

Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise

Breeding Bird Survey Report

Prepared on behalf of

Esquire Developments

Final Report

28 November 2025

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Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise

Breeding Bird Survey Report

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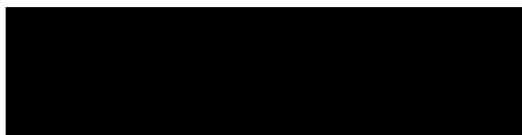
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Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise

Breeding Bird Survey Report

Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. METHODS	4
3. RESULTS	6
4. ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION	7
5. REFERENCES	8

FIGURES

- Figure 1** Site Location
Figure 2 Walked Transect Route

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1** Summary of Relevant National Legislation
Appendix 2 Breeding Bird Survey Results 2025
Appendix 3 Breeding Bird Data: Comparison with Local Wildlife Site Criteria

Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise

Breeding Bird Survey Report

Executive Summary

Ecological Planning & Research (EPR) conducted a Breeding Bird Survey in relation to the Proposed Development on Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise.

Four daytime survey visits were conducted between May 2025 and June 2025.

A total of 45 bird species were recorded during the survey. Nine species were only recorded flying over the Site and/or were always beyond the Site boundary.

Of the 36 species that used the Site, five are red status and seven are amber status species. Of the 33 species, six are also listed as Species of Principal Importance.

The breeding bird assemblage using the Site and of the surrounding area is of ecological importance at the **Zol Level** only.

Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise

Breeding Bird Survey Report

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Ecological Planning & Research (EPR) was commissioned by Esquire Developments to conduct a Breeding Bird Survey in relation to the Proposed Development on Land at Rose Farm, Downs Road, Istead Rise (hereafter referred to as 'the Site').

1.2 **Figure 1** shows the location of the Site.

Relevant Legislation

1.3 **Appendix 1** provides further information about:

- The Environment Act 2021;
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended);
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended);
- The Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000; and
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

Likely Biophysical Changes

1.4 Biophysical change means an "*alteration in biological and/or physical conditions of the environment (e.g., changes in the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide, altered soil pH or change in the frequency of a plant species in an area)*" (CIEEM, 2018).

1.5 The predicted biophysical changes that could be generated from the Proposed Development and be of relevance to breeding birds are provided in **Table 1.1**, along with their likely Zone of Influence (Zoi).

Table 1.1: Activities and Biophysical Changes associated with the Proposed Development that may give rise to ecological impacts on breeding birds, and the associated Zone(s) of Influence.

Activity	Potential Impact	Zone of Influence
<i>The Site Clearance and Construction Phase</i>		
Vegetation clearance and ground works.	Loss and fragmentation of Habitat. Disturbance. Direct harm or death of individuals.	Site and areas within 400m of it.
Drainage.	Change of groundwater flows and/or water quality, that may in turn affect suitable habitat.	The Site and immediate surrounds.
Access and travel on / off the Site.	Disturbance (e.g., via ground vibration).	The Site and locations around access points.
Assembly and storage areas for machines, materials, and construction compounds.	Loss and fragmentation of Habitat. Direct harm or death of individual animals. Disturbance.	The Site and its immediate surrounds.
Construction of new roads and buildings.	Habitat fragmentation.	Site and areas within 400m of it.
Creation of new habitats through the implementation of a soft landscaping scheme.	Beneficial impact from the creation of new habitat.	Site and areas within 400m of it.
<i>Operational Phase</i>		
Access and travel on / off the Site, including increased number of people visiting the site for recreational purposes.	Disturbance (e.g., increased interactions with people and their pets); and Potential increase in mortality rates from increased access, interactions with people.	Site and areas within 400m of it. May extend up to 1km in some circumstances.
Occupation of new houses: urban effects.	Disturbance; Loss and fragmentation of habitats by trampling; and Degradation and pollution of habitats through urban effects (such as fly tipping).	Site and areas within 400m of it.
Implementation of Biodiversity Gain and Ecological Management Plan.	Enhancement of existing habitats for birds and the creation of new habitats.	Site and areas within 400m of it.

