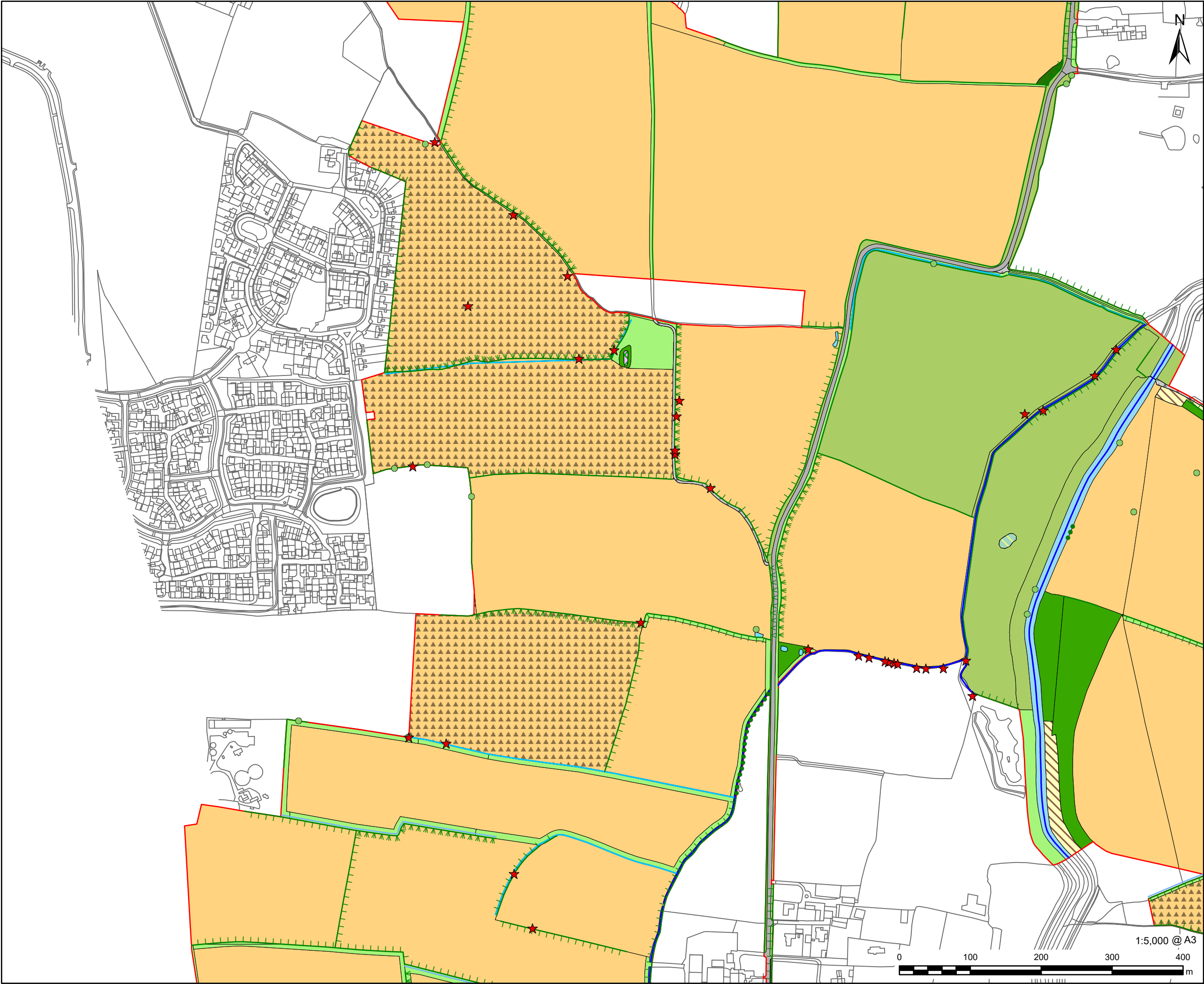
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

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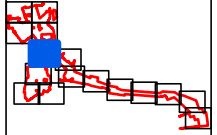
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- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Wetland - Reedbeds
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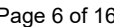
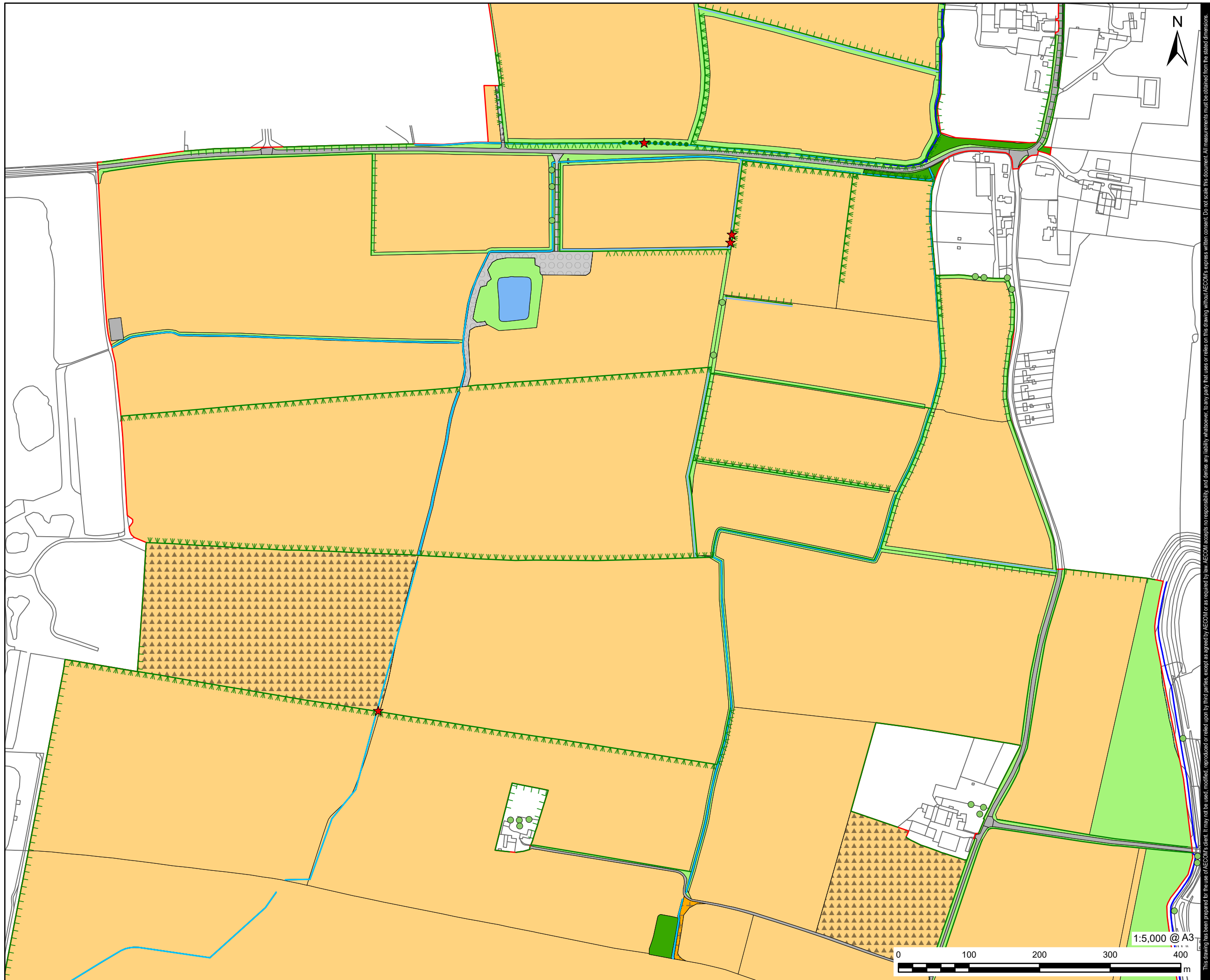
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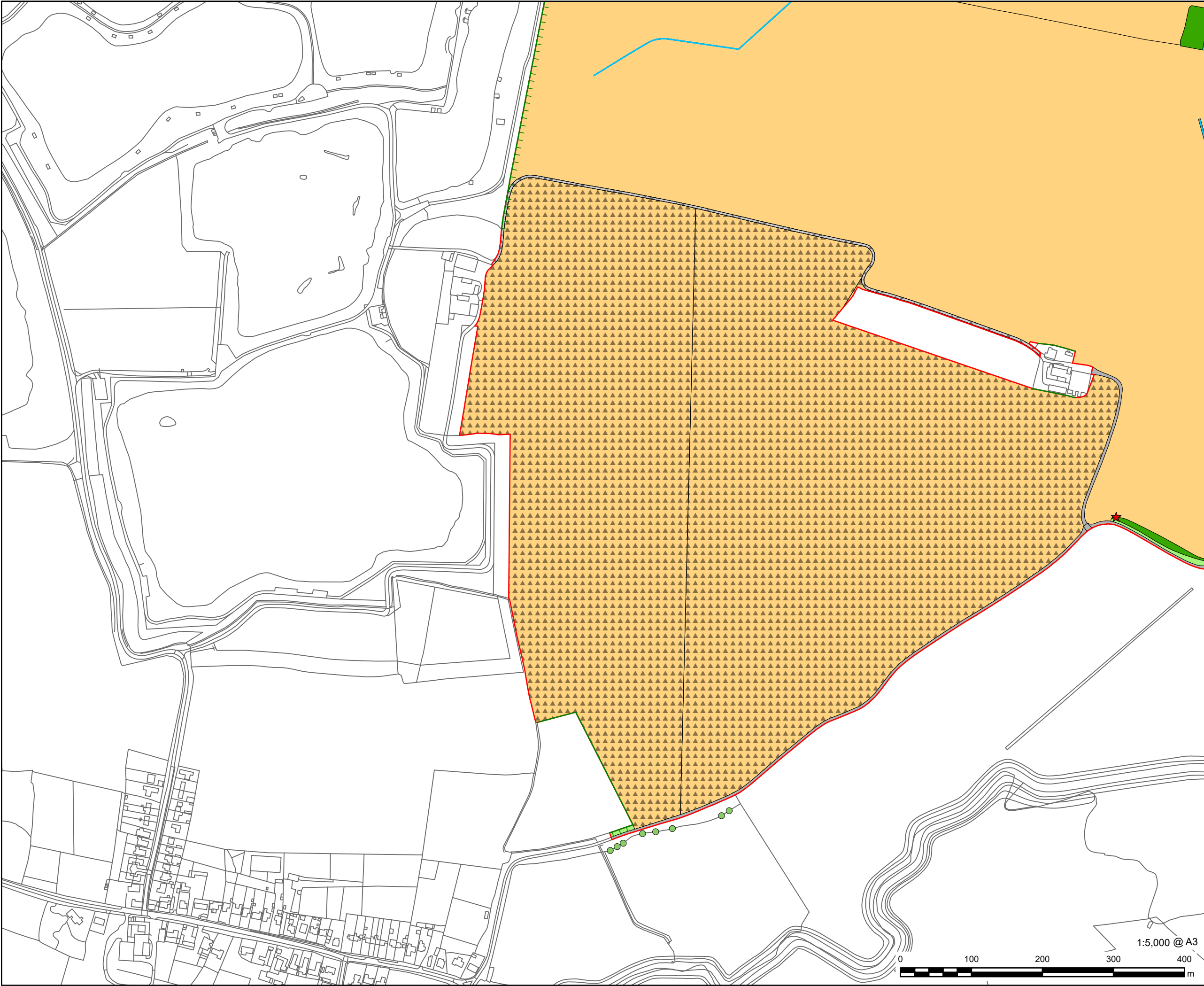
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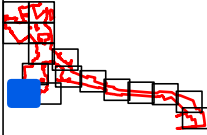
CONSULTANT

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Sunley House
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Rural tree
- Veteran tree
- Ditch
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint

SHEET LAYOUT



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ISSUE PURPOSE

Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

PROJECT NUMBER

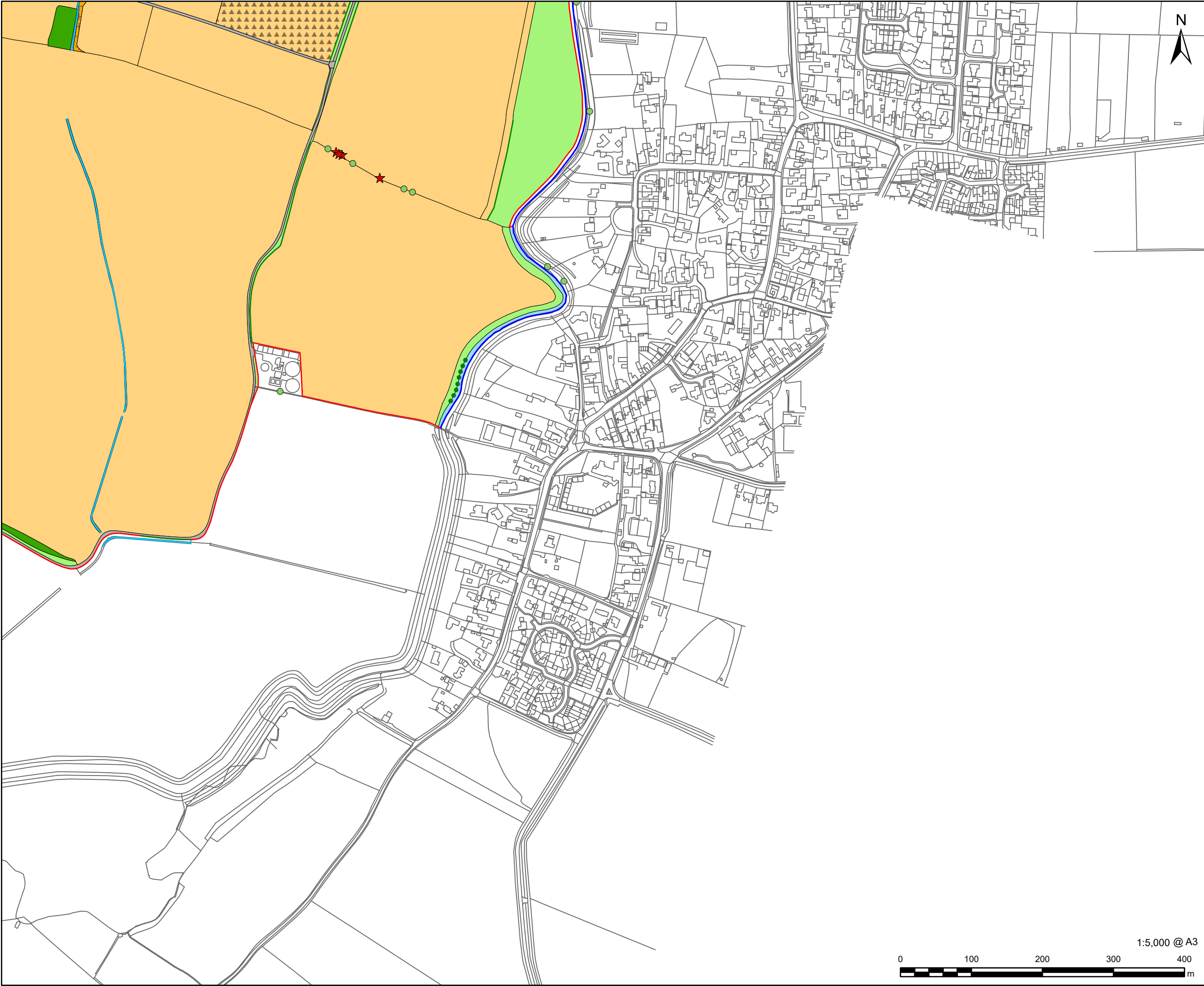
60700987

FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 7 of 16



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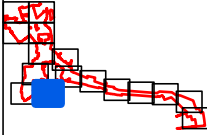
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Rural tree
- Veteran tree
- Ditch
- Other rivers and streams
- Line of trees
- Native hedgerow
- Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint

