



# Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm

## Category 6: Environmental Statement

### Volume 5, Annex 5.7: Dormouse Survey Report

#### Deadline 8

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|          |            |                                |        |               |                |

[Redacted]

RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited

Windmill Hill Business Park  
 Whitehill Way  
 Swindon  
 Wiltshire SN5 6PB  
 T +44 (0)8456 720 090

[Redacted]

Registered office:  
 RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited  
 Windmill Hill Business Park  
 Whitehill Way  
 Swindon

# AWEL Y MÔR OFFSHORE WIND FARM

**Dormouse Survey Report**

Prepared for: **GoBe Consultants (on behalf of Awel y  
Môr Offshore Wind Ltd)**

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## 1.0 Introduction

Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (AyM) is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is being undertaken and an Environmental Statement (ES) will be provided as part of a Development Consent Order (DCO) application under the Planning Act 2008.

SLR Consulting was commissioned by GoBe Consultants, on behalf of Awel y Môr Offshore Wind Ltd (The Applicant), in May 2020 to undertake the onshore ecological work necessary to inform the EIA. This report provides details of the dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius* survey undertaken in summer and autumn 2021.

As AyM progresses, the emerging scheme design will continue to be refined and so the precise locations and final extent of the proposed scheme are subject to change. Therefore, the scheme details presented in this report may vary from those that are ultimately presented within the ES, but the survey area includes all areas currently under consideration at the time of survey.

### 1.1 Background

An EIA Scoping Report was prepared in accordance with Regulation 10 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 and Regulation 6 of the Marine Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2007. The EIA Scoping Report was submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in June 2020. Within the EIA Scoping Report, full details were provided as to the proposed approach for ecological survey and assessment. An EIA Scoping Opinion was provided by PINS in response to the EIA Scoping Report, in July 2020. Comments made in the EIA Scoping Opinion have been taken into account within this report, where relevant. Both documents are available at the PINS website<sup>1</sup>; the EIA Scoping Report and EIA Scoping Opinion content is not repeated here, and readers should refer to the original documents for details.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was subsequently carried out during the period July to September 2020 for three landfall locations, cable route corridors and substation locations that were under consideration by The Applicant at that time. The PEA was informed by additional desk-based study and initial habitat survey, based on interpretation of aerial imagery and ground-based survey, where access was possible. Findings were presented in a PEA<sup>2</sup> report, submitted to the AyM EIA Evidence Plan Expert Topic Group (ETG) (which includes Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Denbighshire County Council (DCC), the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and North Wales Wildlife Trust (NWWT)), in February 2021 for information and comment. The PEA report included detailed survey proposals for dormouse.

In line with the recommendations in the PEA report, and following discussion and agreement of the final survey scope during an ETG meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the dormouse surveys commenced in April 2021.

### 1.2 Survey Area

In accordance with the EIA Scoping Report and PEA report, and as agreed at the ETG meeting in February 2021, the dormouse survey comprised:

- Hazelnut searches at woodland within the Draft Order Limits (DOL) that were presented at Statutory Consultation, plus the surrounding area extending 100 m (i.e. 100 m either side of the onshore export cable corridor (ECC) and to all sides of any other infrastructure or works areas such as Temporary Construction Compounds (TCCs) and access tracks).
- Nest tube survey which was undertaken at all woodlands and hedgerows that may be breached by the

<sup>1</sup><https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/wales/awel-y-mor-offshore-wind-farm/?ipcsection=docs>

<sup>2</sup> For a copy of the PEA refer to AyM Offshore Windfarm Environmental Statement Volume 5, Annex 5.1.

onshore cable corridor south of the A525 and which are potentially suitable for use by dormice. The woodland survey also included use of nest boxes in addition to tubes. Hedgerows north of the A525 were scoped out, due to lack of suitable structure, foodplants and/or connectivity.

Within this report the following terms are used:

- Study Area: This is the 2km zone around the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation.
- Nut Search Survey Area: woodland within the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation, plus the surrounding area that is within 100 m from the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation;
- Presence/absence Survey Area: All woodlands plus hedgerows that may be breached south of the A525.
- Areas other than these are specifically described.

### 1.3 Purpose of this Report

This report presents the findings of the dormouse survey. The report seeks to establish baseline conditions and identify habitats that may be important for the species. The assessment of impacts resulting from the onshore elements of AyM is beyond the scope of this report and is covered in the Onshore Biodiversity and Nature Conservation chapter of the ES.

The main objectives of the work were to:

- identify the extent of suitable habitat for dormice within the Survey Areas;
- determine the presence/absence of dormice within the Survey Areas; and
- evaluate the importance of the dormouse population (if present) in a local, regional and national context.

### 1.4 Evidence of Technical Competence and Experience

A team of ecologists from Enfys Ecology Ltd undertook the field surveys, as detailed in Table 1-1. At least one NRW licence holder was present during all surveys.

**Table 1-1  
 Survey Staff**

| Name         | Experience of dormouse survey  | Professional Membership   |
|--------------|--|---|
| Rhian Hughes | <p>NRW LICENCE REF: S087744/1</p> <p>Rhian has been involved in dormouse work in North Wales since 2007, during this time she worked as the North Wales Dormouse Project Officer from 2007 – 2010, and has since maintained a network of volunteers to carry out dormouse surveys as well as carrying out surveys herself.</p> <p>Since 2016 she has also been trained to carry out microchipping on dormice and is now licenced to carry out microchipping at Coed Fron Wyllt on dormice over 8g in weight. Rhian also microchips dormice (under licence) at RWE’s Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm, North Wales as part of the monitoring programme and research at the site.</p> <p>Rhian holds her own survey licence and has been the</p> | <p>Full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)(MCIEEM)</p> |

