Pear Orchard

Site information

Site ID:	18
SINC ID:	N/A
SINC Grade:	N/A
SINC Grade change since 2011:	
Grid Reference:	TQ4097962629
Area (ha):	1.69
Ward:	Darwin Ward
Land use:	Other Urban Fringe
Ownership:	Unkown
SINC Description:	N/A
Management provider:	Private Ownership and Management
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:	N/A
NE Priority Habitat records:	N/A
London BAP habitat suitability records:	Yes
Protected/Notable Species records:	N/A
INNS Records:	N/A
Area of Deficiency in Nature Conservation:	No
Known projects/initiatives:	None.
Summary of Site:	The site forms a remnant orchard, comprising a small broadleaved woodland of 1.7ha with mature trees and scrub. There is no public access to the woodland, therefore, the site offers a valuable area of undisturbed habitat.

Pear Orchard

Survey data

Surveyor:	No survey was carried out. Instead a review was conducted using available desk-based information.
Weather:	
Date:	
Survey access:	
Level of use:	
Management:	

Additional comments on existing management: Not able to comment in absence of site survey.

Priority habitats

Chalk grassland:	No
Acid grassland:	No
Species-rich neutral grassland:	No
Heathland:	No
Chalk Streams:	No
Other Rivers and Streams	No
Wetlands:	No
Reedbeds:	No
Parks and urban greenspaces:	No
Standing water:	No
Wasteland:	No
Woodland:	Yes
Orchard:	Yes

Pear Orchard

Scrub:	Yes
Native Hedgerows:	No

Other important habitats

The built environment:	No
Gardens and allotments:	No
Churchyards and cemeteries:	No
Meadows/pastures:	No
Fen, marsh and swamp:	No
Open landscapes with ancient/veteran trees:	No

Habitat survey description:	The site was previously surveyed in 2020 which identifed it as a remnant orchard of a much larger site. The site supports pear and apple trees, and scrub. Other anecdotal species records include winter migrant birds, woodcock and redwing, which were observed in the woodland in January 2023.

Threats and disturbances

Redevelopment:	
Intrusive buildings:	
Encroachment / land grab (incl. informal parking):	
Erosion:	
Vehicular erosion:	
Pollution:	
Vandalism:	
Litter:	
Dog fouling:	
Fly tipping:	

Pear Orchard

Invasive species:

Boundary treatment:

Noise:

Lighting:

Additional comments: Not able to comment in absence of site survey.

Opportunities on site

Mowing regime:

Meadow creation:

Wetland creation/enhancement

Tree / hedgerow planting:

Scrub establishment/ management:

Active tree management:

Deadwood habitat creation:

Wildlife Friendly Planting:

Access opening/delineation/ restriction:

Education:

Additional comments: Not able to comment in absence of site survey.

Interest

Mammals: Yes

Birds: Yes

Reptiles: No

Amphibians: No

Invertebrates: Yes

Pear Orchard

Fish:	No
Higher Plants:	No
Bryophytes:	Yes
Lichen:	Yes
Fungi:	Yes
Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:	Wintering migrants, Woodcock and Redwing have previously been observed at the site. Although there are no other species records, the woodland is likely to offer roosting, nesting and foraging habitat for bats, and other mammals, birds and invertebrates. In addition to mosses, lichen and fungi.

Pear Orchard

Changes to habitats since the previous surveys N/A

Management Recommendations: Not able to comment in absence of site survey.

Known/relevant existing site management plan: Unknown.

SINC criteria

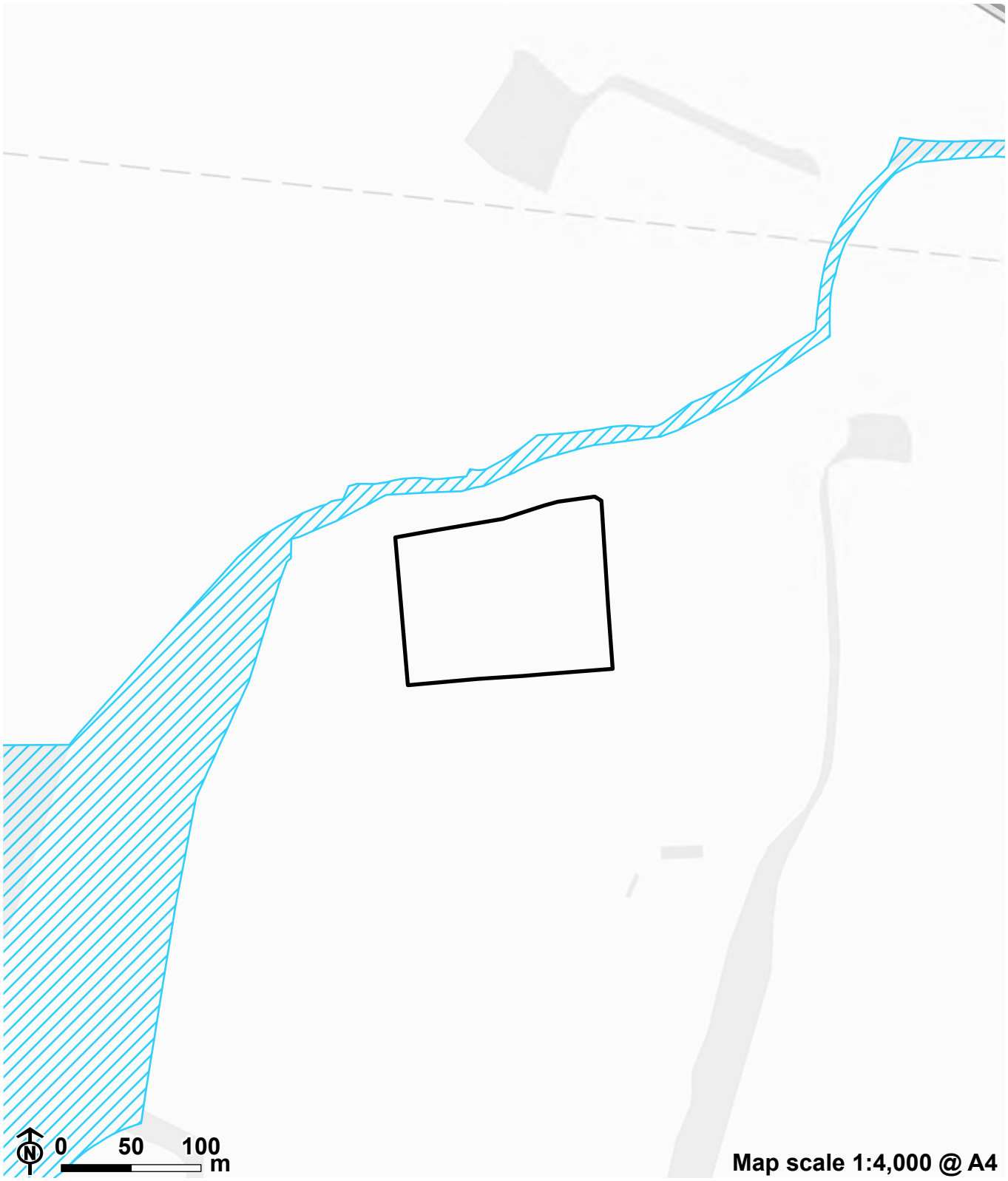
Representation:	Dependant on site survey, if the site retains veteran fruit trees which represent its origins as an orchard then this site would offer some representation of Priority Habitat which has declined substantially in southern England and Greater London in particular.
Habitat Rarity:	Orchards are in decline due to agricultural intensification and changes in land management.
Species Rarity:	Rare winter migrant birds have previously been recorded at the site and orchards are also known to support several rare invertebrate species associated with decaying wood such as the noble chafer beetle. Survey would be required to confirm suitability of the site to support rare species.
Habitat Richness:	N/A
Species Richness:	N/A
Size:	Although the site is small in size (1.7ha), it is thought to be part of a much larger remnant orchard. Therefore, it could have substantial value if it is part of the last remaining habitat in this area of Bromley.
Species Importance:	Potential to support a rich bird assemblage including rare migrants, bats, mammals and invertebrate species.
Ancient Character:	The site is potential remnant orchard which may have ancient character if it retains veteran fruit trees. Survey would be required to confirm the site's character.
Recreatability:	Orchards, as with any woodland, take a long time to reach maturity and to support the diversity of flora and faunal species which develop over time and as trees age and begin to decay. Therefore, they are inherently difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character:	N/A

Pear Orchard

Cultural/Historic Character:	Orchards have significant cultural value to people. There is a long standing history of significance of apple and pear orchards within English culture.
Geographic Position:	The site lies immediately south of Furze Bottom and Higham Hill Borough Grade I SINC and is well connected with surrounding woodlands through the extensive hedgerow network within the local landscape.
Access:	The site is private with no public footpaths running through the site.
Use:	The site is private with no public access.
Potential:	Previous surveys conducted in 2020 identified that the site supports remnant orchard. An up to date survey is required to confirm this and to identify opportunities for restoring the orchard features, and maintaining any veteran trees which may be present. Therefore the site may offer potential to the SINC network through appropriate management and enhancement measures but this cannot be assessed in the absence of a survey.
Aesthetic Appeal:	Not able to comment in absence of site survey.
Geodiversity Interest:	N/A

SINC survey conclusions

SINC Recommendations:	Preliminary SINC - not yet recommended for designation
Summary of recommended change in SINC designation:	Based on available desk information, if the site contains features of remnant orchard and supports a species-rich woodland composition with suitability to support a range of birds, bats, other mammals, invertebrates and lower plants then the site could be suitable for consideration as a Preliminary SINC. Survey is required in order to provide reliable assessment against the SINC criteria and to provide a SINC recommendation.



