



Ecological Appraisal Report:

Former LIDL site
Priory Street,
Carmarthen,
SA31 1LS

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Contact:

Glyn Lloyd-Jones glyn.igecol@gmail.com 07973 685423

Office office.igecol@gmail.com 07733 214829

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Summary

I & G Ecological Consulting were commissioned to undertake an ecological appraisal for an area of land of just under 0.5 ha at the former LIDL supermarket site, Priory Street, Carmarthen.

The land within the site boundary consists predominantly of buildings and hard standing. There is a small area of amenity planting, strips of poor semi-improved grassland, and tall ruderal vegetation colonising gravel boundaries.

No signs of European protected species were observed within the site boundary. Scattered buddleja is present across the site, and cotoneaster in an area of planting in the SE corner.



Figure 1. Location of site Grid Ref: SN 41645 20257

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 I & G Ecological Consulting were commissioned to undertake an ecological appraisal for an area of land of just under 0.5 ha at the former LIDL supermarket site, Priory Street, Carmarthen.
- 1.1.2 This report presents the findings of both a desk study and a site appraisal undertaken in September 2021. The report outlines the ecological constraints and opportunities associated with the site.
- 1.1.3 The survey was conducted during optimal conditions.

2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1.1 Both a desk-based survey and an ecological site survey were undertaken to establish the ecological conditions on site.
- 2.1.2 A field botanical survey was carried out using survey methods that were based on standard Phase 1 Habitat survey techniques. The CIEEM Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal were also followed and adhered to.

2.2 *Badgers*

- 2.2.1 The surrounding habitat was assessed for its suitability for badgers which includes the presence of setts, well-worn paths and runs, snagged hair, latrines, footprints and foraging. Any such incidental signs of badgers were recorded if they were encountered.

2.3 *Otters*

- 2.3.1 The surrounding habitat was assessed for its suitability to support otters. The area was searched for otter field signs such as spraint marking, slides, hovers or footprints.

2.4 *Dormouse*

- 2.4.1 The habitats on site, particularly the hedgerows were assessed for their suitability to support dormice.

2.5 *Birds*

- 2.5.1 The habitats on site were assessed for their suitability for breeding birds, including trees, scrub and grassland.

2.6 *Bats*

- 2.6.1 Habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support bats, particularly any trees on site that could have bat roosting potential or opportunities.

2.7 *Reptiles*

- 2.7.1 The habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support reptiles.

2.8 Amphibians

2.8.1 The habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support amphibians.

2.9 Water Voles

2.9.1 The surrounding habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support water voles.

2.10 Marsh Fritillary

The surrounding habitats on site were assessed for their suitability to support marsh fritillary butterfly and their food plant Devil's bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*.

2.11 Non-Native Invasive Species

2.11.1 Any pernicious weeds under Schedule 9, Section 14 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) were also noted and mapped during the site survey. These species include Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) and Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*).

3. RESULTS

3.1 Desk study

3.1.1 A data search was requested from the West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre for the planning application site and surrounding area of up to 2km. The species information was returned to I&G Ecology on 7th September 2021. A number of protected and notable species records were returned within 2km of the site centre (Fig.9). The records will not be listed here, but the most significant, those which are considered to potentially be affected by development of the site, will be briefly summarised. However, the full data are available upon request to those nominated on the request form, as some data may be classified as sensitive.

3.1.2 The significant findings from the data search are summarised below: -

3.1.3 Birds

The data search returned 102 entries of birds which are categorised as priority species. Species in the near vicinity of the site include house sparrow, dunnock, bullfinch, starling and song thrush.

3.1.4 Mammals

The data search returned 128 records of mammals within 2km of the site centre. Most significantly these included:-

- 49 entries for bats including daubentons, whiskered, noctule, common pipistrelle, pygmy pipistrelle, brown long-eared and greater horseshoe.
- 4 entries for badger
- 2 records for dormouse beyond 1.5km
- 15 entries for otter along the Tywi corridor.
- 53 hedgehog records.

3.1.5 Invertebrates

The data search returned 7 records of butterflies within 2km of the site, including brown hairstreak, wall, small blue and pearl bordered fritillary. 1 record for moss carder-bee and 74 records for moths.

3.1.6 Plants

There are 38 records for bluebell and 3 for tubular water-dropwort, but none in the near vicinity of the site.