Zone of Influence

- 1.6 The Zone of Influence (Zol) of a development is defined by the Ecological Impact Assessment Guidelines (EclA) as “...*the area over which ecological features may be affected by biophysical changes as a result of the proposed project and associated activities*” (CIEEM, 2018).
- 1.7 The Zol of the Proposed Development associated with breeding birds is, for the purposes of this report, considered to be the Site and up to 400m from the Site boundary. This is because recreational disturbance arising from new residents, such as dogs off leads, and increased predation rates from domestic cats, is likely to extend beyond the Site boundary. In the latter case, there is evidence cats have a home range of approximately 300m to 400m (Thomas, *et al.*, 2014). This is of importance because cats predate birds and dogs may disturb breeding farmland bird species and/or assemblages.
- 1.8 The potential Zol of the Proposed Development is also likely to vary dependent on the bird species present, and this is likely to be associated with the relative foraging distances during the breeding season.
- 1.9 The Zol will also extend to those locations where off-site impacts might occur.

Survey Objectives

- 1.10 The objectives of the survey and report are to:
- Identify suitable breeding bird habitat within the Site;
 - Assess the use of the Site by breeding birds;
 - Report the results of the breeding bird survey; and
 - Assess the ecological importance of the Site for breeding birds.

2. METHODS

Desk Study

- 2.1 A biological records data search was commissioned from Kent and Medway Biological Records Centre (KMBRC) on 14th February 2025. It included bird records within a 2km radius of the Site.
- 2.2 However, interpreting bird data returned from biological records centres is challenging because it is hard to differentiate birds that use the site for breeding, from birds that are migrants and/or vagrants (a bird that has strayed or been blown from its usual range or migratory route). It is also, possibly more than any other taxa (except for perhaps terrestrial invertebrates), heavily biased by recording efforts of local enthusiasts and the location of nearby 'hotspots' (such as the nearby coastal locations). Finally, the data return does not allow detailed spatial analysis of records. Therefore, this report has not completed an assessment of the breeding bird records provided within the biological records search. It was however used to inform the scope of the breeding bird survey.

Field Survey

Habitat Assessment

- 2.3 The habitats were assessed for their suitability for breeding birds by Senior Ecologist Sean Manely BSc (Hons) MCIEEM, during the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, and by Jonathan Singlewood-Dodds BSc (Hons) during the Breeding Bird Survey.

Breeding Bird Survey

- 2.4 The Breeding Bird Survey was conducted by Jonathan Singlewood-Dodds BSc (Hons). Jonathan has over six years of ornithological experience, including experience of BTO survey/monitoring and surveys at three different UK bird observatories.
- 2.5 Four daytime survey visits were conducted between 12th May 2025 and 16th June 2025. Further information is provided in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1: Time and weather during Breeding Bird Survey visits in 2025.

Date	Time & Weather
12/05/2025	05:30-06:45. Dry, BF 0-1, 11°C to 13°C, 40% to 10% cloud cover, good visibility.
22/05/2025	05:05-06:35. Dry, BF 0-1, 6°C to 8°C, 0% to 30% cloud cover, good visibility.
02/06/2025	05:00-06:30. Dry, BF 1, 12°C to 13°C, 40% to 50% cloud cover, good visibility.
16/06/2025	04:45-06:15. Dry, BF 1, 14°C to 15°C, 0% cloud cover, good visibility.

- 2.6 The survey methodology used was based on territory mapping, as outlined in Gilbert *et al.* (1998), and guidance from The Bird Survey Guidelines (Bird Survey & Assessment Steering Group, Undated).
- 2.7 All bird species seen or heard during the survey were recorded. However, most survey effort was focused on species listed as Species of Principal Importance and/or those red status

species (see Stanbury *et al.*, 2021 and 2024) and/or those species listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

- 2.8 Consequently, birds flying overhead (and not using the Site) and/or some common and widespread species may have been missed on specific survey visits. Records of Feral Pigeon *Columba livia domestica* were not made.
- 2.9 The area was surveyed on foot so that the surveyor passed within 50m of most points within the Site. In some circumstances, i.e., when fields were occupied by cattle deemed too dangerous to work with, the distance between the surveyor and areas within the Site may have exceeded 50m. The precise route walked varied on each visit to control for time-of-day effects when it was possible to do that between rotation of horses across the Site.
- 2.10 **Figure 2** shows the walked transect route that was used during the Breeding Bird Survey.
- 2.11 Where possible, signs of breeding activity were noted, and breeding evidence was assigned to four categories: confirmed; probable; possible and non-breeding. These are based on the standard British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) criteria.