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LUC assessment site

Other LUC assessment site

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Site information

Site ID:	19
SINC ID:	ByL12
SINC Grade:	L
SINC Grade change since 2011:	
Grid Reference:	TQ3952167049
Area (ha):	9.64
Ward:	Hayes & Coney Hall Ward
Land use:	Outdoor Sports Facilities, Amenity
Ownership:	London Borough of Bromley
SINC Description:	Pickhurst Green is a large recreation ground with some attractive wild areas on its edges. The largest area of woodland is Cupola Wood, a pedunculate oak (Quercus robur), ash (Fraxinus excelsior) and sweet chesnut (Castanea sativa) woodland, possibly a much-altered fragment of ancient woodland. The ground flora includes cow parsley (Anthriscus sylvestris) and abundant bluebell (Hyacinthoides sp.) with wood anemone (Anemone nemorosa) a species usually associated with ancient woodland. A footpath and cycleway around the southern edge of the recreation ground has a remarkably rural quality in such an urban part of the Borough, with the appearance of a green lane. A small pond in the south of the site increases the diversity of the site with emergent vegetation that includes flag iris (Iris pseudacorus) and soft rush (Juncus effusus). The invasive alien species water pennywort (Hydrocotyle ranunculoides) is present. The mosaic of habitats is likely to be of value to birds, mammals, amphibians and invertebrates
Management provider:	London Borough of Bromley
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:	N/A
NE Priority Habitat records:	Deciduous woodland
London BAP habitat suitability records:	Yes
Protected/Notable Species records:	Common Frog, Common Toad, House Sparrow, Slow-

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

	worm, Stag Beetle, Starling, West European Hedgehog
INNS Records:	Floating Pennywort, Least Duckweed, Snowberry, Spanish Bluebell, Turkey Oak,
Area of Deficiency in Nature Conservation:	Yes
Known projects/initiatives:	None.
Summary of Site:	Pickhurst Green is a large recreational park located towards the west of the borough consisting of predominantly amenity grassland and broadleaved woodland surrounding a ditch network. Cupola Wood is a small parcel of ancient semi-natural woodland supporting diverse ancient woodland indicators. There is also a childrens' play ground just south of Cupola Wood.

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Survey data

Surveyor:	Ellie Mayhead
Weather:	Sunny, dry, warm
Date:	10.05.23
Survey access:	Full
Level of use:	High
Management:	Good
Additional comments on existing management:	The site is managed by idverde under the Pickhurst Recreational Ground Management Plan and Woodland Management Plan 2019-2029 (which covers the following sites: Amherst Wood, Cupola Wood, Foxbury Wood, Great Thrift Wood, and Jail Lane Open Space). The existing management of the site is good, however, recommendations are provided to improve the species-richness and ecological value of the grassland and woodland habitats.

Priority habitats

Chalk grassland:	No
Acid grassland:	No
Species-rich neutral grassland:	No
Heathland:	No
Chalk Streams:	No
Other Rivers and Streams	Yes
Wetlands:	No
Reedbeds:	No
Parks and urban greenspaces:	Yes
Standing water:	Yes

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Wasteland:	No
Woodland:	Yes
Orchard:	No
Scrub:	No
Native Hedgerows:	No

Other important habitats

The built environment:	No
Gardens and allotments:	No
Churchyards and cemeteries:	No
Meadows/pastures:	No
Fen, marsh and swamp:	No
Open landscapes with ancient/veteran trees:	No

Habitat survey description: Pickhurst Green consists of amenity grassland of predominately perennial rye grass, which is surrounded by species-poor hawthorn hedgerows and tree lines of oak, ash, sycamore, hawthorn and field maple. Cupola Wood comprises ancient woodland supporting a canopy of pedunculate oak, field maple, silver birch, sweet chestnut, common hornbeam and occasional wild cherry tree with an understory of hawthorn, coppiced hazel, holly and sycamore saplings. Open glades within the main area of cupola wood supports a dense ground layer of bluebells and other ancient woodland indicators including wood anemone, various woodland sedges and early dog-violet in addition to abundant cow parsley.There is standing and fallen deadwood within Cupola Wood and the wider area of broadleaved woodland which extends through the southern compartment of Pickhurst Green and comprises pedunculate oak, field maple, ash, sweet chestnut, willows, cherry, silver birch, sycamore, London plane and hazel.

Threats and disturbances

Redevelopment:	No
Intrusive buildings:	No

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Encroachment / land grab (incl. informal parking):	No
Erosion:	No
Vehicular erosion:	No
Pollution:	No
Vandalism:	No
Litter:	No
Dog fouling:	No
Fly tipping:	Yes
Invasive species:	Yes
Boundary treatment:	Yes
Noise:	No
Lighting:	No
Additional comments:	Flytipping and waste storage is presenting a threat to wildlife and the setting of the site along the footpath which leads around the eastern boundary of the allotment and backs onto the gardens of Eastry Avenue. Spanish bluebell was also noted throughout woodland compartments.

Opportunities on site

Mowing regime:	Yes
Meadow creation:	Yes
Wetland creation/enhancement	No
Tree / hedgerow planting:	No
Scrub establishment/ management:	No
Active tree management:	Yes
Deadwood habitat creation:	Yes

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Wildlife Friendly Planting:	Yes
Access opening/delineation/ restriction:	No
Education:	No
Additional comments:	Cupola Wood contains standing and fallen deadwood. Standing deadwood is predominantly semi-mature and could be veteranised to create roost features for bats. Deadwood should be retained among the scattered trees within the main park area or log piles could be created within the areas of scattered trees and along woodland edges to provide shelter for small mammals. Increase habitat cover for pollinators and small mammals through providing uncut hedgerow margins and improving grassland and wildflower species richness by incorporating yellow rattle, and reducing nutrient enrichment through the removal of cut grasses across the entire site.