3.1.7 Reptiles

The data search returned 12 records of reptiles within 2km of the site, including slow worm, common lizard, grass snake and adder.

3.1.8 Amphibians

The data search returned 7 records for amphibians within 2km of the site. These include smooth newt, toad, frog and 2 records for great crested newt!

3.1.9 Non-native Invasive species

The data search returned 212 records of INNS. These include buddleja, balsam, snowberry, Japanese knotweed and monkey flower in the near vicinity of the site.

3.1.10 Statutory Designated Sites

The Afon Tywi SSSI/SAC runs in the valley to the SSE of the site.

3.1.11 Non-statutory Sites

SINC – There are no formally notified SINC's within Carmarthenshire.

A B-Line runs to the south of the site

3.1.12 NRW Priority Areas

There are a number of Priority Areas of habitat within the search buffer but none in close proximity to the site (Fig. 10).

3.1.13 CCW Phase 1 Survey

Information obtained from the Phase 1 Survey of Wales (CCW.1997), was also used to provide an indication of the broad habitat types previously recorded in the local area. No habitat was mapped. It should be noted that whilst the CCW data-set is useful to indicate broad habitat types locally, it is not suitable for site specific assessment. The data set was gathered over a period of years (1979 – 1997) and habitats will have changed in the interim period depending on land use, management, development works etc.

3.2 Site Appraisal

3.2.1 On site survey

3.2.2 The site survey was undertaken on the 8th September 2021 by a suitably qualified ecologist. Where possible, the habitats were cross-referenced to any important UK priority habitats or local habitats adopted by the Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

3.2.3 The land within the red line survey boundary (Fig. 2) comprises of buildings and hard standing, amenity planting, strips of semi-improved grassland, and tall ruderal vegetation colonising gravel boundaries. The site lies adjacent to Priory Street, and is surrounded by housing development to the south, east and west.



Figure 2. Area surveyed (from Google maps)

Habitats recorded within red line boundary were as follows:-

3.3 Hard Standing & Building

3.3.1 The majority of the site is covered by tarmac parking and the former LIDL supermarket building (TN1&2; Fig. 1)



Fig. 1

3.4 Semi-improved neutral grassland

- 3.4.1 There are strips of poor semi-improved grassland either side of the boundary wall fronting Priory Street (TN3&4; Figs. 2&3). A mixture of grasses including Yorkshire fog, common bent and red fescue, is becoming colonised by coarser grasses such as cocksfoot and false oat grass. Herbs include dandelion, catsear, creeping buttercup, hemp agrimony and dock.



Fig. 3&4

3.5 Tall ruderal

- 3.5.1 Strips of gravel to the side and rear of the building, and the eastern edge of the car park are becoming colonised by a variety of species including buddleja, hemp agrimony, sow thistle and willowherb (TN5&6; Figs5-7)



Fig. 5



Fig. 6



Fig. 7

3.6 Introduced Shrub

3.6.1 A small block of land in the SE corner is planted with Cotoneaster sp. (TN7; Fig.8)



Fig. 8

3.7 Badgers

3.7.1 There is no evidence of badgers within the site boundary.

3.8 Bats

3.8.1 The buildings on site appear to be well sealed with little bat roosting opportunities. See separate bat survey undertaken by I&G Ecological Consulting Ltd.

3.9 Otters

3.9.1 There is no suitable habitat for otter on site.

3.10 Reptiles

3.10.1 There is no suitable habitat for reptiles on site. The areas of habitat to the side and rear of the building are heavily shaded.

3.11 Amphibians

3.11.1 There is no suitable habitat for amphibians on site.

3.12 Hazel Dormouse

3.11.1 There is no suitable habitat for dormouse on site.

3.13 Water Voles

3.13.1 There is no suitable habitat for water vole on site.

3.14 Birds

3.14.1 The introduced shrub (cotoneaster) will provide shelter/nesting opportunities for a limited range of species.

3.15 Invertebrates

3.15.1 There is no suitable habitat on site to support marsh fritillary butterfly.

3.16 Non-native Invasive Species

3.16.1 Cotoneaster and buddleja are present on site

4. ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENTS

4.1.1 The following values have been provided to assess the importance of an ecological feature value within a geographical context, as recommended within the CIEEM Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (2016) and the CIEEM Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing (Dec.2015). See Table 1 below:

