

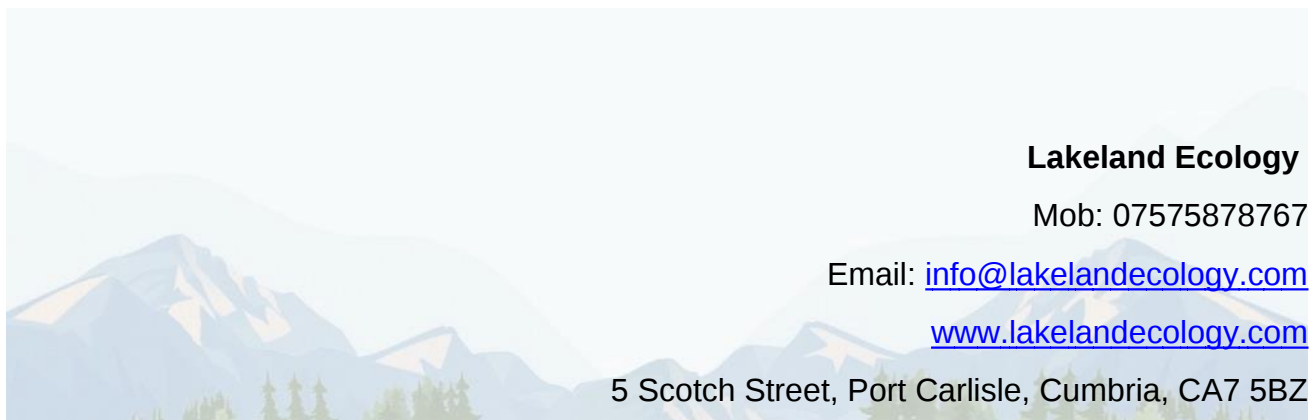


St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont

Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment

Client: Governing Body of St Bridget's Catholic Primary School

December 2024





DOCUMENT CONTROL

Client: Governing Body of St Bridget's Catholic Primary School

Address: St Bridget's Lane, Egremont, CA22 2BD

Project: LE076 – St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont

Report Date: 28 December 2024

Report Revision: Version 2

Prepared by: Patryk Gruba BSc (Hons) MCIEEM

Checked by: Cathy Gruba BSc

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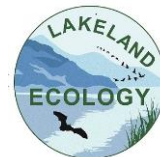
It is important to note that investigative methods may not entirely eliminate the possibility of acquiring partially imprecise or incomplete information. Therefore, we cannot guarantee that the investigations fully identified aspects such as the presence of species. Professional judgment and opinion have been employed as needed.

Nothing in this report constitutes legal advice or opinion. For legal matters, the advice of a qualified legal professional should be sought.

This BNG report provides recommendations on measures to achieve biodiversity net gain. However, these recommendations do not constitute a formal BNG design. By submitting this report, Lakeland Ecologist has no Design Liability associated with the implementation of these BNG recommendations.

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CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	BACKGROUND	1
1.2	SITE LOCATION.....	1
1.3	PROPOSAL	1
1.4	OBJECTIVES.....	1
2.0	METHODOLOGY.....	2
2.1	SITE VISIT	2
2.2	UK HABITAT SURVEY	2
2.3	STATUTORY BIODIVERSITY METRIC.....	2
2.4	HABITAT ASSESSMENT	3
2.5	LIMITATIONS	4
3.0	BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENT.....	4
3.1	BASELINE HABITAT UNITS – ON-SITE	5
3.2	POST DEVELOPMENT BIODIVERSITY SITE VALUE	5
4.0	EVALUATION	6
5.0	REFERENCES	7

FIGURES

FIGURE 1 – SITE LOCATION

FIGURE 2 – UK HAB PLAN

FIGURE 3 – PRE-DEVELOPMENT HABITAT PLAN

FIGURE 4 – CONDITION AND DISTINCTIVENESS OF PRE-DEVELOPMENT HABITATS

FIGURE 5 – POST DEVELOPMENT HABITAT PLAN

APPENDIX I – PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT

APPENDIX II – UK HAB SURVEY - TARGET NOTES

APPENDIX III – HABITAT CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEETS



1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Lakeland Ecology was commissioned to undertake a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment of the land at St Bridget's Catholic Primary School, Egremont. This report was prepared by Patryk Gruba BSc (Hons) MCIEEM.

1.2 Site Location

The site is located within the town of Egremont, Cumbria and is centred at OSGB Reference NY00801077 – see Figure 1.

The site is 0.057 ha in size and comprises a modified grassland, hardstanding and a section of gravel with ephemeral vegetation - see Figure 2.

1.3 Proposal

The proposal includes creation of the parking area within the land adjacent northwest to the school building.

See Appendix I for the proposed site layout.

1.4 Objectives

The main objective of this report was to carry out a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) assessment of the site as specified in Figure 2.

This report aims to:

- Map on site habitats in line with UK Hab Level 4 (wherever possible).
- Assess the pre-development baseline biodiversity site value measures in habitat units by evaluating the habitats present, their size, distinctiveness, and condition.
- Estimate the post-development habitat units on the site using the proposed site layout provided by the client.
- Calculate the expected change in biodiversity units from pre- to post-development to indicate the biodiversity losses or gains anticipated as a result of post-development on-site interventions.
- Recommend approach to achieve a mandatory biodiversity net gain through enhancing biodiversity on-site and off-site enhancement measures.