Interest

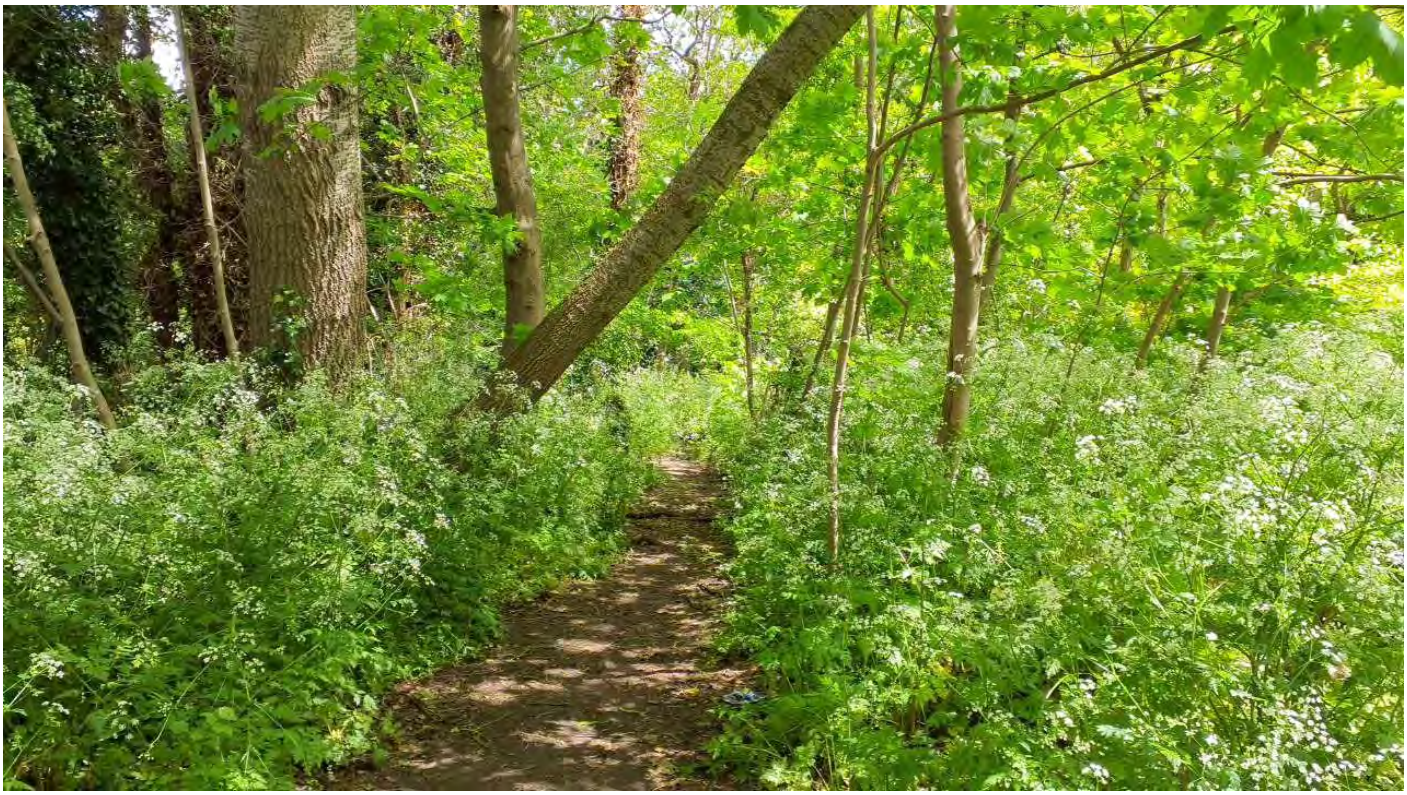
Mammals:	Yes
Birds:	Yes
Reptiles:	No
Amphibians:	No
Invertebrates:	Yes
Fish:	No
Higher Plants:	Yes
Bryophytes:	Yes
Lichen:	Yes
Fungi:	Yes
Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:	Ancient woodland supports ancient woodland indicators which are rare floral species with specific habitat associations. Additionally, the mature woodlands and hedgerows are likely to support breeding birds and foraging and roosting bats. The mixture of woodland and open parkland makes the site suitable to support a diverse invertebrate assemblage. During the survey

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

orange-tip butterfly was recorded.

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

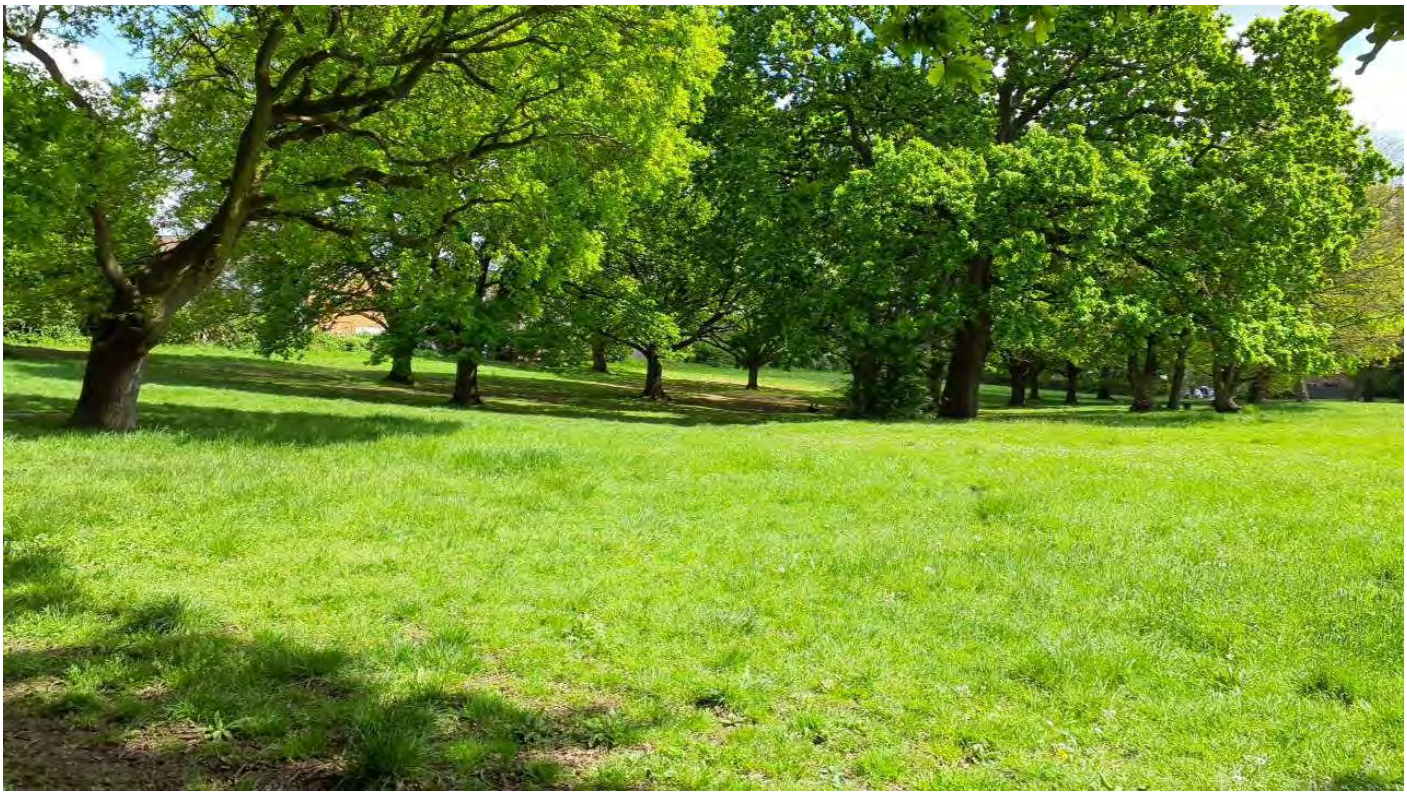


Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood



Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

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Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

Changes to habitats since the previous surveys N/A

Management Recommendations:	Produce a woodland management plan specific to Cupola Wood in order to protect and enhance its ecological value. Creation of open glades within the wider woodland to the south of the site would improve the structural composition, allowing the establishment of a richer sub-canopy, understorey and ground flora which more closely represents that present within Cupola Wood. The ditches around the site would benefit from management and clearance of culvert entrances to improve flow and the issue of fly tipping as described within the 'threats' section should be addressed.
Known/relevant existing site management plan:	The site is managed by idverde under the Pickhurst Recreational Ground Management Plan and Woodland Management Plan 2019-2029 (which covers the following sites: Amherst Wood, Cupola Wood, Foxbury Wood, Great Thrift Wood, and Jail Lane Open Space).

SINC criteria

Representation:	Ancient woodland represents an important feature of the landscape in Bromley and Cupola Wood forms part of that network. It is also valuable for London as a whole.
Habitat Rarity:	Ancient semi-natural woodland is an increasingly rare habitat nationally and Cupola Wood represents remnant ancient woodland.
Species Rarity:	Rare species which have previously been recorded at the site include common frog and common toad which are likely to be associated with the ditch network and pond on site. In addition, there are records of slow worm and also for hedgehog which may both be supported by the woodland habitats on site.
Habitat Richness:	N/A
Species Richness:	The ancient woodland of Cupola Wood supports 13 ancient woodland indicators in addition to 28 other broadleaved woodland species across the canopy, sub-canopy, understorey and ground flora, as identified during surveys in 2020 and 2022. Ancient woodland indicator species within the canopy comprise field maple, silver birch, common hornbeam, aspen and wild