4.1.2 Table 1: Ecological Value Assessments

Importance	Examples of features
International & European	European designated or proposed sites such as Ramsar Sites, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, World Heritage sites or Biosphere Reserves; or otherwise meeting criteria for European or International designation. Sites supporting populations of European important species. Species listed within the Annex's of The Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010
National	Nationally designated sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), National Nature Reserves (NNRs), areas of key habitats and species within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Sites supporting viable breeding populations of Red Data Book (RDB) species (excluding scarce species), or supplying critical elements of their habitat requirements. Species listed within the schedules of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981.
Regional	Sites containing viable areas of threatened habitats and species listed in a regional Biodiversity Action Plan, sites exceeding Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) criteria. Sites supporting viable populations of Nationally Scarce species or those included in the Regional Biodiversity Action Plan on account of their rarity, or supplying critical elements of their habitat requirements.
High Local	Sites meeting the criteria for a county, vice county or metropolitan area designation (such as SINC), which may include amenity and educational criteria in urban areas. Ancient semi-natural woodland. Designated Local Nature Reserves. Sites containing viable areas of any key habitat type or species identified in the Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP). Sites supporting viable breeding populations of species known

	to be county/metropolitan rarities e.g. featuring in county 'red data book' or LBAP, or supplying critical elements of their habitat requirements.
Moderate Local	Undesignated sites or features considered appreciably to enrich the habitat resource within the context of the Borough or District, or included in the Borough or District LBAP. Amenity and educational functions will be recognised in urban areas. Sites with viable breeding populations of species listed as rare in the District or Borough LBAP or supplying critical elements of their habitat requirements.
Low Local	Undesignated sites or features considered appreciably enriching the habitat resource within the context of the Parish or neighbourhood.
Negligible	Low-grade and widespread habitats.

4.1.3 Table 2: Impact level Criteria

Severe	Permanent impacts
Major	Loss of feature and/or quality and integrity of feature; severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements.
Moderate	Loss of feature, but not adversely affecting the integrity; partial loss of/damage to key characteristics, features or elements.
Minor	Some measurable change in attributes, quality or vulnerability; minor loss of, or alteration to, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements
Negligible	Very minor loss or detrimental alteration to one or more characteristics, features or elements
Neutral	No impacts

4.2 Priority Habitats and Species

4.2.1 UK BAP priority habitats and species were those that were identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). As a result of devolution, conservation action is now focused at a country-level rather than a UK-level, and the UK BAP was succeeded by the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework in July 2012. The UK list of priority species, however, remains an important reference source and has been used to help draw up statutory lists of priority species and habitats in the four countries of the UK.

4.2.2 The Environment Wales Act (2016) (EWA) Section 6 places a duty on public authorities to 'seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity' and seek to 'promote the resilience of ecosystems'. The duty replaces the section 40 duty in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act 2006), in relation to Wales, and applies to those authorities that fell within the previous duty. Section 7 lists both Priority Species and Habitats of Principle Importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales.

4.2.3 The Carmarthenshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) aims to maintain and enhance biodiversity which covers a range of selected habitats and species which

reflect both national and local priorities; develop effective local partnerships; monitor progress in achieving local biodiversity targets.

4.3 Assessments on the Habitats & Species Identified During the Survey

4.4. Habitats

4.4.1 Grassland and tall ruderal

Habitat within the development is small and disconnected, and is typical of urban settings.

Overall, the value of these habitats within the development parcel has been assessed as: **Negligible**. Loss of this habitat, without mitigation, is considered to be **Negligible**.

4.5 Species

4.5.1 The field survey identified the on-site habitats as having the potential to support the following species which are also listed under UK BAP: Breeding Birds.

4.6 Ecosystem Resilience

4.6.1 Area loss can cause populations of organisms to decline due to a decrease in habitat size. The area to be developed consists mainly of hard standing and building with small areas of grassland and tall ruderal vegetation. If the site is cleared without any mitigation for development the impact is expected to be **Negligible**.

5. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER SURVEY

5.1 The combination of desk and field surveys undertaken at the proposed development site identified that the area within the planning site boundary has negligible ecological value.

5.2 Birds

5.2.1 All nesting birds are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act of 1981. Therefore, vegetation clearance should be planned outside the nesting bird season.