2.0 METHODOLOGY

2.1 Site Visit

A walkover survey was undertaken on site on 15th July 2024 by Patryk Gruba MCIEEM to map vegetation and broad habitat in accordance with the categories specified for UKHab (UKHab Ltd, 2023) and to conduct the Biodiversity Net Gain Condition Assessment survey of the habitats present on site.

2.2 UK Habitat Survey

The vegetation and broad habitat types within the site were noted during the survey in accordance with the categories specified for UKHab (UKHab Ltd, 2023) with target notes describing additional features of interest. Plant species nomenclature follows that of Stace (2019). The habitats recorded on site are shown in Figure 2. Habitat description as well as species recorded, and their composition are included in Appendix II (Target Notes).

2.3 Statutory Biodiversity Metric

The assessment has been made using Defra's Statutory Biodiversity Metric (Natural England, 2024a), in conjunction with the user guide (Natural England, 2024b) and Technical Annex 1 (Natural England, 2024c).

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric evaluates the overall biodiversity loss or gain for development projects by considering the distinctiveness (type of habitat and its value), condition, extent, and strategic significance of habitats on site before and after development.

To achieve biodiversity net gain, the post-development habitat unit score must exceed the baseline score (pre-development) by 10%. The metric produces separate results for area-based habitats (measured in habitat units) and linear habitats, such as hedgerows (measured in hedgerow units) and rivers (measured in river units). For the BNG assessment, the output value determines whether there has been a net gain in biodiversity post-development. A development can only claim an overall net gain if this is predicted for all area-based and linear habitats.

When calculating post-development biodiversity units, the metric applies standard 'risk multipliers' to account for the inherent risks associated with creating and restoring habitats, the time needed for habitats to establish, and the location of mitigation relative to the lost

habitats on site. These risk multipliers reduce the value of proposed habitats, meaning larger areas or habitats of higher distinctiveness and/or condition are required to achieve net gain.

2.4 Habitat Assessment

2.4.1 Habitat Type

The pre-development habitats were mapped in accordance with UKHab classification (UKHab Ltd, 2023) and BNG user guide (Natural England, 2024b). See Figure 3 for the pre-development habitat plan.

Each of the post-development habitats, as set out on proposed site layout (Appendix I), were assigned by the UKHab category which was considered to best represent the habitat present post-development. See Figure 5 for the post-development habitats.

2.4.2 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 (Treweek *et al.*, 2010). The biodiversity metric tool automatically assigns a distinctiveness category to selected habitats. The categories for distinctiveness within The Statutory Metric are shown in table 1 below.

Table 1: Categories and scores for distinctiveness

Categories	Score
Very High (Section 41 Priority Habitats that are threatened, internationally scarce and require conservation action)	8
High (Section 41 Priority Habitats)	6
Medium (Semi-natural habitats not classified as Priority Habitat)	4
Low (Habitat of low biodiversity value)	2
Very Low (Little or no biodiversity value)	0

2.4.3 Habitat Condition

The condition of each habitat is assessed using the methods set out in the user guide (Natural England, 2024b) and Technical Annex 1 (Natural England, 2024c). The 'condition' of the habitats present is assessed against a series of relevant criteria. Different criteria are set out for every type of habitat. Depending on how many of the relevant criteria are met, each habitat is given 'good', 'moderate' or 'poor' condition.

A number of lower distinctiveness habitats including cropland and urban habitats are assigned default values and do not require a detailed condition assessment.

2.4.4 Strategic Significance

The strategic significance of a site within the Statutory Metric is based upon whether the location of the development has been identified locally as significant for nature. This is determined by information set out in local plans or policies. If a habitat is within a strategically significant location, a multiplier is applied to increase its value.

2.4.5 Risk Factors

When proposing habitat creation and restoration, it is essential to consider risk factors to account for disparities, delays or risks, including time required to reach the target condition and difficulty of restoration or creation.

Creating a habitat that takes many years to reach its target condition or is difficult to recreate will have a reduced biodiversity value compared to an existing habitat. Therefore, a larger area would be required as an offset to compensate for the loss of the original habitat.

The Statutory Metric provides default values for a range of habitats, which may be adjusted based on site-specific knowledge and proposed management prescriptions, as detailed in the habitat assessment tables.

2.5 Limitations

The outputs of the metric are not definitive values but serve as an estimate of the relative biodiversity value of a site before and after development. The calculations in this report should be reviewed and updated if there are any changes to the current habitats on-site.

This assessment is based on the illustrative proposed layout (Appendix I) for the site. As no detailed landscape plan was available to inform this assessment, a 'best-fit' approach has been taken regarding the types of habitats and conditions that will be present post-development, to provide an indication of the biodiversity gains or losses on site.

This BNG report provides recommendations on measures to achieve biodiversity net gain, however, these recommendations do not constitute a formal BNG design. By submitting this report, Lakeland Ecology has no Design Liability associated with the implementation of these BNG recommendations.

3.0 BIODIVERSITY NET GAIN ASSESSMENT

3.1 Baseline Habitat Units – On-Site

The baseline biodiversity value for area-based habitats within the site is provided in Table 2 below. The habitats present on site are shown in Figure 3 and their condition and distinctiveness is shown in Figure 4. The habitat condition assessment sheet is included in Appendix II.

Table 2: Baseline value of the habitats on site

Categories	Total Area (ha)	Distinctiveness	Condition	Habitat Units
Vacant or derelict land	0.0007	Low	Good	0.01
Modified grassland	0.0530	Low	Moderate	0.21
Developed land; sealed surface	0.0040	V.Low	N/A - Other	0.00
Total				0.22

In total, the baseline biodiversity value of the habitats present on-site was calculated as **0.22 habitat units**. The habitat present on site are not 'irreplaceable habitats'.