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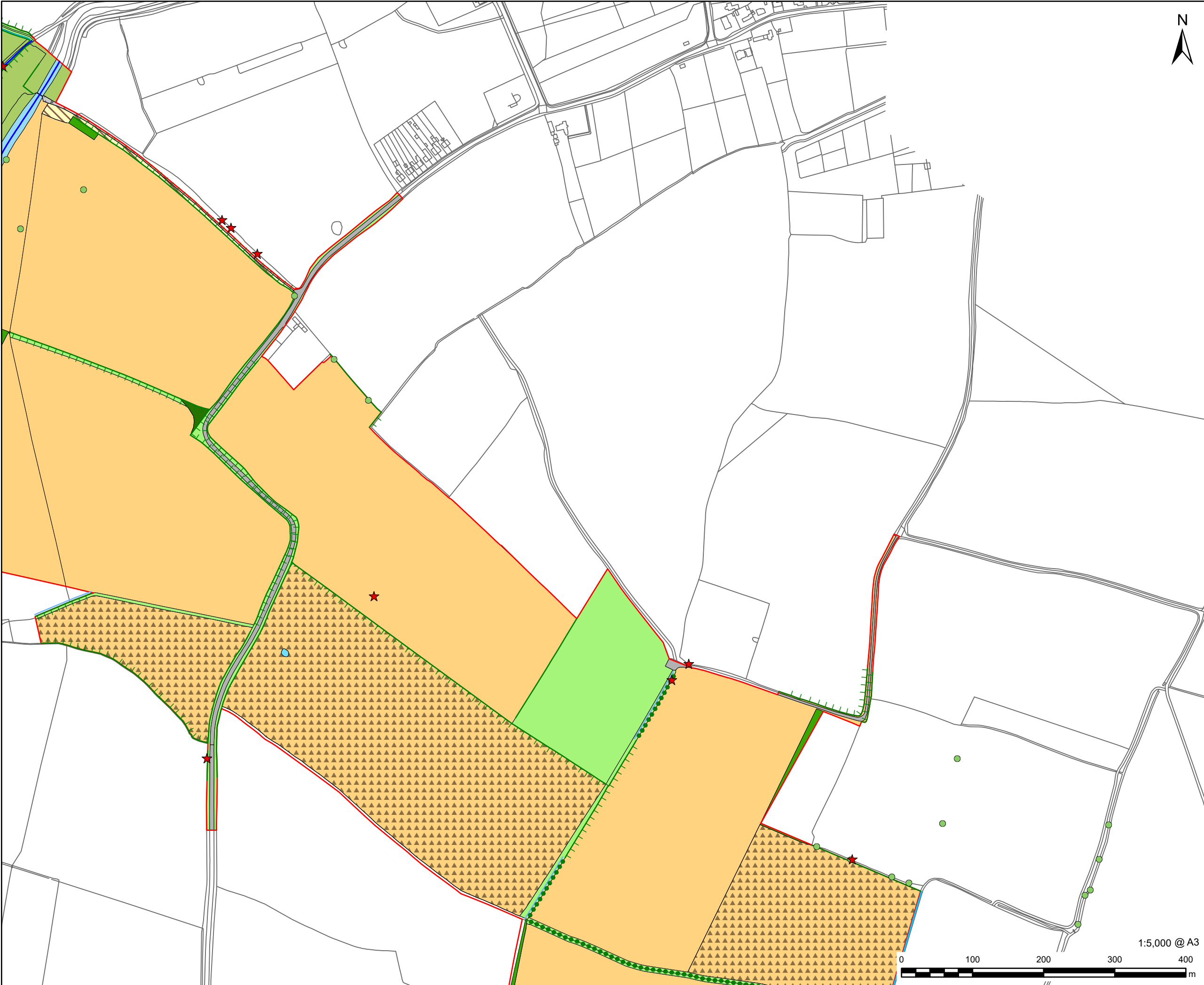
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 8 of 16



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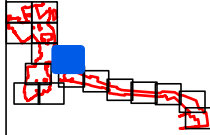
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Rural tree
- Veteran tree
- Ditch
- Other rivers and streams
- Line of trees
- Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint

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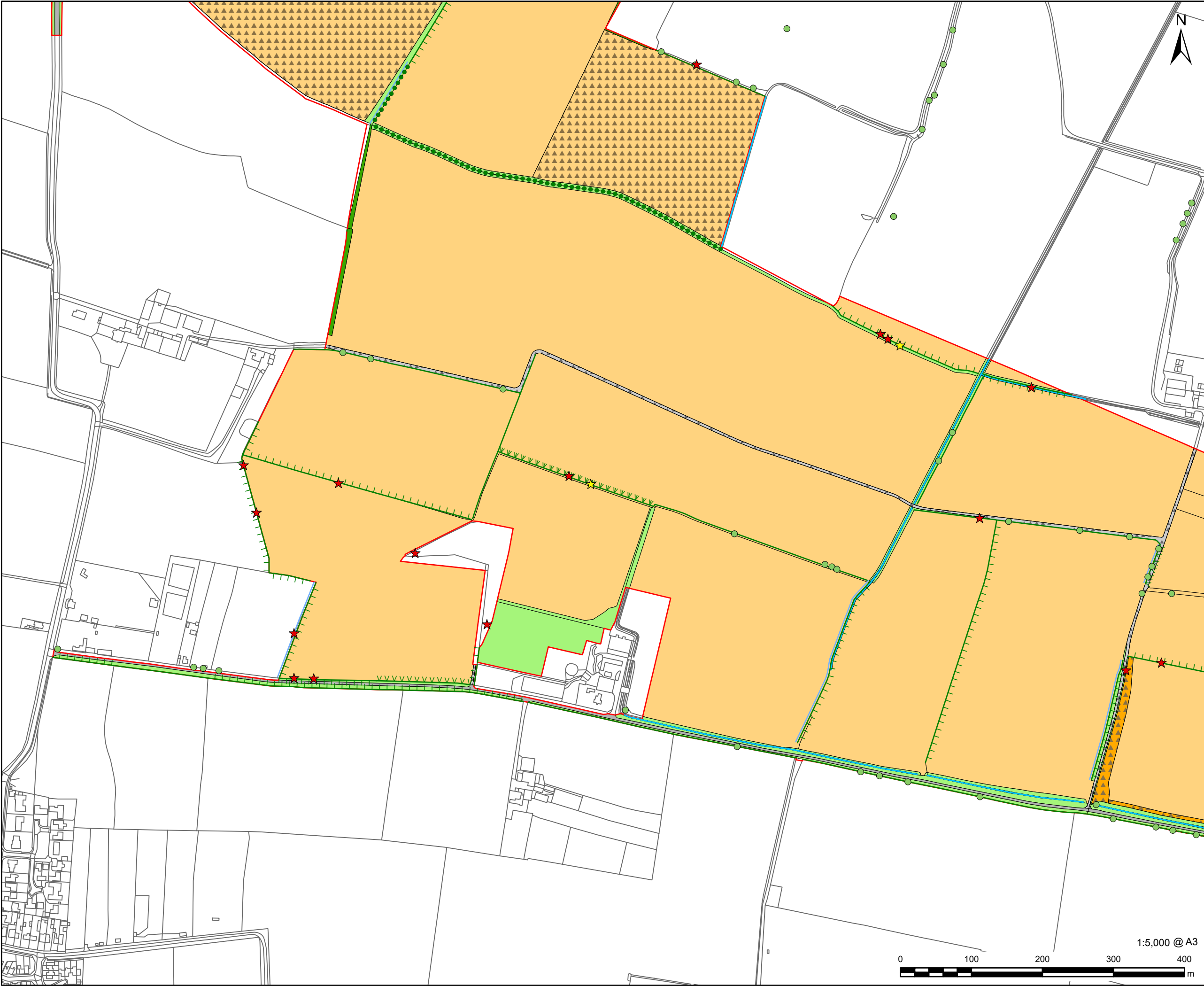
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline
Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1



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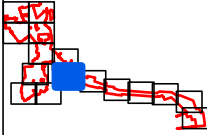
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Rural tree
- Ancient tree
- Veteran tree
- Ditch
- Line of trees
- Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch
- Species-rich native hedgerow
- Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
- Species-rich native hedgerow with trees
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint

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ISSUE PURPOSE

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PROJECT NUMBER

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 10 of 16



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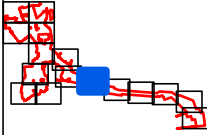
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Rural tree
- Veteran tree
- Ditch
- Other rivers and streams
- Line of trees
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch
- Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint

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PROJECT NUMBER

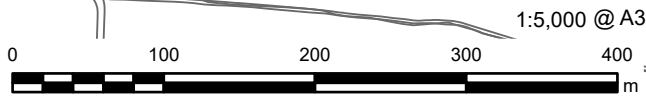
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1



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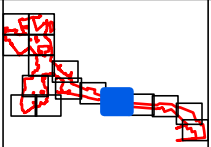
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

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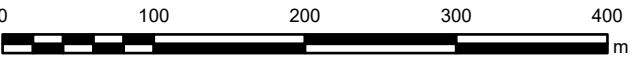
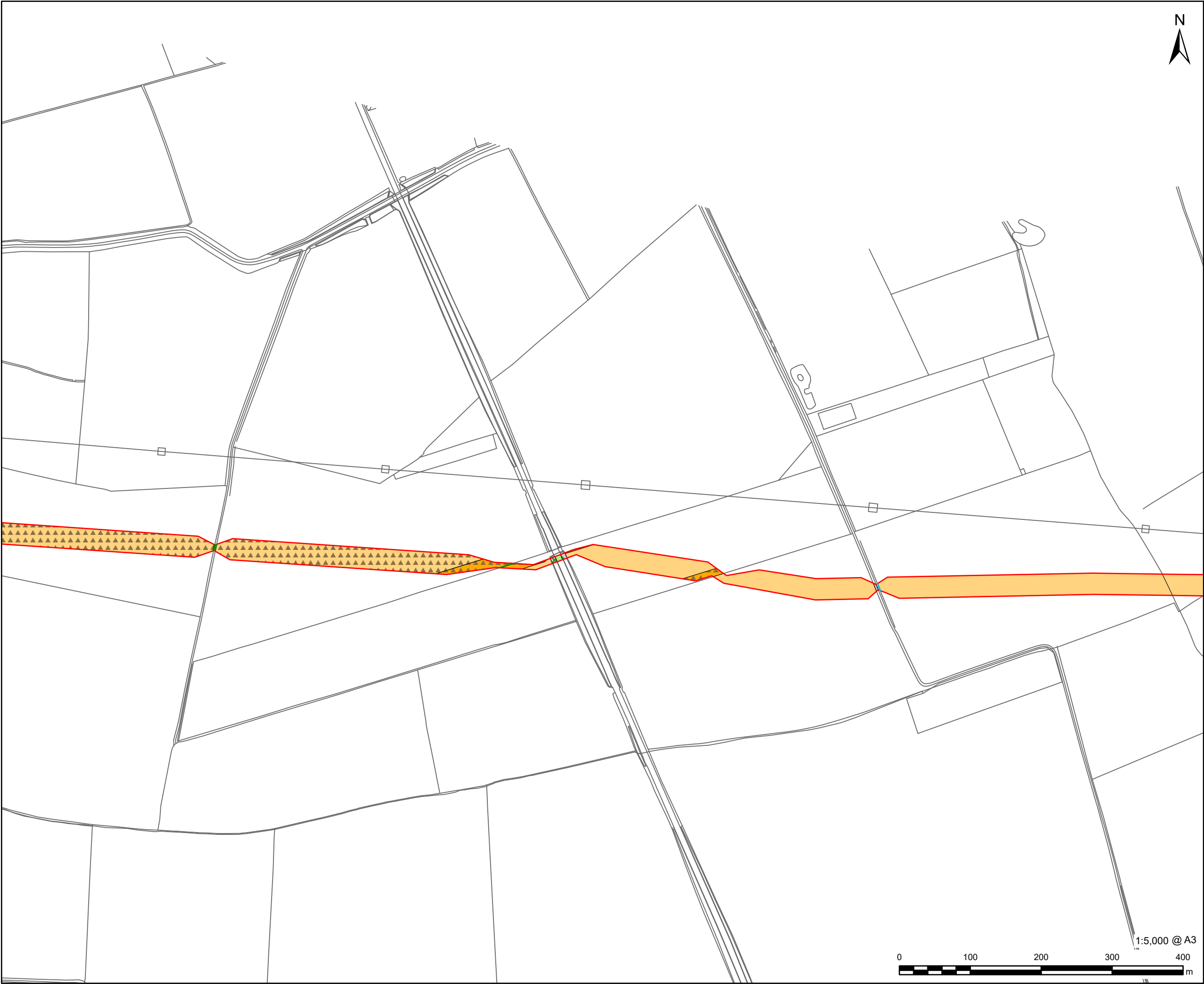
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1



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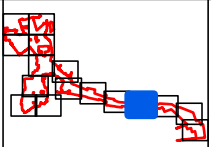
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Ditch
- Native hedgerow
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub
- Urban - Bare ground
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint

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PROJECT NUMBER

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 13 of 16



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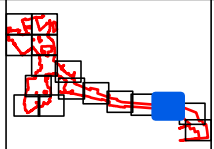
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

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PROJECT NUMBER

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1



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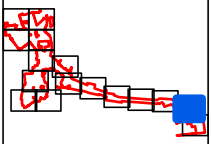
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Native hedgerow
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