5.3 Invasive Non-native species

5.3.1 The buddleja and cotoneaster present on site should be removed and disposed of appropriately.

5.3.2 Materials brought into the site should be clean and free from INNS.

5.4 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty (Section 6 Duty)

- 5.4.1 The Environment (Wales) Act 2016 introduced an enhanced biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (Section 6 Duty) applicable to Local Authorities. This duty filters through to all those participating in the Planning process.
- 5.4.2 Planning authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity in the exercise of their functions. This means development should not cause any significant loss of habitats or populations of species, locally or nationally and must provide a net benefit for biodiversity.
- 5.4.3 It is therefore recommended, that in order to provide a net enhancement for the development new native planting should be incorporated into the development using species of local provenance. Areas of grassland should be seeded with a wildflower meadow mix suitable for the area to provide food resource for pollinators. These areas should be mown in mid to late August and arisings removed. An early cut prior to April may also be undertaken. Native berry bearing shrubs such as guelder rose, alder and purging buckthorn and a couple of rowan trees should be planted as part of the development.
- 5.9.4 Swift/Swallow cups and house sparrow terraces should be erected on any new development; the details of which should be agreed with the LA ecologist.

6. LEGISLATION

6.1 Otters and the Law.

- 6.1.1 The otter is a European Protected Species (EPS). It is against the law to damage or destroy an otter breeding site or resting place, or deliberately to capture, kill, injure or disturb an otter.
- 6.1.2 Otters are fully protected by the following pieces of legislation:
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (regulation 42) fully protects otters, making it **an offence to:-**
 - *Intentionally or deliberately capture, injure or kill an Otter.*
 - *Damage or destroy a breeding or resting place of an Otter, or intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy any structure or place used for shelter or protection*
 - *Intentionally or recklessly disturb an Otter in a place used for shelter or protection, or deliberately disturb Otters in such a way as to be likely significantly to affect (i) the ability of any significant group of Otters to survive, breed, rear or nurture their young, or (ii) the local distribution or abundance.*
 - *Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a place used for shelter or protection.*

- *Possess an Otter (alive or dead), or any part of an Otter*
- Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW [Countryside Rights of Way] Act 2000) fully protects otters, making it **an offence** to:-
 - *Intentionally or recklessly disturb any otter while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection*
 - *Intentionally or recklessly obstructs access to any structure or place used by an otter for shelter or protection*
 - *Sell, offer or expose for sale any otter*

6.1.3 For any disturbance to occur a derogation or **EPS licence** must be gained from Natural Resources Wales. To gain an EPS Licence from Natural Resources Wales (NRW), NRW must be satisfied that;

- i. granting the licence would not be detrimental to the Favourable Conservation Status (fcs) of the populations of species concerned within its natural range.
- ii. the derogation (licence) is in the public interest of Health and Safety or for other reasons of over-riding public interest, including those of a socio-economic nature or will have a benefit of primary importance to the environment.
- iii. there is no satisfactory alternative to the derogation which would allow the described development to proceed but which would avoid or reduce the need for any adverse impact to the species.

6.1.4 Otters are also protected by;

- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and now the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- Annex II Habitats Directive (protection through Special Areas of Conservation)
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species and Species of Principal Importance in Wales

6.2 **Bats and the Law**

6.2.1 Bats are protected by the following pieces of legislation:

- Schedule 5 and 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW [Countryside Rights of Way] Act 2000)
- The Environmental Damage (Prevention & Remediation) Regulations 2009 – A protected species and its habitat is protected under this legislation as well as others.
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (regulation 42) fully protects all bats and their roosts, making it **an offence to deliberately kill, injure**

or capture (take) bats; to deliberately disturb bats; damage or destroy bat roosts or resting places (this is considered an “Absolute Offence” as damage and destruction may detrimentally effect the Continuous Ecological Functionality of that roost / resting place); possess or transport a bat or any part of a bat; sell (or offer for sale) or exchange bats or parts of bats.

- For any disturbance to occur a derogation or **EPS licence** must be gained from Natural Resources Wales. To gain an EPS Licence from Natural Resources Wales (NRW), NRW must be satisfied that;
 - i. the licence would not be detrimental to the Favourable Conservation Status (fcs) of the populations of species concerned within its natural range.
 - ii. the derogation (licence) is in the public interest of Health and Safety or for other reasons of over-riding public interest, including those of a socio-economic nature or will have a benefit of primary importance to the environment.
 - iii. there is no satisfactory alternative to the derogation which would allow the described development to proceed but which would avoid or reduce the need for any adverse impact to the species.