3.2 Post Development Biodiversity Site Value

The results of the post-development BNG calculation are provided in Table 3. The post-development habitat plan is shown in Figure 5.

Table 3: Headline Habitat Results – On-site net change

Project Stage	Habitat Type	Units
On-site baseline	Habitat units	0.22
On-site post- development	Habitat units	0.07
Total on-site net % change	Habitat units	- 69.07 %
Trading rules satisfied?	No	

4.0 EVALUATION

The biodiversity net gain (BNG) metric for the proposed development predicts that the current landscape layout for the site will result in an overall net loss of biodiversity units. **The metric indicates that the current layout for the site will result in a 69.07% net loss in habitat units. In order to achieve a mandatory minimum 10% gain, 0.17 off-site habitat units will need to be created.** The trading rules for the metric will not be satisfied as a result of the proposed site layout. See Plate 1 below for the Headline Metric Results.

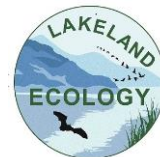
Plate 1 – Headline Metric Results

FINAL RESULTS				
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	-0.15		
	Hedgerow units	0.00		
	Watercourse units	0.00		
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	-69.07%		
	Hedgerow units	0.00%		
	Watercourse units	0.00%		
Trading rules satisfied?	No - Check Trading Summaries ▲			
Unit Type	Target	Baseline Units	Units Required	Unit Deficit
Habitat units	10.00%	0.22	0.24	0.17
Hedgerow units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00

As the site does not currently meet the mandatory 10% net gain, further steps will need to be taken to meet the minimum target mandated by the Environment Act 2021 and local planning policy.

Retention: habitats to be removed on site should be designed into the scheme to be retained where possible rather than lost and recreated.

Mitigation: Further habitat creation on site should be considered where possible within the design of the proposed development. If any off-site land within or nearby school grounds can be used as a habitat creation/enhancement area, then the development may be able to offset using off-site land.



One of the options to achieve the mandatory net gain is to enhance the modified grassland within a flood bund adjacent north to the red line planning boundary (see Target Note 6 in Figure 2 and Appendix II). This habitat is 0.054ha in size and it has been assessed to be in good condition. Enhancing this habitat into other neutral grassland in good condition has potential to generate 0.51 habitat units. This habitat intervention will satisfy the mandatory biodiversity net gain for the proposed development site.

Another option is to purchase required habitat units from a local habitat bank.

Compensation: If on-site or off-site habitat creation cannot mitigate for the development to achieve a 10% net gain in biodiversity, then compensation measures should be taken; however, this should be a last resort. This could either be through a financial contribution (S106) to the LPA if they have the mechanism in place to offset biodiversity credit loss, or through a third-party habitat credit bank that can sell credits to the developer to offset this development.

5.0 REFERENCES

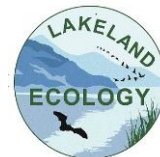
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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65c60e5114b83c000ca715f4/The_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_Calculation_Tool_-_Macro_enabled_02.24.xlsm

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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65c60e0514b83c000ca715f3/The_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_-_User_Guide_.pdf

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https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65c60f00cc433b000ca90b33/Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_Condition_Assessments- Feb24.xlsx

Treweek, J., Butcher, B., and Temple, H., (2010), Biodiversity offsets: possible methods for measuring biodiversity losses and gains for use in the UK, In Practice, 69: 29- 32.

UKHab Ltd (2023). UK Habitat Classification Version 2.0. Available from:
<https://www.ukhab.org>



