

PLANNING ACT 2008

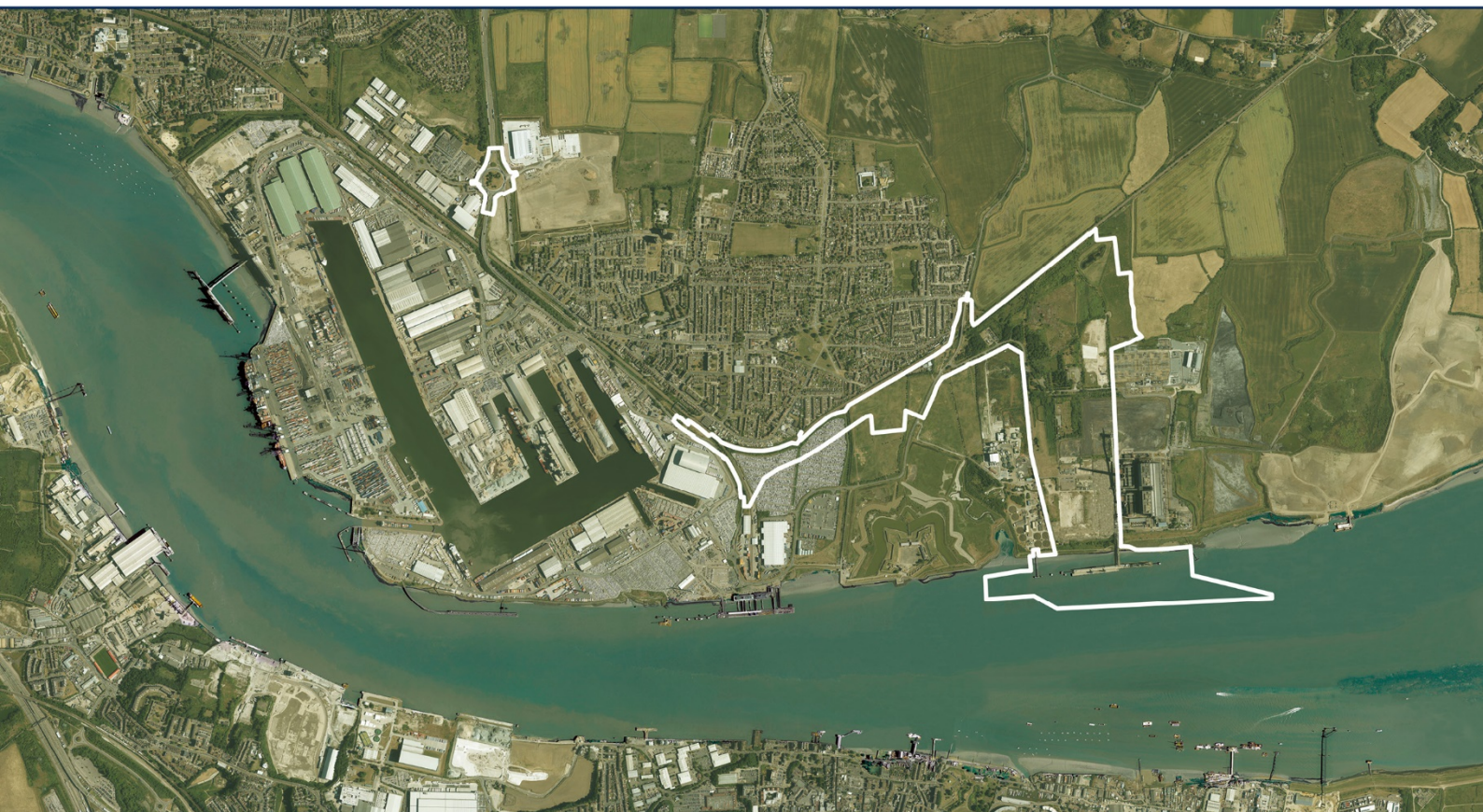
INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING
(APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009

