

Survey Cover Sheet

Survey date/s	05/12/2024	Site name or location	Land to the north of Manor Road, Brandon, Suffolk.
Weather conditions	Suitable, dry	Project or development name	Proposed new Brandon Cemetery
Surveyor name	Hannah Evans	On-site or off-site	On and offsite
Survey reference		Reason for assessment (if not baseline condition survey)	

Notes

The onsite parcel comprises a field of predominantly of tussocky grassland, the majority of which is relatively species poor and consists of species typical of other neutral grassland. Paths have been cut through the site, that now consist of primarily bare ground, due to foot traffic and dog walking. The site also contains some stands of tall ruderal vegetation along the southern boundary with a small area of scrub in the southwestern corner of the plot. A section of the site in the middle of the southern boundary has been cleared, in the location of the proposed new access, and currently comprises a strip of species poor grass.

The proposed off-site habitat enhancement parcel comprises of other neutral grassland within the applicant's land holding, the plot is at the northern end of the field c. 75m north of the application site. The area contains grassland of a similar type and quality as the on-site plot with little variation between the northern and southern ends, though it appears less frequently used than the application site and

Site or location	Condition sheets	Total number of condition sheets used, or habitat parcels	Number of parcels of each condition achieved					Notes
			Good	Fairly Good	Moderate	Fairly Poor	Poor	
	Coastal							
	Coastal lagoons							
	Coastal saltmarsh							
	Ditches							
	Grassland low distinctiveness	1 H2			1			Mown modified grassland onsite (H2) assessed as moderate at baseline.
	Grassland medium, high, very high distinctiveness	2 H1 and OFS1			2			Other neutral grassland in the onsite (H1) plot and offsite (OFS1) plot assessed as moderate baseline

	Heathland							
	Hedgerow							
	Individual trees							
	Intertidal biogenic reefs							
	Intertidal hard structures							
	Intertidal seagrass							
	Intertidal sediment							

	Lakes							
	Limestone pavement							
	Line of trees							
	Orchard							
	Ponds							
	Rocky shore							
	Scrub							

	Sparsely vegetated land							
	Urban	2 H3 and H4			1		1	Bare ground (H4) assessed as poor and ruderal (H3) assessed as moderate
	Wetland							
	Woodland							
	Wood-pasture and parkland							

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	On-site. Lant to the North of Manor Road, Brandon, Suffolk.	Survey date and Surveyor name	05/12/2024 Hannah Evans
Limitations (if applicable)		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	
Grid reference		Habitat parcel reference	H2
Habitat Description			
A strip of closely mown modified grassland in the location of the proposed new access, off the middle of the southern boundary, adjacent to Manor Road. The baseline condition is assessed as moderate as the uniform sward is species poor (6-8 plants per m ²) and the parcel passes 5 criteria including essential criterion A, failing D for levels of physical damage creating more than 5% of bare ground.			
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	Species poor, lacking in forbs, but has an average of 7 recorded.
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	Closely mown uniform sward with no variation.
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 present. An area has been assessed seperately.
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.	No	Excessive physical damage from clearance activities and disturbance/walking in more than 5%.
E	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 10%, including localised areas (for example, a concentration of rabbit warrens) ² .	Yes	c. 10% bare ground present due to physical damage.
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 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)	Yes	
Passes 3 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 4 - 6 criteria (excluding criterion A)	Poor (1)		
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score			
Reduction in physical damage and increasing species richness.			
Footnotes			
<p>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> .</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Footnote 4 – Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p>			

Condition Sheet: GRASSLAND Habitat Type (medium, high and very high distinctiveness)

UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Habitat Types

- Grassland - Lowland calcareous grassland
- Grassland - Lowland dry acid grassland
- Grassland - Lowland meadows
- Grassland - Other lowland acid grassland
- Grassland - Other neutral grassland
- Grassland - Tall herb communities (H6430) [Not to be confused with the Tall forbs secondary code – see UKHab guidance for details.]
- Grassland - Upland acid grassland
- Grassland - Upland calcareous grassland
- Grassland - Upland hay meadows
- Sparsely vegetated land - Calaminarian grassland