FIGURES

Figure 1 – Site Location

Figure 2 – UK Hab Plan

Figure 3 – Pre-development Habitat Plan

Figure 4 – Condition and Distinctiveness of Pre-development Habitats

Figure 5 – Post Development Habitat Plan

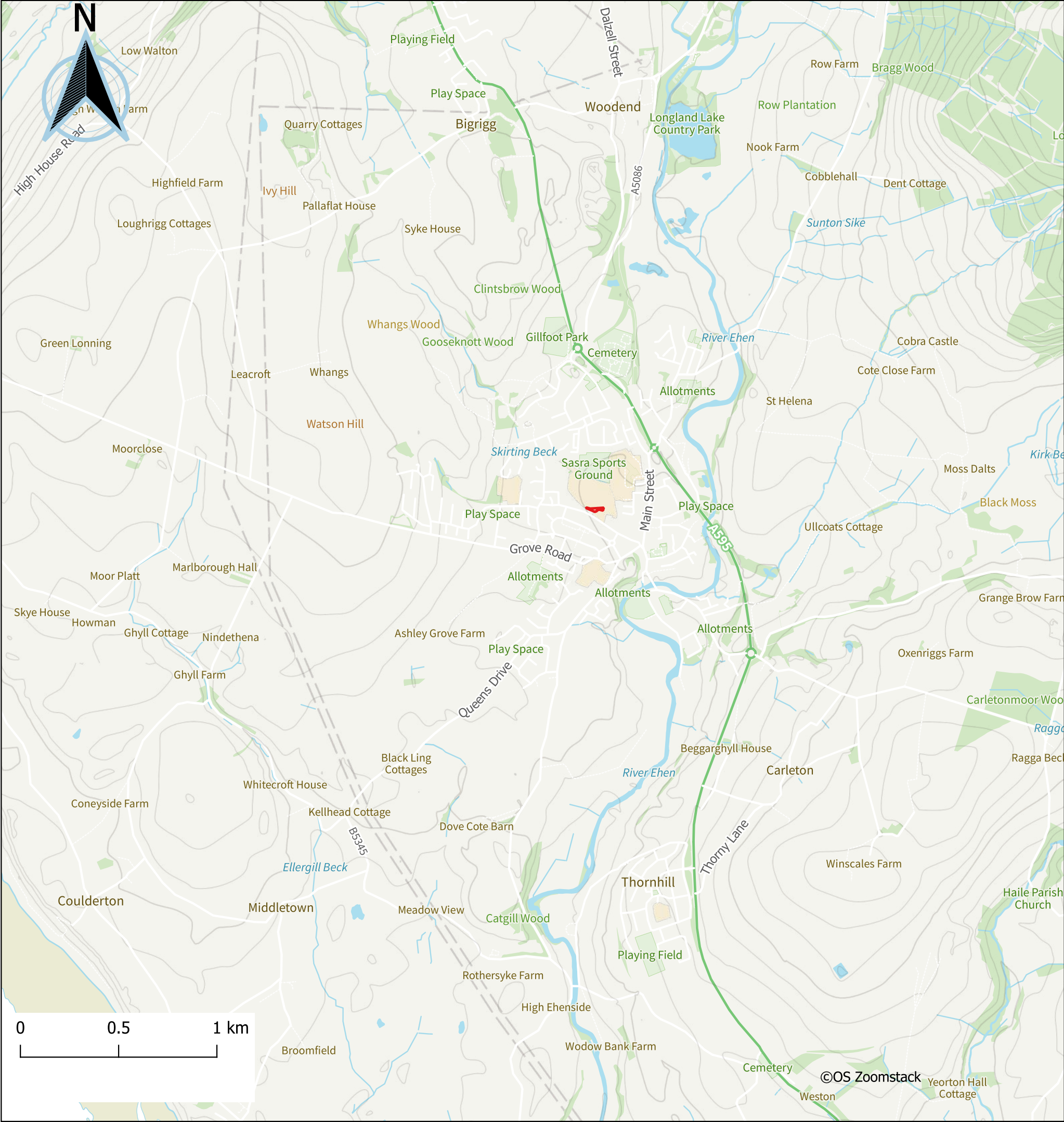


Figure 1 - Site Location		
PROJECT LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont		
Date: 19-08-2024	Created By: Patryk Gruba	Scale 1:20,000

 Site Location





Figure 2 - UK Hab Map

PROJECT
LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School,
Egremont

Date: 28-12-2024

Created By: Patryk Gruba

Scale 1:250

 Red Line Boundary

 Target Notes

UK Hab Categories

 g4 - modified grassland

 u1b - developed land. sealed surface

 u1f - sparsely vegetated urban land

Secondary Code	Habitat Name
81	Ruderal or Ephemeral

0 5 10 15 20 25 m

©Getmapping





Figure 3 - Pre-Development Habitat Plan

PROJECT
LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School,
Egremont

Date: 28-12-2024

Created By: Patryk Gruba

Scale 1:250

 Red Line Boundary

HABITATS

Habitats Baseline (parcel reference numbers correspond to the relevant reference numbers within the statutory metric)

 Developed land; sealed surface

 Modified grassland

 Vacant or derelict land





Figure 4 - Condition and Distinctivness of the On-Site Habitats

PROJECT
LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School,
Egremont

Date: 28-12-2024	Created By: Patryk Gruba	Scale 1:250
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 Red Line Boundary

