

APPENDIX 2. ROBIN LODGE NURSERY, SWALLOWFIELD

REPTILE PRESENCE/ABSENCE SURVEY

A total of 50 roofing felt squares circa 50 x 70cm were placed in open rough grassy and ruderal areas receiving direct sunlight on 14th March 2022 (See figure 1)



Figure 1. Locations of reptile refugia (Red crosses indicate positions of felts)

Table 1. Site visits and weather conditions

Date	Temp/Weather
14.3	Felted site
22.3	17°C clear and sunny. am
24.3	17°C clear and sunny. am.
27.3	Cleared after misty early morning 15 °C
1.4	Clear sunny cool 10°C but felts warm
3.4	Clear sunny cool 10°C but felts warm
7.4	Clear sunny cool 12°C but felts warm late am
10.4	Clear sunny cool 11°C but felts warm late am
17.4	sunny warm 16°C am

These were checked on 7 subsequent occasions (see table 1) in warm conditions.

In addition, walking surveys of the suitable habitats were also conducted on each visit to look for any basking animals partially in the open.

Conclusions

No reptiles or amphibians were found on site.

Although Slow worms are absent, grass snakes are much more mobile and can disperse over wide areas, so given the proximity to a stream and adjacent farms which could support manure heaps in which they could breed, a precautionary approach should be taken during ground clearance, and if any snakes are found they should be relocated off site on the strip over the stream.