| Name           | Experience of dormouse survey  | Professional Membership            |
|----------------|--|------------------------------------|
|                | <p>named ecologist for a number of development licences for dormice. She has previous experience of presence/absence surveys and monitoring for large projects such as the onshore connection for Burbo Bank offshore windfarm project which involved onshore infrastructure near St Asaph.</p>  |                                    |
| Lucy Boyett    | <p>NRW LICENCE REF: S089771/1</p> <p>Lucy has monitored dormice at the site Coed Fron Wylt, North Wales for over 13 years, where there is a large known dormouse population, gaining extensive knowledge of dormouse ecology, nest identification, handling and recording.</p> <p>During 2015 and 2016 she trained to microchip dormice, without anaesthetic, and is now licensed to undertake microchipping at Coed Fron Wylt as part of the monitoring programme there. Lucy also microchips dormice (under licence) at RWE's Clocaenog Forest Wind Farm, North Wales as part of the monitoring programme and research at the site.</p> <p>Lucy holds her own survey licence and has been the named ecologist for a number of development licences for dormice. She has previous experience of presence/absence surveys and monitoring for large projects such as the onshore connection for Burbo Bank offshore windfarm project which involved onshore infrastructure near St Asaph.</p> | Associate member of CIEEM (ACIEEM) |
| Jane Kingsley  | <p>Jane has assisted with dormouse box monitoring at Coed Fron Wylt, North Wales for the last two years. As there is a large known population here, she has gained experience of nest identification, handling and recording of dormice.</p>   | None                               |
| Sophie Johnson | <p>Sophie has over 10 years of experience surveying dormice including monitoring at Coed Fron Wylt, North Wales and a number of the surrounding woodlands, where there is a large known population. During these surveys she has gained experience of nest identification, handling and recording. She also has assisted with presence /absence surveys for large projects such as onshore connection for Burbo Bank offshore windfarm project which involved onshore infrastructure near St Asaph.</p>  | None                               |



This report has been authored by Jess Colebrook, a Principal Ecologist at SLR Consulting with over 20 years' experience as a professional ecologist. Jess is a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and a full member of CIEEM (MCIEEM). Jess is leading the onshore ecological work necessary to inform the EIA for AYM .

Additional technical support and Quality Assurance review has been provided by Duncan Watson, a Technical Director at SLR Consulting with over 23 years' experience as a professional ecologist. Duncan is a Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) and a full member of CIEEM (MCIEEM).

## 2.0 Methodology

### 2.1 Baseline Data Collection

#### 2.1.1 Desk Study

A desk-based study for protected species records has been undertaken to identify sources of pre-existing ecological data of relevance, that could inform the EIA; this is reported within Table 2-1 of the PEA report. Subsequent to completion of the PEA report, an updated data request was made to Cofnod for records within c.2km of the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation and any data received up to 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 have been included in this report.

#### 2.1.2 Field Surveys

##### Hazel nut search and initial habitat assessment

Dormice leave characteristic chew marks in hazel nuts which, if found, are sufficient to conclude dormouse are present. Hazel nut searches were undertaken within accessible woodlands/hedgerows during the field survey undertaken for the PEA, however, no evidence of the species was recorded at that time. Additional nut searches were made during site visits for the Habitat and Hedgerow Survey<sup>3</sup>. Special effort was also made to record the presence of dormouse food plants within hedgerows during the habitat surveys; during which hazel *Corylus avellana* was not found to be as abundant as anticipated, however other species such as bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, elm *Ulmus glabra* and honeysuckle *Lonicera periclymenum* were found to be locally frequent.

##### Habitat-based assessment

The results from the PEA, Habitat and Hedgerow Survey and desk study were used as the basis to limit the scope of the dormouse survey to the area south of the A525. As noted previously, hedgerows north of the A525 were scoped out due to lack of suitable structure, foodplants and/or connectivity. Thereafter, each hedgerow and woodland south of the A525 that could potentially be breached by the onshore elements of AyM was assessed for its suitability to support dormice. This assessment was undertaken by Rhian Hughes on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The location of each hedgerow or woodland that was subject to this assessment is indicated on Figure 1.

The habitat-based assessment involved recording the presence of following key attributes:

- Species-rich hedge;
- Species-poor hedge;
- Broadleaved woodland;
- Coniferous woodland;
- Presence of dormouse food plants, and which species;
- Additional notes, such as factors which may increase or decrease suitability; and
- If further nest tube/nest box survey was necessary.

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<sup>3</sup> Refer to SLR report AyM Offshore Wind Farm Habitat and Hedgerow Survey, June 2021, included at Volume 5 Annexe 5.3 of the PEIR.

### Presence/Absence Survey (Nest tube/nest box survey)

Of the 39 hedgerows/woodlands subject to habitat-based assessment, 15 were assessed as needing further survey. The further survey was undertaken broadly in accordance with standard methods<sup>4</sup> and a total of 428 nest tubes or nest boxes were installed during the period 17<sup>th</sup> May – 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

The standard dormouse survey method requires that at least 50 tubes or boxes are used to sample a site (size of site is not stated), spread at 20m intervals. The nest boxes/tubes are then repeatedly checked, usually monthly, for the presence of dormice or dormouse nests. In order to conclude likely absence, a search effort score of 20 must be reached based upon the values used in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1**  
**Index of probability of finding dormice in nest tubes in any one month**

|                      | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November |
|----------------------|-------|-----|------|------|--------|-----------|---------|----------|
| Index of probability | 1     | 4   | 5    | 5    | 5      | 7         | 2       | 2        |

Due to the limited extent of the width of the ECC, the standard method was amended such that tubes/boxes were placed at a closer distance to each other than set out in the standard methods, with 25 tubes installed per hedgerow. 25 tubes and ten boxes were installed at each woodland. The locations for each are shown on Figure 2, and grid references are provided in the raw data at Appendix 1.

Table 2-2 provides details for each survey date.

**Table 2-2**  
**Survey Dates and Details**

| Date                            | Surveyor(s)                    | Details   |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 17 – 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2021  | Rhian Hughes and Jane Kingsley | Boxes and tubes installed.  |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> June 2021      | Rhian Hughes                   | Remaining tubes erected (southern parts of the survey area).                        |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> June 2021      | Rhian Hughes, Jane Kingsley    | Tube/Box numbers 2 – 216 (installed in May) checked.                                |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> July 2021      | Lucy Boyett, Jane Kingsley     | All tubes and boxes checked.  |
| 27 <sup>th</sup> August 2021    | Lucy Boyett, Sophie Johnson    | Tube/box numbers 2 – 411 checked. Presence of cattle prevented checks to 412 – 428. |
| 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 | Lucy Boyett, Jane Kingsley     | All tubes and boxes checked.  |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2021       | Lucy Boyett, Jane Kingsley     | All tubes and boxes checked.  |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2021       | Lucy Boyett, Jane Kingsley     | All tubes and boxes checked.  |

The search effort score for the boxes/tubes is therefore as follows (noting box 1 went missing after installation):

- 2-216 = 27;

<sup>4</sup> Bright, P.W., Morris, P.A. and Mitchell-Jones, A. (2006). 'Dormouse Conservation Handbook 2nd Edition', (Peterborough: English Nature).