HABITATS

Habitat

Baseline Habitat Condition

 Good

 Moderate

 N/A - Other

Baseline Habitat Distinctiveness

 Low

 V.Low





Figure 5 - Post-Development Habitat Plan

PROJECT
LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School,
Egremont

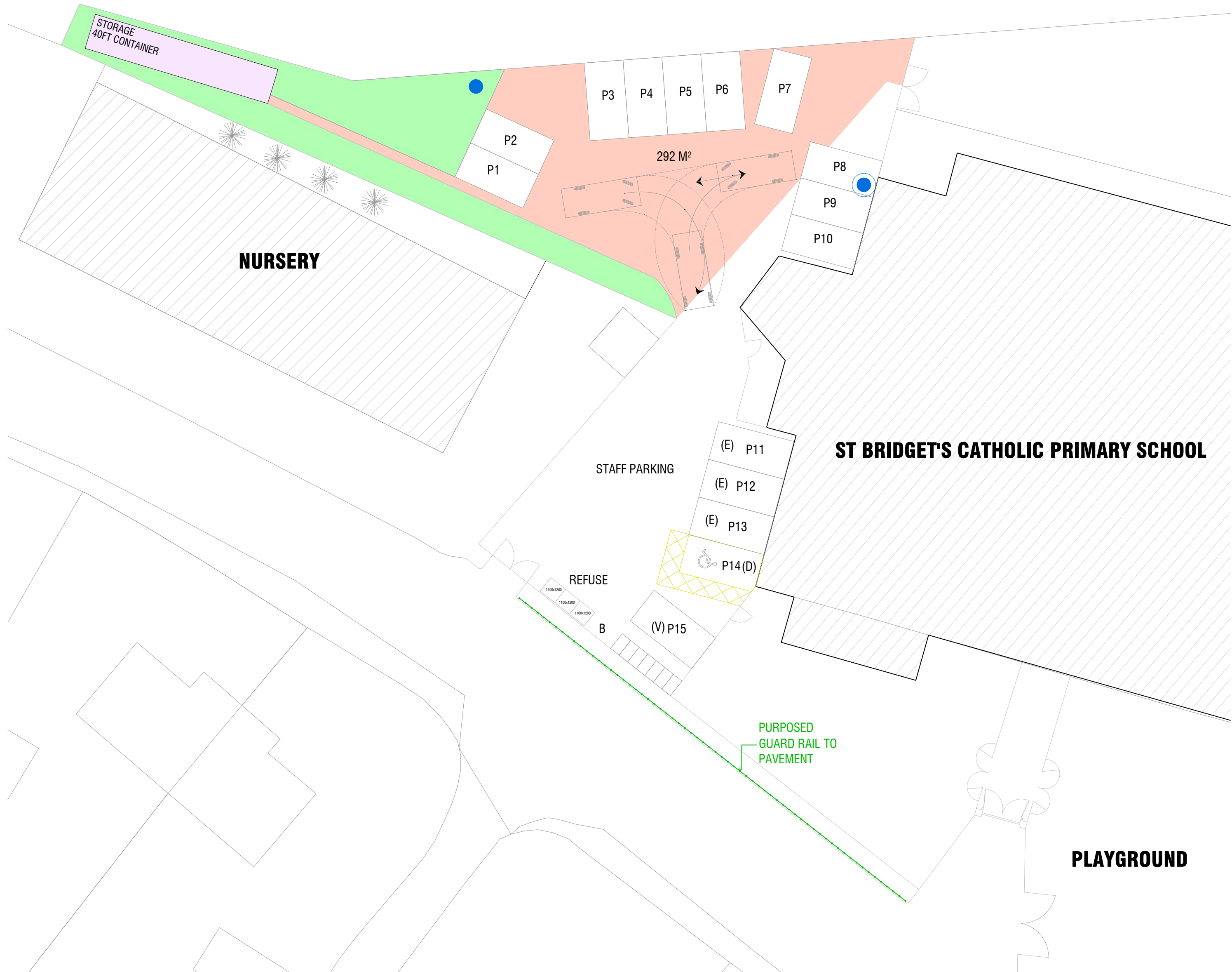
Date: 28-12-2024	Created By: Patryk Gruba	Scale 1:250
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-  Red Line Boundary
- HABITATS**
- Habitats Proposed
-  Developed land; sealed surface
-  Modified grassland



APPENDIX I – PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT





PROPOSED KEY

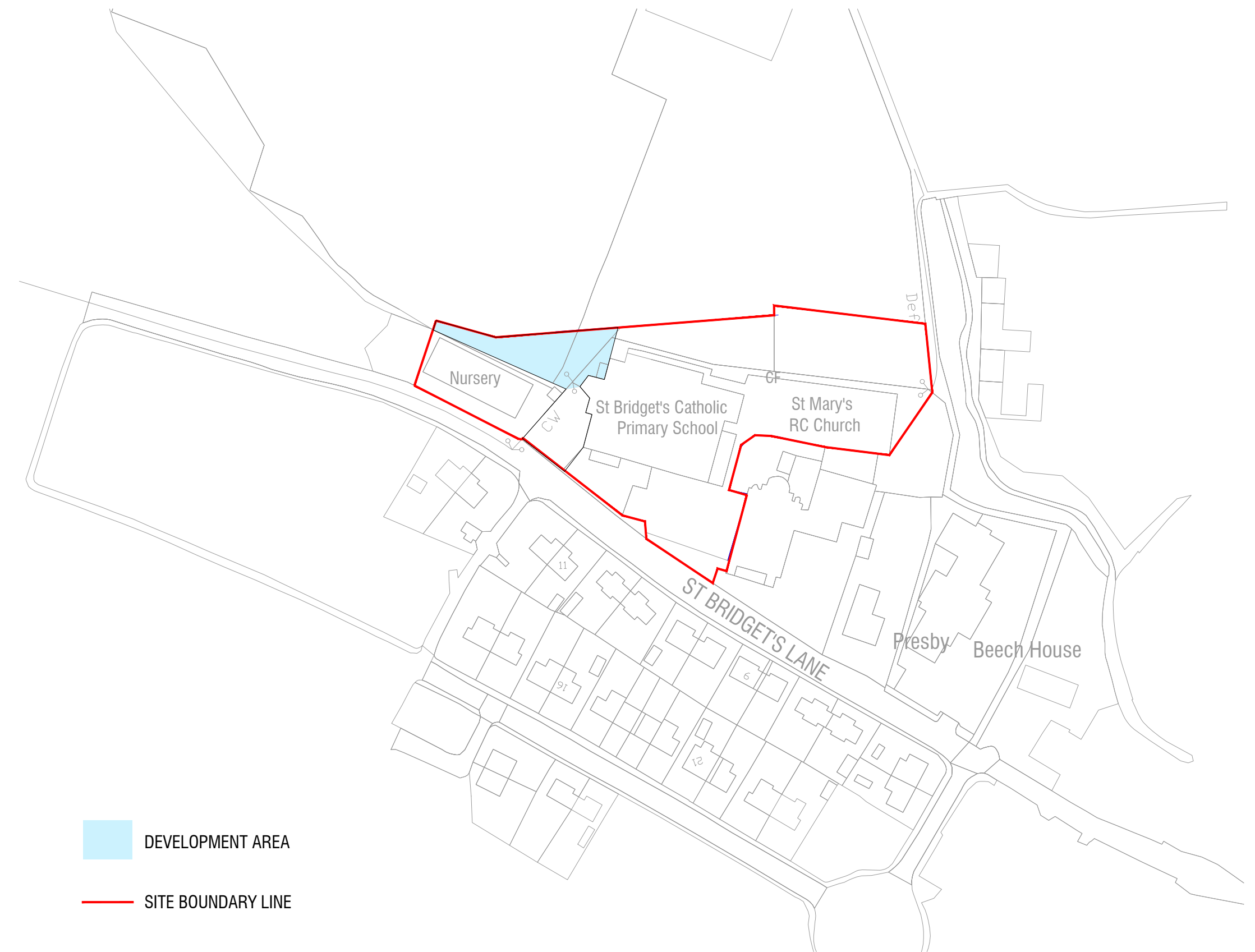
	CAR PARK EXTENSION - PERMEABLE TARMAC 2 COAT FINISH WITH PERIMETER PIN CURB
	EXISTING GRASS AREA TO BE RETAINED
	NEW LAMP POST
	NEW WALL MOUNTED FLOOD LIGHT