Evaluation Methodology

- 2.12 Using a combination of the results, data in Kent Bird Reports 2019-2022 and professional judgement, the importance of the breeding bird assemblage is valued according to the CIEEM (2018) guidelines.
- 2.13 The importance value is based on a recommended geographical context. For the purposes of this assessment, the following geographical contexts are used; Zol, Local, County, Regional, National, United Kingdom, European or International level.
- 2.14 The criteria for Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in Kent (KWT, 2024) has also been used to determine whether the breeding bird assemblages present are likely to be of ecological importance at the County Level or Local Level (see **Appendix 3**). For the purposes of this assessment, a breeding bird assemblage connected to a specific habitat type is considered to be of ecological importance at the Local Level when it exceeds 60% of the threshold for County Level importance.

Considerations

- 2.15 There were no material constraints to each survey visit, and the total of four visits is proportionate given the size of the Proposed Development and the types of habitats present. For example, most of the Site is dominated by horse and cattle grazed paddocks and/or hard standing and buildings. These are unsuitable for breeding birds.
- 2.16 On each visit, one field was inaccessible because of the presence of cattle, and it was not safe to enter the field with these animals present. Therefore, on each survey visit coverage was reduced. However, bird song travels and in general access was sufficient across all visits for this to be only a minor (and non-material) limitation.

3. RESULTS

Desk Study

- 3.1 The records within the last 10 years included common and widespread bird species, and some species associated with farmland. However, none of the species returned (in combination with the habitats present) indicated specialist survey methods were needed, and therefore standard breeding bird survey methods were used.

Field Survey

Habitat Assessment

- 3.2 The Site provides suitable breeding and foraging habitat for relatively common and widespread scrub/farmland bird species that are also red or amber status. For example, Greenfinch *Chloris chloris*, Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*, Stock Dove *Columba oenas* and Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*.
- 3.3 The short, grazed horse paddocks, the field supporting cattle, and the areas of hard standing and associated buildings, which dominate the Site, do not provide suitable habitat for ground nesting birds, but they do provide foraging habitat for Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*.
- 3.4 Arable farmland surrounding the Site supports breeding and foraging habitat for several farmland specialists, including Skylark *Alauda arvensis*, Linnet, Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*, Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* and Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*.

Breeding Bird Survey

- 3.5 A total of 45 bird species were recorded during the Breeding Bird Survey.
- 3.6 Of these, the following were seen flying over the Site and making no further use of it: Greylag Goose *Anser anser*, Mediterranean Gull *Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*, Lesser Black-backed Gull *Larus fuscus*, Herring Gull *Larus argentatus*, Ring-necked Parakeet *Psittacula krameri*. These species are not considered further.
- 3.7 Furthermore, Skylark, Corn Bunting, Yellow Wagtail and Whitethroat were recorded exclusively outside of the Site in surrounding arable fields. None of these species were recorded using the Site and the fields upon which these birds were recorded had no public access. Whilst they did not use the Site, they are considered as part of the breeding bird assemblage within the Zone of Influence of the Proposed Development.
- 3.8 Swift *Apus apus* was seen flying over the Site and were flying low and actively used it for foraging/hunting.
- 3.9 Of the 36 species that used the Site, five are red status and seven are amber status species. Furthermore, of the species that used the Site, five species are listed as Species of Principal Importance.
- 3.10 **Appendix 2** provides more information about the survey results.

4. ECOLOGICAL EVALUATION

- 4.1 The adjacent arable fields support a farmland bird assemblage that includes specialists, such as Corn Bunting, Skylark, Yellow Wagtail and Whitethroat. However, none of these bird species used the Site during survey work, and the on-site habitats are not suitable because the fields are small, enclosed and many are horse or cattle grazed with an associated very short sward.
- 4.2 Given the bird species seen and the associated numbers recorded, the breeding bird assemblage using the Site is of ecological importance at the **ZoI Level** only.
- 4.3 The breeding bird assemblage within the wider ZoI of the Proposed Development is also of ecological importance at the **ZoI Level** (see **Appendix 3** for further information).

5. REFERENCES

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Figures

Figure 1 Site Location

Figure 2 Walked Transect Route



Figure 1 Site Location

KEY

 Site boundary

SCALE: 1:3,000 at A3

0 50 100 150 200 Metres

N





CLIENT: Esquire Developments Ltd

PROJECT: Istead Rise, Kent

DATE: 25 November 2025



Figure 2 Walked Transect Route

- KEY
-  Site boundary
 -  Walked transect route

SCALE: 1:2,000 at A3

0 25 50 75 100 125 Metres



CLIENT: Esquire Developments Ltd

PROJECT: Istead Rise, Kent

DATE: 25 November 2025

Appendix 1

Summary of Relevant National Legislation

The Environment Act 2021

The Environment Act 2021 places a requirement on the Secretary of State to make regulations setting out long-term targets for air quality, water, biodiversity, resource efficiency and waste reduction.