- 217 - 411 = 22; and
- 412 – 428 = 17 (this is referenced in the limitations section below).

### 2.1.3 Limitations

#### Desk Study

Desk study data are unlikely to be exhaustive, especially in respect of species, and are intended mainly to set a context for the study. It is therefore possible that protected species (in this case dormice) not identified during the data search do in fact occur within the study area.

#### Field Survey

During the presence/absence survey a small number of tubes were damaged by livestock or by hedge cutting activity and rendered unsuitable for use (details are included in the raw data at Appendix 1). As soon as any such damage or disturbance was noted a replacement tube was installed within 3 days.

16 nest tubes (numbers 412 – 428) had a score of less than 20 due to difficulties of access during one visit. These tubes are all within the same hedgerow, at the substation area. Given the abundance of tubes installed in the adjacent linked hedgerows and which scored more than 20, the slightly suboptimal score for the tubes 412-428 is not considered to impact the conclusions of this report.

An ecological study provides only a “snapshot” of the conditions prevailing at the time of survey. Lack of evidence at the time of survey does not necessarily preclude dormice from being present within an area at a later date.

Nevertheless, given the site context and the types of habitat present, the level of survey is considered to be sufficient to assess the likely presence/absence of dormouse, and to meet the purpose of this report as set out in section 1.3.

## 3.0 Results & Discussion

### 3.1 Results

Review of the most recent Cofnod data confirms that one dormouse record occurs within 2km of the DOL, located within woodland approximately 630m distant from the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation at Coed Plas Newydd, as indicated on Figure 2. The record comprises 3 unoccupied dormouse nests found during a nest tube survey in 2013.

With regard to the 2021 field surveys:

- No evidence of dormouse was recorded from nut searches undertaken in both 2020 and 2021.
- No evidence of dormouse has been found during presence/absence surveys carried out during 2021 to date.

Raw data from the habitat-based assessment is included at Appendix 1.

### 3.2 Discussion

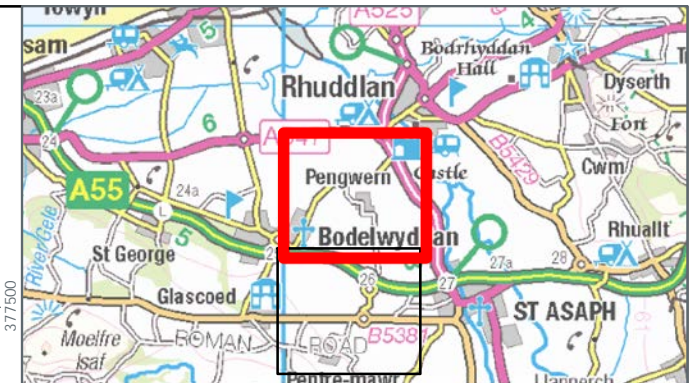
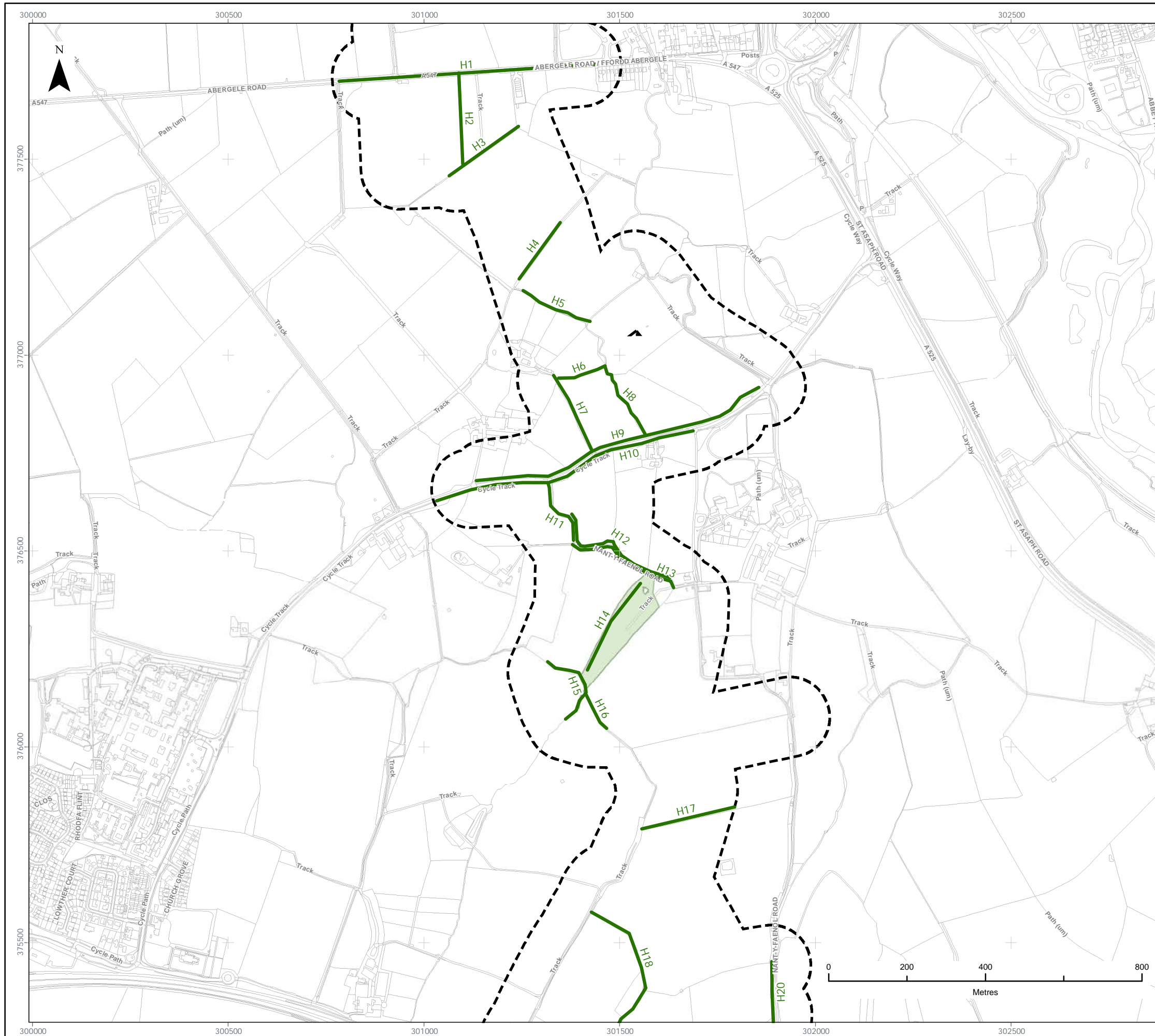
Desk study data confirms that dormice are present to the south of the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation; suitable connecting habitats within the Survey Areas have potential to assist with supporting the local population.