PARKING KEY

(V)	VISITOR PARKING BAY
(E)	PARKING SPACE FOR FUTURE ELECTRIC CHARGING
(D)	DISABLE PARKING BAY
(B)	STAFF BICYCLE STORAGE AREA
(P)	CAR PARKING BAY

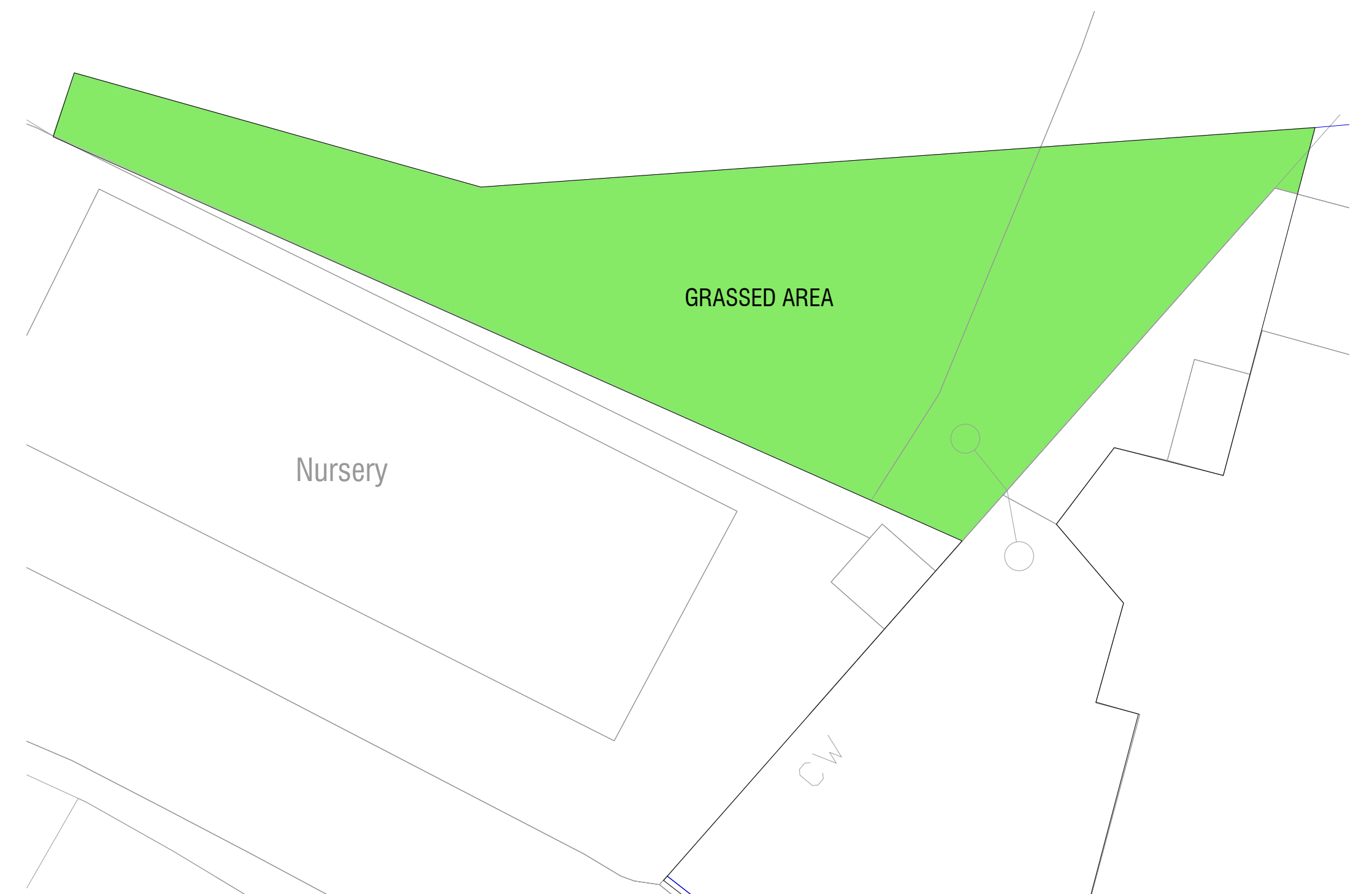
STAFF CAR PARK EXTENSION SITE PLAN

Scale: 1:200 @ A1



LOCATION PLAN

Scale: 1:1250@ A1



EXISTING SITE PLAN

Scale: 1:200@ A1

ST BRIDGET'S
STAFF CAR PARK
EXTENSION

Telephone:
01229 481184
Website:
www.shepherdarchitectureandsurveying.co.uk

St Bridget's Catholic
Primary School, St Bridget's
Lane, Egremont, CA22 2BD

Revision Notes
N/A

Staff Car Park Extension
Plan
Location Plan

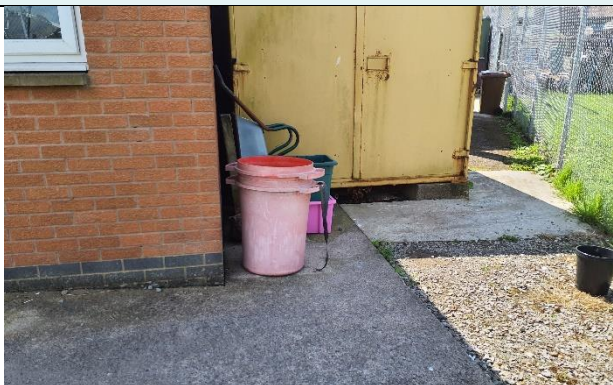
Drawn - PW
Checked - NAS
16-12-24

www.shepherd
architectureandsurveying.co.uk

SBS23B | PA | 001

APPENDIX II – UK HAB SURVEY - TARGET NOTES

Target Note	Description	Photograph
1	NY0079710779 <u>g4,- Modified grassland</u> Parcel of fenced off modified grassland. Low species diversity within the sward. Forb species present were typical indicators of modified grassland. This habitat has been assessed to be in moderate condition. • Perennial rye-grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> Dominant • White clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> Dominant • Yorkshire-fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i> Frequent • Red fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> Frequent • Creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> Frequent • Daisy <i>Bellis perennis</i> Occasional • Dandelion <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg. Occasional. • Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i> Occasional • Smooth Meadow-grass <i>Poa pratensis</i> Occasional • Chicory <i>Cichorium</i> sp. Occasional • Red clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> Rare	
2	NY0081710780 <u>u1f, 81- Sparsely vegetated urban land with ephemeral vegetation</u> This habitat has been assessed to be in moderate condition. • Perennial rye-grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> Abundant • Red fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> Frequent • Dandelion <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg. Occasional. • Ribwort plantain <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> Occasional • Greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> Occasional • Yarrow <i>Achillea millefolium</i> Occasional • Willowherb <i>Epilobium</i> sp. Occasional • Rough Hawkbit <i>Leontodon hispidus</i> Rare	

Target Note	Description	Photograph
3	NY0081110774 <u>u1b, – Developed land; sealed surface</u> Hardstanding next to the school building	
