

Legend

Boundary

- Site Boundary
- Extended Ownership

Habitat

- g4 - modified grassland

Secondary codes
106 Mowing
507 Nutrient enriched substrate
516 Active management

Notes
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Client
Simon Beech
Site
Long Meadow Farm

Title
Biodiversity Net Gain
Pre-Development

Rev	Date	Drawn	For Issue
A	11/05/2025	DB	Description
Drawing number (Project Number - Map Number - Revision)			
011-03-A			



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Legend

Boundary

- Site Boundary
- Extended Ownership

Habitat

- g3c - other neutral grassland
- g4 - modified grassland



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Client

Simon Beech

Site

Long Meadow Farm

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Drawing number (Project Number - Map Number - Revision)				011-04-A

8. Appendices



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Appendix B Biodiversity Net Gain Legislation

Environment Act 2021 - Schedule 7A – Part 1

“(1) The biodiversity gain objective is met in relation to development for which planning permission is granted if the biodiversity value attributable to the development exceeds the pre-development biodiversity value of the onsite habitat by at least the relevant percentage.

(2) The biodiversity value attributable to the development is the total of:

- (a) The post-development biodiversity value of the onsite habitat.*
- (b) The biodiversity value, in relation to the development, of any registered offsite biodiversity gain allocated to the development.*
- (c) The biodiversity value of any biodiversity credits purchased for the development.*

(3) The relevant percentage is 10%.”

National Planning Policy Framework 2023

Para 180(d) *“minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures”;*

Para 185 (b) *“promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity”;* and,

Para 186 (d) *“development whose primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported; while opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate”.*



Appendix C Detailed Methodology

HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Habitats

Pre-Development

The pre-development habitats present on site were mapped in accordance with the UK Habitat Classification Professional Edition V2 (UKHab Ltd., 2023), hereafter referred to as UKHab. The pre-development habitats are shown in Figure 2. The area of identified habitats are calculated in meters square(m²) to two decimal places, ignoring linear features such as hedgerows or ditches (the area should be measured to the centre line of such features). The length of linear features (hedgerows and watercourses) were measured separately in kilometres (km) to two decimal places.

The habitats were converted into the Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Defra, 2024c) from the UKHab classification (UKHab Ltd, 2023), as shown in Table 4.

Table 4 UKHab Code and Conversion into The Metric Category

UKHab Code and Secondary Codes	Corresponding BNG Metric Category
G4 – Modified grassland	Modified grassland

Post-Development

The proposals for this site were minimal with only enhancing modified grassland to other neutral grassland (see Figure 3).

Habitat Distinctiveness

Each habitat is assigned a score for distinctiveness. Distinctiveness includes parameters such as species richness, diversity, rarity (at local, regional, national and international scales) and the degree to which a habitat supports species rarely found in other habitats (Defra, 2024a). The categories for distinctiveness within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric are shown within Table 6.

Table 5 Categories and Scores for Distinctiveness

Distinctiveness Category	Categories	Score
Very high	Priority Habitats as defined in Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act that are highly threatened, internationally scarce and require conservation action, for example blanket bog. Small amount of remaining habitat with a high proportion unprotected by designation. Critically Endangered European Red List habitats. Species-rich native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch.	8
High	Priority Habitats as defined in Section 41 of the NERC Act requiring conservation action, for example lowland fens. Remaining Priority Habitats not in very high distinctiveness band and other Near Threatened and Vulnerable Red List habitats. Species-rich native hedgerow with trees; Species-rich native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch; or Native hedgerow with trees - associated with bank or ditch.	6
Medium	Semi-natural habitats not classed as a Priority Habitat but with significant wildlife benefit, for example mixed scrub. Arable field margins (Priority Habitat only). Species-rich native hedgerow; Native hedgerow - associated with bank or ditch; Native hedgerow with trees; Ecologically valuable line of trees; or Ecologically valuable line of trees - associated with bank or ditch.	4



Low	Habitat of limited biodiversity value for example temporary grass and clover ley. Agricultural and urban land of lower biodiversity value. Native hedgerow; Line of trees; or Line of trees - associated with bank or ditch.	2
Very low (Hedgerow module)	Non-native and ornamental hedgerow	1
Very low (area and watercourse module)	Little or no biodiversity value for example hard standing or sealed surface	0

Habitat Condition

The condition of each habitat is assessed using the methods set out in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric -The Statutory Biodiversity Metric -Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology November 2023 (Defra, 2024b).

This approach determines how many of the condition criteria descriptions for each habitat type are met or are not met. For each habitat type, thresholds then apply for the numbers of condition criteria that must be met.

Conditions and associated scores in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric are as follows:

- Good: 3
- Fairly Good: 2.5
- Moderate: 2
- Fairly Poor: 1.5
- Poor: 1
- Conditiona Assessment N/A: 1
- N/A – Other: 0

Hedgerows and Line of Trees have a simplified condition assessment of Good, Moderate or Poor.

A number of lower distinctiveness habitats such cropland, urban habitats and bramble scrub are assigned default values and do not require a detailed condition assessment. The details of all habitats, hedgerows and rivers which are automatically assigned a poor condition value are set out within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric - Technical Annex 1: Condition Assessment Sheets and Methodology November 2023 (Defra, 2024b).

The baseline condition assessment data can be found in Appendix D.

Strategic Significance

The strategic significance of a site within the Statutory Biodiversity Metric is based upon several factors such as but not limited to:

- If the site is identified within a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) area.
- If an LNRS has not yet been published, if the site is identified within a local planning policy as a biodiversity and nature or green infrastructure improvement areas.