However, due to the lack of evidence to date, dormice are considered to be absent from the Survey Areas, based on negative survey results from nut searches and presence/absence survey.

---

**FIGURE 1**

Hedgerows and Woods subject to Habitat Based Assessment



**LEGEND**

- Dormouse Survey Area
- Hedgerow/Woodland Edge Dormouse Survey Area
- Woodland Dormouse Survey Area

Data Source:  
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PROJECT TITLE:  
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 DORMOUSE SURVEY REPORT*

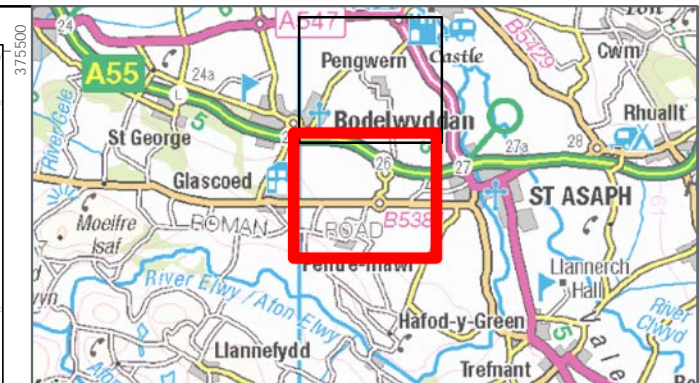
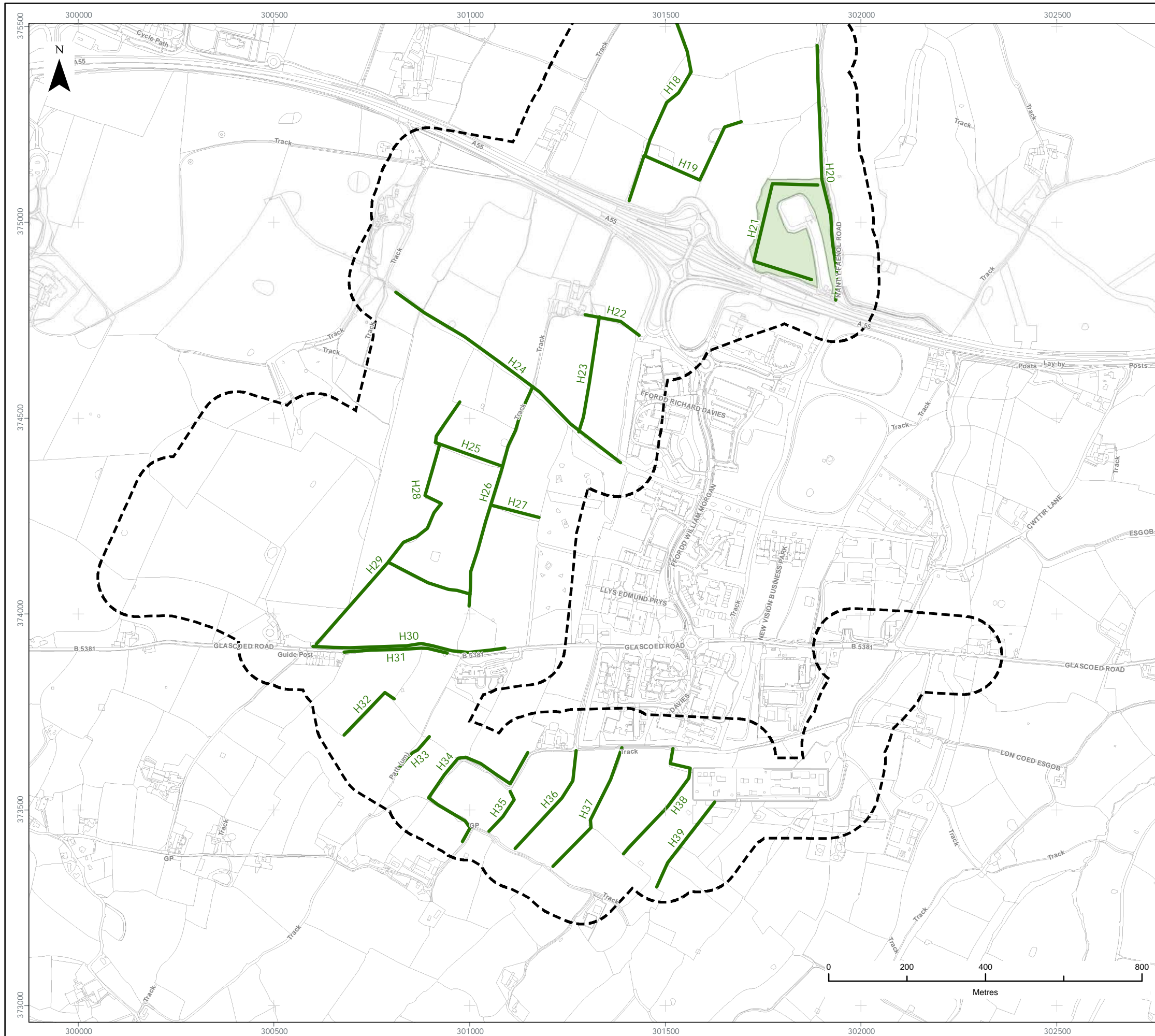
FIGURE TITLE:  
**HEDGEROWS AND WOODS SUBJECT  
 TO HABITAT BASED ASSESSMENT**

| VER | DATE       | REMARKS | Drawn | Checked |
|-----|------------|---------|-------|---------|
| 1   | 02/11/2021 | Draft   | JRS   | MF      |