SHEET LAYOUT



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PROJECT NUMBER

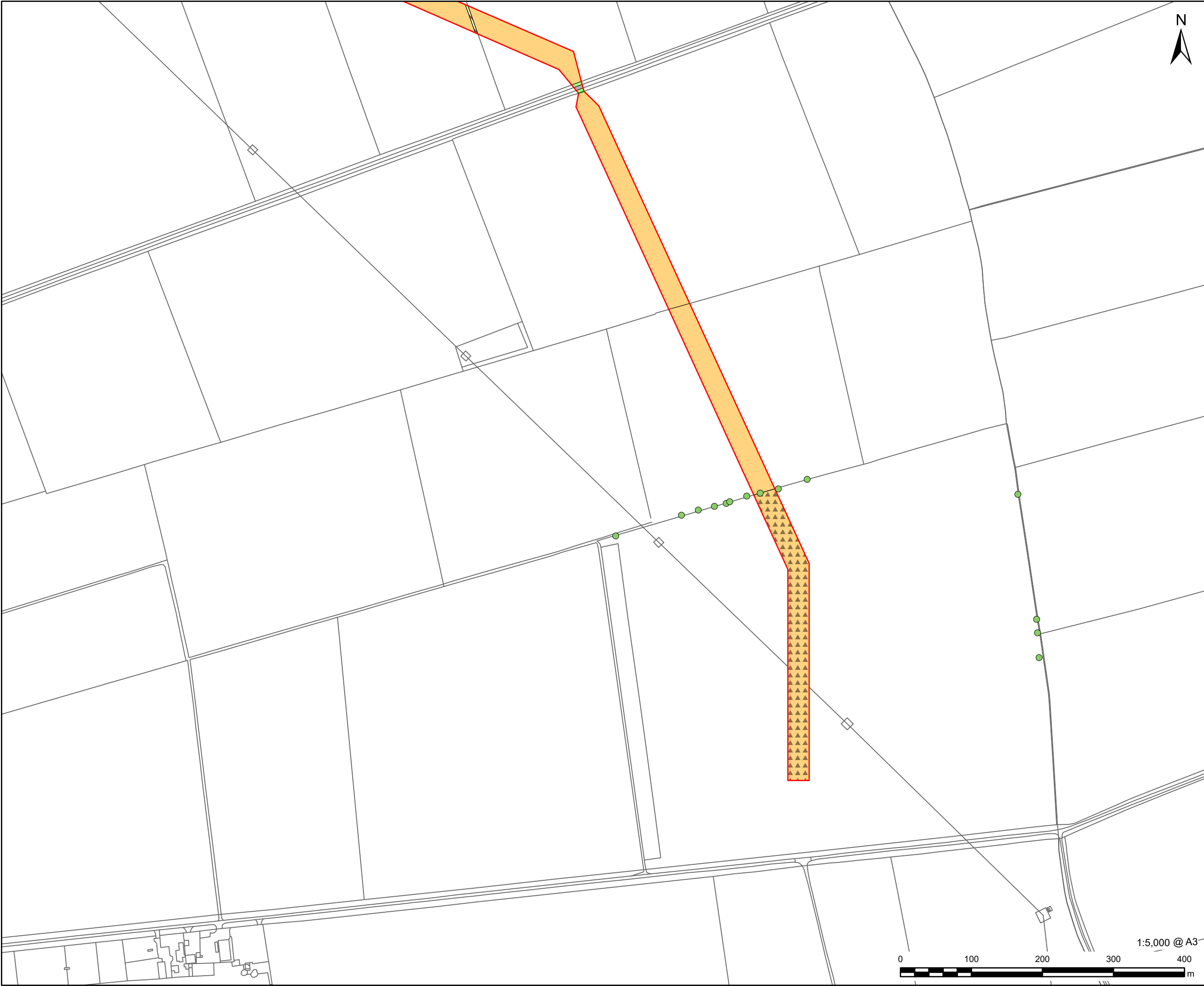
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 15 of 16



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CLIENT

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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Rural tree
- Native hedgerow with trees
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

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ISSUE PURPOSE

Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

PROJECT NUMBER

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Baseline
Habitats

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-1 Page 16 of 16

Appendix B Phase 1 Habitat to UKHab Conversion

Phase 1 Habitat Classification

UKHab Classification

A1.1.1 - Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural	Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
A1.1.2 - Broadleaved woodland - plantation	Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
A1.2.2 - Coniferous woodland - plantation	Woodland and forest - Other coniferous woodland
A1.3.2 - Mixed woodland - plantation	Woodland and forest- Other woodland; mixed
A2.1 - Scrub - dense/continuous	Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub
B2.2 - Neutral grassland - semi-improved	Grassland - Other neutral grassland
B4 - Improved grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland
B6 - Poor semi-improved grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland
C3.1 - Other tall herb and fern - ruderal	Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
F1 - Swamp	Wetland - Reedbeds
G1 - Standing water	Lakes - Pond (non-priority habitat)/where priority species are identified consider this priority habitat
G2 - Running water	Watercourse footprint - watercourse footprint
Hardstanding	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
J1.1 - Cultivated/disturbed land - arable	Cropland - Cereal crops
J1.2 - Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland	Grassland - Modified grassland

Phase 1 Habitat Classification

UKHab Classification

J3.6 - Buildings	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
J4 - Bare ground	Urban - Bare ground
A3.1 - Broadleaved parkland/scattered trees	Line of trees
A3.3 - Mixed parkland/scattered trees	Line of trees
J2.1.1 - Intact hedge - native species-rich	Species-rich native hedgerow
J2.1.2 - Intact hedge - species-poor	Native hedgerow
J2.2.2 - Defunct hedge - species-poor	Native hedgerow
J2.3.1 - Hedge with trees - native species-rich	Species-rich native hedgerow with trees
J2.3.2 - Hedge with trees - species-poor	Native hedgerow with trees
J2.6 - Dry ditch	Ditches
G2 - Running water	Other rivers and streams
A3.1 - Broadleaved parkland/scattered trees	Individual trees - Rural tree

Appendix C Watercourse Assessment

C.1 Introduction to the Watercourse Assessment

Watercourses form one of the three separate modules of the SBM (the others being area habitats and hedgerows). There are five watercourse habitat types:

- Priority rivers;
- Other rivers and streams;
- Canals;
- Ditches; and
- Culverts.

All watercourse habitats that are within the DCO Site, or with their riparian zones within the DCO Site, are included within the assessment.

The riparian zone is the area where there is a break in slope between the river channel and the surrounding land. It supports features which influence the hydrological, geomorphological and biological functions or processes within the channel. It also provides ecological function for riparian or aquatic species.

The riparian zone extends from the top of the bank for a set distance depending on the habitat type. For 'priority rivers', 'other rivers and streams', and 'canals', the riparian zone is 10 m from the top of each bank. For 'ditches', the riparian zone is 5 m from the top of each bank. There is no riparian zone associated with culverts.

C.2 Desk Study

A desk study was undertaken to identify watercourses within the DCO Site or with their riparian zones within the DCO Site. The desk study was undertaken using the following sources:

- Ordnance survey mapping (Ref 17);
- Online aerial imagery (Ref 18);
- Natural England Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) (Ref 15);
- Natural England Priority River Habitat (England) online map (Ref 19);
- Natural England Chalk Rivers (England) online map (Ref 20);
- National Library of Scotland Historic Maps (Ref 21);
- Environment Agency LiDAR data (Ref 22); and
- Previous Site survey information.

The desk study was also used to assist with the identification of which of the five watercourse habitat types, as defined within the SBM User Guide, the watercourses within the Site would be classified as.

Through the desk study, it was determined that there were four rivers on-site or with their riparian zones within the DCO Site, and numerous ditches. To determine the habitat type of the rivers, a review of the Natural England Priority River Habitat map was undertaken to determine whether the rivers would be classified as 'priority rivers' or 'other rivers and streams'. None of the rivers were identified as 'priority rivers' and were therefore classified as 'other rivers and streams'.

The SBM User Guide states that ditches are “artificially created linear water-conveyancing features which are:

- Less than 5 metres wide; and
- Are likely to retain water for more than 4 months of the year.”

A review of historic mapping, aerial imagery and LiDAR was undertaken and professional judgement used to ensure that all of the watercourses identified as ditches were artificially created rather than heavily modified natural watercourses. The results of field surveys, however, were required to confirm whether the ditches were less than 5 m wide and likely to retain water for more than four months of the year.

C.3 Field Surveys

Field surveys were required to confirm the habitat type of each watercourse, to undertake condition assessments of each watercourse, and to gather information on watercourse and riparian encroachment.

The field surveys identified 27 ditches that met the criteria for the 'ditches' habitat type which were therefore included within the assessment. No additional watercourse habitat types were identified on-site.

Field surveys were undertaken on 29 August 2023, 18 and 19 September 2024, and 6 November 2024.

C.4 Condition Assessments

Condition assessments were required for the four 'other rivers and streams' habitats and the 27 'ditches' habitats. The condition assessments comprised River Condition Assessment (RCA) and Ditch Condition Assessment (DCA).

River Condition Assessment

RCA is the standard methodology to assess the condition of the 'other rivers and streams' habitat type. It comprises the Modular River Physical (MoRPh) field survey and the River Type desk study. Further details on the methodology are available in Gurnell et al (2024).

MoRPh surveys were undertaken during Site field surveys. MoRPh surveys are undertaken on five contiguous modules, forming one subreach. The river length of each module is determined by the MoRPh river width. It is a requirement of the field survey that 20% of a river within the DCO Site or with its riparian zone within the DCO

Site is surveyed. Therefore, where one subreach of five modules does not cover a length of 20% of the river within the DCO Site or with its riparian zone within the Site, additional subreach surveys are required.

The River Type desk study is undertaken at the reach scale. The inputs of the desk study include river planform, gradient, valley confinement, and substrate (recorded during MoRPh field survey), and determine which of the 15 morphological Types the river reach would be. The MoRPh field surveys are linked to the River Type desk study to generate the river condition and complete the River Condition Assessment. Where a river is judged to be over deep, the condition score is lowered by one condition class.

All RCAs were undertaken by trained and accredited personnel.

The threshold values for each River Type and condition class are provided in **Table 9**.

Table 9 Condition class lower thresholds for each River Type

River Type	Canals and Navigable rivers	Large rivers	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
Best score	1.8	2.2	2.4	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.7	2.8	3.0	2.9	3.1	2.8	2.4	2.4	2.4
Lower threshold for GOOD	>1.4	>1.8	>1.9	>2.2	>2.2	>2.2	>2.2	>2.3	>2.5	>2.4	>2.5	>2.3	>1.9	>1.9	>1.9
Lower threshold for FAIRLY GOOD	>0.9	>1.3	>1.2	>1.4	>1.4	>1.4	>1.4	>1.5	>1.6	>1.6	>1.7	>1.5	>1.2	>1.2	>1.2
Lower threshold for MODERATE	>0.3	>0.5	>0.2	>0.2	>0.2	>0.2	>0.2	>0.4	>0.5	>0.5	>0.6	>0.4	>0.2	>0.2	>0.2
Lower threshold for FAIRLY POOR	>-0.5	>-0.4	>-1.0	>-0.9	>-0.9	>-0.9	>-0.9	>-0.9	>-0.9	>-0.9	>-0.8	>-0.9	>-1.0	>-1.0	>-1.0
Worst score (POOR)	-1.5	-1.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5	-2.5

A summary of the results of the RCAs are provided in **Table 10**.

Table 10 Summary of RCA results

River Name	River Type		Subreach	Subreach Preliminary Score	Subreach Preliminary Condition	Subreach Final Condition (different to subreach condition if over deep)
Trib of Witham	K straight/sinuuous	–	7	-0.588	Fairly Poor	Poor
			6	-0.300	Fairly Poor	Poor
			5	-0.170	Fairly Poor	Poor
			4	-0.045	Fairly Poor	Poor
			3	-0.045	Fairly Poor	Poor
			2	-0.045	Fairly Poor	Poor
			1	-0.247	Fairly Poor	Poor
River Witham	K straight/sinuuous	–	4	0.794	Moderate	Fairly Poor
			3	0.794	Moderate	Fairly Poor
			2	0.381	Moderate	Fairly Poor
			1	0.381	Moderate	Fairly Poor
West Brant Syke	K straight/sinuuous	–	2	0.534	Moderate	Fairly Poor
			1	0.385	Moderate	Fairly Poor
River Brant	K straight/sinuuous	–	1	0.223	Moderate	Fairly Poor

Ditch Condition Assessments

DCAs were undertaken on the 27 'ditches' habitats. The results of the DCAs are provided within the 'Condition' column of the accompanying SBM.

C.5 Baseline Watercourse and Riparian Encroachment

Information was gathered during field surveys and desk studies on the watercourse and riparian encroachment.

Riparian encroachment is defined as *“any feature or intervention within the riparian zone that reduces the quantity, quality or ecological function of the riparian habitat”*.

Watercourse encroachment is defined as *“any feature that adversely affects the natural function of the watercourse, or results in localised changes in habitat, species and migratory pathways”*.

More detailed information on watercourse and riparian encroachment and how to assign them are available within the SBM User Guide.

No watercourse encroachment was identified within the baseline watercourses.

Baseline riparian encroachment varied occasionally, although was generally considered to be ‘Major/Major’ primarily due to the agricultural land uses within the riparian zones. In some instances, existing roads or trackways were present also resulting in ‘Major/Major’ riparian encroachment.

C.6 Post Development Impacts to Watercourses

Based on the indicative layout (**Figures 3-2A and 3-2B** of the ES **[EN010154/APP/6.2]**), new bridge crossings of watercourses are required as part of the development. Detailed designs of the crossings were not available at this stage of the project, however, there is a commitment to using clear span crossings. All bridge crossings are to be located on Poor condition ditches, so there will not be a reduction in the condition of these watercourses. The baseline riparian encroachment of these ditches was classed as ‘Major/Major’ due to the managed agricultural land within the riparian zone, so the construction of the bridges would not increase the riparian encroachment. It was concluded, therefore, that there would be no change to the baseline of these watercourses.

A small loss of ditch habitat will be lost for the potential proposed extension of an existing culvert (at access C-015).

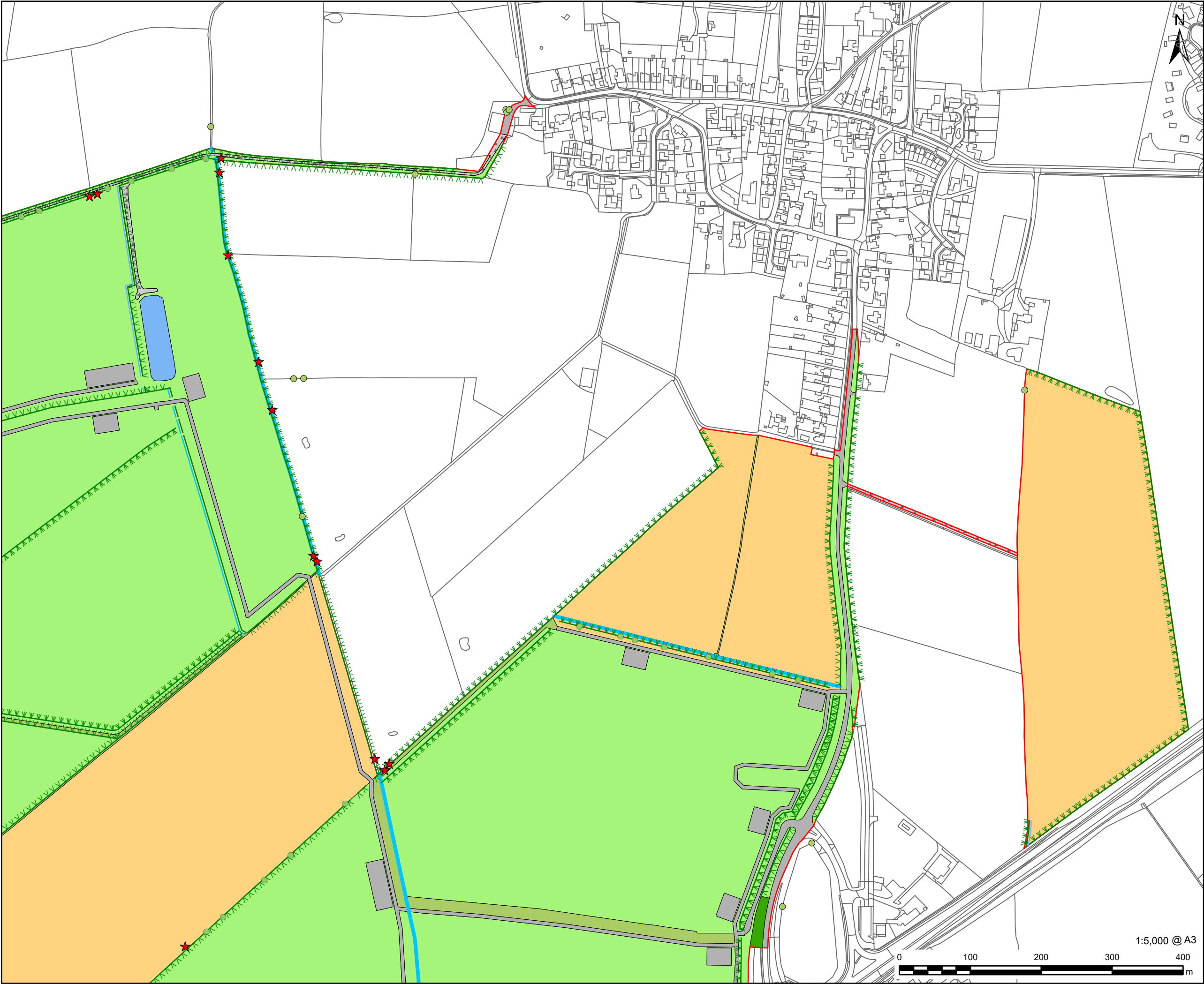
The accompanying SBM provides details of the watercourse lengths that are to be enhanced as part of the Proposed Development. Each of these enhancements will occur where there is a change of land use within the riparian zone. These are predominantly where agricultural land is changing to grassland. This is based on the assumption that the riparian zone for each of these enhanced watercourses will be left unmanaged apart from periodic conservation grazing.