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

	cherry. Within the understory holly and common redcurrant and within the ground flora, wood anemone, wood spurge, bluebell, early dog violet, remote sedge, wood sedge and wood millet.
Size:	The site comprises an extensive area, 9.6ha in total comprising semi-natural broadleaved woodland and amenity grassland. This is a substantial area of greenspace in an otherwise heavily built up residential area.
Species Importance:	N/A
Ancient Character:	The remnant ancient woodland of Cupola Wood is ancient in character supporting a diverse assemblage of ancient woodland indicators throughout the tree canopy, sub-canopy, understorey and ground flora.
Recreatability:	Ancient woodland, such as that at Cupola Wood, cannot be recreated as their composition is a result of environmental conditions and historic management which have developed over a significant period of time.
Typical Urban Character:	N/A
Cultural/Historic Character:	Woodlands and trees have particular cultural value to people.
Geographic Position:	Pickhurst Recreation Ground is located within a residential area with no direct ecological connectivity to other habitats or SINC sites, however, it lies within 500m of Langley Park Golf Course SINC and other smaller SINCs lie within 1km.
Access:	The site is readily accessible on foot or by car from Pickhurst Lane, Pickhurst Green, Farleigh Avenue, Heath Rise and Mead Way. There is a mixture of tarmac footpaths which provide access around the entire site, and widened tracks through the woodland.
Use:	The site is regularly used by dog walkers and families.
Potential:	N/A
Aesthetic Appeal:	Diversity of woodland species has significant aesthetic appeal through the seasons.
Geodiversity Interest:	N/A

SINC survey conclusions

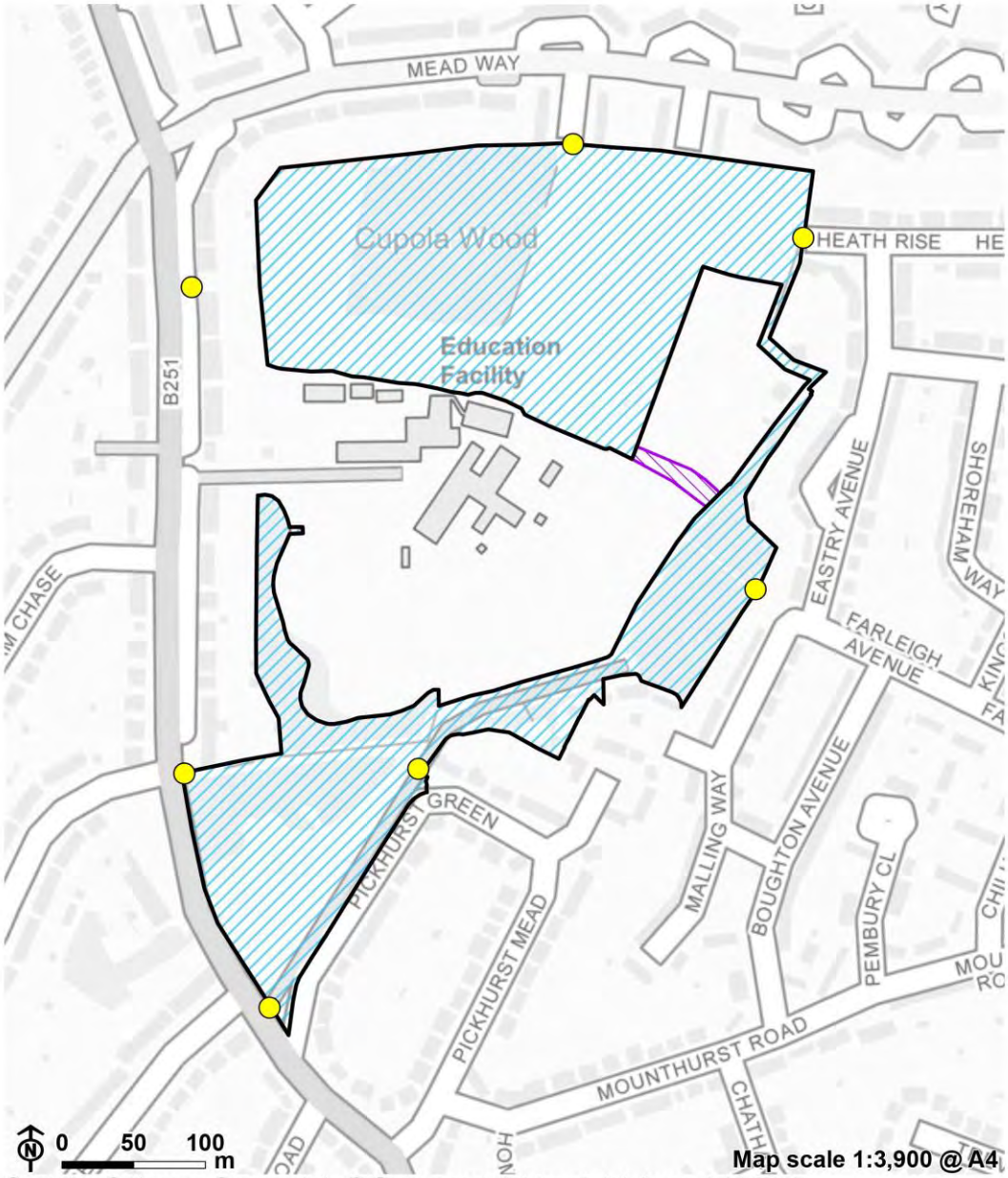
Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

SINC Recommendations:	ProposedUpgrade
Summary of recommended change in SINC designation:	The species-richness of Cupola Wood and the ecological value of the wider woodlands at the site make this SINC suitable for upgrade from Local to Borough Grade II. The site meets several of the SINC criteria due to the presence of ancient woodland. It is also recommended to extend the boundary of the SINC, to include the footpath which lies along the southern boundary of the allotments as this offers ecological connectivity along the hedgerow and tree line which lie between the east and west areas of the site.

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood

- LUC assessment site
- Target note
- G2 Running water
- G1 Standing water
- J2.1.2 Intact hedge (species-poor)
- J2.2.2 Defunct hedge (species-poor)
- J2.6 Dry ditch
- J2.3.2 Hedge with trees (species-poor)
- TL Tree line
- A1.1.1 Broadleaved woodland (semi-natural)
- B2.2 Neutral grassland (semi-improved)/A3.1 Broadleaved scattered trees
- HS Hard standing
- J1.2 Amenity grassland

Pickhurst Green and Cupola Wood



LUC assessment site

Site access point

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

Proposed SINC boundary change

Extend

Belmont

Site information

Site ID:	2
SINC ID:	N/A
SINC Grade:	N/A
SINC Grade change since 2011:	
Grid Reference:	TQ4435271607
Area (ha):	5.86
Ward:	Chislehurst Ward
Land use:	Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership:	London Borough of Bromley
SINC Description:	N/A
Management provider:	London Borough of Bromley
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:	N/A
NE Priority Habitat records:	Deciduous woodland,Good quality semi improved grassland
London BAP habitat suitability records:	Yes
Protected/Notable Species records:	Bluebell, Greenfinch
INNS Records:	Cherry Laurel, Evergreen Oak, Ring-necked Parakeet,
Area of Deficiency in Nature Conservation:	Yes
Known projects/initiatives:	None.
Summary of Site:	Belmont Open Space is located within the north-east of the borough, between Chislehurst and Sidcup. The site comprises a total area of 5.86ha. The site forms predominantly a recreational park with a large area of grassland and a small children's play area lies in the north-east.

Belmont

Survey data

Surveyor:	Ellie Mayhead
Weather:	Cloudy, dry, warm
Date:	11.05.23
Survey access:	Full
Level of use:	High
Management:	Good
Additional comments on existing management:	The site is well managed by idverde under the Belmont and Edgebury Open Space Management Plan. The meadow to the north of the stream appears to be cut frequently. Despite, this it supports quite a diverse range of species.

Priority habitats

Chalk grassland:	No
Acid grassland:	No
Species-rich neutral grassland:	No
Heathland:	No
Chalk Streams:	No
Other Rivers and Streams	Yes
Wetlands:	No
Reedbeds:	No
Parks and urban greenspaces:	Yes
Standing water:	No
Wasteland:	No
Woodland:	Yes

Belmont

Orchard:	No
Scrub:	No
Native Hedgerows:	Yes

Other important habitats

The built environment:	No
Gardens and allotments:	No
Churchyards and cemeteries:	No
Meadows/pastures:	No
Fen, marsh and swamp:	No
Open landscapes with ancient/veteran trees:	No

Habitat survey description: The habitats of the site comprise poor semi-improved grassland, broadleaved woodland and a stream which divides the site west to east. The stream had a low flow at the time of the survey and has constructed concrete banks within the upstream section. Further downstream towards the woodland, the stream has naturalised banks with gabion sections. The stream has a stone bed with riffle features. The stream has mature tree lined banks comprising hazel, crack willow, dogwood, oak, and sycamore. The understorey comprises holly and hawthorn and there are extensive tussocks of pendulous sedge. Broadleaved woodland along the eastern boundary of the site comprises pedunculate oak, beech, sycamore, horse chestnut and occasional yew within the canopy. The understory comprises hazel, holly, dogwood and hawthorn and the ground flora is relatively poor but supports native bluebell, Spanish bluebell, greater celandine, common nettle, alexanders and cow parsley. Poor semi-improved grassland species comprise of creeping cinquefoil, yarrow, yellow vetchling, doves-foot cranesbill, field speedwell, dandelion, meadow buttercup, meadow foxtail, barren brome, and wood-sedge. There is a mature tree line which lies parallel with Slades Drive on the western boundary and comprises of silver maple, ash, and pedunculate oak and a species-rich earth bank around the western and northern boundaries which support various herbs and wildflowers including white clover, spotted medick, doves-foot cranesbill, cow parsley, dandelion, red dead nettle, mouse ear chickweed, smooth sow thistle, creeping thistle, field speedwell, birds foot trefoil, and occasional bluebell.