Strategic significance scores in the Statutory Biodiversity Metric are detailed in Table 3.

Table 6 Strategic Significance and Corresponding Scores

Condition	Criteria Met	Score
High strategic significance	Where there is a published LNRS: • 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 intervention is consistent with the potential measure proposed for that location. or	1.15



	Where there is no published LNRS and the habitat type is mapped and described as locally ecologically important within a specific location, within documents specified by the relevant planning authority.	
Medium strategic significance	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. Users should: • Explain how the habitat type is ecologically important within a specific location • Demonstrate the importance of that habitat in providing ecological linkage to other strategically significant locations • Use professional judgement	1.1
Low Strategic Significance	Where the definitions for high and medium strategic significance are not met.	1

The responsible authority for LNRS where the site is located is Hampshire County Council. At the time of writing, a Hampshire LNRS was in development, but not yet available.

Risk Factors

As part of any proposed habitat creation and enhancement, risk factors must be considered to correct for disparity, delay or risk; these are:

- Time to target condition;
- Difficulty of restoration / creation; and
- If habitat created is undertaken in advance or delayed prior to the development.

To take this into account, creation of a habitat which will take many years to get to target condition or is difficult to recreate would have a reduced biodiversity value compared to the same habitat already in situ. Therefore, to compensate for loss of that original habitat a larger area would be required as an offset.

Default values are provided for a range of habitats as part of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric. These may be altered if informed by knowledge of the site and proposed management prescriptions, as detailed within the habitat assessment tables. The habitat creation in advance or delay can be changed based on proposed timelines of the development, but this must be secured by a form of Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) and with agreement with the consenting authority.



Appendix D Baseline Condition Assessment Data



UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland – Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Site boundary	Survey date and Surveyor name	
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	H1
Habitat Description			
Pasture field that is often mown and managed			
ukhab - UK Habitat Classification			
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
A	There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m ² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note – this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m ² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	Yes	perennial ryegrass <i>Lolium perenne</i> (O), sheep's fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i> (O) common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> (O), white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> (O), yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i> (O), dandelion <i>Taraxacum</i> sp. (O), broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> (O), selfheal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i> (R), spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (R).
B	Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	A unified grass height
C	Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note – patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	Yes	No scrub species present
D	Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	No damage present beyond some old small mole mounds
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	Yes	Just old mole mounds present
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	No bracken
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	None present
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			Y
Number of criteria passed			6
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√	
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)	Yes	
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)		
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 – 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Not suitable to improve as area will be regularly mown as part of operation.			



UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	On site, in Extended Ownership	Survey date and Surveyor name	-
Limitations (if applicable)	-	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	-
Grid reference	-	Habitat parcel reference	H2
Habitat Description			
Pasture field that is mown			

[ukhab - UK Habitat Classification](#)

Condition Assessment Criteria	Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
There are 6-8 vascular plant species per m² present, including at least 2 forbs (these may include those listed in Footnote 1). Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition. A Where the vascular plant species present are characteristic of medium, high or very high distinctiveness grassland, or there are 9 or more of these characteristic species per m² (excluding those listed in Footnote 1), please review the full UKHab description to assess whether the grassland should instead be classified as a higher distinctiveness grassland. Where a grassland is classed as medium, high, or very high distinctiveness, please use the relevant condition sheet.	Yes	perennial ryegrass <i>Lolium perenne</i> (D), sheep's fescue <i>Festuca ovina</i> (O), common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> (O), white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> (O), yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i> (O), dandelion <i>Taraxacum</i> sp. (O), broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> (O), selfheal <i>Prunella vulgaris</i> (R), spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> (R).
B Sward height is varied (at least 20% of the sward is less than 7 cm and at least 20% is more than 7 cm) creating microclimates which provide opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live and breed.	No	A unified grass height
C Any scrub present accounts for less than 20% of the total grassland area. (Some scattered scrub such as bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg. may be present). Note - patches of scrub with continuous (more than 90%) cover should be classified as the relevant scrub habitat type.	Yes	No scrub species present
D Physical damage is evident in less than 5% of total grassland area. Examples of physical damage include excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, erosion caused by high levels of access, or any other damaging management activities.	Yes	No damage present beyond some old small mole mounds
E Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens)².	no	Just old mole mounds present
F Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	No bracken
G There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA⁴).	Yes	None present

Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)

Y

Number of criteria passed

5

Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved x/√
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)	
Passes 4 or 5 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Moderate (2)	yes
Passes 3 or fewer criteria, OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)	

Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score

Reduced mowing regime, rotational mowing, removal of grass cuttings and harrow/scarifying



Appendix E Post Development Habitat Conditions and Management

The below habitat creation and enhancements measures are based on the required management to fulfil the habitat conditions as per the Defra Technical Document (Defra, 2024b). A separate detailed Habitat Monitoring and Management Plan will be required to fulfil the management and monitoring requirements for the below created and enhanced habitats.

Habitat Type	Habitat Measure	Target Condition	Time to Target Condition	Habitat Condition Sheet	Condition Criteria	Outline Habitat Management
Grassland – Other neutral grassland	Enhance from Modified grassland	Good	10 years	Grassland (medium to high distinctiveness)	Target condition is 'Good' in 10 years. To achieve this, there must be the same conditions as the Moderate condition criterion.	Infrequent mowing regime should be implemented to ensure flowers are allowed to set seed. Supplementary planting/seeding may also be introduced, along with light scarification following cuts and rotational cutting to create an age matrix. Manage in line with Biodiversity Metric Technical Annex 1 Grassland (medium and high distinctives) condition criteria including avoidance of physical damage such as access or storage on grassland.