Where there are proposed changes to riparian land use within the Solar Array PV areas, this has not been considered as an enhancement. This is a worst-case scenario since it is uncertain as to the level of riparian management that would be required, although it is likely the proposed land use would be more beneficial to watercourses than the existing agricultural use.

There are no anticipated changes to the condition of any watercourse as a result of the Proposed Development. There are also no anticipated changes to the watercourse encroachment as a result of the Proposed Development.

Further details on the baseline and post development watercourse habitats are available in Appendix G.

Appendix D Post-Development Habitat Plan



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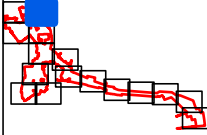
CONSULTANT

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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Lakes - Reservoirs
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

SHEET LAYOUT



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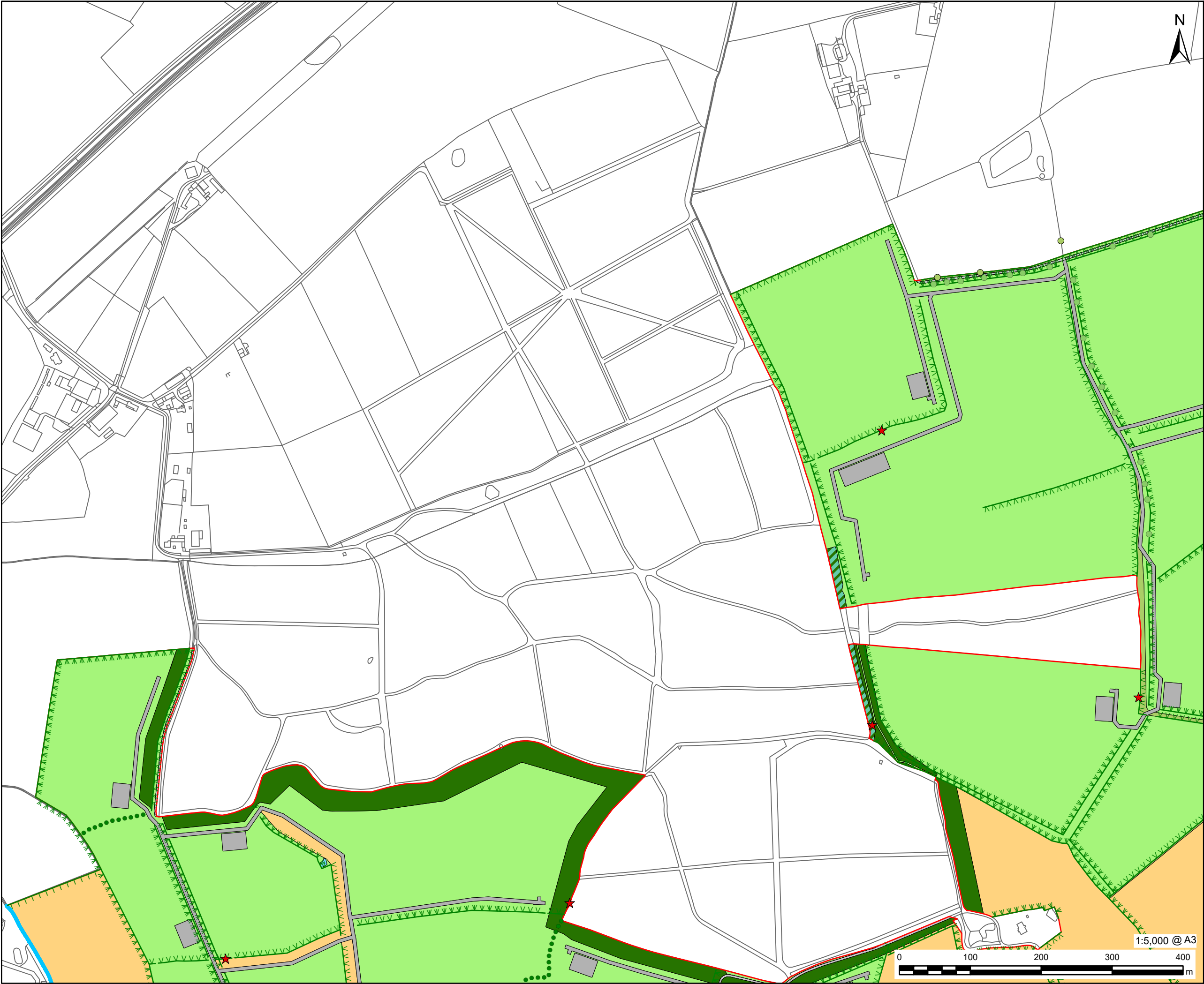
60700987

FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 1 of 16



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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed

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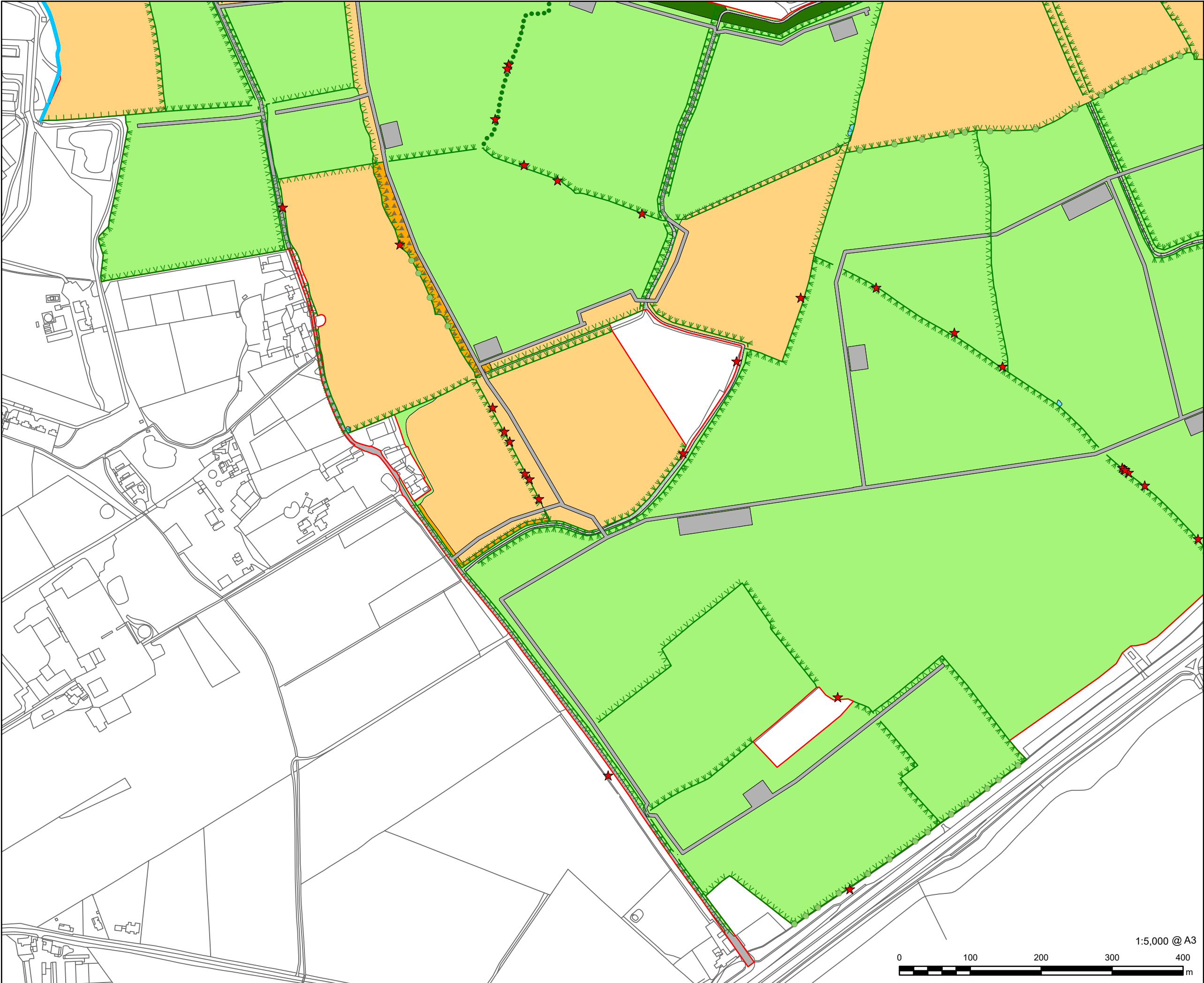
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 2 of 16



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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually
- Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved

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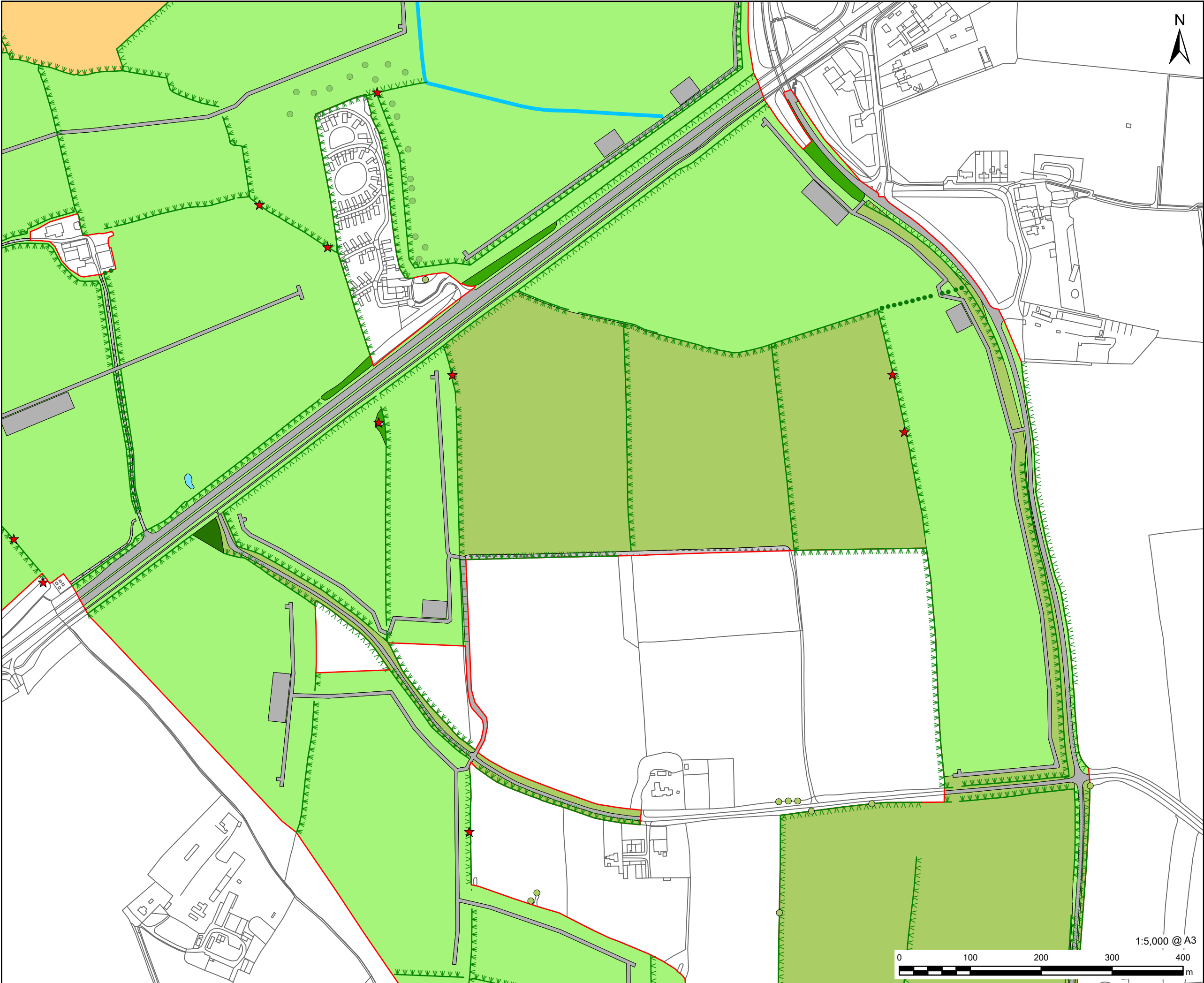
PROJECT NUMBER

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER



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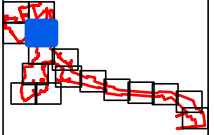
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved

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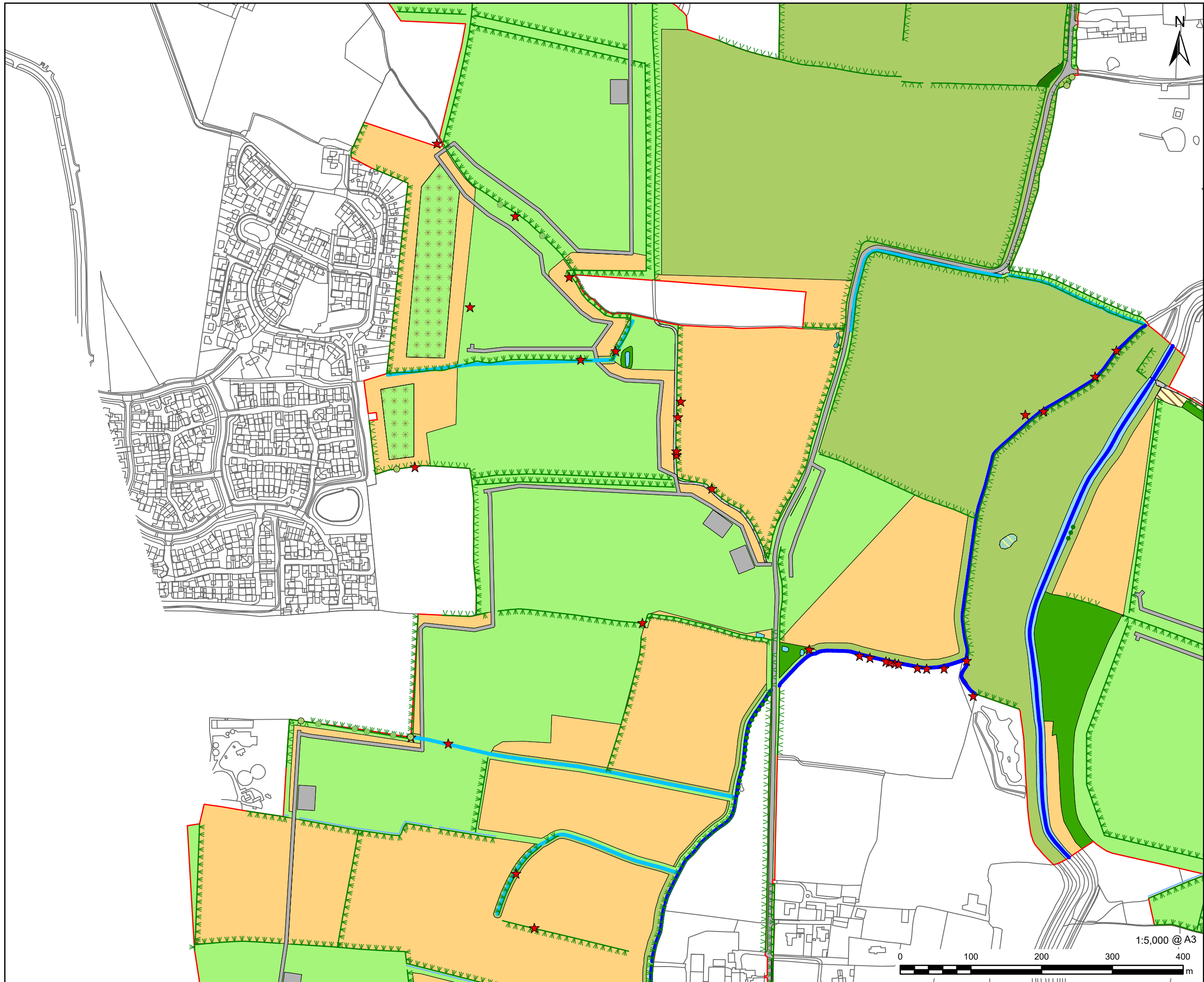
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 4 of 16



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- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Other rivers and streams
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Grassland - Traditional orchards
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Wetland - Reedbeds
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved

A 10x10 grid with a blue square at (3,3) and red numbers in a staircase pattern. The numbers are: (1,1)=1, (1,2)=2, (1,3)=3, (2,2)=4, (2,3)=5, (2,4)=6, (3,3)=7, (3,4)=8, (3,5)=9, (4,4)=10, (4,5)=11, (4,6)=12, (5,5)=13, (5,6)=14, (5,7)=15, (6,6)=16, (6,7)=17, (6,8)=18, (7,7)=19, (7,8)=20, (7,9)=21, (8,8)=22, (8,9)=23, (8,10)=24, (9,9)=25, (9,10)=26.