FIGURE NUMBER:  
**FIGURE 1**  
 Page 1 of 2

SCALE: 1:10,000    PLOT SIZE: A3    DATUM: ODN    COORDINATE SYSTEM: British National Grid





**LEGEND**

- Dormouse Survey Area
- Hedgerow/Woodland Edge Dormouse Survey Area
- Woodland Dormouse Survey Area

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FIGURE TITLE:  
**HEDGEROWS AND WOODS SUBJECT  
 TO HABITAT BASED ASSESSMENT**

| VER | DATE       | REMARKS | Drawn | Checked |
|-----|------------|---------|-------|---------|
| 1   | 02/11/2021 | Draft   | JRS   | MF      |

FIGURE NUMBER:  
**FIGURE 1**  
 Page 2 of 2

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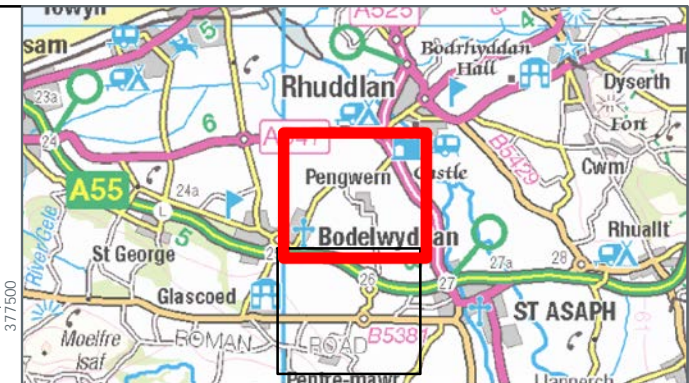
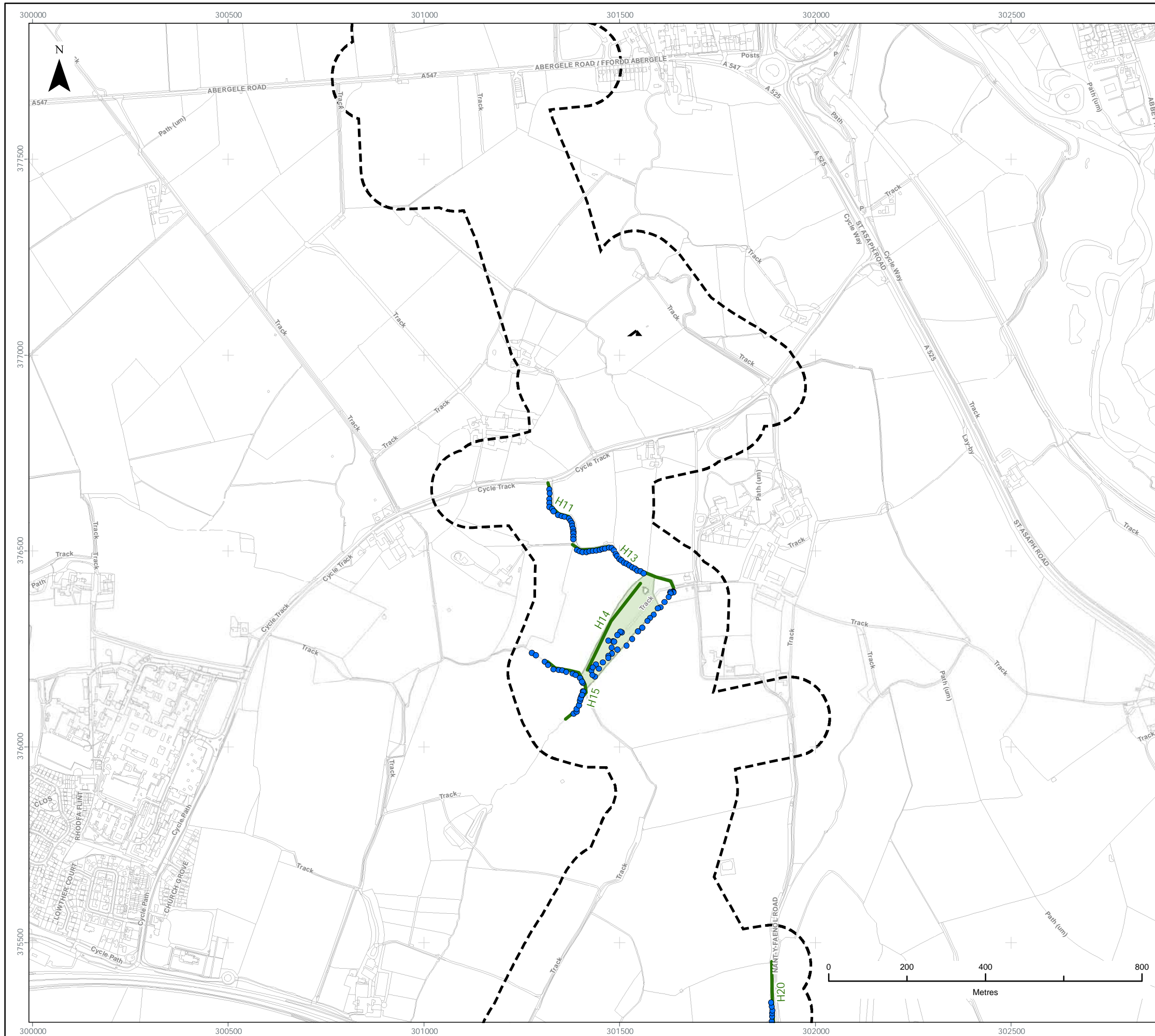




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**FIGURE 2**

Pre-existing Records and 2021 Nest Tube/Box Survey Results



- LEGEND**
- Dormouse Survey Area
  - Hedgerow/Woodland Edge Dormouse Survey Area
  - Woodland Dormouse Survey Area
  - Dormouse Nest Tube/Box Location