Habitat Description

ukhab – UK Habitat Classification

On-site or off-site, site name and location	Land to the north of Manor Road, Brandon, Suffolk, onsite H1 and offsite OFS1	Survey date and Surveyor name	05/12/2024										
		Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)	Proposed new Brandon Cemetery										
Limitations (if applicable)		Habitat parcel reference											
		H1	OFS1										
Condition Assessment Criteria		Grid reference											
		Criterion passed (Yes or No)										Notes (such as justification)	
A	The parcel represents a good example of its habitat type, with a consistently high proportion of characteristic indicator species present relevant to the specific habitat type (and relative to Footnote 3 suboptimal species which may be listed in the UKHab description). ¹ Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Moderate or Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.	Yes	Yes										Other neutral grassland indicator species present throughout the on and offsite parcels
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 insects, birds and small mammals to live and breed.	Yes	Yes										Variation across the whole field, on and offsite
C	Cover of bare ground is between 1% and 5%, including localised areas, for example, rabbit warrens ² .	No	No										Bare ground is present due to footpaths and molehills, some areas of more sparse vegetation exist but the bare ground has been
D	Cover of bracken <i>Pteridium aquilinum</i> is less than 20% and cover of scrub (including bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.) is less than 5%.	Yes	Yes										No scattered scrub is present, an area has been assessed separately.
E	Combined cover of species indicative of suboptimal condition ³ and physical damage (such as excessive poaching, damage from machinery use or storage, damaging levels of access, or any other damaging management activities) accounts for less than 5% of total area. If any invasive non-native plant species ⁴ (as listed on Schedule 9 of WCA ⁵) are present, this criterion is automatically failed.	No	No										Species indicative of suboptimal condition are widespread. Damage from dog walking is evident though the bare ground has been assessed separately.

Additional Criterion - must be assessed for all non-acid grassland types

F	There are 10 or more vascular plant species per m ² present, including forbs that are characteristic of the habitat type (species referenced in Footnote 3 and 5 cannot contribute towards this count).	No	No															8-9 excluding those listed.
	Note - this criterion is essential for achieving Good condition for non-acid grassland types only.																	
Essential criterion for Good condition achieved (for non-acid grassland) (Yes or No)		No	No															
Number of criteria passed		4	4															
Condition Assessment Result		Condition Assessment Score		Score Achieved %/√														
Acid grassland types (Result out of 5 criteria)																		
Passes 5 criteria		Good (3)																
Passes 3 or 4 criteria		Moderate (2)																
Passes 2 or fewer criteria		Poor (1)																
Non-acid grassland types (Result out of 6 criteria)																		
Passes 5 or 6 criteria, including essential criterion A and additional criterion F.		Good (3)																
Passes 3 - 5 criteria, including essential criterion A.		Moderate (2)		Yes	Yes													
Passes 2 or fewer criteria; OR Passes 3 or 4 criteria excluding criterion A and F.		Poor (1)																
Suggested enhancement interventions to improve condition score																		
Increase species richness and reduced physical damage and cover of bare ground.																		
Notes																		
Footnote 1 - Professional judgement should be used alongside the UKHab description.																		
Footnote 2 - For example, this could include small, scattered areas of bare ground allowing for plant colonisation, or localised patches not exceeding 5% cover.																		
Footnote 3 - Species indicative of suboptimal condition for this habitat type include: 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> . There may be additional relevant species local to the region and or site.																		
Footnote 4 - 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, by applying professional judgement.																		
Footnote 5 - 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											
Tall Forbs along the southern boundary of the site, comprising of predominantly nettle. Paths have been cut through the site to create walking routes, vegetation was absent at time of survey due to foot traffic and dog walking, numerous mole hills are also present on bare ground.											
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	Land to the north of Manor Road, Brandon, Suffolk, onsite H3 and H4				Survey date and Surveyor name		05/12/2024 Hannah Evans				
					Survey reference (if relating to a wider survey)		Proposed new Brandon Cemetery				
Limitations (if applicable)					Habitat parcel reference						Notes (such as justification)
					H3 - Tall forbs	H4 - Bare ground					
Condition Assessment Criteria					Grid reference						
Criterion passed (Yes or No)											
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.				No	No					No vegetation on the bare ground, predominantly nettle present in the ruderal.
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	No					No vegetation on the bare ground, flowering species present in the ruderal.
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	Yes					No recorded.
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 (l); Communities: (a) annuals; (b) mosses/liverworts; (c) lichens; (d) ruderals; (e) inundation species; (f) open grassland; (g) flower-rich grassland; (h) heathland, (l) pools.										
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 .										
E2	The vegetation is comprised of plant species suited to wetland or riparian situations.										
Additional Criterion - must be assessed for Intensive green roofs only:											