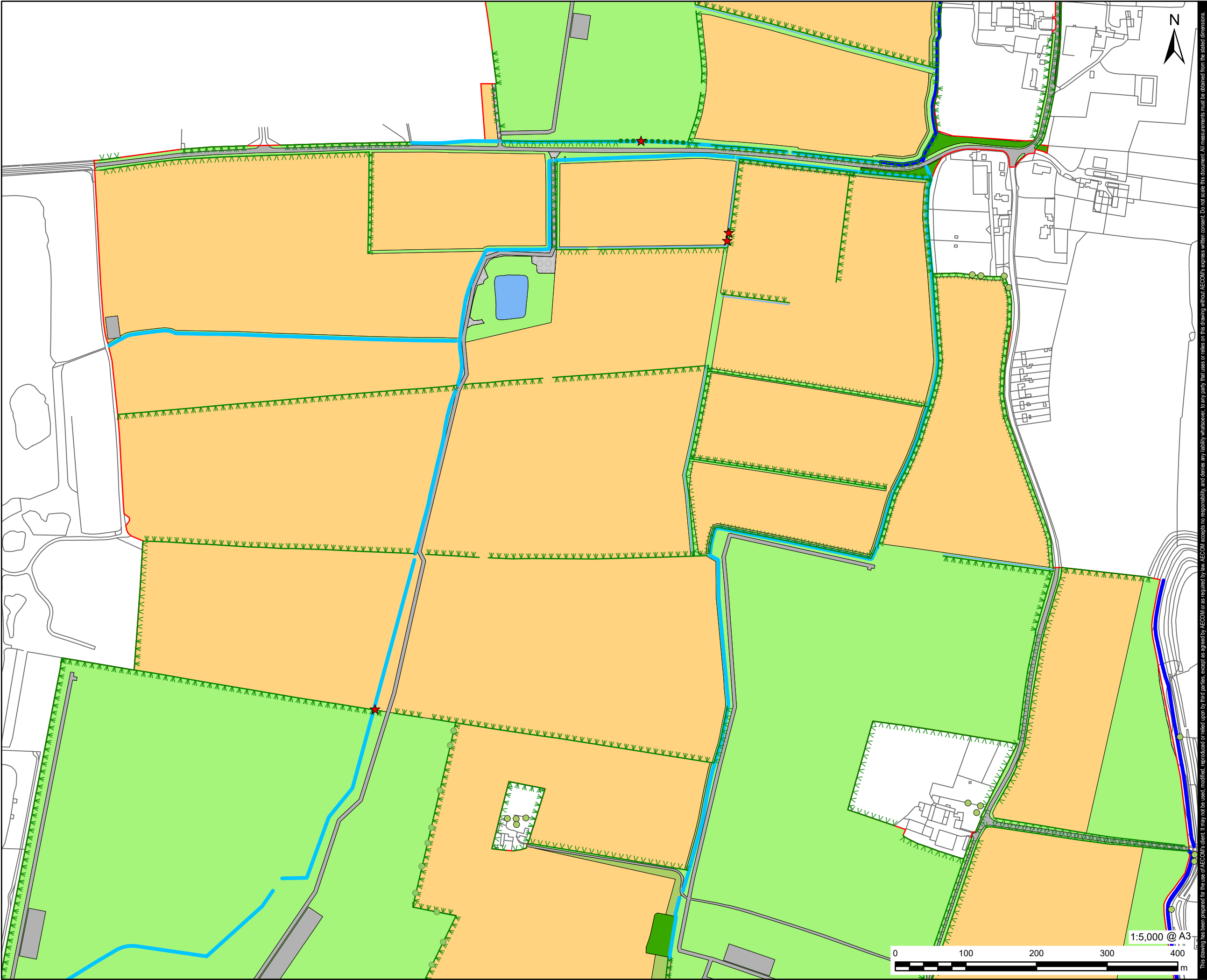
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Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-
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Figure 1-2 Page 5 of 16



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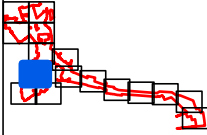
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Other rivers and streams
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Lakes - Reservoirs
- Urban - Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Wetland - Reedbeds
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

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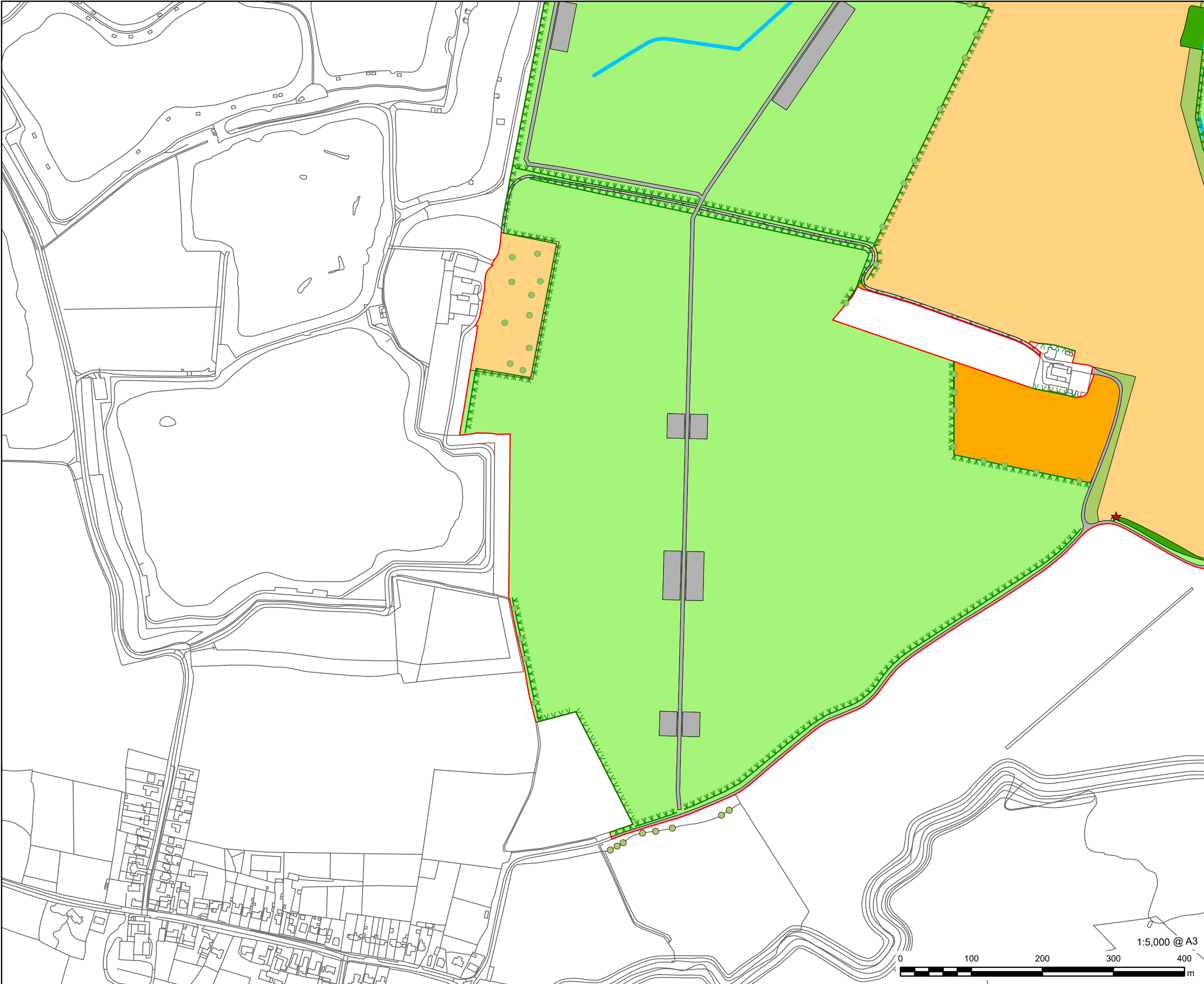
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 6 of 16



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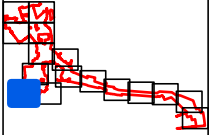
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

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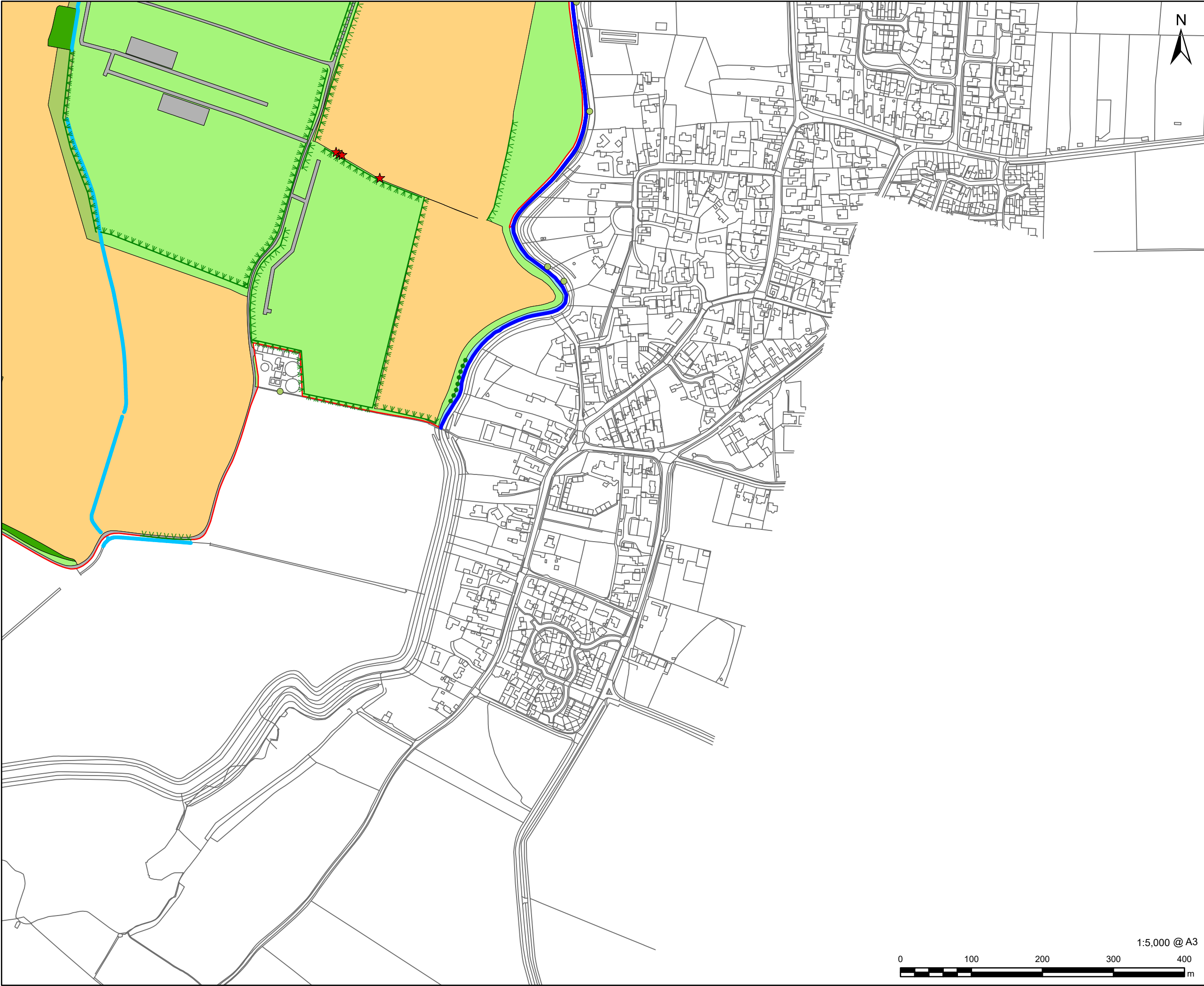
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 7 of 16



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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Ditches
- Other rivers and streams
- Cropland - Arable field margins pollen and nectar
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

