



Wild Service

Site Name	Lansdown Industrial Estate
Prepared by	Olatz Gartzia
Date	31/10/2017

Site description

The Site is located near the centre of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. It is an industrial estate, approximately 5.5ha, and the central grid reference is SO 93290 22474.

The Site is surrounded by an extensively urban landscape, with several open green areas and an extensive garden network. The railway line runs along the eastern boundary of the Site.

Methodology

An extended Phase 1 habitat survey of the Site was undertaken on 31 October 2017 following standard methods¹. Phase 1 habitat survey provides a rapid means of classifying broad habitat types in any given terrestrial Site.

The survey was 'extended' by considering the suitability of the Site to support notable or protected flora or fauna. Detailed surveys were not completed for these species; however, based on an understanding of species ecology, consideration was given to the Study Area's potential to provide sheltering or foraging habitat and/or connectivity to allow dispersal between populations.

The Study Area was also inspected for signs of any invasive plant species subject to legal controls e.g. Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) or Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*).

¹ Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). 2010. *Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey: A technique for environmental audit*. JNCC, Peterborough.

Results

Habitat descriptions are set out below. While considering this information, reference should be made to the Phase 1 habitat map presented in **Figure 1** and the target notes in **Table 1**. The habitats identified on Site included buildings and hardstanding, areas of amenity grassland and planted trees.

Table 1: Target Notes.

Target Note	Description
1	A large brick industrial building on the northern end of the Site had some broken tiles and gaps between tiles, providing opportunities for bats.
2	A residential building on the southern end of the Site had missing mortar under tiles on the southern gable end.
3	A building on the southern end of the Site had opportunities for roosting bats such as a loose ridge tile.
4	There was overgrown vegetation covering a fence that provide habitat for nesting birds.

Buildings and hardstanding

Most of the Site comprised several industrial buildings surrounded by hardstanding (**Photo 1**). The tarmac had cracks in several areas and plants such as butterfly bush (*Buddleja sp.*), spreading pellitory (*Parietaria Judaica*), Guernsey fleabane (*Conyza sumatrensis*), white clover (*Trifolium repens*) and old man's beard (*Clematis vitalba*).

Most of the buildings provided a negligible potential to support roosting bats, however, three buildings could provide some opportunities for crevice dwelling bats (**Target Notes 1, 2 & 3**).



Photo 1: Buildings and hardstanding.

There was a fence near a residential building on the southern end of the Site that had overgrown vegetation covering it. Plants present included common ivy (*Hedera helix*) an Irish ivy (*H. hibernica*), bramble (*Rubus fruticosus*) and a young sycamore tree (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) (**Target Note 4**).

Amenity grassland

There were small areas of amenity grassland within the Site (**Photo 2**). This habitat had abundant perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*), with occasional red clover (*Trifolium pratense*), ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*) and dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale* agg.).



Photo 2: Amenity grassland.

Evaluation and Discussion

No protected species were recorded during the survey, although the habitats present provided opportunities for protected species.

Bats

Some buildings on Site, including an industrial building with hanging tiles on the northern end of the Site and two building on the southern end provided opportunities for roosting bats.

Breeding birds

The overgrown vegetation in **Target Note 4** provided suitable habitat for breeding common garden bird species.

Further Surveys

Due to the potential for protected species to be present on site, the following surveys may be recommended prior to the commencement of works;

- Bats – a detailed building inspection and any required emergence/re-entry survey of buildings on **Target Notes 1, 2 and 3**;
- Birds – no specific survey is recommended, but vegetation scheduled for removal between March and August must be checked for evidence of breeding birds.