4	NY0080410788 <u>g4, 106, 112 – Modified grassland</u> Mown modified grassland with a flood bund accent north to the red line planning boundary separating school grounds from the sports pitch. This habitat has been assessed to good condition. • Perennial rye-grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> Abundant • Red fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i> Abundant • Creeping bent <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> Frequent • Common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> Frequent • White clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> Frequent • Yorkshire-fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i> Frequent • Red clover <i>Trifolium pratense</i> Frequent • Creeping bent <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> Frequent • Dandelion <i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg. Occasional • Dock <i>Rumex</i> sp. Occasional • Tufted hair-grass <i>Deschampsia cespitosa</i> Occasional • Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> Occasional • Cock's-foot <i>Dactylis glomerata</i> Occasional • Willowherb <i>Epilobium</i> sp. Occasional • Greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> Occasional • Soft rush <i>Juncus effusus</i> rare	



APPENDIX III – HABITAT CONDITION ASSESSMENT SHEETS



Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont	Survey date and Surveyor name	15/07/2024 - Patryk Gruba
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	N/A
Grid reference	NY0079610779	Habitat parcel reference	1
Habitat Description			
g4,- Modified grassland			
Parcel of fenced off modified grassland. Low species diversity within the sward. Forb species present were typical indicators of modified grassland.			
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	Five 1m ² quadrats were randomly selected and assessed. The average number of vascular plant species within the quadrats was 6, (including those listed in Footnote 1).
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	Unifrom sward 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 on site.
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 physcial damage noted.
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	No	No bare ground within the parcel
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	No bracken recorded.
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	No invasive non-native plant species recorded.
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			Yes
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)	v	
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
N/A			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .			
Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.			
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.			
Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			