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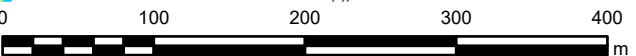
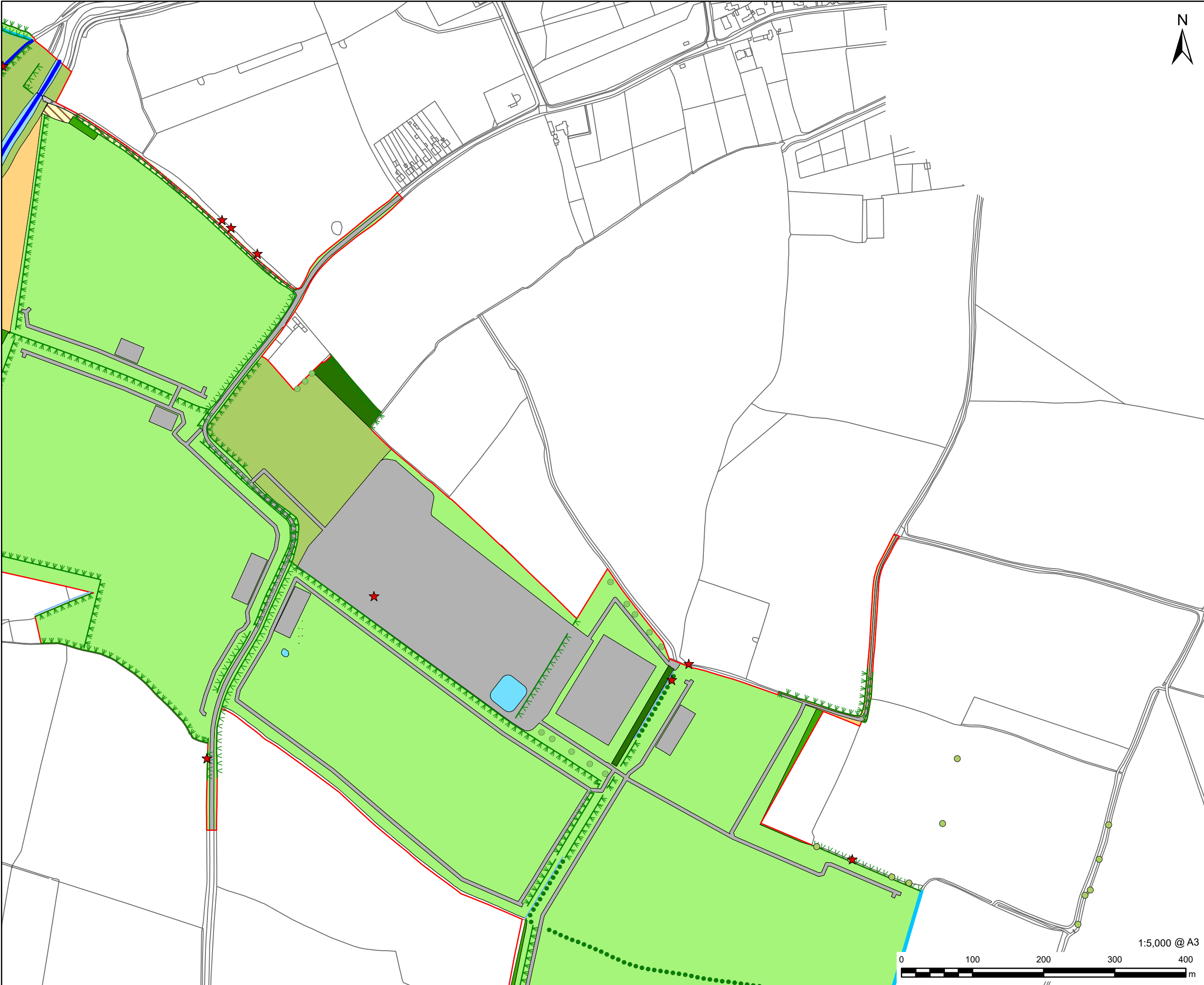
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 8 of 16



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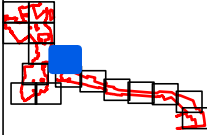
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Other rivers and streams
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Lakes - Ponds (non-priority habitat)
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed

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ISSUE PURPOSE

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PROJECT NUMBER

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 9 of 16



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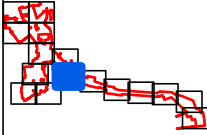
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Ancient tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; mixed

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 10 of 16



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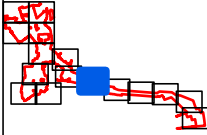
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Veteran tree
- Rural tree
- Ditches
- Other rivers and streams
- Cropland - Arable field margins game bird mix
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland
- Woodland and forest - Other woodland; broadleaved

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PROJECT NUMBER

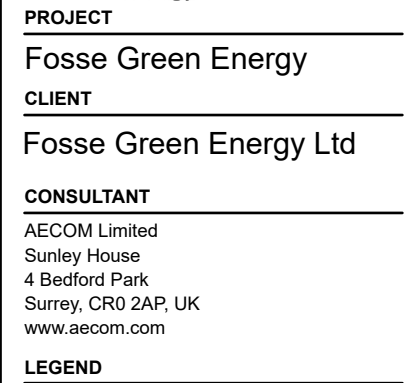
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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 11 of 16



	Assessment Boundary
	Cropland - Arable field margins cultivated annually
	Cropland - Cereal crops
	Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
	Grassland - Modified grassland
	Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

The diagram shows a sequence of boxes arranged diagonally from top-left to bottom-right. The first box contains red scribbles. An arrow points down to the second box, which also has red scribbles. Another arrow points down to the third box, which contains a blue square. A final arrow points down to the fourth box, which has red scribbles. This illustrates a transition from a noisy state to a clean state and back to a noisy state.

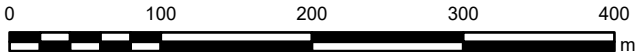
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Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

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Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

Figure 1-2 Page 12 of 16



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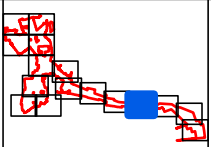
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Ditches
- Cropland - Arable field margins tussocky
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Heathland and shrub - Mixed scrub
- Urban - Bare ground
- Watercourse footprint - Watercourse footprint
- Woodland and forest - Lowland mixed deciduous woodland

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 13 of 16



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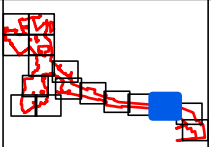
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 14 of 16



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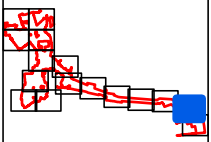
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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Bare ground
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

SHEET LAYOUT



NOTES

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ISSUE PURPOSE

Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

PROJECT NUMBER

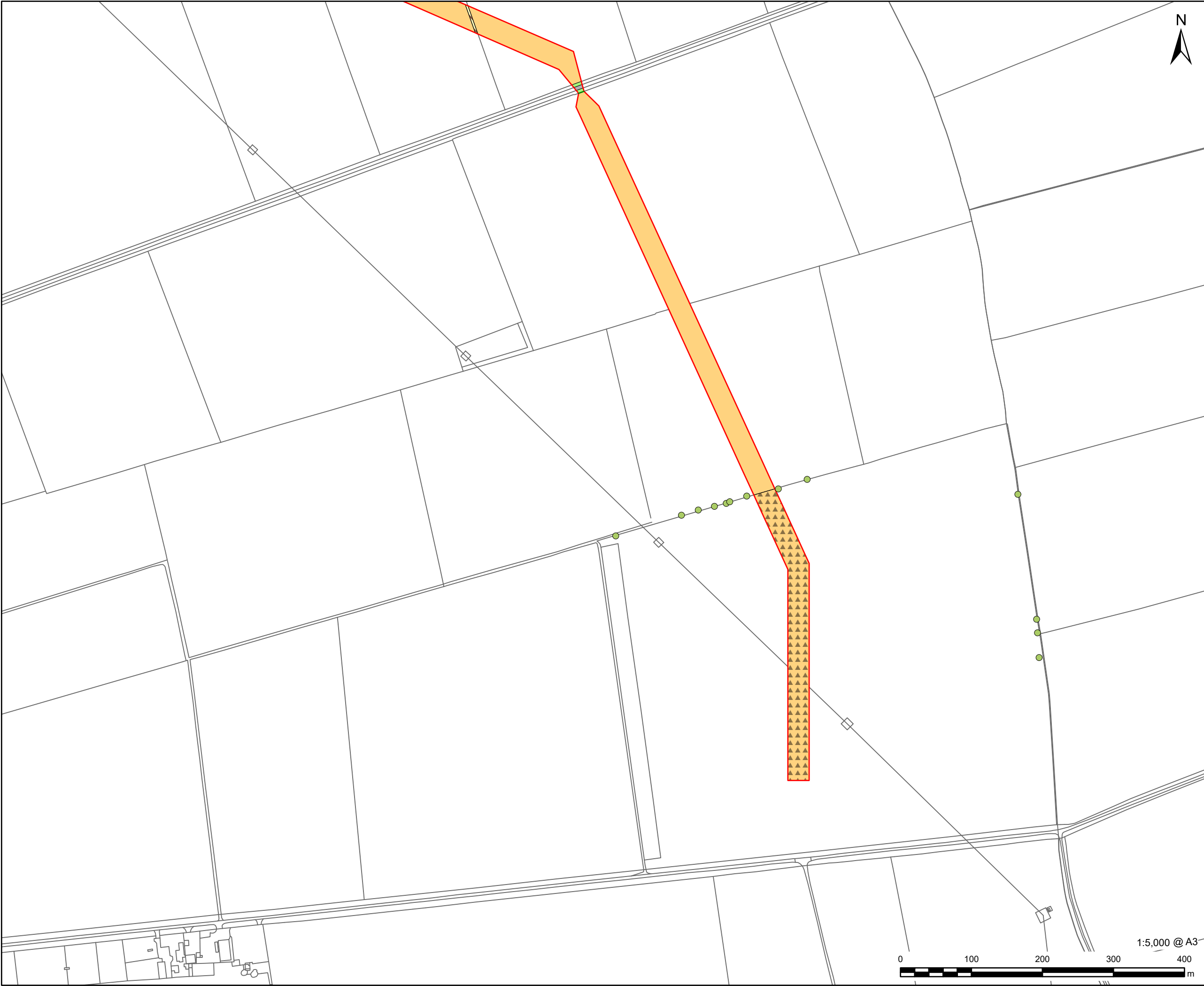
60700987

FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 15 of 16



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LEGEND

- Assessment Boundary
- Cropland - Cereal crops
- Cropland - Temporary grass and clover leys
- Grassland - Modified grassland
- Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral
- Urban - Developed land; sealed surface

SHEET LAYOUT



NOTES

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ISSUE PURPOSE

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FIGURE TITLE

Biodiversity Net Gain - Post-Development Habitats - Worst Case

FIGURE NUMBER

Figure 1-2 Page 16 of 16

Appendix E Strategic Significance Rationale

Source	Strategic Significance Information
Greater Lincolnshire Nature Partnership regarding the Biodiversity Opportunity Mapping tool (2025) (Ref 14, Ref 23)	<i>“If the land is within the BOM, It may all be High significance but not all of that habitat will be automatically high significance. Habitat will only be high significance if it is within the BOM layer and the habitat itself is one that is of importance i.e. identified by the priority layers or other strategic documents.</i> <i>For example a 5ha site in the BOM and acid grassland priority area. If 3ha of the site is acid grassland but the remaining 2ha is modified grassland, the high strategic significance would only apply to the Acid grassland not the modified.</i> <i>The BOM acts as a trigger for whether strategic significance should be considered, what strategic significance then applies to depends on local priorities.</i> <i>Where a site is part in, part out of the BOM consideration to whether the areas outside of the BOM should be considered strategic significance should be based on meaningful connectivity to the BOM areas.</i> <i>The sub categories of BOM are there to support your decision making on where to focus enhancement works vs creations works and feed into appendix 4 of the local plan”</i>

Appendix F BNG Good Practice Principles for Development

Principle	How has this been applied in the assessment
Principle 1: Apply the Mitigation Hierarchy	General avoidance measures have been implemented where practicable. These include: – Avoidance of all statutory and non-statutory designated sites; – Minimised impact on hedgerows, particularly along access routes; – Where avoidance was not feasible—such as with woodland, hedgerows, and cropland—mitigation measures have been applied either directly or indirectly through habitat creation and enhancement across the Proposed Development.
Principle 2: Avoid losing biodiversity that cannot be offset by gains elsewhere	Impacts to irreplaceable habitats have been avoided. All veteran and ancient trees have been retained.
Principle 3: Be inclusive and equitable	Stakeholder engagement, including with Natural England, has been carried out regarding the BNG approach. No concerns were raised.
Principle 4: Address risks	Delays in habitat creation have been applied to account for construction timelines, with habitats to be created and/or enhanced following completion of construction. Precautionary conditions of 'Good' have been assigned to all habitats that were not possible to condition assess due to access constraints and/or gaps in tree data.
Principle 5: Make a measurable Net Gain contribution	Biodiversity net gains have been achieved in all three sections of the SBM.
Principle 6: Achieve the best outcomes for biodiversity	In line with Principle 1, the Proposed Development targets the best biodiversity outcomes. Where impacts could not be avoided, proportionate mitigation has been proposed to support a diverse and connected habitat network.
Principle 7: Be additional	The biodiversity enhancements resulting from the Proposed Development are additional, as they would not have occurred through other means.
Principle 8: Create a net gain legacy	The Proposed Development will result in a net gain of 36.24% for area habitats, 50.08% for hedgerow habitats and 13.20% for watercourse habitats. These exceed the 'no net loss' requirement.

Principle 9: Optimise sustainability

Solar schemes offer a unique opportunity to provide significant net gains in biodiversity whilst also harnessing opportunities for generating sustainable power generation in the form of solar energy.

Principle 10: Be transparent

All net gain activities have been communicated in this report.

Appendix G Data Tables

G.1 Baseline Habitats – Units

Table 11: Baseline Area Habitats

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Cropland	Arable margins field cultivated annually	No	0.08	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	0.32
Cropland	Arable margins field cultivated annually	No	0.12	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	0.48
Cropland	Arable margins pollen and nectar	No	0.07	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	0.28
Cropland	Arable margins pollen and nectar	No	0.49	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	1.96
Cropland	Arable margins tussocky	No	1.32	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	5.28
Cropland	Arable margins tussocky	No	0.16	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	0.64

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type		Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Cropland	Arable margins	field tussocky	No	1.71	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	6.84
Cropland	Arable margins	field tussocky	No	0.01	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	0.04
Cropland	Cereal crops		No	604.16	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	1208.32
Cropland	Cereal crops		No	17.34	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	34.68
Cropland	Cereal crops		No	205.14	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	410.28
Cropland	Cereal crops		No	3.14	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	6.28
Cropland	Temporary and clover leys	grass	No	98.45	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	196.90

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	5.32	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	10.64
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	3.54	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	7.08
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	1.5	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.07	Low	Good	Low	6.42
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.64	Low	Good	Low	9.84
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.39	Low	Good	Low	2.34
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.89	Low	Good	Low	5.34
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.01	Low	Good	Low	0.06
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	8.58	Low	Moderate	Low	34.32
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.79	Low	Moderate	Low	7.16
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	2.26	Low	Moderate	Low	9.04
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.35	Low	Moderate	Low	1.40
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.01	Low	Moderate	Low	0.04

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type		Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Grassland	Modified grassland		No	4.93	Low	Poor	Low	9.86
Grassland	Modified grassland		No	0.67	Low	Poor	Low	1.34
Grassland	Modified grassland		No	0.03	Low	Poor	Low	0.06
Grassland	Modified grassland		No	7.34	Low	Poor	Low	14.68
Grassland	Modified grassland		No	0.51	Low	Poor	Low	1.02
Grassland	Modified grassland		No	0.02	Low	Poor	Low	0.04
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	No	4.28	Medium	Good	Low	51.36
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	No	0.01	Medium	Good	Low	0.12
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	No	2.66	Medium	Moderate	Low	21.28
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	No	1.35	Medium	Moderate	Low	10.80
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	No	9.65	Medium	Poor	Low	38.60
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	No	0.06	Medium	Poor	Low	0.24
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub		No	0.01	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.08

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	No	0.01	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.08
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.02	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.16
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.08
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.02	Medium	Poor	Low	0.08
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	Medium	Poor	Low	0.04
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	Medium	Poor	Low	0.04
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	Medium	Poor	Low	0.04
Lakes	Reservoirs	No	0.4	Medium	Moderate	Low	3.20
Lakes	Reservoirs	No	0.27	Medium	Poor	Low	1.08
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.01	Low	Good	Low	0.06

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.01	Low	Good	Low	0.06
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.35	Low	Good	Low	2.10
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.23	Low	Good	Low	1.38
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.01	Low	Poor	Low	0.02
Urban	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	No	0.56	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Urban	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	No	0.84	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Urban	Bare ground	No	1.46	Low	Good	Low	8.76
Urban	Bare ground	No	1	Low	Good	Low	6.00
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.32	Low	Moderate	Low	1.28
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.27	Low	Moderate	Low	1.08