Belmont

Threats and disturbances

Redevelopment:	No
Intrusive buildings:	No
Encroachment / land grab (incl. informal parking):	No
Erosion:	No
Vehicular erosion:	No
Pollution:	No
Vandalism:	No
Litter:	No
Dog fouling:	No
Fly tipping:	No
Invasive species:	Yes
Boundary treatment:	No
Noise:	No
Lighting:	No
Additional comments:	A few non-native species were recorded on site within the woodland including Spanish bluebell and Alexanders.

Opportunities on site

Mowing regime:	Yes
Meadow creation:	Yes
Wetland creation/enhancement	Yes
Tree / hedgerow planting:	No
Scrub establishment/ management:	No

Belmont

Active tree management:	No
Deadwood habitat creation:	Yes
Wildlife Friendly Planting:	Yes
Access opening/delineation/ restriction:	No
Education:	No
Additional comments:	Reducing the frequency of mowing would benefit a wide range of faunal species through offering nectar and pollen sources for pollinators, and grass seeds for small passerine birds, which in turn may offer foraging habitat for birds of prey such as sparrowhawk or kestrel. De-canalisation to allow the stream to become more naturalised / creation of riffles may also be an opportunity to consider.

Interest

Mammals:	Yes
Birds:	Yes
Reptiles:	No
Amphibians:	No
Invertebrates:	Yes
Fish:	No
Higher Plants:	No
Bryophytes:	Yes
Lichen:	Yes
Fungi:	Yes
Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:	The composition of the sites' habitats including broadleaved woodland, freshwater and mature tree lines offer commuting and foraging habitat for a range of bat and bird species. In addition habitats are likely to support a range of invertebrates, bryophytes, lichen and fungi.

Belmont

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Changes to habitats since the previous surveys	N/A
Management Recommendations:	Remove cut material following mowing in order to prevent nutrient enrichment of soils and prevent cut material from being washed into the stream. The grassland to the north of the stream was wet at the time of the survey and there were vehicle marks left where the grass had been recently cut, therefore it is recommended to incorporate marshy grassland species such as rushes to reduce waterlogging and enhance diversity.
Known/relevant existing site management plan:	Belmont and Edgebury Open Space Management Plan.

SINC criteria

Representation:	N/A
Habitat Rarity:	N/A
Species Rarity:	The combination of freshwater, open grassland, mature trees and broadleaved woodland on site is likely to support a diverse assemblage of rare and notable bird species and there are historic records for greenfinch.
Habitat Richness:	Belmont Open Space supports a range of habitats including freshwater, native broadleaved woodland and semi-improved grassland.
Species Richness:	The range of habitats present at the site offer potential to support a range of species assemblages, notably bird, bat, invertebrate and potentially fish and amphibians. The site may also support rare species such as badger.
Size:	N/A
Species Importance:	N/A
Ancient Character:	N/A
Recreatability:	Broadleaved woodland is restricted in extent within Greater London and takes a long time to reach maturity.
Typical Urban Character:	N/A

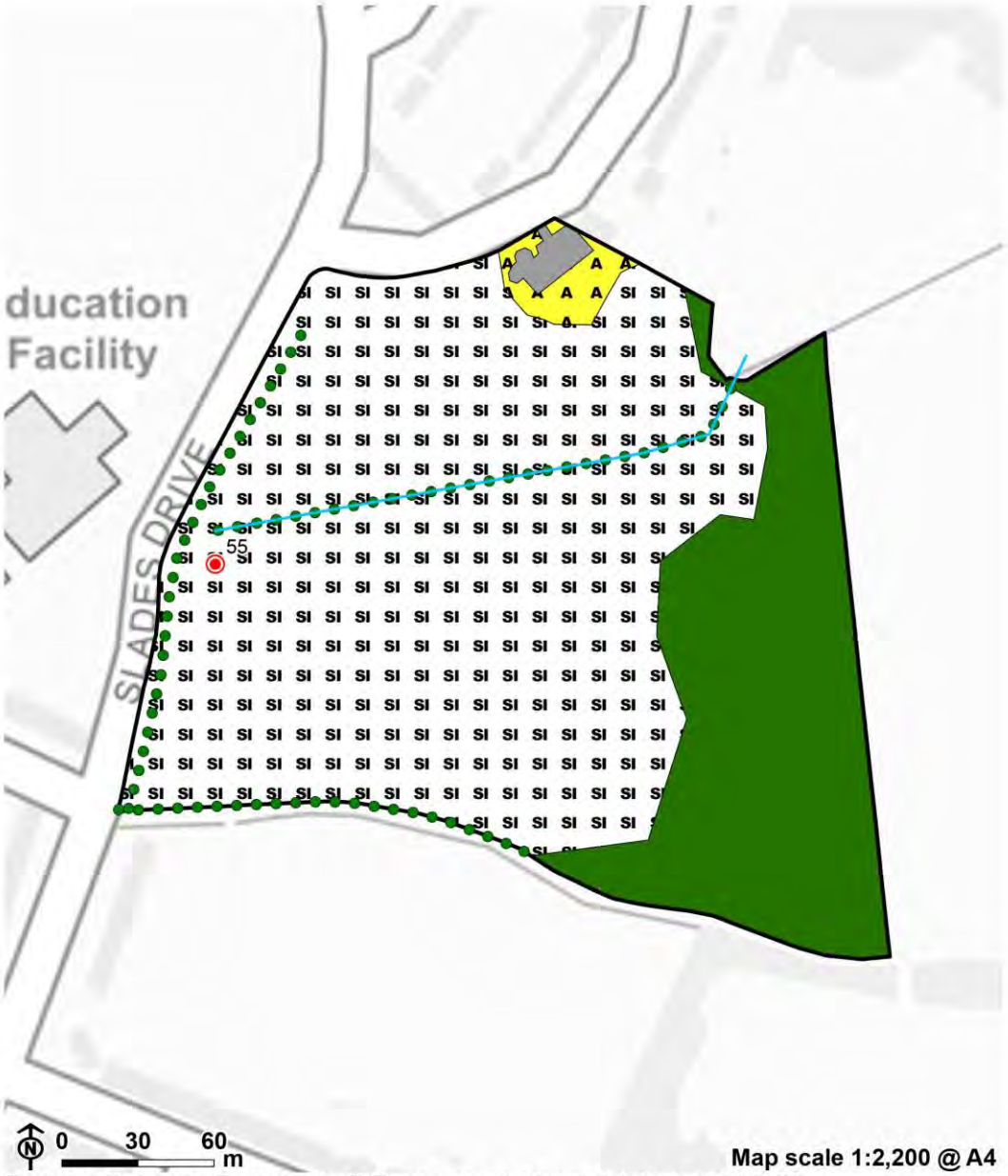
Belmont

Cultural/Historic Character:	Woodlands and trees have particular cultural value to people.
Geographic Position:	Belmont Open Space lies immediately north of Belmont Pasture Borough Grade I SINC, which was formerly unimproved pasture. It also lies in close proximity to Kemnal Woodlands Borough Grade II SINC, therefore Bromley Open Space offers an expansion of the local SINC network with broadleaved woodland connectivity across other SINCs nearby.
Access:	The site can be accessed on foot from Imperial Way, Slades Drive and along a public footpath from Kemnal Road.
Use:	Due to the range of habitat areas present, the children's play area and open space available, the site is used by a wide range of people including families, and walkers including dog walkers.
Potential:	N/A
Aesthetic Appeal:	Although the broadleaved woodland at the site is relatively small in extent, there is a path which passes through the centre of the woodland allowing quiet enjoyment of nature away from the busy urban surroundings. The presence of flowing water also contributes to the aesthetic appeal, however the stream can only be seen from the bridge crossing in the woodland.
Geodiversity Interest:	N/A

SINC survey conclusions

SINC Recommendations:	Proposed SINC
Summary of recommended change in SINC designation:	The site supports habitat of Local SINC quality and diversity and therefore the site should be designated as such. Habitats include broadleaved woodland, mature tree lines, a canalised stream and semi-improved grassland.