Note:  
No Evidence of Dormice Recorded

Data Source:  
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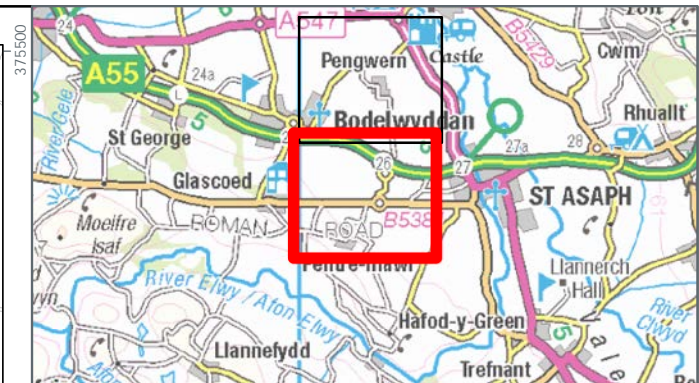
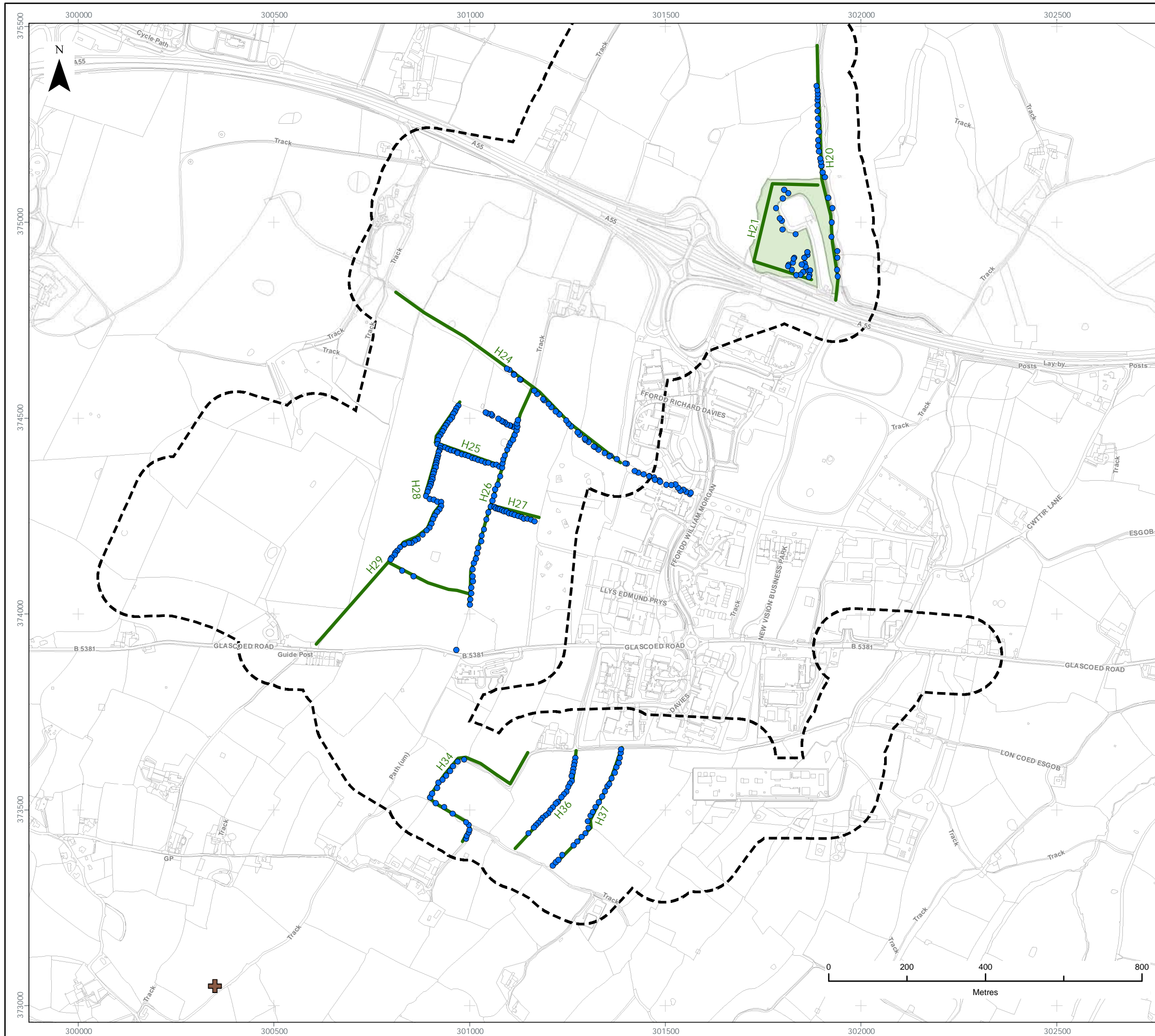
FIGURE TITLE:  
**PRE-EXISTING RECORDS AND  
2021 NEST TUBE/BOX SURVEY RESULTS**

| VER | DATE       | REMARKS | Drawn | Checked |
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| 1   | 02/11/2021 | Draft   | JRS   | MF      |

FIGURE NUMBER:  
**FIGURE 2**  
Page 1 of 2

|                 |               |            |  |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|--|
| SCALE: 1:10,000 | PLOT SIZE: A3 | DATUM: ODN | COORDINATE SYSTEM: British National Grid |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|--|





- LEGEND**
- Dormouse Survey Area
  - Hedgerow/Woodland Edge Dormouse Survey Area
  - Woodland Dormouse Survey Area
  - Dormouse Nest Tube/Box Location
  - Hazel Dormouse Record - Cofnod

Note:  
No Evidence of Dormice Recorded

Data Source:  
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FIGURE TITLE:  
**PRE-EXISTING RECORDS AND  
2021 NEST TUBE/BOX SURVEY RESULTS**

| VER | DATE       | REMARKS | Drawn | Checked |
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| 1   | 02/11/2021 | Draft   | JRS   | MF      |

FIGURE NUMBER:  
**FIGURE 2**  
Page 2 of 2

SCALE: 1:10,000    PLOT SIZE: A3    DATUM: ODN    COORDINATE SYSTEM: British National Grid