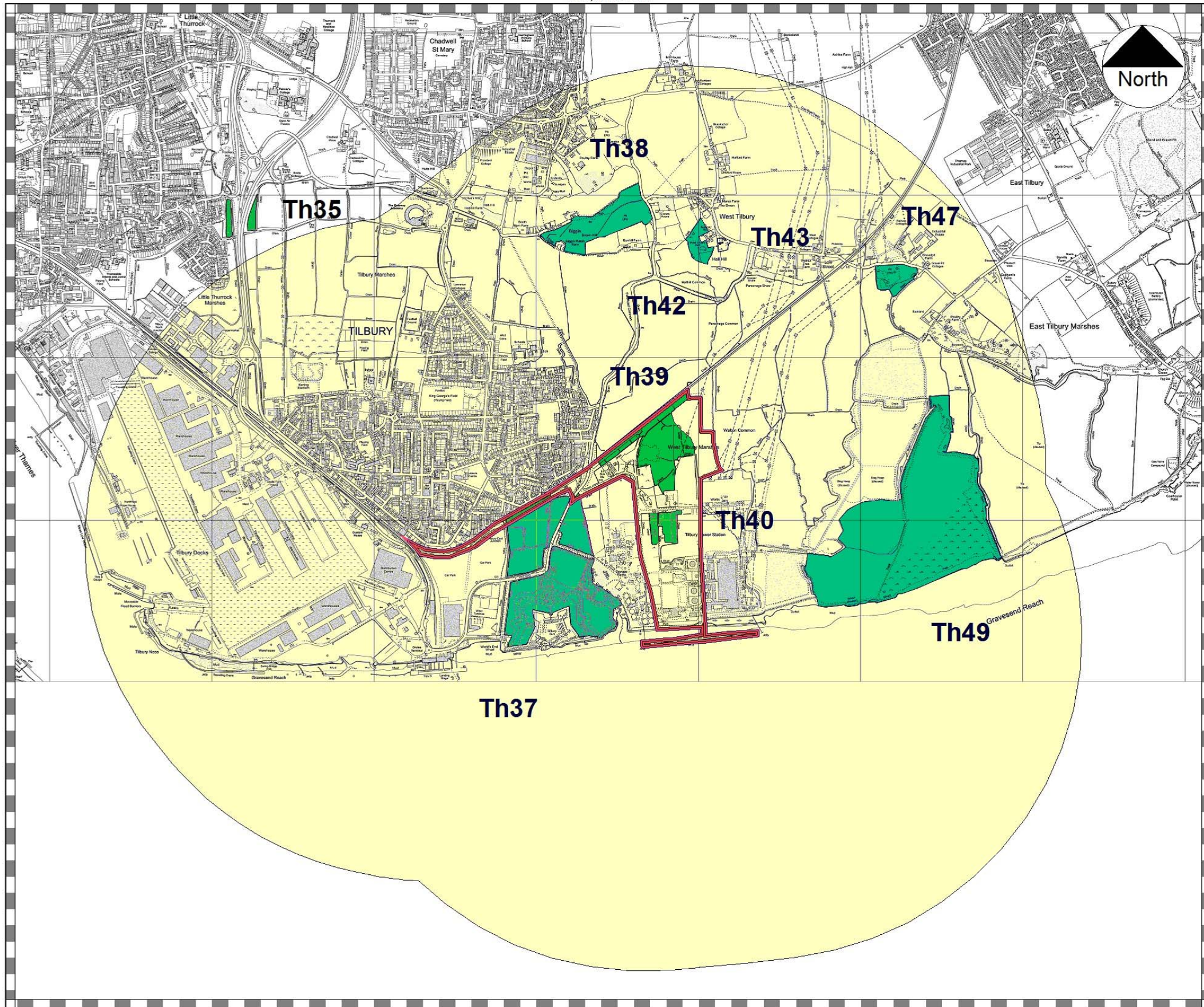
PROPOSED PORT TERMINAL AT
FORMER TILBURY POWER STATION