The Act strengthens the biodiversity duty placed on public authorities through amendments to the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 Section 40, requiring such authorities to not only conserve but also enhance biodiversity when exercising their functions.

Several aspects of protected species licencing have been adjusted by the Act. These include the removal of several inconsistencies between the Habitats Regulations and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), ensuring that licences issued under the former piece of legislation also apply under the latter, and making it now possible for licences to be issued under Section 16(3) of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) for purposes of overriding public interest.

All biodiversity-related commitments and requirements (as set out in Part 6 of the Act) will come into force upon the adoption of secondary legislation and regulations, following a period of consultation. Timescales are to be confirmed, but this is currently expected to be around late 2023.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) / Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

All wild birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), making it an offence, with certain exceptions (e.g., game birds), to intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird and to take, damage or destroy their nests or eggs.

Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) affords extra protection for certain species and applies harsher penalties for offences. Any intentional or reckless disturbance of a Schedule 1 bird, whilst it is nesting or rearing dependent young, constitutes an offence.

Regulation 10 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) requires appropriate authorities and conservation bodies, in the exercise of their functions, to take such steps that they consider appropriate to secure *“the preservation, maintenance and re-establishment of a sufficient diversity and area of habitat for wild birds in the United Kingdom, including by means of the upkeep, management and creation of such habitat (...)”*.

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (as amended)

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 places a “Biodiversity Duty” on all public bodies to have regard to the conservation of biodiversity when carrying out their normal functions. This includes giving consideration for the restoration and enhancement of species and habitats.

Section 41 of the Act requires the Secretary of State to publish a list of habitats and species which are of Principal Importance for the conservation of biodiversity in England. This list includes several bird species. Public authorities also have a responsibility to give specific consideration to the Section 41 list when exercising their normal functions. This includes a clear responsibility on local planning authorities to further the conservation of Section 41 species. As such, these species can be a material consideration in development control decisions and so developers are advised to take reasonable measures to avoid or mitigate impacts to prevent the net loss of these species, and to enhance their habitats where possible. Additional guidance to developers is typically provided in local level planning policies.

Birds of Conservation Concern

The Birds of Conservation Concern list (Stanbury *et al.*, 2021) assigns all UK bird species a status of either Green, Amber, or Red depending on a number of factors such as changes in population size or distribution over the last twenty-five years. This information is determined by a partnership of nature conservation organisations including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and is updated every three to six years.

The Birds of Conservation Concern list carries no legal weight in itself but is used to set priorities for conservation and guide policy and decision making, and it provides a useful tool for assessing the value of breeding bird assemblages. Many Red-listed and Amber-listed Birds of Conservation Concern species are also listed on Section 41 of the NERC Act.

Appendix 2

Breeding Bird Survey Results 2025

Table A2.1: Summary of bird data from daytime survey visits between May 2025 and June 2025.

Name	Scientific Name	BoCC Status	Notes
Greylag Goose (fo)	<i>Anser anser</i>	Ambler WL	Observed. Two flew south over the Site on 16/06.
Red-legged Partridge	<i>Alectoris rufa</i>	No status	Breeding probable. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat.
Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	No status	Breeding possible. Recorded in the western half of the Site and in surrounding farmland on 22/05, 02/06 and 16/06.
Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	Amber BDMp1	Observed. Female flew west over horse paddocks on 22/05.
Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	Green	Observed. Single was feeding on the ground in the horse paddocks, on 16/06, where it was also observed fighting a Carrion Crow.
Mediterranean Gull (fo)	<i>Ichthyaetus melanocephalus</i>	Amber BL	Observed. Multiple birds flew over the Site following a distinct flight line south-west, between the River Thames and Istead Rise. They were seen to land on fields beyond the Site to forage. Peak count of 17 recorded on 22/05, also recorded on 16/06.
Herring Gull* (fo)	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Red BDp2 WDp1	Observed. Multiple birds flew over the Site following a distinct flight line south-west between the River Thames and Istead Rise. They were seen to land on fields beyond the Site to forage. Peak count of seven on 16/06, also recorded on 22/05.
Lesser Black-backed gull (fo)	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Amber BL, BI	Observed. Multiple birds flew over the Site following a distinct flight line south-west (as above). Peak count of five on 22/05, also recorded on 02/06 and 16/06.
Stock Dove	<i>Columba oenas</i>	Amber BI	Breeding probable. Recorded on each survey visit. Between one and two territories. Mostly associated with the farmyard buildings and mature treelines, regularly feeding in the cattle and horse paddocks in the western half of the Site.
Woodpigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	Amber BI	Breeding probable. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat.
Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between one and two territories. Associated with the farmyard buildings and nearby residential areas along Downs Road. Recorded on 05/12, 02/06 and 16/06.
Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	No status	Breeding probable. Single bird was flushed by agitated Swallows, flew into large trees surrounding farmyard buildings on 02/06. Also heard calling during other ecology work (bat survey) on 21/05 near the menage.