Condition Sheet: URBAN Habitat Type			
Habitat Types			
Sparsely vegetated land - Ruderal/Ephemeral Sparsely vegetated land - Tall forbs Urban - Allotments Urban - Biodiverse green roof Urban - Bioswale Urban - Cemeteries and churchyards Urban - Facade-bound green wall Urban - Ground based green wall Urban - Intensive green roof Urban - Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land Urban - Rain garden Urban - Sustainable drainage system (SuDS) Urban - Vacant or derelict land Urban - Bare ground			
Habitat Description			
u1f, 81- Sparsely vegetated urban land with ephemeral vegetation			
See the Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide for green roofs and UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) for other habitats:			UKHab – UK Habitat Classification
On-site or off-site, site name and location	On-site, St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont	Survey date and Surveyor name	15/07/24 - Patryk Gruba
Limitations (if applicable)	NA	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	NA
Grid reference	NY0081510780	Habitat parcel reference	2
Condition Assessment Criteria		Criterion passed (Yes or No)	Notes (such as justification)
Core Criteria - must be assessed for all urban habitat types :			
A	Vegetation structure is varied, providing opportunities for vertebrates and invertebrates to live, eat and breed. A single structural habitat component or vegetation type does not account for more than 80% of the total habitat area.	Yes	Vegetation structure varied.
B	The habitat parcel contains different plant species that are beneficial for wildlife, for example flowering species providing nectar sources for a range of invertebrates at different times of year.	Yes	Varied plant species that are beneficial for wildlife within the parcel.
C	Invasive non-native plant species (listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ¹) and others which are to the detriment of native wildlife (using professional judgement) ² cover less than 5% of the total vegetated area ³ . Note - to achieve Good condition, this criterion must be satisfied by a complete absence of invasive non-native species (rather than <5% cover).	Yes	No invasive non-native species recorded within the parcel.
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land only:			
D	The parcel shows spatial variation and forms a mosaic of bare substrate PLUS: - At least four early successional communities (a) to (i); Communities: (a) annuals; (b) mosses/liverworts; (c) lichens; (d) ruderals; (e) inundation species; (f) open grassland; (g) flower-rich grassland; (h) heathland, (i) pools.	NA	
Additional Criteria - must be assessed for Bioswale and SuDS habitat types only:			
E1	Plant species are mostly native. If non-native species are present, they should not be detrimental to the habitat or native wildlife ⁴ .	NA	
E2	The vegetation is comprised of plant species suited to wetland or riparian situations.	NA	
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Intensive green roofs only:			

F	The roof has a minimum of 50% native and non-native wildflowers. 70% of the roof area is soil and vegetation (including water features).	NA	
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Biodiverse green roofs only:			
G	The roof has a varied depth of 80 – 150 mm; at least 50% is at 150 mm and is planted and seeded with wildflowers and sedums or is pre-prepared with sedums and wildflowers. Note – to achieve Good condition some additional habitat, such as sand piles, stones, logs etc. are present.	NA	
Essential criteria relevant for habitat type achieved (Yes or No)			Yes
Number of criteria passed			3
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved * / √
Results for habitats requiring assessment of 3 core criteria only (all listed urban habitats except Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land, Bioswale, SuDS and Green roofs):			
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Good (3)	v	
• Passes 2 of 3 core criteria; OR • Passes 3 of 3 core criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)		
• Passes 0 or 1 of 3 core criteria.	Poor (1)		
Results for Green roofs and Open mosaic habitat on previously developed land (requiring assessment of 4 criteria only - core criteria plus additional criterion specified for habitat type):			
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes additional criterion relevant to specific habitat type (D, F or G).	Good (3)		
• Passes 2 or 3 of 4 criteria; OR • Passes 4 of 4 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)		
• Passes 0 or 1 of 4 criteria.	Poor (1)		
Results for Bioswale or SuDS (requiring assessment of 5 criteria - core criteria plus additional criteria specified for habitat type):			
• Passes all 3 core criteria; AND • Meets the requirements for Good condition within criterion C; AND • Passes all additional criteria relevant to specific habitat type (Group E)	Good (3)		
• Passes 3 or 4 of 5 criteria; OR • Passes 5 of 5 criteria but does not meet the requirements for Good condition within criterion C.	Moderate (2)		
• Passes 2 or fewer of 5 criteria.	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
NA			
Footnotes			

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (low distinctiveness)			
UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Type			
Grassland - Modified grassland			
On-site or off-site, site name and location	Off-site, St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont	Survey date and Surveyor name	15/07/2024 - Patryk Gruba
Limitations (if applicable)	N/A	Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	N/A
Grid reference	NY0080610788	Habitat parcel reference	4
Habitat Description			
g4, 106, 112 – Modified grassland Mown modified grassland with a flood bund accent north to the red line planning boundary separating school grounds from the sports pitch.			
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	Five 1m ² quadrats were randomly selected and assessed. The average number of vascular plant species within the quadrats was 7.8, (including those listed in Footnote 1).
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.	Yes	Sward height varied
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	Scrub cover less than 20%.
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 physical damage noted.
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	No	No bare ground within the parcel
F	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20%.	Yes	No bracken recorded.
G	There is an absence of invasive non-native plant species ³ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁴).	Yes	No invasive non-native plant species recorded.
Essential criterion achieved (Yes or No)			Yes
Number of criteria passed			6
Condition Assessment Result (out of 7 criteria)	Condition Assessment Score	Score Achieved ×/√	
Passes 6 or 7 criteria including passing essential criterion A	Good (3)	√	
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			
Increasing species diversity within the grassland by using wildflower seeding or plug planting. Creating scrapes / areas where the topsoil has been removed and seeding these areas with wildflower seeds. Maintaining varied sward heights throughout the growing season			
Footnotes			
Footnote 1 – Creeping thistle <i>Cirsium arvense</i> , spear thistle <i>Cirsium vulgare</i> , curled dock <i>Rumex crispus</i> , broad-leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> , common nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> , creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i> , greater plantain <i>Plantago major</i> , white clover <i>Trifolium repens</i> and cow parsley <i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i> .			
Footnote 2 – For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing establishment of new species, or localised patches where not exceeding 10% cover.			
Footnote 3 – Assess this for each distinct habitat parcel. If the distribution of invasive non-native species varies across the habitat, split into parcels accordingly, applying a buffer zone around the invasive non-native species with a size relative to its risk of spread into adjacent habitat, using professional judgement.			
Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).			