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Legend

- Site boundary
- Scattered trees
- ① Target note
- Hardstanding
- Buildings
- A Amenity grassland

Phase 1 Habitats Map

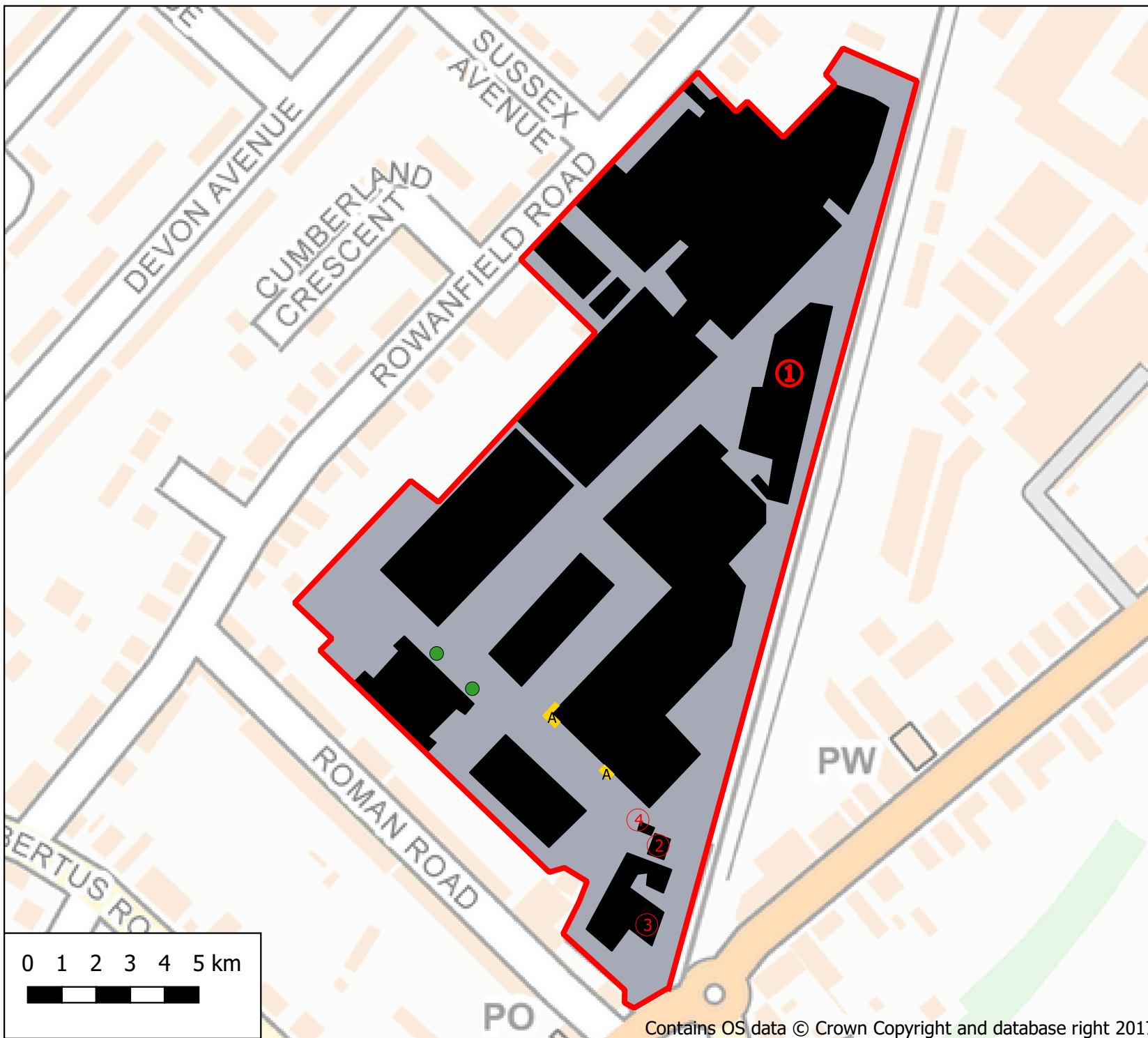
Landsdown Industrial Estate

Date: 31 October 2017

Scale: 1:4,000

Drawn by: OG

Drawing: Figure 1



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