6.2.2 Bats are also protected by;

- Appendix III of the Bern Convention
- Appendix II of the Bonn Convention (including the Convention's Agreement on the conservation of Bats in Europe)
- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 and now the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- All bats are listed in Annex IV of the EC Habitats Directive and the British species listed in Schedule 2 of the Habitats Regulations 1994 (as amended) and are therefore designated as *European Protected Species*. These *protected* species are afforded enhanced protection and more stringent licensing provisions than those protected by the Wildlife and Countryside Act (WACA) alone.

6.3 The Hazel Dormouse and the Law

6.3.1 The hazel dormouse is a European Protected Species (EPS). It is against the law to damage or destroy a dormouse breeding site or resting place (summer or hibernation nest), or deliberately to capture, kill, injure or disturb a dormouse.

6.3.2 Dormice are fully protected by the following pieces of legislation:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (regulation 42) fully protects dormice, making it **an offence to:-**
 - *Intentionally or deliberately capture, injure or kill a dormouse.*

- *Damage or destroy a breeding or resting place of a dormouse, or intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy any structure or place used for shelter or protection*
 - *Intentionally or recklessly disturb a dormouse in a place used for shelter or protection, or deliberately disturb dormouse in such a way as to be likely significantly to affect (i) the ability to survive, breed, rear or nurture their young, and includes in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate or (ii) the local distribution or abundance.*
 - *Intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to a place used for shelter or protection.*
 - *Possess a dormouse (alive or dead), or any part of a dormouse*
- Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the CROW [Countryside Rights of Way] Act 2000) fully protects dormice, making it **an offence to:-**
 - *Intentionally or recklessly disturb any dormouse while it is occupying a structure or place which it uses for shelter or protection*
 - *Intentionally or recklessly obstructs access to any structure or place used by a dormouse for shelter or protection*
 - *Sell, offer or expose for sale any dormouse*

6.3.3 For any disturbance to occur a derogation or **EPS licence** must be gained from Natural Resources Wales. To gain an EPS Licence from Natural Resources Wales (NRW), NRW must be satisfied that;

- i. granting the licence would not be detrimental to the Favourable Conservation Status (fcs) of the populations of species concerned within its natural range.
- ii. the derogation (licence) is in the public interest of Health and Safety or for other reasons of over-riding public interest, including those of a socio-economic nature or will have a benefit of primary importance to the environment.
- iii. there is no satisfactory alternative to the derogation which would allow the described development to proceed but which would avoid or reduce the need for any adverse impact to the species.

6.3.4 Dormice are also protected by;

- Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (England) and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.
- Annex II Habitats Directive (protection through Special Areas of Conservation)
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Species and Species of Principal Importance in Wales

6.4 Reptiles and the Law

- 6.4.1 All of the UK native reptiles are protected by law. The common species of reptiles found in this locality are common lizard, slow-worm, adder and grass snake. It is illegal to intentionally kill or injure these species under Section 9 (1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
- 6.4.2 All native UK reptiles are considered of 'principle importance' under Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. This places a duty on every public authority, in exercising its functions, to have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.
- 6.4.3 Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF April 2012), the presence of any Protected Species (which includes all reptiles species) are a material planning consideration. The ODPM 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and Their Impact within the Planning System, provide additional advice and support the NPPF.

6.5 Amphibians and the Law

- 6.5.1 All of the UK native amphibians are protected by law. The common species of amphibians in this locality are common frog, common toad, smooth newt and palmate newt. It is illegal to intentionally kill or injure these species under Section 9 (1) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).
- 6.5.2 The common toad is considered of 'principle importance' under Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016. This places a duty on every public authority, in exercising its functions, to have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity.
- 6.5.3 Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF April 2012), the presence of any Protected Species (which includes the Common Toad) are a material planning consideration. The ODPM 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and Their Impact within the Planning System, provide additional advice and support the NPPF.

6.6 Birds and the Law

- 6.6.1 All species of bird are protected under Section 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Protection was extended by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. Under the above legislation it is an offence to intentionally:
- kill, injure or take any wild bird;
 - take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while that nest is in use or being built; or

- take or destroy an egg of any wild bird.

6.6.2 Certain species are listed on Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and receive protection under Sections 1(4) and 1(5). The protection was extended by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000. There are special penalties where the offences listed above are committed for any Schedule 1 species and it is also an offence to intentionally or recklessly:

- disturb any such bird when it is building its nest or while it is in or near a nest containing dependant young; or
- disturb the dependant young of any such bird.