Belmont



LUC assessment site
Target note
G2 Running water
TL Tree line
A1.1.1 Broadleaved woodland (semi-natural)
B6 Poor semi-improved grassland
HS Hard standing
J1.2 Amenity grassland

Belmont

LUC assessment site

Site access point

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

Site information

Site ID:	22
SINC ID:	N/A
SINC Grade:	N/A
SINC Grade change since 2011:	
Grid Reference:	TQ4608567086
Area (ha):	2.25
Ward:	St. Mary Cray Ward
Land use:	Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership:	London Borough of Bromley
SINC Description:	N/A
Management provider:	London Borough of Bromley
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:	N/A
NE Priority Habitat records:	Lowland calcareous grassland
London BAP habitat suitability records:	Yes
Protected/Notable Species records:	Butcher's-broom, Common Frog, Common Lizard, Common Toad, Redwing, Slow-worm, Swift
INNS Records:	N/A
Area of Deficiency in Nature Conservation:	No
Known projects/initiatives:	None.
Summary of Site:	Poverest Recreation Ground, Meadow and Allotments is located within the centre of the borough, north of Orpington. The entire site comprises 6.1ha and include semi-improved acid grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland, broadleaved woodland, scattered trees, and the allotments. The various parcels are surrounded by mature tree lines and hedgerows, which offer continuous habitat cover across the site for small mammals,

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

birds and bats.

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

Survey data

Surveyor:	Ellie Mayhead
Weather:	Cloudy, dry and warm
Date:	11.05.23
Survey access:	Full
Level of use:	High
Management:	Good
Additional comments on existing management:	The site is well managed by idverde, under the Poverest Park Management Plan.The semi-improved acid grassland of Poverest Recreation Ground and species-rich semi-improved neutral grassland of Poverest Meadow, are well managed and support diverse grassland species. In addition, the allotment is well managed by allotment holders and contains various habitat niches for a range of species including invertebrates, birds and reptiles.

Priority habitats

Chalk grassland:	No
Acid grassland:	Yes
Species-rich neutral grassland:	Yes
Heathland:	No
Chalk Streams:	No
Other Rivers and Streams	No
Wetlands:	No
Reedbeds:	No
Parks and urban greenspaces:	Yes
Standing water:	Yes

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

Wasteland:	No
Woodland:	Yes
Orchard:	Yes
Scrub:	Yes
Native Hedgerows:	No

Other important habitats

The built environment:	No
Gardens and allotments:	Yes
Churchyards and cemeteries:	No
Meadows/pastures:	Yes
Fen, marsh and swamp:	No
Open landscapes with ancient/veteran trees:	No

Habitat survey description: Poverest Recreation Ground supports a diverse range of habitats including semi-improved acid grassland and broadleaved scattered trees including pedunculate oak and field maple. It is also flanked by broadleaved woodland along the western and north-eastern extents. Species present within the recreational grounds include sheep's sorrel, soft brome, sweet vernal grass, cocksfoot grass, stagshorn plantain, meadow buttercup, common chickweed, daisy, yarrow, herb robert, field wood rush, mouse ear hawkweed.Poverest Meadow comprises species-rich semi-improved neutral grassland, a small pocket of broadleaved woodland and dense bramble scrub along the northern boundary. Grassland species comprise, field wood rush, meadow foxtail, sweet vernal grass, common vetch, common club moss, white clover, chickweed, creeping buttercup, meadow buttercup, cowslip, ribwort plantain, and yellow rattle. Poverest Allotments form an extensive area of mosaic habitat comprising community food growing, and horticulture with various other habitat pockets within including dense bramble scrub, hawthorn and blackthorn scrub, a small pond in the north-east of the site, and a drainage ditch along the northern boundary of the site.

The lines of trees which surround each parcel include the following broadleaved tree species; silver birch, field maple, pedunculate oak, poplar, ash, whitebeam, apple, blackthorn and

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

	hawthorn.

Threats and disturbances

Redevelopment:	No
Intrusive buildings:	No
Encroachment / land grab (incl. informal parking):	No
Erosion:	No
Vehicular erosion:	No
Pollution:	No
Vandalism:	No
Litter:	No
Dog fouling:	No
Fly tipping:	No
Invasive species:	No
Boundary treatment:	No
Noise:	No
Lighting:	No
Additional comments:	None.

Opportunities on site

Mowing regime:	No
Meadow creation:	Yes
Wetland creation/enhancement	No
Tree / hedgerow planting:	Yes
Scrub establishment/ management:	Yes

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

Active tree management:	No
Deadwood habitat creation:	Yes
Wildlife Friendly Planting:	Yes
Access opening/delineation/ restriction:	No
Education:	Yes
Additional comments:	The mature tree line along the southern boundary of the allotment would benefit from gapping up with native species to improve the structural complexity for nesting birds. Additional biodiverse planting within the area of improved grassland to the south of the allotment would improve the aesthetic value of the entrance from Footbury Hill Road and provide additional nectar and pollen sources for pollinators. The creation of additional habitat niches for invertebrates such as bug hotels, log piles, ponds, and undisturbed compost heaps for species such as slow worm would enhance the value of the allotments to a range of species. These features should be created within 'wildlife areas' which are demarcated to avoid disturbance and additional guidance should be provided to allotment holders on the beneficial management of these areas for key species with information on seasonal restrictions and companion planting lists and habitat features which could be recreated within plots elsewhere in the allotment to expand the area of beneficial habitat for wildlife.The parcel of semi-improved neutral grassland which lies south of the species-rich meadow offers potential for enhancement through appropriate management and seeding. The addition of yellow rattle could help to enhance species-richness and prevent dominance by perennial rye grass.

Interest

Mammals:	Yes
Birds:	Yes
Reptiles:	Yes
Amphibians:	Yes
Invertebrates:	Yes

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

Fish:	No
Higher Plants:	No
Bryophytes:	No
Lichen:	No
Fungi:	No
Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:	The habitats across the site are likely to offer foraging and commuting habitat for a diverse bat and invertebrate assemblage, in addition to mammals including badger. The pockets of broadleaved woodland and rich network of tree lines and hedgerows are likely to offer nesting opportunities for common passerine bird species. The site may offer foraging habitat during the summer to notable bird species such as swift, given the likelihood that the site supports flying invertebrates, and during the winter to species such as redwing given the presence of berry bearing shrub species such as hawthorn, blackthorn and bramble. There are also several old trees across the site which may offer roosting opportunities for crevice dwelling bats such as pipistrelle. The mosaic habitat at the allotment is known to support several reptile species including common lizard and slow-worm, and may also support amphibians such as common frog and common toad. Sparrowhawk have also been observed hunting at the allotments.

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

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Changes to habitats since the previous surveys N/A

Management Recommendations: None.

Known/relevant existing site management plan: Poverest Park Management Plan

SINC criteria

Representation:	The allotment offers a very good example of the habitat mosaic, which can be achieved through diverse food growing, horticulture and presence of mature trees as part of a small copse or mini orchard. The size of Poverest allotment (3ha) contributes to its value at the Local scale, as allotments of this size are rare in Greater London and therefore it offers a significant asset within the SINC network. The combination of habitat niches provided by the Poverest site including the allotment, in addition to the species-rich meadow, acid grassland and broadleaved woodland represents significant ecological value at the local scale.
Habitat Rarity:	Lowland acid grasslands and species-rich neutral grasslands are Priority Habitats in Bromley, given that they are rare and often fragmented habitats which are restricted in extent both nationally and regionally in Bromley and London.
Species Rarity:	Rare species which have previously been recorded at the site include slow worm, house sparrow, swift and hedgehog.
Habitat Richness:	Habitats include acid and neutral grassland, broadleaved woodland and mature parkland trees, dense bramble scrub, and a mosaic of habitat niches within the allotments including vegetable plots, miniature orchards, deadwood piles, compost heaps, semi-improved neutral grassland, bee hives, a small pond and drainage ditch.
Species Richness:	N/A
Size:	There are a range of habitats present within a small area of just 6.1ha which together offer a substantial contribution to the local SINC network.
Species Importance:	N/A
Ancient Character:	N/A
Recreatability:	The combination of habitats present and size of the Poverest site