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.01	Low	Poor	Low	0.02
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.11	Low	Poor	Low	0.22
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	8.05	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.03	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	1.13	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.7	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Watercourse footprint	Watercourse footprint	No	3.4	V.low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Watercourse footprint	Watercourse footprint	No	0.02	V.low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Wetland	Reedbeds	No	0.03	High	Moderate	Low	0.36
Wetland	Reedbeds	No	0.03	High	Poor	Low	0.18
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	No	1.36	High	Good	Low	24.48

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type		Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.05	High	Good	Low	0.90
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.01	High	Good	Low	0.18
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.11	High	Good	Low	1.98
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.19	High	Moderate	Low	2.28
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.5	High	Moderate	Low	6.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.91	High	Moderate	Low	10.92
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.31	High	Poor	Low	1.86
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved		No	0.15	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.20

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	No	0.06	Medium	Poor	Low	0.24
Woodland and forest	Other mixed	No	0.2	Medium	Good	Low	2.40
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.11	Medium	Good	Low	1.32
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.037	Medium	Good	Low	0.44
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.049	Medium	Good	Low	0.59
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	Medium	Good	Low	0.19
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	Medium	Good	Low	0.19
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Good	Low	0.05
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.073	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.58
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.13
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.13

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.77	Medium	Good	Low	9.24
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.257	Medium	Good	Low	3.08
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.261	Medium	Good	Low	3.13
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.212	Medium	Good	Low	2.54
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.053	Medium	Good	Low	0.64
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.081	Medium	Good	Low	0.97
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.382	Medium	Good	Low	4.58
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.229	Medium	Good	Low	2.75
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.293	Medium	Moderate	Low	2.34
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.147	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.18
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.033	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.26

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.03
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.03
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.073	Medium	Poor	Low	0.29
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.13	Medium	Poor	Low	0.52
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Poor	Low	0.02
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Poor	Low	0.02
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.037	Medium	Good	Low	0.44
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.049	Medium	Good	Low	0.59
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Good	Low	0.05
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	Medium	Good	Low	0.19
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	Medium	Good	Low	0.05

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	1.356	Medium	Good	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.806	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.293	Medium	Good	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.179	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.016	Medium	Poor	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.012	Medium	Good	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	1.758	Medium	Good	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.611	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.152	Medium	Good	Low	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.2	Low	Moderate	Low	0.80
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.8	Low	Poor	Low	3.60

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Cropland	Arable field margins game bird mix	No	0.44	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	1.76
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky	No	0.88	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3.52
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	40.28	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	80.56
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	0.08	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	0.16
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	12.82	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	25.64
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.29	Low	Good	Low	1.74
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.6	Low	Poor	Low	1.20
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.28	Low	Poor	Low	0.56
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	2.06	Medium	Poor	Low	8.24
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	No	0.16	Medium	Poor	Low	0.64

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type		Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness (Dist.)	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Urban	Bare ground		No	0.07	Low	Poor	Low	0.14
Urban	Developed land;	sealed surface	No	0.29	V.Low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Watercourse footprint	Watercourse footprint		No	0.65	V.low	N/A - Other	Low	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.89	High	Moderate	Low	10.68
Woodland and forest	Lowland deciduous woodland	mixed	No	0.12	High	Poor	Low	0.72
Woodland and forest	Other woodland;	broadleaved	No	0.44	Medium	Poor	Low	1.76
TOTAL				1076.59**				2375.52

*Irreplaceable habitats require bespoke compensation and therefore present as 0.00 units

**'Individual trees – Rural Tree' areas are excluded from total area to prevent double counting of area; however, the unit contributions are included within the habitat unit total

Table 12: Baseline Hedgerow Habitats

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Line of trees	0.36	Low	Good	Low	2.16
Line of trees	0.01	Low	Good	Low	0.06
Line of trees	0.29	Low	Good	Low	1.74
Line of trees	0.53	Low	Good	Low	3.18
Line of trees	0.18	Low	Moderate	Low	0.72
Line of trees	0.10	Low	Moderate	Low	0.40
Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.21	Low	Good	Low	1.26
Native hedgerow	12.23	Low	Good	Low	73.38
Native hedgerow	0.37	Low	Good	Low	2.22
Native hedgerow	0.25	Low	Good	Low	1.50
Native hedgerow	10.58	Low	Good	Low	63.48
Native hedgerow	0.16	Low	Good	Low	0.96
Native hedgerow	0.12	Low	Good	Low	0.72
Native hedgerow	0.03	Low	Good	Low	0.18
Native hedgerow	0.08	Low	Good	Low	0.48

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Native hedgerow	0.26	Low	Moderate	Low	1.04
Native hedgerow	0.97	Low	Moderate	Low	3.88
Native hedgerow	0.13	Low	Moderate	Low	0.52
Native hedgerow	0.25	Low	Poor	Low	0.50
Native hedgerow	0.57	Low	Poor	Low	1.14
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.30	Medium	Good	Low	3.60
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.21	Medium	Good	Low	2.52
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.36	Medium	Poor	Low	1.44
Native hedgerow with trees	2.24	Medium	Good	Low	26.88
Native hedgerow with trees	3.58	Medium	Good	Low	42.96
Native hedgerow with trees	0.32	Medium	Good	Low	3.84
Native hedgerow with trees	0.35	Medium	Good	Low	4.20
Native hedgerow with trees	0.34	Medium	Good	Low	4.08
Native hedgerow with trees	0.03	Medium	Good	Low	0.36
Native hedgerow with trees	3.77	Medium	Good	Low	45.24

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Native hedgerow with trees	8.83	Medium	Good	Low	105.96
Native hedgerow with trees	0.43	Medium	Good	Low	5.16
Native hedgerow with trees	0.02	Medium	Good	Low	0.24
Native hedgerow with trees	0.57	Medium	Moderate	Low	4.56
Native hedgerow with trees	0.19	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.52
Native hedgerow with trees	0.19	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.52
Native hedgerow with trees	0.06	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.48
Native hedgerow with trees	0.46	Medium	Poor	Low	1.84
Native hedgerow with trees	0.42	Medium	Poor	Low	1.68
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.04	High	Good	Low	0.72
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.45	High	Good	Low	8.10
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.69	High	Good	Low	12.42
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.09	High	Poor	Low	0.54
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.28	High	Poor	Low	1.68

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.74	Medium	Good	Low	8.88
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.67	Medium	Good	Low	8.04
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.50	Medium	Good	Low	6.00
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.24	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.92
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.06	High	Good	Low	1.08
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.18	High	Good	Low	3.24
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.14	High	Good	Low	2.52
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	1.92	High	Good	Low	34.56
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.14	High	Good	Low	2.52
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.06	High	Good	Low	1.08

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	2.48	High	Good	Low	44.64
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	5.20	High	Good	Low	93.60
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.94	High	Good	Low	16.92
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.78	High	Good	Low	14.04
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.48	High	Moderate	Low	5.76
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.23	High	Poor	Low	1.38
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.34	V.High	Good	Low	8.16
Native hedgerow	0.58	Low	Good	Low	3.48
Native hedgerow with trees	0.84	Medium	Good	Low	10.08
TOTAL	68.42				708.96

Table 13: Baseline Watercourse Habitats

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Culvert	0.005	Low	Poor	Low	0.01
Ditches	0.179	Medium	Poor	Low	0.54
Ditches	0.220	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.53
Ditches	0.644	Medium	Moderate	Low	3.86
Ditches	0.637	Medium	Moderate	Low	3.82
Ditches	0.582	Medium	Moderate	Low	3.49
Ditches	0.728	Medium	Poor	Low	2.18
Ditches	0.466	Medium	Poor	Low	1.40
Ditches	0.132	Medium	Poor	Low	0.40
Ditches	0.415	Medium	Poor	Low	1.25
Ditches	0.325	Medium	Poor	Low	0.98
Ditches	0.896	Medium	Poor	Low	2.69
Ditches	0.381	Medium	Poor	Low	1.14
Ditches	0.496	Medium	Poor	Low	1.49
Ditches	1.327	Medium	Poor	Low	3.98
Ditches	0.598	Medium	Poor	Low	1.79

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Ditches	0.866	Medium	Poor	Low	2.60
Ditches	0.239	Medium	Poor	Low	0.72
Ditches	0.011	Medium	Poor	Low	0.03
Ditches	0.287	Medium	Poor	Low	0.86
Ditches	0.506	Medium	Poor	Low	1.52
Ditches	0.272	Medium	Poor	Low	0.82
Ditches	0.323	Medium	Poor	Low	0.97
Ditches	0.008	Medium	Poor	Low	0.02
Ditches	0.018	Medium	Poor	Low	0.05
Other rivers and streams	2.019	High	Poor	Low	9.09
Other rivers and streams	0.008	High	Poor	Low	0.04
Other rivers and streams	0.428	High	Poor	Low	1.93
Other rivers and streams	0.927	High	Poor	Low	4.17
Other rivers and streams	0.287	High	Poor	Low	1.29
Ditches	1.549	Medium	Poor	Low	4.65
Ditches	0.582	Medium	Moderate	Low	3.49
Ditches	0.172	Medium	Moderate	Low	1.03

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Dist.	Condition	SS	Habitat Units
Ditches	0.125	Medium	Moderate	Low	0.75
TOTAL	16.99				66.80

G.2 Retained and Lost Habitats

Table 14: Retained and Lost Area Habitats

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Cropland	Arable field margins cultivated annually	No	0.02	0.06	Condition Assessment N/A	0.08	0.24
Cropland	Arable field margins cultivated annually	No	0.12	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	0.48	0.00
Cropland	Arable field margins pollen and nectar	No	0.00	0.07	Condition Assessment N/A	0.00	0.28
Cropland	Arable field margins pollen and nectar	No	0.00	0.49	Condition Assessment N/A	0.00	1.96

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky	No	0.00	1.32	Condition Assessment N/A	0.00	5.28
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky	No	0.16	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	0.64	0.00
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky	No	0.46	1.25	Condition Assessment N/A	1.84	5.00
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky	No	0.01	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	0.04	0.00
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	206.42	397.74	Condition Assessment N/A	412.84	795.48
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	17.34	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	34.68	0.00
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	44.25	160.89	Condition Assessment N/A	88.50	321.78

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	1.74	1.40	Condition Assessment N/A	3.48	2.80
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	0.00	98.45	Condition Assessment N/A	0.00	196.90
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	0.00	5.32	Condition Assessment N/A	0.00	10.64
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	3.54	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	7.08	0.00
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	1.50	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	3.00	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.38	0.69	Good	2.28	4.14
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.06	0.58	Good	6.36	3.48
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.00	0.39	Good	0.00	2.34
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.50	0.39	Good	3.00	2.34
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.00	0.01	Good	0.00	0.06
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	3.37	4.69	Moderate	13.48	18.76

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.79	0.00	Moderate	7.16	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	1.55	0.68	Moderate	6.20	2.72
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.35	0.00	Moderate	1.40	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.00	0.01	Moderate	0.00	0.04
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	3.511	0.41	Poor	7.02	0.82
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.65	0.02	Poor	1.30	0.04
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.03	0.00	Poor	0.06	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	5.94	0.28	Poor	11.88	0.56
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.31	0.20	Poor	0.62	0.40
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.02	0.00	Poor	0.04	0.00
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	4.28	0.00	Good	51.36	0.00
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	0.00	0.01	Good	0.00	0.12
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	2.06	0.60	Moderate	16.48	4.80
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	0.30	0.00	Moderate	2.40	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	0.14	0.00	Poor	0.56	0.00
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	0.00	0.06	Poor	0.00	0.24
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	No	0.00	0.01	Moderate	0.00	0.08
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	No	0.00	0.01	Moderate	0.00	0.08
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.02	0.00	Moderate	0.16	0.00
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	0.00	Moderate	0.08	0.00
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.02	0.00	Poor	0.08	0.00
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	0.00	Poor	0.04	0.00
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	0.00	Poor	0.04	0.00
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	No	0.01	0.00	Poor	0.04	0.00
Lakes	Reservoirs	No	0.40	0.00	Moderate	3.20	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Lakes	Reservoirs	No	0.27	0.00	Poor	1.08	0.00
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.00	0.01	Good	0.00	0.06
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.00	0.01	Good	0.00	0.06
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.00	0.35	Good	0.00	2.10
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.23	0.00	Good	1.38	0.00
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	No	0.00	0.01	Poor	0.00	0.02
Urban	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	No	0.21	0.35	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Urban	Artificial unvegetated, unsealed surface	No	0.42	0.42	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.86	0.60	Good	5.16	3.60
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.70	0.30	Good	4.20	1.80

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.25	0.07	Moderate	1.00	0.28
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.27	0.00	Moderate	1.08	0.00
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.01	0.00	Poor	0.02	0.00
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.10	0.01	Poor	0.20	0.02
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	8.05	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.03	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	1.02	0.11	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.70	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Watercourse footprint	Watercourse footprint	No	3.40	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Watercourse footprint	Watercourse footprint	No	0.02	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Wetland	Reedbeds	No	0.03	0.00	Moderate	0.36	0.00
Wetland	Reedbeds	No	0.03	0.00	Poor	0.18	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	1.36	0.00	Good	24.48	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.05	0.00	Good	0.90	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.01	0.00	Good	0.18	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.11	0.00	Good	1.98	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.19	0.00	Moderate	2.28	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.50	0.00	Moderate	6.00	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.91	0.00	Moderate	10.92	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.31	0.00	Poor	1.86	0.00
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	No	0.15	0.00	Moderate	1.20	0.00
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	No	0.00	0.06	Poor	0.00	0.24

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; mixed	No	0.20	0.00	Good	2.40	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.11	0.00	Good	1.32	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.037	0.00	Good	0.44	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.033	0.02	Good	0.40	0.19
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	0.00	Good	0.19	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.012	0.00	Good	0.14	0.05
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.05
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.073	0.00	Moderate	0.58	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	0.00	Moderate	0.13	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	0.00	Moderate	0.13	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.696	0.07	Good	8.35	0.89

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.183	0.07	Good	2.20	0.89
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.261	0.00	Good	3.13	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.212	0.00	Good	2.54	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.053	0.00	Good	0.64	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.077	0.00	Good	0.92	0.05
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.382	0.00	Good	4.58	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.229	0.00	Good	2.75	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.293	0.00	Moderate	2.34	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.147	0.00	Moderate	1.18	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.033	0.00	Moderate	0.26	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	0.00	Moderate	0.03	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	0.00	Moderate	0.03	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.073	0.00	Poor	0.29	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.13	0.00	Poor	0.52	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	0.00	Poor	0.02	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	0.00	Poor	0.02	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.0367	0.00	Good	0.44	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.049	0.00	Good	0.59	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	0.00	Good	0.05	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.016	0.00	Good	0.19	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	No	0.004	0.00	Good	0.05	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	1.356	0.00	Good	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.806	0.00	Moderate	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.293	0.00	Good	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.179	0.00	Moderate	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.016	0.00	Poor	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.012	0.00	Good	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	1.758	0.00	Good	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.611	0.00	Moderate	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Individual trees	Rural tree	Yes	0.152	0.00	Good	Irreplaceable habitat - no units generated Δ	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.00	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Cropland	Arable field margins game bird mix	No	0.44	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	1.76	0.00
Cropland	Arable field margins tussocky	No	0.88	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	3.52	0.00
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	29.24	11.04	Condition Assessment N/A	58.48	22.08
Cropland	Cereal crops	No	0.00	0.08	Condition Assessment N/A	0.00	0.16