6.7 Badgers and the Law

6.7.1 The protection of Badgers Act 1992 makes it illegal to kill, injure or take a badger, or interfere with a sett. In addition, they are listed on Schedule 6 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, which prohibits certain methods of killing and capture.

6.8 Water Voles and the Law

6.8.1 Water voles are listed under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, receiving full protection since 2008. The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), lists the following offences:-

- Intentionally kill, injure or take water voles (Section 9 (1)).
- Possess or control live or dead water voles or derivatives (Section 9 (2)).
- Intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection (Section 9 (4) (a & c)).
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles whilst occupying a structure or place used for that purpose (Section 9 (4) (b)).
- Sell water voles or offer or expose for sale or transport for sale (Section 9 (5)).
- Publish or cause to be published any advertisement which conveys the buying or selling of water voles (Section 9 (5)).

6.9 Environment Act (Wales) 2016

6.9.1 This act has replaced the section 40 duty in the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act 2006), in relation to Wales, and applies to those authorities that fell within the previous duty. It came into force in May 2016.

6.9.2 Section 6 of the Act places a duty on public authorities to 'seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity' so far as it is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions. In so doing, public authorities must also seek to 'promote the resilience of ecosystems'. Under Section 6 public authorities will be required to report on the actions they are taking to improve biodiversity and promote ecosystem resilience.

- 6.9.3 Section 7 of the Act places a duty on public authorities to take steps to maintain and enhance biodiversity. This section replaces the duty in section 42 of the NERC Act 2006. The Section 7 Priority Species under this act is a list of the living organisms of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales. The Section 7 Priority Habitats is a list of the habitats of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales.

7. REFERENCES

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8. I&G Ecological Consulting Legal Disclaimer

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We confirm that in preparing this Report we have exercised reasonable skill and care, taking into account the project objectives, the agreed scope of the work and prevailing site conditions.

Advice in this report is based on the judgement of I&G Ecological Consulting and the interpretation of data gathered during the course of their survey on the property named in this document.

The findings and advice given during the course of this survey is provided by employees of I&G Ecological Consulting acting only on behalf of I&G Ecological Consulting.

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9. Representative Species List

	Target note						
	TN3&4	TN5&6	TN7				
Common bent <i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	A						
Cock's foot <i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	F	O					
False oat grass <i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	F						
Fescue Red fescue <i>Festuca rubra</i>	F						
Yorkshire fog <i>H. lanatus</i>	A	O					
Timothy <i>Phleum pratense</i>	O						
Creeping buttercup <i>Ranunculus repens</i>	F						
Cats ear <i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	F						
Red Clover <i>Trifolium pratenses</i>	O						
Dandelion <i>Taraxacum officinale</i>	A						
Broad leaved dock <i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	F						
Groundsel <i>Senecio vulgaris</i>	F	O					
Hemp agrimony <i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	F	A					
Herb Robert <i>Geranium robertianum</i>	R						
Ivy <i>Hedera helix</i>		O					
Ivy leaved toadflax <i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>	O	A					
Broadleaf Plantain <i>Plantago major</i>	O						
Ragwort <i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	F						
Prickly sow thistle <i>Sonchus asper</i>	F	A					
Carlina thistle <i>Carlina vulgaris</i>		O					
Broad leaved willowherb <i>Epilobium montanum</i>	O	F					
Rose-bay willowherb <i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>		O					
Wood Avens <i>Geum urbanum</i>	O						
Bramble <i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>		O	F				
<i>Buddleja sp</i>	O	A					
<i>Cottoneaster sp</i>			D				
Old man's beard <i>Clematis vitalba</i>			O				

Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>		O	O				
Dog rose <i>Rosa canina</i>		O					
Virginia creeper <i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>		F					