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

	is very difficult to recreate.
Typical Urban Character:	N/A
Cultural/Historic Character:	Allotments have significant cultural value to people as they allow connection with nature and with the soil through food growing. It also offers immeasurable benefits to people's well-being through providing a quiet space for creativity and healing in the
Geographic Position:	Poverest recreation ground is located just north of Orpington and lies to the east of Covet Wood Borough Grade I SINC. The site offers strategic strengthening of the SINC network through providing a stepping stone between Covet Wood and several small SINC sites in the surrounding area, including the River Cray SINC to the north-east, Priory Gardens Lake SINC to the east and All Saints Churchyard SINC to the south-east.
Access:	The site is readily accessible on foot or by bike, wheelchair or pushchair from Perry Hall Road, Mountview Road, Footbury Hill Road and Lockesley Drive.
Use:	Poverest Recreation Ground is most commonly used by families and forms a frequently used access route to the adjacent Perry Hall School. The allotments are used by a diverse range of local residents of all ages and backgrounds.
Potential:	N/A
Aesthetic Appeal:	The range of habitats and vegetation communities present across the site offers substantial aesthetic interest throughout the seasons.
Geodiversity Interest:	N/A

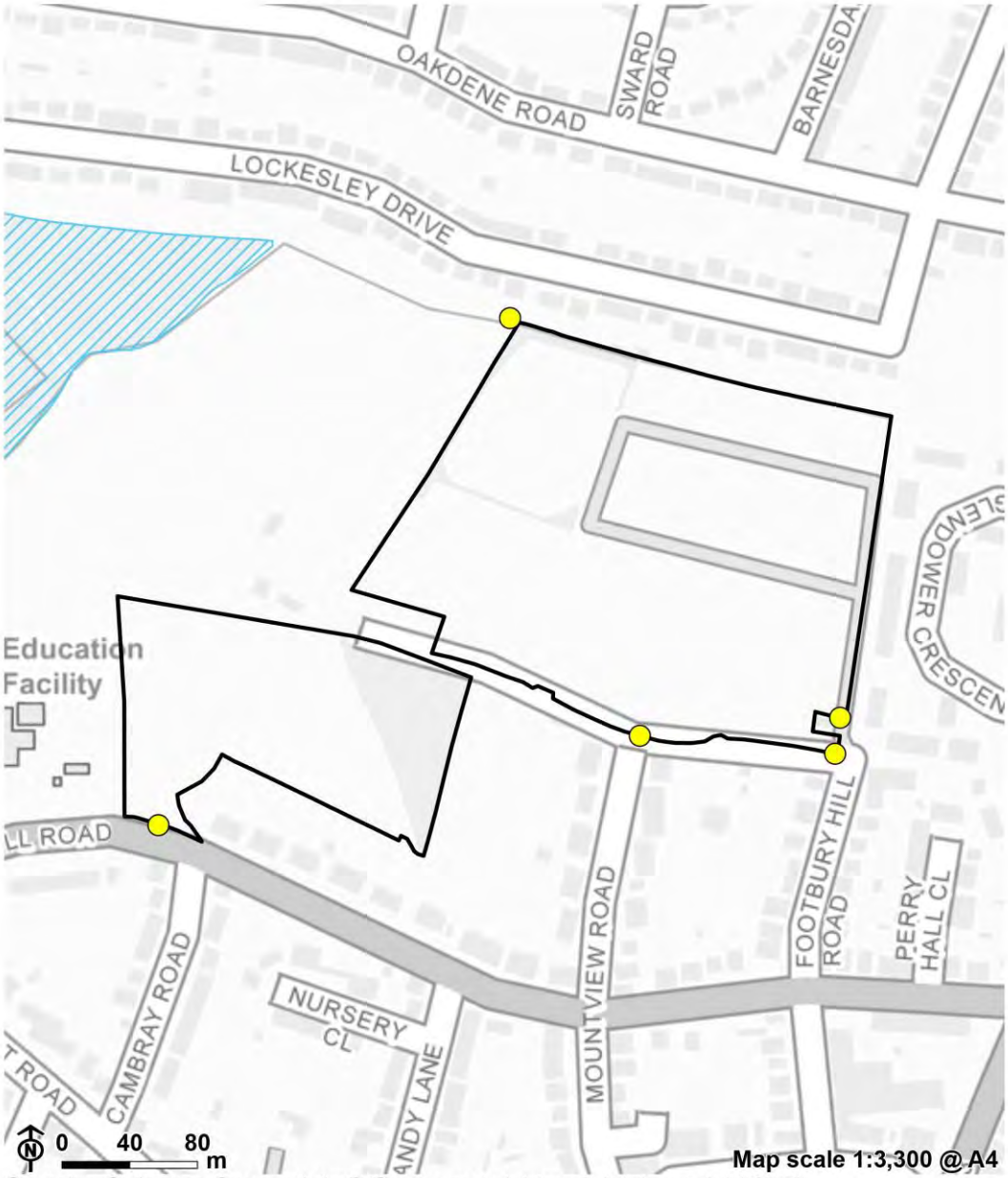
SINC survey conclusions

SINC Recommendations:	Proposed SINC
Summary of recommended change in SINC designation:	The combined sites support habitats of Local SINC quality and diversity and therefore the site should be designated as such. Those habitats which contribute towards the site meeting several of the SINC criteria include the allotments, semi-improved acid grassland and species-rich neutral grassland.

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland

- LUC assessment site
- Target note
- J2.6 Dry ditch
- J2.4 Fence
- TL Tree line
- A1.1.1 Broadleaved woodland (semi-natural)
- A1.1.2 Broadleaved woodland (plantation)
- A2.1 Scrub (dense/ continuous)
- AL Allotment
- B1.2 Acid grassland (semi-improved)/A3.1 Broadleaved scattered trees
- B2.2 Neutral grassland (semi-improved)
- B6 Poor semi-improved grassland
- J1.2 Amenity grassland

Poverest Recreation Ground - acid grassland



LUC assessment site

Site access point

Site of Importance for Nature Conservation

Richmall Crompton Fields

Site information

Site ID:	23
SINC ID:	N/A
SINC Grade:	N/A
SINC Grade change since 2011:	
Grid Reference:	TQ4279266564
Area (ha):	7.91
Ward:	Bromley Common & Holwood Ward
Land use:	Outdoor Sports Facilities
Ownership:	London Borough of Bromley
SINC Description:	N/A
Management provider:	London Borough of Bromley
Other designated sites within 30m of the SINC:	N/A
NE Priority Habitat records:	N/A
London BAP habitat suitability records:	Yes
Protected/Notable Species records:	Skylark, Small Heath, Stag Beetle
INNS Records:	N/A
Area of Deficiency in Nature Conservation:	No
Known projects/initiatives:	None.
Summary of Site:	Richmal Crompton Fields is an extensive area of 7.9ha located within the centre of the borough, which underwent reversion from an agricultural field in 2007. The site supports predominantly improved and semi-improved neutral grassland with a parkland setting created through planting of pockets of broadleaved woodland and individual trees. There is a playground within the north-eastern corner of the park which is designed for young children.

Richmall Crompton Fields

Survey data

Surveyor:	Ellie Mayhead
Weather:	Sunny, dry and warm
Date:	10/05/23
Survey access:	Full
Level of use:	High
Management:	Good
Additional comments on existing management:	The site is managed by idverde under the Richmal Crompton Management Plan. The existing management of the site is good and habitats are developing, which allow small pockets of undisturbed habitat for wildlife within the tall grassland, mature hedgerows and dense scrub.

Priority habitats

Chalk grassland:	No
Acid grassland:	No
Species-rich neutral grassland:	No
Heathland:	No
Chalk Streams:	No
Other Rivers and Streams	No
Wetlands:	No
Reedbeds:	No
Parks and urban greenspaces:	Yes
Standing water:	No
Wasteland:	No

Richmall Crompton Fields

Woodland:	Yes
Orchard:	No
Scrub:	Yes
Native Hedgerows:	Yes

Other important habitats

The built environment:	No
Gardens and allotments:	No
Churchyards and cemeteries:	No
Meadows/pastures:	No
Fen, marsh and swamp:	No
Open landscapes with ancient/veteran trees:	No

Habitat survey description: The site comprises a field which has undergone arable reversion to parkland through broadleaved tree planting and the establishment of improved grassland, semi-improved neutral grassland including a small area of species-rich neutral grassland adjacent to the barn supporting a diverse herb assemblage, scrub and mature native species-poor hedgerows.