TILBURY2

NON-STATUTORY NATURE CONSERVATION DESIGNATION
(LOCAL WILDLIFE SITE / LOWS) INFORMATION




DOCUMENT REF: APPENDIX 10.B





Local Wildlife Sites for Tilbury area - 2016

LEGEND

-  Search area (2km radius from your site boundary)
-  Site boundary (as seen on your map)
-  Local Wildlife Sites

**LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES.
THURROCK DISTRICT
Th37. Tilbury Marshes**



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Th37. Tilbury Marshes (39.8 ha) TQ 651757

This Site comprises relict grazing-marsh, brackish ditches and the outer moats and grasslands of Tilbury Fort. The moats are prone to inundation with brackish water and, because of problems with the sluice controls are currently rather dry. These moats should be examined for invertebrates associated with saline lagoons, an Essex habitat BAP. This has had the benefit of allowing a diverse saltmarsh flora to develop, with species such as Saltmarsh Rush (*Juncus gerardii*), Glassworts (*Salicornia* spp.), Sea Aster (*Aster tripolium*), Annual Seablite (*Suaeda maritima*) and the nationally scarce Stiff Saltmarsh-grass (*Puccinellia rupestris*) and Sea Barley (*Hordeum marinum*).

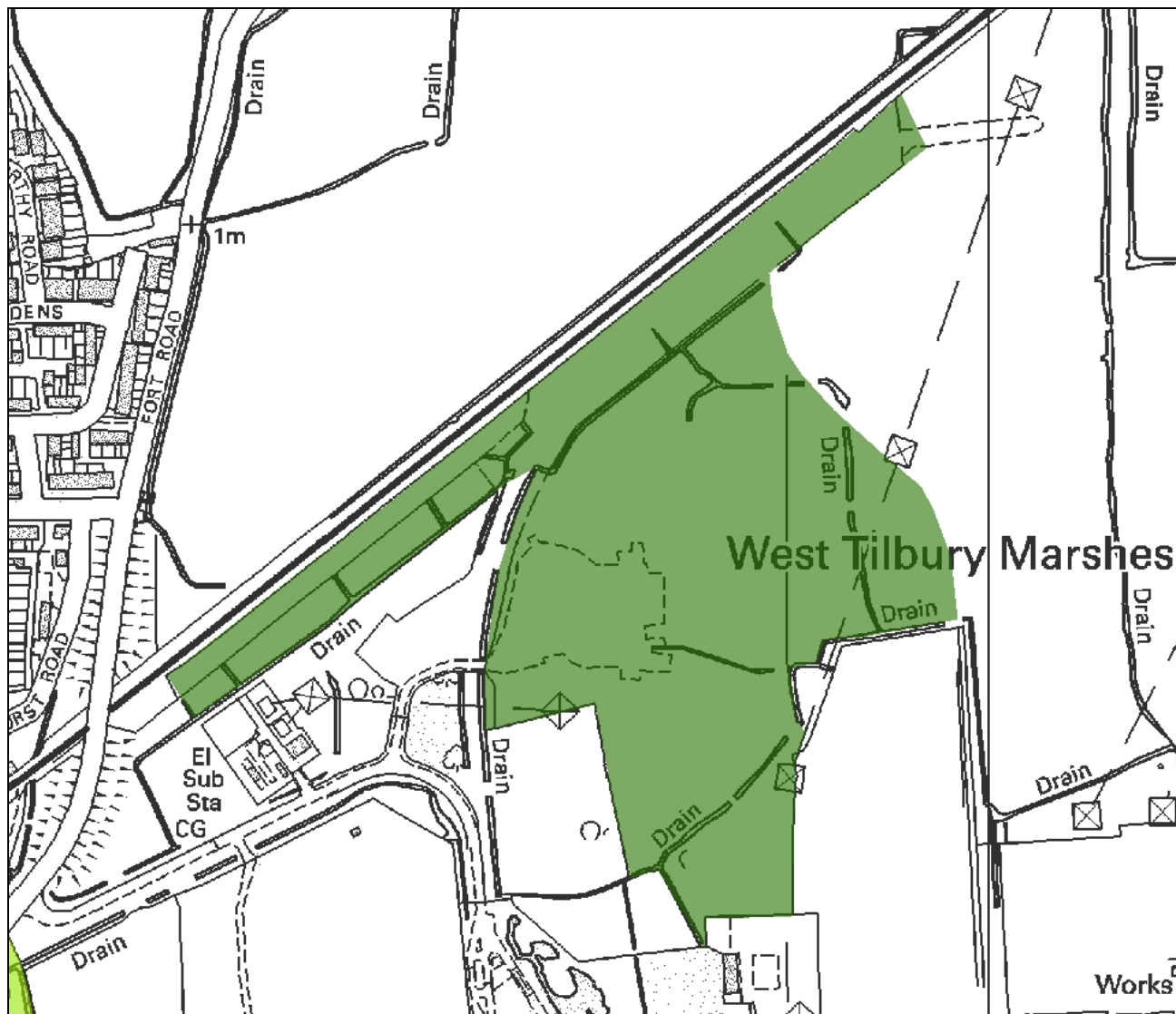
The grazing land supports a good grazing-marsh flora, with many Nationally Scarce plants such as Divided Sedge (*Carex divisa*), Sea Barley, Slender Hare's-ear (*Bupleurum tenuissimum*) grassland, with some Hairy Buttercup (*Ranunculus sardous*), Lady's Bedstraw (*Galium verum*), Narrow-leaved Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus glaber [tenuis]*), Hard-grasses (*Parapholis* sp.) and Sea-spurreys (*Spergularia* spp.).