Name	Scientific Name	BoCC Status	Notes
Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	Red BDp1	Breeding off-site (possible). Single seen flying low over centre of the Site on 02/06 foraging and feeding. Suitable breeding habitat is nearby in adjacent residential areas in Istead Rise.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopus major</i>	Green	Breeding confirmed. Between one and two territories. Adult was seen feeding recently fledged young in private garden in the east of the Site on 16/06. Also recorded on 22/05 and 02/06 widely across the Site.
Green Woodpecker	<i>Picus viridis</i>	Green	Breeding possible. Single heard calling south of the eastern half of the Site on 12/05.
Ring-necked Parakeet (fo)	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	No status	Observed. Multiple recorded flying over the Site on 12/05 and 02/06.
Jay	<i>Garrulous glandarius</i>	Green	Breeding possible. Single recorded flying from horse paddocks and continuing south on 02/06. Also recorded in the primary school grounds east of the Site on 16/06.
Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	Green	Breeding possible. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat.
Jackdaw	<i>Corvus monedula</i>	Green	Breeding confirmed off-site. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat. Adults seen carrying food from horse paddocks on 02/06.
Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	Amber ERLOB	Breeding confirmed off-site. Recorded across the western half of the Site associating with the horse paddocks. Birds were seen carrying food on 12/05 and 22/05.
Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	Green	Breeding possible. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat.
Coal Tit	<i>Pariparus ater</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Single territory noted. Single singing bird east of the Site in adjacent gardens on 12/05.
Blue Tit	<i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	Green	Breeding confirmed. Between three and five territories. Recorded on each survey visit. Adult was seen feeding young on 02/06 in the garden.
Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between three and six territories. Recorded on each survey visit widely across the Site in suitable breeding habitat.
Skylark*	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	Red BDp2	Breeding off-site (probable). Between five and six off-site territories. Recorded on each survey visit, always beyond Site boundary. Strongly associated with the arable farmland south and west of the Site. Peak count of five birds recorded on 22/05.
Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Green	Breeding confirmed. Two confirmed nests. Recorded on each survey visit. Regularly feeding across the entire Site, and two active nests were recorded in the farmyard buildings on 22/05 and 02/06.
Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>	Green	Breeding possible. Single bird recorded in private garden by the farmyard buildings on 22/05.

Name	Scientific Name	BoCC Status	Notes
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between one and two territories. Associated with wooded boundaries across the Site. Recorded on 22/05, 02/06 and 16/06.
Blackcap	<i>Sylvia atricapilla</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between one and three territories. Associated with wooded boundaries in the eastern half of the Site. Recorded on 12/05 and 02/06.
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis</i>	Amber BDMp2	Breeding off-site (probable). Between one and two territories. Recorded on 12/05 and 22/05, and always beyond the Site boundary. Favouring hedgerows within the arable farmland west of the Site.
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Single territory noted. Single bird heard singing on 02/06 in private gardens adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Site.
Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Amber BI	Breeding probable. Between 12 and 19 territories. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat.
Starling*	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Red BDp1/2	Breeding off-site (confirmed). Recorded on each survey visit widely across the Site. Adults seen carrying food, using the horse and cattle paddocks in the west and the private garden in the east of the Site for feeding. Peak count of 16 juveniles amongst 31 adults using the private garden on 16/06.
Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Green	Breeding confirmed. Between seven and 10 territories. Recorded on each survey visit widely across the Site. Associated with woodland (including off-site areas), scrub, and hedgerows. Seen to forage on short grassland across the Site. Adults seen carrying food on 02/06 and 16/06.
Song Thrush*	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Amber BDMp2	Breeding probable. Two confirmed territories. Associated with woodland (including off-site areas), scrub, and hedgerows along the boundaries and adjacent gardens. Recorded on 12/05 and 06/02.
Robin	<i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between 17 and 20 territories. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit in suitable breeding habitat.
House Sparrow*	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Red BDp2	Breeding confirmed. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit. Five adults were seen carrying food on 16/06. Favouring the farmyard buildings, hedgerows around the Site and neighbouring private gardens.
Dunnock*	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	Amber BDMp2	Breeding probable. Between eight and 12 territories. Recorded widely across the Site on each survey visit. Strongly associated with hedgerows around the perimeters and between the paddocks and arable fields.
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Red BDp1 BDp2	Breeding off-site (probable). Singles were heard singing on 12/05 and 16/06 exclusively outside of the Site. Favouring arable farmland south and west of the Site.