Clusters of tree planting have formed areas of secondary broadleaved woodland of various sizes containing goat willow, silver birch and oak with a diverse understory supporting oak seedlings, hazel and silver birch saplings, sparse blackthorn and bramble, and occasional bluebell and pink sorrel. There are also individually planted poplar trees along the southern boundary and in tree avenues or tree lines along the main footpath through the park. Pockets of dense scrub have established which contribute to habitat provision in providing shelter for birds, small mammals, reptiles and invertebrates. There is a well developed hedgerow surrounding the perimeter of the site, consisting of hawthorn, dogwood, field maple, and hazel with a good margin supporting bramble, blackthorn and cow parsley. The western boundary hedgerow also supports mature trees such as oak.The grassland supports predominantly rye grass with abundant dandelions, frequent teasels, thistles white clover, wild carrot and greater plantain and occasional meadow buttercup, common vetch, meadow foxtail and creeping buttercup. Surrounding the barn there is species-rich neutral grassland

	comprising various herb species which has developed on the tarmac and gravel base including yellow vetchling, spotted medick, dove's-foot crane's-bill, common field speedwell, mouse-ear chickweed, buck's-horn plantain and mosses.

Threats and disturbances

Redevelopment:	No
Intrusive buildings:	No
Encroachment / land grab (incl. informal parking):	No
Erosion:	No
Vehicular erosion:	No
Pollution:	No
Vandalism:	No
Litter:	No
Dog fouling:	No
Fly tipping:	No
Invasive species:	No
Boundary treatment:	No
Noise:	No
Lighting:	No
Additional comments:	A member of the public commented during the survey that skylark used to be readily heard and seen on the site but in recent years they have not been present. The site is frequently used by dog walkers, therefore there is significant disturbance of habitats leaving just the small pockets of dense scrub and the hedgerows undisturbed. This limits opportunities across the site for ground nesting birds such as skylark and for basking reptiles.

Opportunities on site

Mowing regime:	Yes

Richmall Crompton Fields

Meadow creation:	No
Wetland creation/enhancement	No
Tree / hedgerow planting:	No
Scrub establishment/ management:	No
Active tree management:	No
Deadwood habitat creation:	Yes
Wildlife Friendly Planting:	Yes
Access opening/delineation/ restriction:	Yes
Education:	No
Additional comments:	Due to the significant disturbance of the site by dog walkers, breeding birds and reptiles may benefit from the creation of fenced exclusion zones for wildlife offering different habitat opportunities for different species such as areas of tussocky and short sward grassland for ground nesting birds such as skylark which have previously been recorded on site but have not been heard or seen by local walkers in recent years. Additionally, ecotones of grassland and scrub could be created within other fenced exclusion zones for reptiles. A reptile hibernaculum and egg laying site could also be created to offer habitats to support the full life cycle of reptiles including undisturbed over wintering habitat. These should be designed in accordance with the habitat preferences of target species considering size of the exclusion zone, connection with suitable habitat corridors for dispersal and appropriate vegetation communities, managed as part of a holistic management plan for the Site to ensure that these areas don’t develop into homogeneous tall rank grasses and dense scrub of lower ecological value.Maintain and expand the short sward around the barn to retain herb-rich floral diversity and incorporate yellow rattle in the surrounding improved grassland to improve species richness. Add bat boxes to the barn and mature trees to create additional roost features. In order to improve species-richness of the semi-improved grassland, sowing yellow rattle within key areas could reduce the dominance by grasses such as perennial rye grass and encourage wildflowers. Further enhancement to create greater diversity within areas of improved grassland could be achieved through soil stripping, given it is likely to be nutrient enriched

Richmall Crompton Fields

from previous farming.Create deadwood features and bare earth features for ground burrowing insects such as solitary bees and wasps. Bare earth could be created on the bank near the barn and also on the bank which lies along the western side of the main footpath. Supplement this through planting the circular areas at the key footpath nodes, which currently contain introduced shrub, with native annual and perennial wildflowers offering a long season of nectar and pollen rich foraging habitat and diverse colours of value to pollinators and creating aesthetic interest for park users.

Interest

Mammals:	No
Birds:	Yes
Reptiles:	No
Amphibians:	No
Invertebrates:	Yes
Fish:	No
Higher Plants:	No
Bryophytes:	No
Lichen:	No
Fungi:	No
Explain the importance of the site for these interest features:	The site offers a substantial area of continuous dense hedgerows containing mature trees and pockets of broadleaved woodland which support breeding birds. A single oak tree was reported to offer low Bat Roost Potential (BRP) due to the presence of several limb wounds. In addition, the barn shelter was reported to offer low BRP given the potential for crevice dwelling species such as pipistrelle to roost between the tin roof and roof support beams opportunistically when ambient air temperature is suitable. There are records for skylark at the site. Additionally house sparrow, blackbird, robin, long tailed tit, crow and magpie were observed displaying breeding behaviour during the survey. Due to the presence of passerine birds, the site may also offer foraging habitat for birds of prey such as sparrowhawk or kestrel. The scattered bramble scrub mosaic with open semi-improved neutral grassland is likely to support a diverse

invertebrate assemblage including butterflies and there are records for small heath butterfly at the site.

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Changes to habitats since the previous surveys N/A

Management Recommendations:	The hedgerows have developed into a good form with dense growth and significant width and height, over time these would benefit from management to prevent the formation of gaps as shrubs develop into trees. Management could include hedge laying.

Known/relevant existing site management plan: Richmal Crompton Management Plan (idverde)

SINC criteria

Representation:	The site offers a good example of mosaic habitat comprising semi-improved grassland with broadleaved parkland trees and bramble scrub on arable reversion land, which offers substantial ecological value at the local scale given the predominantly agricultural surroundings.
Habitat Rarity:	N/A
Species Rarity:	There are records for Skylark at the site and anecdotal information supporting their presence at the site before recent years. Skylark are an increasingly rare ground nesting species, which are red listed as a bird of conservation concern (BTO). As the habitats on site develop and as recreational activities have increased over time, the site is likely becoming less suitable for skylark. Therefore, efforts to create fenced exclusion zones for wildlife are recommended to try and reverse this local trend on site. There are also records for Small Heath butterfly, which is a species of high conservation priority by Butterfly Conservation, and a species of Principle Importance (NERC Act).
Habitat Richness:	N/A
Species Richness:	N/A
Size:	The field is a substantial size supporting a valuable mosaic of habitats which cover a total area of 7.9ha.
Species Importance:	N/A
Ancient Character:	N/A
Recreatability:	The habitats on site have developed following reversion of arable land over 15 years ago. Therefore, the habitats contained are

Richmall Crompton Fields

	recreatable, however woodlands, scrub and hedgerows take a significant time to reach the maturity represent at Richmal Crompton Fields.
Typical Urban Character:	N/A
Cultural/Historic Character:	N/A
Geographic Position:	The site lies between arable fields and a golf course to the north. There is a continuous network of hedgerows that extend beyond the site offering habitat connectivity with the nearby Holy Trinity Churchyard SINC to the west and expansive Crofton Wood SINC to the east.
Access:	The site is readily accessible by public footpath from Magpie Hall lane and Princes Plain to the north west, Whitebeam Avenue to the east and on foot or by car from Lower Gravel Road to the south. The site is located between several residential areas, many of which lie within areas of deficiency in access to nature.
Use:	The site is predominantly used by dog walkers and families and contains a series of different public footpaths and desire lines, creating a network of paths that can be used by different park users. There is an accessible route through the park for wheelchair users and pushchair users.
Potential:	The hedgerows and woodlands have potential to offer valuable habitat to small mammals, birds and foraging bats with appropriate management. Whilst the trees develop to maturity, the site would benefit from the addition of bat boxes on trees and the barn structure to offer additional roosting opportunities for bats. The addition of fenced exclusion zones for wildlife would further enhance the potential of this site for a wide range of species including ground nesting birds such as skylark and reptiles such as common lizard.
Aesthetic Appeal:	N/A
Geodiversity Interest:	N/A

SINC survey conclusions

SINC Recommendations:	Proposed SINC
Summary of recommended change in SINC designation:	The site meets several SINC criteria including representation, species rarity and potential which make it suitable for proposal

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as a Local SINC. The site is located between several residential areas, many of which lie within areas of deficiency in access to nature. Therefore, designation of this site as a SINC would protect this site as an important area offering access to nature.

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- LUC assessment site
- Target note
- J2.1.2 Intact hedge (species-poor)
- J2.4 Fence
- J2.3.2 Hedge with trees (species-poor)
- TL Tree line
- A1.1.2 Broadleaved woodland (plantation)
- A1.1.2 Broadleaved woodland (plantation)/B6 Poor semi-improved grassland
- A2.1 Scrub (dense/ continuous)/B6 Poor semi-improved grassland
- A2.2 Scrub (scattered)
- B2.2 Neutral grassland (semi-improved)
- B4 Improved grassland
- B6 Poor semi-improved grassland/A3.1 Broadleaved scattered trees
- HS Hard standing
- J1.3 Ephemeral/short perennial
- J1.4 Introduced shrub
- J3.6 Buildings
- J4 Bare ground
- OP Ornamental planting

Richmall Crompton Fields