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Cropland	Temporary grass and clover leys	No	12.82	0.00	Condition Assessment N/A	25.64	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.29	0.00	Good	1.74	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.60	0.00	Poor	1.20	0.00
Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.28	0.00	Poor	0.56	0.00
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	No	2.06	0.00	Poor	8.24	0.00
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	No	0.16	0.00	Poor	0.64	0.00
Urban	Bare ground	No	0.07	0.00	Poor	0.14	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.29	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Watercourse footprint	Watercourse footprint	No	0.65	0.00	N/A - Other	0.00	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.89	0.00	Moderate	10.68	0.00
Woodland and forest	Lowland mixed deciduous woodland	No	0.12	0.00	Poor	0.72	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable Habitat	Area (ha)		Condition	Habitat Units	
			Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	No	0.44	0.00	Poor	1.76	0.00
TOTAL			371.89**	689.45**		904.30	1413.91

Table 15: Retained and Lost Hedgerow Habitats

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Line of trees	0.36	0.00	Good	2.16	0.00
Line of trees	0.01	0.00	Good	0.06	0.00
Line of trees	0.29	0.00	Good	1.74	0.00
Line of trees	0.50	0.03	Good	3.00	0.18
Line of trees	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Line of trees	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.21	0.00	Good	1.26	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.11	0.21	Good	0.66	1.26
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.25	Good	0.00	1.50
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.09	Good	0.00	0.54
Native hedgerow	0.03	0.00	Good	0.18	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.05	0.03	Good	0.30	0.18
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.01	Moderate	0.00	0.04
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.01	Good	0.00	0.12
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.02	Good	0.00	0.24
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.34	0.02	Poor	1.36	0.08
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.16	0.10	Good	1.92	1.20
Native hedgerow with trees	0.02	0.01	Good	0.24	0.12
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.02	Good	0.00	0.24
Native hedgerow with trees	0.01	0.42	Good	0.12	5.04
Native hedgerow with trees	0.02	0.00	Good	0.24	0.00

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.12	0.01	Poor	0.48	0.04
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.01	Poor	0.00	0.04
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.01	Good	0.00	0.18
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.00	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.74	0.00	Good	8.88	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.57	0.10	Good	6.84	1.20
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.47	0.03	Good	5.64	0.36
Species-rich native hedgerow	0.00	0.02	Moderate	0.00	0.16
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.06	0.00	Good	1.08	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch	0.18	0.00	Good	3.24	0.00

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.12	0.02	Good	2.16	0.36
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	1.92	0.00	Good	34.56	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.14	Good	0.00	2.52
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.03	0.03	Good	0.54	0.54
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	2.29	0.19	Good	41.22	3.42
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	5.20	0.00	Good	93.60	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.94	0.00	Good	16.92	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.61	0.17	Good	10.98	3.06
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.02	Moderate	0.00	0.24
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch	0.32	0.02	Good	7.68	0.48
Native hedgerow	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
Native hedgerow with trees	0.00	0.00	Good	0.00	0.00
TOTAL	15.70	1.97		247.14	23.26

Table 16: Retained and Lost Watercourse Habitats

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Culvert	0.005	0.00	Poor	0.01	0.00
Ditches	0.000	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Ditches	0.22	0.00	Moderate	1.53	0.00
Ditches	0.223	0.00	Moderate	1.34	0.00
Ditches	0.000	0.00	Moderate	0.00	0.00
Ditches	0.414	0.00	Moderate	2.48	0.01
Ditches	0.728	0.00	Poor	2.18	0.00
Ditches	0.466	0.00	Poor	1.40	0.00
Ditches	0.132	0.00	Poor	0.40	0.00
Ditches	0.415	0.00	Poor	1.25	0.00
Ditches	0.000	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Ditches	0.525	0.00	Poor	1.58	0.00
Ditches	0.381	0.00	Poor	1.14	0.00
Ditches	0.496	0.00	Poor	1.49	0.00
Ditches	0.940	0.00	Poor	2.82	0.00

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Ditches	0.598	0.00	Poor	1.79	0.00
Ditches	0.866	0.00	Poor	2.60	0.00
Ditches	0.000	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Ditches	0.011	0.00	Poor	0.03	0.00
Ditches	0.287	0.00	Poor	0.86	0.00
Ditches	0.506	0.00	Poor	1.52	0.00
Ditches	0.000	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Ditches	0.323	0.00	Poor	0.97	0.00
Ditches	0.000	0.00	Poor	0.00	0.00
Ditches	0.018	0.00	Poor	0.05	0.00
Other rivers and streams	0.881	0.000	Poor	3.96	0.00
Other rivers and streams	0.008	0.000	Poor	0.04	0.00
Other rivers and streams	0.000	0.000	Poor	0.00	0.00
Other rivers and streams	0.000	0.000	Poor	0.00	0.00
Other rivers and streams	0.005	0.000	Poor	0.00	0.00
Ditches	1.549	0.000	Poor	2.23	0.000
Ditches	0.582	0.000	Moderate	4.65	0.000

Habitat Type	Length (km)		Condition	Habitat Units	
	Retained	Lost		Retained	Lost
Ditches	0.172	0.000	Moderate	3.49	0.000
Ditches	0.125	0.000	Moderate	1.03	0.000
TOTAL	11.20	0.00		41.59	0.01

G.3 Enhanced Habitats

Table 17: Enhanced Area Habitats

Habitat Type Change	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness Change	Target Change	Condition	Delay in Habitat Enhancement (yrs)	Final Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Unit Uplift
Grassland – Modified grassland → Grassland – Modified grassland	0.52	Low → Low	Moderate → Good	3		13	2.73
Grassland – Modified grassland → Grassland – Modified grassland	0.03	Low → Low	Moderate → Good	3		13	0.16
Grassland – Modified grassland → Grassland – Modified grassland	1.01	Low → Low	Poor → Moderate	3		13	3.29
Grassland – Modified grassland → Grassland – Modified grassland	1.12	Low → Low	Poor → Moderate	3		13	3.65

Habitat Type Change	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness Change	Target Condition Change	Delay in Habitat Enhancement (yrs)	Final Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Unit Uplift
Grassland – Other neutral grassland → Grassland – Other neutral grassland	1.05	Low → Low	Moderate → Good	3	13	11.04
Grassland – Other neutral grassland → Grassland – Other neutral grassland	9.51	Low → Low	Poor → Good	3	18	78.10
Grassland – Modified grassland → Grassland – Other neutral grassland	0.20	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	3	18	1.64
Grassland – Modified grassland → Grassland – Other neutral grassland	1.80	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	3	18	13.08
TOTAL	15.24					113.70

Table 18: Enhanced Hedgerow Habitats

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay in Habitat Enhancement	Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Line of trees → Line of trees	0.18	Low → Low	Moderate → Good	→ Low → Low	3	13	0.95

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Line of trees → Line of trees	0.1	Low → Low	Moderate Good →	Low → Low	3	13	0.53
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	12.23	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	128.56
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.05	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	0.53
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	10.58	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	111.22
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.16	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	1.68
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.03	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	0.32
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.26	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	2.60

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.97	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	9.72
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.12	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	1.20
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.25	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Moderate	Low → Low	3	8	1.63
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.57	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Moderate	Low → Low	3	8	3.71
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow – associated with bank or ditch	0.29	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	13	5.67

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow – associated with bank or ditch	0.19	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	13	3.71
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	2.24	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	36.99
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	3.58	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	59.11
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.32	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	5.28
Native hedgerow with trees →	0.35	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	5.78

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Species rich native hedgerow with trees							
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.08	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low		8	1.32
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	3.77	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	62.25
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	8.81	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	145.47
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.57	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	8.85
Native hedgerow with trees →	0.19	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	2.95

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Species rich native hedgerow with trees							
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.19	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	2.95
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.06	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Moderate	Low → Low		8	0.66
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.33	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Moderate	Low → Low	3	8	3.31
Native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.41	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Moderate	Low → Low	3	8	4.11
Native hedgerow with trees – associated with	0.04	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	0.90

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch							
Native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch	0.45	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	10.13
Native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch	0.68	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	15.31
Native hedgerow with trees –	0.09	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness	Low → Low	3	8	1.22

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
associated with bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch			Habitat Moderate →				
Native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch → Species-rich native hedgerow with trees – associated with bank or ditch	0.28	Low → Low	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat Moderate →	Low → Low	3	8	3.79
Species-rich native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.22	Low → Low	Moderate Good →	Low → Low	3	5	2.50
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.46	Low → Low	Moderate Good →	Low → Low	3	7	7.67

Habitat Type Change	Area (km)	Distinctiveness change	Target Condition Change	Strategic Significance Change	Delay Habitat Enhancement	in Time target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees → Species rich native hedgerow with trees	0.23	Low → Low	Poor Moderate	→ Low → Low	3	9	2.38
Native hedgerow → Species-rich native hedgerow	0.58	Low → Medium	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	6.10
Native hedgerow with trees → Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	0.84	Medium → High	Lower Distinctiveness Habitat → Good	Low → Low	3	8	13.87
Total	50.75						674.90

Table 19: Enhanced Watercourse Habitats

Habitat Type Change	Length (km)	Distinctiveness Change	Target Condition Change	SS Change	Encroachment Change (Watercourse)	Encroachment Change (Riparian – both banks)	Delay in Habitat Enhancement	Final Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Ditches → Ditches	0.179	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	0.62
Ditches → Ditches	0.421	Medium → Medium	Moderate → Moderate	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	2.93
Ditches → Ditches	0.637	Medium → Medium	Moderate → Moderate	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	4.43
Ditches → Ditches	0.167	Medium → Medium	Moderate → Moderate	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	1.16

Habitat Type Change	Length (km)	Distinctiveness Change	Target Condition Change	SS Change	Encroachment Change (Watercourse)	Encroachment Change (Riparian – both banks)	Delay in Habitat Enhancement	Final Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Ditches → Ditches	0.325	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → No Encroachment /No Encroachment	3	4	1.30
Ditches → Ditches	0.371	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	1.29
Ditches → Ditches	0.387	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → No Encroachment /No Encroachment	3	4	1.55
Ditches → Ditches	0.239	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → Low	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	0.83
Ditches → Ditches	0.272	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → Low	No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	0.95

Habitat Type Change	Length (km)	Distinctiveness Change	Target Condition Change	SS Change	Encroachment Change (Watercourse)	Encroachment Change (Riparian – both banks)	Delay in Habitat Enhancement	Final Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
					→ No Encroachment				
Ditches → Ditches	0.008	Medium → Medium	Poor → Poor	Low → High	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → No Encroachment /No Encroachment	3	4	0.04
Other rivers and streams → Other rivers and streams	1.138	High → High	Poor → Poor	Low → High	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → No Encroachment /No Encroachment	3	4	7.85
Other rivers and streams → Other rivers	0.428	High → High	Poor → Poor	Low → High	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → No Encroachment /No Encroachment	3	4	2.95

Habitat Type Change	Length (km)	Distinctiveness Change	Target Condition Change	SS Change	Encroachment Change (Watercourse)	Encroachment Change (Riparian – both banks)	Delay in Habitat Enhancement	Final Time to target condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
and streams									
Other rivers and streams → Other rivers and streams	0.927	High → High	Poor → Poor	Low → High	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → No Encroachment /No Encroachment	3	4	6.40
Other rivers and streams → Other rivers and streams	0.287	High → High	Poor → Poor	Low → High	No Encroachment → No Encroachment	Major/Major → Major/No Encroachment	3	4	1.72
TOTAL	5.79								34.03

G.4 Created Habitats

Table 20: Created Area Habitats

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Cropland	Cereal crops	8.62	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	4	14.95
Cropland	Cereal crops	0.02	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	4	0.03
Cropland	Cereal crops	0.19	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	4	0.33
Cropland	Cereal crops	0.06	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	4	0.10
Cropland	Cereal crops	0.35	Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	4	0.61
Grassland	Modified grassland	5.89	Low	Good	Low	3	10	24.75
Grassland	Modified grassland	0.12	Low	Good	Low	3	10	0.56

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type		Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Grassland	Modified grassland		0.01	Low	Good	Low		7	0.04
Grassland	Modified grassland		264.81	Low	Moderate	Low	3	10	825.44
Grassland	Modified grassland		0.01	Low	Moderate	Low		4	0.03
Grassland	Modified grassland		110.65	Low	Moderate	Low	3	7	344.91
Grassland	Modified grassland		121.19	Low	Poor	Low	3	4	210.19
Grassland	Modified grassland		0.60	Low	Poor	Low	3	4	1.04
Grassland	Modified grassland		0.01	Low	Poor	Low		1	0.02
Grassland	Modified grassland		46.99	Low	Poor	Low	3	4	81.50
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	1.17	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	8.84
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	28.27	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	213.48
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	16.95	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	128.00
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	25.85	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	195.21

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type		Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.78	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	5.89
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.39	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	2.95
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.01	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	0.08
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	1.40	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	11.76
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.01	Medium	Moderate	Low		13	0.08
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.74	Medium	Poor	Low	3	13	5.59
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	2.65	Medium	Good	Low	3	8	15.94
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.57	Medium	Moderate	Low	3	7	3.43
Grassland	Other grassland	neutral	0.06	Medium	Good	Low		2	0.22

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Heathland and shrub	Mixed scrub	0.01	Medium	Good	Low		10	0.08
Lakes	Ponds (non-priority habitat)	0.18	Medium	N/A - Other	Low	3	5	1.16
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	0.01	Low	N/A - Other	Low		5	0.05
Sparsely vegetated land	Ruderal/Ephemeral	0.01	Low	Good	Low		5	0.05
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	12.73	V.Low	Moderate	Low	3	3	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	12.05	V.Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	3	0.00
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	1.81	V.Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	3	0.00

Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	4.69	V.Low	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	3	0.00
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	0.47	Medium	Good	Low	3	18	1.98
Grassland	Traditional orchards	1.80	High	Good	Low	3	8	8.12
Cropland	Arable field margins cultivated annually	1.60	Medium	Condition Assessment N/A	Low	3	4	5.55
Woodland and forest	Other woodland; broadleaved	4.60	Medium	Moderate	Low	3	18	19.38
Individual trees	Rural tree	0.20	Medium	Moderate	Low	3	30	0.55
Individual trees	Rural tree	0.59	Medium	Moderate	Low	3	30	1.62
Grassland	Other neutral grassland	11.12	Medium	Good	Low	3	13	83.97
TOTAL		689.45*						2218.49

*'Individual trees –Rural Tree' areas are excluded from total area to prevent double counting of area; however, the unit contributions are included within the habitat unit total

Table 21: Created Hedgerow Habitats

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Native hedgerow	0.03	Low	Good	Low	0	12	0.12
Native hedgerow	0.02	Low	Good	Low	3	15	0.07
Native hedgerow with trees	0.01	Medium	Good	Low	0	20	0.06
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	6.81	High	Moderate	Low	3	13	51.43
Species-rich native hedgerow with trees	11.96	High	Moderate	Low	3	13	90.32
TOTAL	18.83						141.99

Table 22. Created Watercourse Habitats

Habitat Type	Length (km)	Distinctiveness	Target Condition	SS	Time delay for Habitat Creation (yrs)	Final Time to Target Condition (yrs)	Habitat Units
Culvert	0.001	Low	Poor	Low	0	1	0.00
TOTAL	0.001						0.00

Appendix H Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation

FINAL RESULTS		
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	<i>Area habitat units</i>	860.94
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>	355.07
	<i>Watercourse units</i>	8.82
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	<i>Area habitat units</i>	36.24%
	<i>Hedgerow units</i>	50.08%
	<i>Watercourse units</i>	13.20%
Trading rules satisfied?	Yes ✓	

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