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## APPENDIX 1

### Raw Data from 2021 Habitat-based Assessment

| Hedge/<br>Wood<br>Number | Easting | Northing | Date       | Surveyor        | Species<br>poor (P)<br>or rich<br>(R)<br>hedge | Broadleaved<br>(B) or<br>Coniferous (C)<br>Woodland<br>present | Food plants present  | Photo & Additional<br>Notes                            | Further<br>Survey<br>needed?<br>Y/N |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1                        | 301111  | 377721   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn <i>Crataegus<br/>monogyna</i> , blackthorn<br><i>Prunus spinosa</i> , ash<br><i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> ,<br>bramble, sycamore <i>Acer<br/>pseudoplatanus</i> , ivy<br><i>Hedera helix</i> . | Hedge along busy<br>main road. Limited<br>connectivity | N                                   |
| 2                        | 301094  | 377604   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble   |  | N                                   |
| 3                        | 301153  | 377521   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, bramble  | very poor hedge,<br>lots of gaps                       | N                                   |
| 4                        | 301296  | 377267   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble   | Poor hedgerows,<br>no connectivity                     | N                                   |
| 5                        | 301335  | 377116   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy  | Poor hedgerows,<br>no connectivity,<br>large gaps      | N                                   |
| 6                        | 301404  | 376951   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Blackthorn, hawthorn   | Poor hedgerows,<br>no connectivity                     | N                                   |
| 7                        | 301384  | 376854   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Blackthorn, hawthorn,<br>ivy   | Poor hedgerows,<br>no connectivity -<br>along driveway | N                                   |
| 8                        | 301511  | 376884   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Blackthorn, hawthorn,<br>ivy   | Poor hedgerows,<br>no connectivity                     | N                                   |

| Hedge/<br>Wood<br>Number | Easting | Northing | Date       | Surveyor        | Species<br>poor (P)<br>or rich<br>(R)<br>hedge | Broadleaved<br>(B) or<br>Coniferous (C)<br>Woodland<br>present | Food plants present  | Photo & Additional<br>Notes   | Further<br>Survey<br>needed?<br>Y/N |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------------|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| 9                        | 301501  | 376778   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, sycamore,<br>bramble, ivy                            | Along main road,<br>more species<br>diverse in sections<br>but not on average<br>(eastern more<br>diverse, west<br>mainly hawthorn) | N                                   |
| 10                       | 301368  | 376692   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy                          | Along main road   | N                                   |
| 11                       | 301345  | 376595   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, honeysuckle,<br>ivy          | More diverse and<br>connects to H14<br>(woodland block)   | Y                                   |
| 12                       | 301484  | 376521   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy                          |   | N                                   |
| 13                       | 301508  | 376475   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  | B  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy, ash                     | Last section is edge<br>of woodland   | Y                                   |
| 14                       | 301474  | 376314   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  | B  | Oak <i>Quercus robur</i> ,<br>hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble | Woodland edge,<br>not best woodland,<br>not much<br>understorey   | Y                                   |
| 15                       | 301408  | 376164   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Blackthorn, hawthorn,<br>honeysuckle, hazel                    | Connects to<br>woodland, lots of<br>honeysuckle -<br>wasn't able to<br>access a section   | Y                                   |

| Hedge/<br>Wood<br>Number | Easting | Northing | Date       | Surveyor        | Species<br>poor (P)<br>or rich<br>(R)<br>hedge | Broadleaved<br>(B) or<br>Coniferous (C)<br>Woodland<br>present | Food plants present  | Photo & Additional<br>Notes   | Further<br>Survey<br>needed?<br>Y/N |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------------|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| 16                       | 301437  | 376088   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn   | Large gaps present  | N                                   |
| 17                       | 301675  | 375819   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>ivy, bramble  | New fenceline<br>present - hedge has<br>been pollarded -<br>large gap at<br>western end   | N                                   |
| 18                       | 301565  | 375390   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  | B  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ash - treeline<br>up to woodland -<br>conifers. In woodland –<br>cherry <i>Prunus avium</i> ,<br>ash, oak, bramble | Only accessible<br>from the south -<br>hedgerow and<br>woodland area.<br>Area of trees to<br>west of hedge in<br>northern section | N                                   |
| 19                       | 301550  | 375125   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  | B  | Hawthorn, blackthorn, -<br>by pond area of trees,<br>oak, ash  | Trees by pond area<br>but only small area<br>with limited<br>connectivity   | N                                   |
| 20                       | 301899  | 375125   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  | B  | Hazel, sycamore,<br>hawthorn, ivy,<br>blackthorn, ash  | Hedge and<br>woodland edge.<br>Newly planted<br>hedge along<br>woodland edge  | Y                                   |
| 21                       | 301745  | 374980   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | -  | B  | Ash, cherry, hawthorn,<br>blackthorn, bramble,<br>oak, conifer   | Woodland area   | Y                                   |

| Hedge/<br>Wood<br>Number | Easting | Northing | Date       | Surveyor        | Species<br>poor (P)<br>or rich<br>(R)<br>hedge | Broadleaved<br>(B) or<br>Coniferous (C)<br>Woodland<br>present | Food plants present                             | Photo & Additional<br>Notes  | Further<br>Survey<br>needed?<br>Y/N |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------------|--|--|---|--|-------------------------------------|
| 22                       | 301369  | 374750   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Blackthorn, hawthorn                            | Very gappy, no<br>understorey  | N                                   |
| 23                       | 301309  | 374611   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Blackthorn, hawthorn,<br>ivy, bramble           | Not the best hedge,<br>but links up to the<br>bridleway  | N                                   |
| 24                       | 301109  | 374618   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | -  | B  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy, ash, oak | Bridleway<br>woodland strip  | Y                                   |
| 25                       | 300997  | 374408   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy           | Connects to<br>woodland and<br>bridleway although<br>not the best hedge,<br>large area to the<br>east which is just<br>fenceline | Y                                   |
| 26                       | 301062  | 374305   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ash           | Connects to<br>bridleway   | Y                                   |
| 27                       | 301118  | 374262   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>ivy, bramble           | Some sections<br>fenced off, less<br>managed than<br>other surrounding<br>hedges, connects<br>to Glascoed NR                     | Y                                   |
| 28                       | 300888  | 374309   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>ivy, bramble           |  | Y                                   |