The north-western section lies adjacent to the now-lost "Ferry Fields" grassland, an important invertebrate habitat destroyed by development, but some of the key species may survive on these remaining fragments of grassland.

Selection Criteria: HCr16; HCr28?; SCr13

Condition and Proposed Management: Such grasslands have developed under a historical regime of grazing livestock. This is evident today, but in the form of uncontrolled horse pasturing by local people. Such grazing is vital and should be continued, if better controlled. Although an important part of the historical landscape, flooding the moats would harm the developing saltmarsh vegetation.

LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES.
THURROCK DISTRICT
Th39. Lytag Brownfield



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Th39. Lytag Brownfield (12.4 ha) TQ 657764

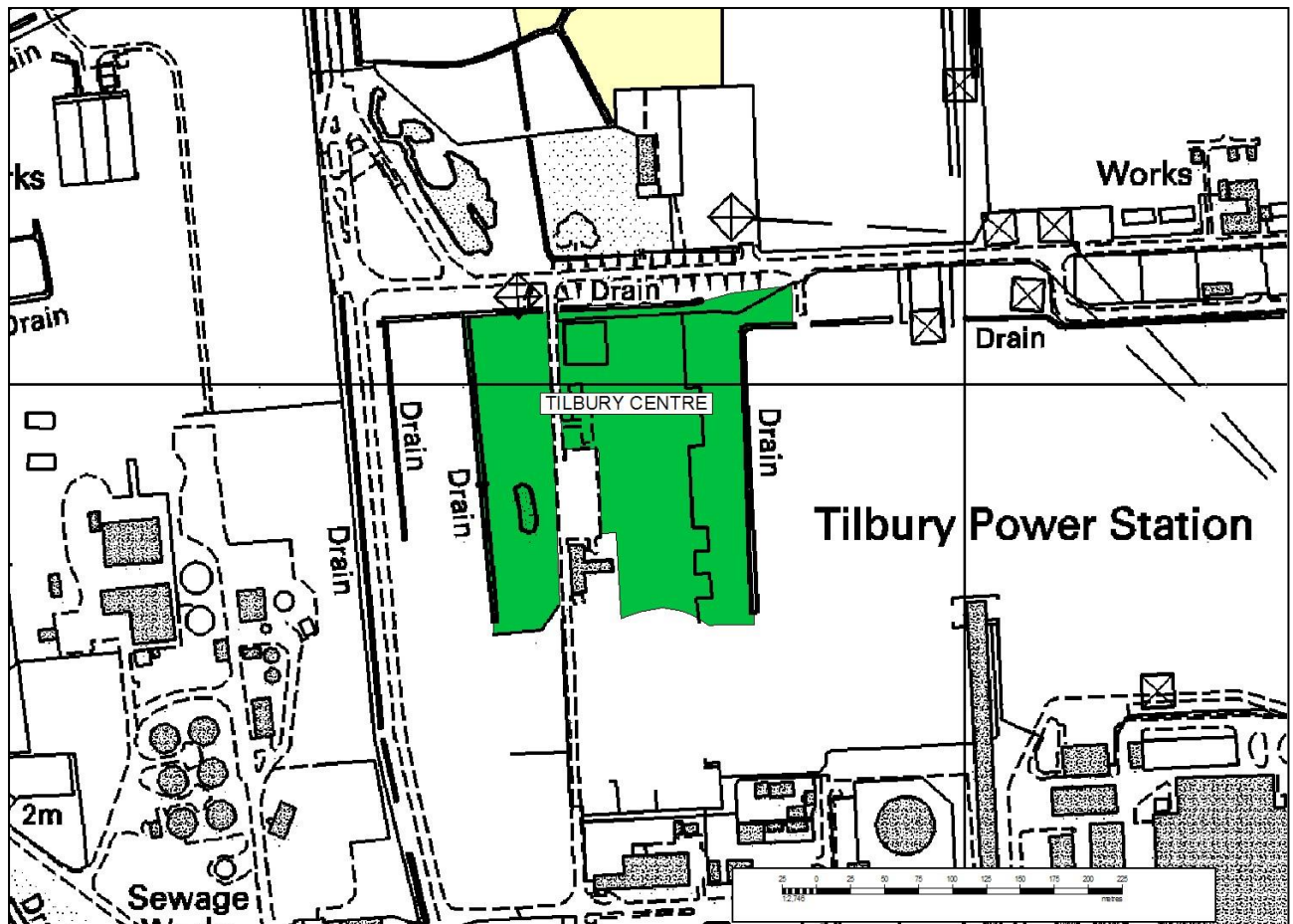
Survey work by independent ecological consultants has revealed populations of all four Essex reptiles (Adder, Grass Snake, Common Lizard and Slow-worm), making this one of the more important reptile sites in the borough. This reptile interest may spread onto land to the south-west, but survey data is lacking. Their study also reveals an extensive developing acid grassland, which falls within the remit of the Essex heathland BAP project. This acid grassland is believed to be developing on former railway sidings and post-industrial granular waste, both giving rise to freely-draining soils.

Such brownfield sites are also likely to be of interest for their invertebrate populations, but no data is currently available at present. However, given the presence of UK BAP invertebrates on similar habitats around the Energy and Environment Centre (Th40), it is likely that an important fauna will be shown to be present here.