Name	Scientific Name	BoCC Status	Notes
Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Green	Breeding confirmed. Singles were using the cattle and horse paddocks for feeding, a bird carrying food was noted on 16/06. Also recorded on 02/06.
Chaffinch	<i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between four and seven territories. Recorded on each survey visit. Favouring the large trees around the farmyard buildings and southern horse paddocks, sometimes using adjacent gardens.
Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris</i>	Red BDp1/2	Breeding probable. Between two and three territories. Recorded on each survey visit. Strongly associated with residential gardens along Downs Road, a singing bird was noted on 02/06 singing in a private garden within the Site boundary.
Linnet*	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	Red BDp2	Breeding probable. Between one and three territories. Recorded on each survey visit. Mostly favouring the horse paddocks and hedgerows around the Site boundaries and beyond in the surrounding farmland.
Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Green	Breeding probable. Between two and four territories. Recorded on each survey visit. Associated with the farmyard buildings and adjacent residential gardens.
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	Red HD BDp1/2 BDr2	Breeding off-site (probable). Between one and two territories. Recorded on 22/05, and always beyond the Site boundary. Strongly associated with the arable farmland south and west of the Site.

Key

B	Breeding confirmed (nest or young seen)
Pr	Breeding probable (holding territory, e.g. singing male)
Po	Breeding possible (present during breeding season in suitable habitat)
O	Observed during breeding season, but no evidence of breeding (i.e. raptors flying over, herons with no evidence of heronry, ducks summering on an urban pond)
N	Not breeding: wintering, transients or passage
*	Listed under Section 41 of the NERC Act 2006
^	Listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Bird of Conservation Concern (BoCC) codes:

Red-list criteria

HD	Historical Decline in breeding population
BDp1/2	Severe breeding population decline over 25 years/longer term
BDr1/2	Severe breeding range decline over 25 years/longer term
WDp1/2	Severe non-breeding population decline over 25 years/longer term
WDr1	Severe non-breeding range decline over 25 years
IUCN	Globally Threatened – CR (critically endangered) EN (endangered) VU (vulnerable)

Amber-list criteria

HDrec	Historical Decline in breeding population – recovery
BDMp1/2	Moderate breeding population decline over 25 years/longer term
WDMp1/2	Moderate non-breeding population decline over 25 years/longer term
BDMr1/2	Moderate breeding range decline over 25 years/longer term
WDMr1	Moderate non-breeding range decline over 25 years

BR/WR	Breeding/non-breeding rarity
BL/WL	Breeding/non-breeding localisation
BI/WI	Breeding/non-breeding international importance
ERLOB	Threatened in Europe – CR (critically endangered) EN (endangered) VU (vulnerable)

Appendix 3

Breeding Bird Data: Comparison with Local Wildlife Site Criteria

The most relevant bird assemblages to this ecological assessment, are the farmland bird assemblage because of the habitats within and immediately beyond the Site boundary. There is no significant area of woodland, grassland, wetland (and associated habitats), or scrub.

Table A3.1: Farmland Bird Assemblage. Criteria threshold is 21 points. 11 points achieved, meaning only 52.4% of threshold met. The Farmland Bird assemblage is therefore considered to be ecological importance at the Zone of Influence Level. For the purposes of this report, 60% has been used as the threshold for 'Local Level' importance.

Farmland	LWS Criteria Scores	Breeding Bird Survey
Grey partridge	3	n/a
Marsh harrier	4.5	n/a
Kestrel	3	n/a
Hobby	4	n/a
Lapwing	3	n/a
Stock dove	2	2
Turtle dove	5	n/a
Cuckoo	3.5	n/a
Barn owl	4	n/a
Tree sparrow	5	n/a
Yellow wagtail	3	3
Linnet	2	2
Yellowhammer	2	n/a
Reed bunting	2	n/a
Corn bunting	4	4