| Hedge/<br>Wood<br>Number | Easting | Northing | Date       | Surveyor        | Species<br>poor (P)<br>or rich<br>(R)<br>hedge | Broadleaved<br>(B) or<br>Coniferous (C)<br>Woodland<br>present | Food plants present   | Photo & Additional<br>Notes   | Further<br>Survey<br>needed?<br>Y/N |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------------|--|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 29                       | 300775  | 374113   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>gorse <i>Ulex europaeus</i> ,<br>bramble | Mainly row of<br>trees, then a wall to<br>the south                               | Y                                   |
| 30                       | 300846  | 373920   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>ash, ivy, hazel                          | More diverse but<br>spread over whole<br>area - limited<br>connectivity           | N                                   |
| 31                       | 300811  | 373909   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>ivy, honeysuckle, small<br>amounts hazel | More diverse but<br>spread over whole<br>area - limited<br>connectivity           | N                                   |
| 32                       | 300741  | 373756   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>hazel, bramble,<br>honeysuckle           | No connectivity   | N                                   |
| 33                       | 300850  | 373643   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>oak, bramble                             | No connectivity   | N                                   |
| 34                       | 300953  | 373611   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>ivy, sycamore, hazel                     | Much more diverse<br>than hedges to the<br>N, average still<br>under species rich | Y                                   |
| 35                       | 301091  | 373493   | 08/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>honeysuckle, gorse, ivy                  |   | N                                   |
| 36                       | 301220  | 373514   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy,                            | Much more diverse<br>than hedges to the<br>N, average still                       | Y                                   |

| Hedge/<br>Wood<br>Number | Easting | Northing | Date       | Surveyor        | Species<br>poor (P)<br>or rich<br>(R)<br>hedge | Broadleaved<br>(B) or<br>Coniferous (C)<br>Woodland<br>present | Food plants present  | Photo & Additional<br>Notes  | Further<br>Survey<br>needed?<br>Y/N |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|------------|-----------------|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------------|
|                          |         |          |            |                 |  |  | honeysuckle, gorse,<br>sycamore, ash                               | under species rich,<br>fenced off  |                                     |
| 37                       | 301318  | 373494   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>hazel (small amount),<br>honeysuckle      | Much more diverse<br>than hedges to the<br>N, average still<br>under species rich,<br>gaps present | Y                                   |
| 38                       | 301518  | 373525   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  |  | Gorse, hawthorn,<br>bramble, blackthorn,<br>honeysuckle            | First 12 m no<br>hedge, some<br>mature trees   | N                                   |
| 39                       | 301545  | 373416   | 09/04/2021 | Rhian<br>Hughes | P  | B  | Hawthorn, blackthorn,<br>bramble, ivy, woodland<br>edge - ash, oak | Section of broad-<br>leaved woodland<br>edge not directly<br>affected.                             | N                                   |

## EUROPEAN OFFICES

### United Kingdom

#### AYLESBURY

T: +44 (0)1844 337380

#### BELFAST

belfast@slrconsulting.com

#### BRADFORD-ON-AVON

T: +44 (0)1225 309400

#### BRISTOL

T: +44 (0)117 9064280

#### CARDIFF

T: +44 (0)2920 491010

#### CHELMSFORD

T: +44 (0)1245 392170

#### EDINBURGH

T: +44 (0)131 3356830

#### EXETER

T: +44 (0)1392 490152

#### GLASGOW

T: +44 (0)141 3535037

#### GUILDFORD

T: +44 (0)1483 889800

#### LONDON

T: +44 (0)203 6915810

#### MAIDSTONE

T: +44 (0)1622 609242

#### MANCHESTER (Denton)

T: +44 (0)161 5498410

#### MANCHESTER (Media City)

T: +44 (0)161 8727564

#### NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

T: +44 (0)191 2611966

#### NOTTINGHAM

T: +44 (0)115 9647280

#### SHEFFIELD

T: +44 (0)114 2455153

#### SHREWSBURY

T: +44 (0)1743 239250

#### STIRLING

T: +44 (0)1786 239900

#### WORCESTER

T: +44 (0)1905 751310

### Ireland

#### DUBLIN

T: +353 (0)1 296 4667

### France

#### GRENOBLE

T: +33 (0)4 76 70 93 41

# Errata List

## Correction of road name

In ExQ1.2.78, the ExA noted an error in the road name mentioned in paragraph 60 of APP-066 which is corrected in Section 2.6 of this document and also requires correcting In Section 1.2 (Survey Area) and 2.1.2 (Habitat-based assessment) of APP-130.

Section 1.2 (Survey Area) should read as follows:

*“In accordance with the EIA Scoping Report and PEA report, and as agreed at the ETG meeting in February 2021, the dormouse survey comprised:*

- ▲ Hazelnut searches at woodland within the Draft Order Limits (DOL) that were presented at Statutory Consultation, plus the surrounding area extending 100 m (i.e. 100 m either side of the onshore export cable corridor (ECC) and to all sides of any other infrastructure or works areas such as Temporary Construction Compounds (TCCs) and access tracks).*
- ▲ Nest tube survey which was undertaken at all woodlands and hedgerows that may be breached by the onshore cable corridor south of the A547 (between Rhyl and Rhuddlan) and which are potentially suitable for use by dormice. The woodland survey also included use of nest boxes in addition to tubes. Hedgerows north of the A547 (between Rhyl and Rhuddlan) were scoped out, due to lack of suitable structure, foodplants and/or connectivity.*

*Within this report the following terms are used:*

- ▲ Study Area: This is the 2km zone around the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation.*
- ▲ Nut Search Survey Area: woodland within the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation, plus the surrounding area that is within 100 m from the DOL that were presented at Statutory Consultation;*
- ▲ Presence/absence Survey Area: All woodlands plus hedgerows that may be breached south of the A547 (between Rhyl and Rhuddlan).*
- ▲ Areas other than these are specifically described”*

Section 2.1.2 (Habitat-based assessment) should read as follows:

*“The results from the PEA, Habitat and Hedgerow Survey and desk study were used as the basis to limit the scope of the dormouse survey to the area south of the A547 (between Rhyl and Rhuddlan). As noted previously, hedgerows north of the A547 (between Rhyl and Rhuddlan) were scoped out due to lack of suitable structure, foodplants and/or connectivity. Thereafter, each hedgerow and woodland south of the A547 (between Rhyl and Rhuddlan) that could potentially be breached by the onshore elements of AyM was assessed for its suitability to support dormice. This assessment was undertaken by Rhian Hughes on the 8th and 9th April 2021. The location of each hedgerow or woodland that was subject to this assessment is indicated on Figure 1. ...”*



RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited

Windmill Hill Business Park  
Whitehill Way  
Swindon  
Wiltshire SN5 6PB  
T +44 (0)8456 720 090

Registered office:  
RWE Renewables UK Swindon Limited  
Windmill Hill Business Park  
Whitehill Way  
Swindon