Selection Criteria: HCr19; SCr4

Condition and Proposed Management: It is believed that much of this site is under threat of development. If possible, movement of the proposed buildings onto land of lesser ecological value closer to the power station access road would be a positive contribution to the ecology of this site. The reptile and acid grassland interest needs little other management, other than the long-term management of excessive scrub encroachment.

**LOCAL WILDLIFE SITES
THURROCK DISTRICT
Th40. Tilbury Centre**



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Th40. Tilbury Centre (2.8 ha) TQ 658759

This Site comprises the grounds surrounding the Tilbury Energy and Environment centre. The habitats present are a complex mosaic of grassland, flower-rich early successional/pioneer vegetation, ditches, a small reedbed and a pond, notable for its colony of Stonewort (*Chara* sp.) and the nationally rare (Red Data Book) Great Silver Beetle (*Hydrophilus piceus*). The pioneer vegetation includes abundant Bird's-foot Trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), on which the national BAP bumblebees *Bombus humilis* forages. Other important invertebrates have also been recorded here.

Selection Criteria: HCr20; HCr22; SCr12

Condition and Proposed Management: The early successional brownfield vegetation needs little in the way of management, beyond occasional disturbance to permit re-colonisation by pioneer plants. The pond and reedbed are maintained via a wind pump to keep the water level high.