10. WWBIC Data Search

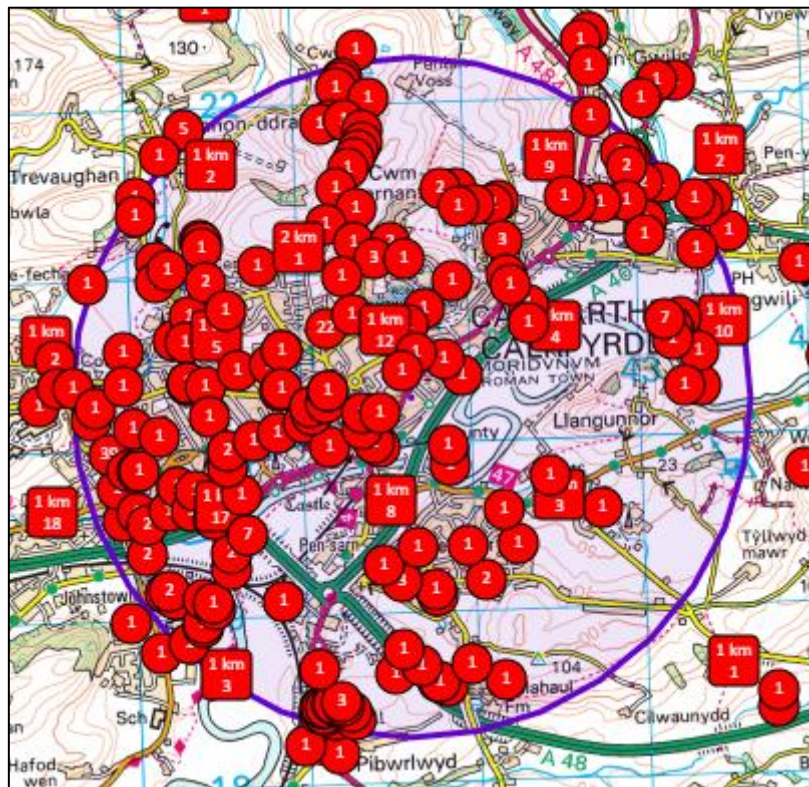


Fig. 9. Protected Species

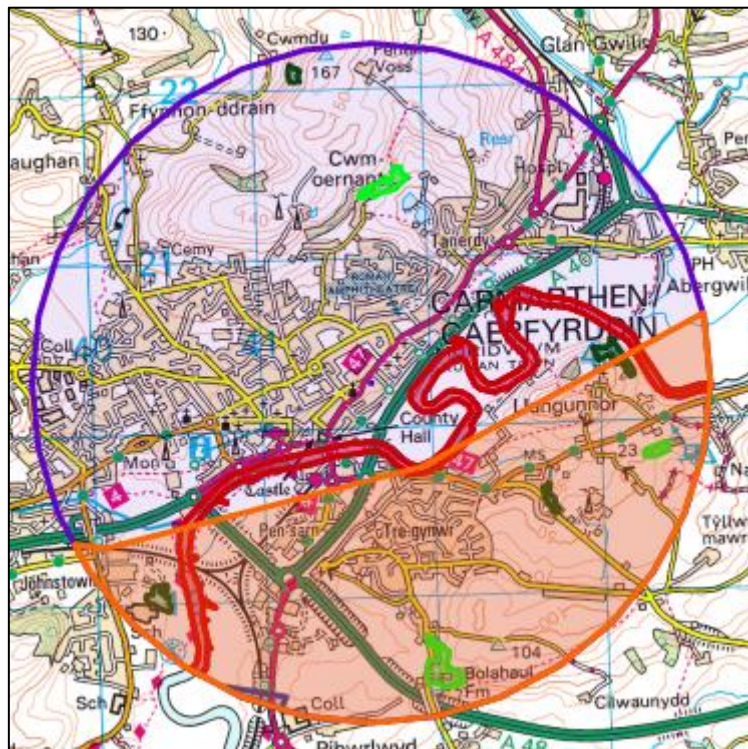


Fig. 10. Protected Sites & Priority Areas

Former LIDL Site, Priory St. Carmarthen









Site Type	Key	Number of sites	Category	Intersection Area	Percentage of search area	Display
Special Area of Conservation		1	International - Statutory	355,417 m ²	2.84%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site of Special Scientific Interest		1	National - Statutory	355,417 m ²	2.84%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ancient Semi Natural Woodland		4	Priority Area	40,768 m ²	0.33%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Restored Ancient Woodland Site		3	Priority Area	55,604 m ²	0.44%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NRW Priority Area (Coastal Saltmarsh)		1	Priority Area	18,142 m ²	0.15%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
B-Lines		1	Local - Non-statutory	4,490,189 m ²	35.93%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Fig. 14 Phase 1 Habitat Plan.

Colour	Code	Description
SI	B6	Poor Semi-improved neutral grassland
	C3.1	Tall ruderal
	J4	Introduced shrub

Phase 1 Habitat Code Key:

