

Metropolitan

Site Reference:	M031
Site Name:	River Thames and tidal tributaries
Summary:	The Thames, London's most famous natural feature, is home to many fish and birds, creating a wildlife corridor running right across the capital.
Grid ref:	TQ 302 806
Area (ha):	2304.92 ha in London, 171.22 ha in Barking and Dagenham
Borough(s):	Barking and Dagenham, Bexley, City of London, Greenwich, Hammersmith and Fulham, Havering, Hounslow, Kensington and Chelsea, Kingston upon Thames, Lambeth, Lewisham, Newham, Richmond upon Thames, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Wandsworth, Westminster
Habitat(s):	Intertidal, Marsh/swamp, Pond/Lake, Reed bed, Running water, Saltmarsh, Secondary woodland, Vegetated wall/tombstones, Wet ditches, Wet grassland, Wet woodland/carr
Access:	Free public access (part of site)
Ownership:	Port of London Authority (Tidal banks) and Private (Riparian owners (non tidal banks))

Site Description:

The River Thames and the tidal sections of creeks and rivers which flow into it comprise a number of valuable habitats not found elsewhere in London. The mud-flats, shingle beach, inter-tidal vegetation, islands and river channel itself support many species from freshwater, estuarine and marine communities which are rare in London. The site is of particular importance for wildfowl and wading birds. The river walls, particularly in south and east London, also provide important feeding areas for the nationally rare and specially-protected black redstart. The Thames is extremely important for fish, with over 100 species now present. Many of the tidal creeks are important fish nurseries, including for several nationally uncommon species such as smelt. Barking Creek supports extensive reed beds. Further downstream are small areas of saltmarsh, a very rare habitat in London, where there is a small population of the nationally scarce marsh sow-thistle (*Sonchus palustris*). Wetlands beside the river in Kew support the only London population of the nationally rare and specially-protected cut-grass (*Leersia oryzoides*). The numerous small islands in the upper reaches support important invertebrate communities, including several nationally rare snails, as well as a number of heronries. Chiswick Eyot, one of the islands, is a Local Nature Reserve. The towpath in the upper reaches is included in the site, and in places supports a diverse flora with numerous London rarities, both native and exotic. Ninety per cent of the banks of the tidal Thames and its creeks are owned by the Port of London Authority, whereas the riparian owners are responsible for the non tidal (upriver) banks. The water is not owned by anybody. The River Thames upriver of the Thames Barrier is followed by the Thames Path National Trail.

Site first notified:	01/04/1986	Boundary last changed:	30/11/2005
Citation last edited:	13/04/2006	Mayor Agreed:	25/11/2002
Defunct:	N		
Last Updated:	30/05/2007		

Metropolitan

Site Reference: M089

Site Name: The Ripple Nature Reserve

Summary: A fine example of how nature can reclaim former industrial land, these 8 hectares of birch woodland, scrub and grassland.

Grid ref: TQ 466 822

Area (ha): 8.27

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Reed bed, Ruderal, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs, Wet ditches

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham and National Grid plc

Site Description:

An area of Thames-side ex-industrial land, now supporting a mosaic of important habitats developed over former fly ash lagoons. Much of the site is open, consisting of early successional habitats, damp neutral and some drier, calcareous grassland, with drainage ditches and areas of willow (*Salix* spp.) scrub and birch (*Betula* sp.) woodland. Locally rare and uncommon plants include common cornsalad (*Valerianella locusta*) yellow-wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*), common centaury (*Centaurium erythraea*), viper's-bugloss (*Echium vulgare*), carline thistle (*Carlina vulgaris*) and slender thistle (*Caduus tenuifolius*) on drier grassland, with sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*) in wetland habitats. The invertebrate fauna is also important and includes many nationally rare and scarce species, such as the scarce emerald damselfly (*Lestes dryas*). The Thames Terrace hymenopteran assemblage is particularly well-represented. The breeding avifauna is diverse and includes song thrush and linnet, both UK Biodiversity Action Plan priority species. Reptiles and amphibians include smooth newt, grass snake and slow-worm. The northern part of the site is a Local Nature Reserve. The area is managed by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

Buddleia davidii scrub invasion is a major problem over parts of the site.

Site first notified: 19/09/1988 **Boundary last changed:** 01/11/2002

Citation last edited: 25/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:** 25/11/2002

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 25/11/2016

Metropolitan

Site Reference:	M090
Site Name:	The Chase and Eastbrookend Country Park
Summary:	This extensive area of grassland and former gravel works contains a variety of aquatic plants and attracts numerous waterfowl and wading birds.
Grid ref:	TQ 511 860
Area (ha):	147.07 ha total, 132.99 ha in Barking & Dagenham
Borough(s):	Barking and Dagenham, Havering
Habitat(s):	Acid grassland, Marsh/swamp, Pond/lake, Running water, Scrub, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Wet grassland
Access:	Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership:	London Borough of Barking & Dagenham, London Borough of Havering and Private

Site Description:

A large area of former gravel workings beside the River Rom, comprising a mosaic of grazed wetland and terrestrial habitats. The country park was restored later than the Chase, although the two sites are complementary in terms of their habitat diversity. Shallow pools support a rich aquatic vegetation, including the London rarities sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritima*), lesser reedmace (*Typha angustifolia*) and common and thread-leaved water-crowfoots (*Ranunculus aquatilis*, *R. trichophyllus*), and attract numerous waterfowl and waders. The dry acid grassland supports one of London's few populations of spiny retharow (*Ononis spinosa*), while other uncommon species include sand spurrey (*Spergularia rubra*) and hare's-foot clover (*Trifolium arvense*). Lapwing, little ringed plover, little grebe, yellowhammer and skylark all breed. Blocks of scrub and secondary woodland add further habitat diversity. Beds of reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*) and tall herbaceous vegetation beside the river attract breeding warblers and water rail. Birds wintering here include snipe, teal and many others. The site is also regularly visited by a long list of passage species, some nationally rare. Several mature black poplars (*Populus nigra* ssp. *betulifolia*) grow near the river, at one of the very few native London sites for this nationally declining tree (a UK and London Biodiversity Action Plan priority species). Rare invertebrates include the hornet robber-fly (*Asilus crabroniformis*), a BAP Priority Species. Mammals include the declining harvest mouse and the specially-protected water vole. There is a visitor centre and the site attracts many visitors for education and informal recreation. The Chase and Eastbrookend Country Park are Local Nature Reserves managed by the London Borough of Barking & Dagenham.

New Zealand pigmyweed (*Crassula helmsii*) is a major problem within the Chase Nature Reserve part of the site.

Site first notified:	19/09/1988	Boundary last changed:	01/11/2002
Citation last edited:	24/11/2016	Mayor Agreed:	25/11/2002
Defunct:	N		
Last Updated:	24/11/2016		

Proposed Metropolitan (an upgraded site which combines two former Borough Grade I sites, Beam Valley Country Park and Beam Parklands)

Site Reference: B&DBI04/05

Site Name: Beam Valley

Summary: Large area of open land in the valleys of the Beam River and Wantz Stream (the area of open space extends into the L B of Havering).

Grid ref: TQ 506 843itself

Area (ha): 70.29

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Acid grassland, Reed beds, Marsh/swamp, Open mosaic habitat, Pond/lake, Roughland, Running water, Scattered trees, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Wet woodland/carr

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: Environment Agency, London Borough of Barking & Dagenham and Private

Site Description:

Stretches of the Beam River are characterised by dense marginal vegetation dominated by branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*). Species scarce in London include curled and broad-leaved pondweeds (*Potamogeton crispus* and *P.natans*). Kingfishers frequent the area and reed warblers and reed buntings breed. The floodplain supports a wide diversity of habitats including one small area of willow woodland, which is scarce in London. The Wantz Stream supports both watercress (*Rorippa nasturtium-aquatica*) and fool's watercress (*Apium nodiflorum*). Other wet areas host a wide variety of wetland plants including lesser reedmace (*Typha angustifolia*), reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*) and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*). The area is important for the specially protected water vole and great crested newt. A series of swales / ponds have been created aside the Wantz Stream, which has significantly added to the site's wetland habitats. As well marginal vegetation these have sizeable beds of reed (*Phragmites australis*) and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*) present. To the south of the area are areas of drier grassland (some of it acidic) with scattered hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) scrub which support breeding skylark, linnets (both UK BAP priority species) and meadow pipit, while tree sparrows are frequent in winter. Areas of acidic grassland support the notable species hare's-foot clover (*Trifolium arvense*).

There is a large angling lake to the north which supports breeding great crested grebes and attracts pochard and shoveler in winter. Marsh ragwort (*Senecio aquaticus*), a species rare in London, is known from smaller ponds. An area of Open Mosaic Habitat lies east of the Lake and south of the railway. A number of locally and / or regionally scarce species occur including spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*), common centaury (*Centaurium erythraea*) and welshed thistle (*Carduus crispus*). The site also supports an exceptionally large population the cinnabar moths / caterpillars, a species of principal importance in England. The area is part of the Beam Valley Local Nature Reserve and is managed by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 30/06/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Borough Grade I

Site Reference: B&DBI01
Site Name: River Roding in Barking
Summary: A stretch of the River Roding, important for fish and birds.
Grid ref: TQ 436 843
Area (ha): 5.99
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Reed bed, Running water, Semi-improved neutral grassland
Access: Free public access (part of site)
Ownership: Various

Site Description:

The river in this section is semi-tidal, with considerable areas of exposed mud at low tide. The river supports a good diversity of fish, including eel, stickleback, pike and flounder. Extensive fringes of reeds occur in places, supporting nesting reed warblers. Other birds present include the specially-protected kingfisher, and small numbers of migrant ducks and waders. Other water's edge vegetation includes sea aster (*Aster tripolium*), wild celery (*Apium graveolens*), purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), water dock (*Rumex hydrolapathum*) and hemlock water dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*), all rather scarce in London. Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) is abundant.

A riverside footpath follows the site for part of its length.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002
Citation last edited: 05/04/2006 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Borough Grade I

Site Reference: B&DBI02
Site Name: Furze House Farm
Summary: The only substantial area of productive farmland left in the borough of Barking & Dagenham.
Grid ref: TQ 482 904
Area (ha): 51.59
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Arable, Hedge
Access: Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only
Ownership: Private

Site Description:

The only substantial area of productive farmland in Barking and Dagenham, this represents a relic of a landscape which would have covered most of the borough in the past. The hedgerows, dominated by hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) with some young oak (*Quercus robur*), are somewhat patchy but contain a good range of shrubs, and narrow grassy strips have been known to support locally scarce plants such as chicory (*Cichorium intybus*), burnet saxifrage (*Pimpinella saxifraga*) and agrimony (*Agrimonia eupatorium*). Breeding birds recorded include yellowhammer, linnet and yellow wagtail, all species of conservation concern, while flocks of golden plovers have been known to occur regularly in winter.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002
Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Borough Grade I

Site Reference: B&DBI03

Site Name: Dagenham Breach and the lower Beam River in Dagenham

Summary: A popular angling lake in a region historically subject to flooding, and a stretch of the Beam that runs through the Ford car plant.

Grid ref: TQ 500 822

Area (ha): 18.04

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Pond/lake, Reed bed, Running water, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs

Access: Access on public footpaths only

Ownership: Private

Site Description:

Dagenham Breach is a lake created by storm flooding from the River Thames in the early 18th century. Its margins contain a fringe of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*). This is widest at the south-western end. Other wetland plants growing among the reeds include sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*), false fox-sedge (*Carex otrubae*), lesser reedmace (*Typha angustifolia*) and common club-rush (*Schoenoplectus lacustris*), all rather scarce in London. The lake supports several species of common dragonflies. It also holds a good population of fish, including eels, carp, tench and roach, and is popular with anglers. Breeding birds include reed warbler, great crested grebe, mute swan and possibly kingfisher, while wintering waterfowl include substantial numbers of tufted duck and pochard and smaller numbers of shoveler.

The Beam River runs through the Ford Works between strips of amenity grassland until the southernmost 500 metres of the site, where it is fringed by reed beds, tall herbs, rough grassland and scattered scrub. Parts of the river are known to support species such as purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), sea aster (*Aster tripolium*), spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*) and common storks-bill (*Erodium cicutarium*) which are uncommon in London. Stonechat and black redstart have bred in this area. The wildlife habitats extend across the river into the Borough of Havering, where the site is known as Lower River Beam and Ford Works Ditches.

There are areas along the river which support invasive species such as Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*), giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*) and Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*).

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002

Citation last edited: 25/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 25/11/2016

Borough Grade I

Site Reference: B&DBI07

Site Name: Gores Brook and the Ship & Shovel Sewer

Summary: The Gores Brook stream flows through Goresbrook Park, and joins the important ditch habitats of the Ship & Shovel Sewer.

Grid ref: TQ 481 782

Area (ha): 11.27

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Marsh/swamp, Reed beds, Running water, Tall herbs, Wet ditches

Access: Free public access (part of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

The northern end of the Gores Brook begins life as a damp patch just north of the District Line. The area is planted with poplars (*Populus* spp) and willows (*Salix* spp). It continues southwards through allotments and Goresbrook Park, then through more built surrounds. The banks of the brook, particularly through the park, have been planted with trees such as willows (*Salix* spp.), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) over tall herbs and semi-improved neutral grassland. A number of wetland plants occur in the stream itself, including fool's watercress (*Apium nodiflorum*), branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*), reed canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), galingale (*Cyperus longus*), lesser pond-sedge (*Carex acutiformis*) and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*).

South of the railway the Gores Brook widens and as a result is quite sluggish. Plants characteristic of brackish water make an appearance including dittander (*Lepidium latifolium*), sea aster (*Aster tripolium*) and sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*). Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) is abundant and branched bur-reed frequent. In the water is fennel-leaved pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus*) and 'blanket-weed'. The brook splits into two forks, which rejoin just before entering the River Thames. Within this area an island of reeds has formed. At the northern end succession is beginning with the reed being joined by tall herbs.

The Ship & Shovel Sewer joins the Gores from the west just south of the railway. It has a very modest flow and has been counted as 'standing water' here. It is the richest ditch in the borough. Wetland plants include common reed, gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*), common duckweed (*Lemna minor*), floating sweet-grass (*Glyceria fluitans*), reed sweet-grass, common club-rush (*Schoenoplectus lacustris*) and branched bur-reed. The western end of the Sewer has been planted with alder, willows and hawthorn over neutral grassland and tall herbs. Elsewhere naturally occurring scattered trees and scrub replace planted trees. The brook supports a population of the specially protected water vole, a priority species in UK and London Biodiversity Action Plans, as well as interesting invertebrate communities.

Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*) is a major problem along the entire length of the Gores Brook.

Site first notified: 01/12/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002

Citation last edited: 31/01/2006 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Borough Grade I

Site Reference: B&DBI08
Site Name: Marks Hedge
Summary: An ancient hedge and the only ancient woodland in the borough.
Grid ref: TQ 487 889
Area (ha): 0.61
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Ancient woodland, Hedge
Access: Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only
Ownership: Crown Estate / Cranfield Golf Centre

Site Description:

The site includes the remnants of the ancient 'Marks Hedge', which once marked the perimeter of Hainault Forest and the Manor of Barking with the Liberty of Havering. This begins along the northern fringe of Warren Fields and can be followed in a north-eastern direction into the Cranfield Golf Centre site. Here it widens to the only ancient woodland in the borough, a small area dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) with hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) also present. The woodland area continues on the other side of the A12. A good number of other trees and shrubs occur in the hedge and woodland, indicating its great antiquity. These include field maple (*Acer campestre*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), grey willow (*Salix cinerea*) and goat willow (*S. caprea*). The hedge is accompanied by a ditch and earth bank, characteristic of the Medieval period. This site provides good habitat for common bird species and sparrowhawks have been reported as breeding in this area.

Site first notified: 01/12/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 12/08/2003
Citation last edited: 12/01/2006 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 31/01/2006

Borough Grade I (Upgraded from Borough Grade II)

Site Reference: B&DBII10
Site Name: Scratton's Farm Ecopark
Summary: A recently created wildlife site on land previously occupied by old overgrown allotments.
Grid ref: TQ 480 832
Area (ha): 5.3
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Scattered trees, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs, Wet ditches
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

This is a newly created wildlife site on land once occupied by old overgrown allotments. It makes use of previously existing vegetation and new planting/clearing.

Most of the area is covered in tall herb and scrub (elder (*Sambucus nigra*)) vegetation. The eastern and southern edges have been planted with trees and shrubs, including white willow (*Salix alba*), aspen (*Populus tremula*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*). A grassy plain has been created at the south-eastern end. There are two damp to wet ditches running north-south cross the area. The most easterly of these is clothed in common reed (*Phragmites australis*), and the other in reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*). A ditch marks the southern boundary of the site. Most of this is too shaded to be vegetated, however at the extreme western end reed sweet-grass and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*) are present in this still wet ditch.

The site has recently been extended west to include an area of neutral grassland, tall herbs and scrub, which supports spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*), an uncommon species in London. The site provides good habitat for invertebrates, such as speckled wood butterflies and Odonata including southern hawker dragonflies, as well as birds such as goldfinch and blackcap.

The Ecopark has been declared a Local Nature Reserve by the borough which manages the site.

Site first notified: 01/12/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 02/08/2016

Citation last edited: 05/04/2006 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Borough Grade I (Upgrade from Borough Grade II)

Site Reference: B&DBII03

Site Name: Mayesbrook Park Climate Change Park

Summary: Two lakes and surrounding mosaic of habitats, some of which has been recently created or restored.

Grid ref: TQ 462 846

Area (ha): 24.49

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Acid grassland, Native hedge, Scattered trees, Secondary woodland, Semi-Improved neutral grassland, Standing water, Running water, Tall herbs, Reed bed

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

This includes a large lake with three islands, dominated by willows (*Salix* spp) and a diverse, well-structured edge vegetation, including a variety of trees, shrubs, tall herbs, grassland (some of which is acidic) and marginal vegetation. Notable species include brooklime (*Veronica beccabunga*), rigid hornwort (*Ceratophyllum demersum*), sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*), hare's-foot clover (*Trifolium arvense*) and spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*). The lake provides a good habitat for waterfowl, including little egret, little grebe, pochard and greylag goose. One of the islands is a nesting site for grey heron.

A second lake is surrounded by a number of mature weeping willows (*Salix sepulcralis*). There are patches of sea club-rush and great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*), as well as other marginal species.

To the south of the lakes, an area once occupied by a pitch and putt course has now been planted with native (and a few other) trees and hedgerows. Species include sweet chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), birch (*Betula* spp), oak (*Quercus petraea*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*), whitebeam (*Sorbus aria*) and sea buckthorn (*Hippophae* spp). The lakes (and area described immediately above) have been declared a Local Nature Reserve by the borough.

The site has been extended to include an area north of the lakes. A recent habitat restoration and creation project has given rise to significant changes and new habitats, including removing the concrete channel of The Mayes Brook and creating a series of interconnected swales, backwaters and a seasonal pond, with frequent occurrences of common reed (*Phragmites australis*). There are also areas of semi-improved neutral grassland, planted shrubbery, and patches of acid grassland, dominated by red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and sheep's-sorrel (*Rumex acetosella*). Notable species recorded within the swales include purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), brooklime, buck's-horn plantain (*Plantago coronopus*), yellow-rattle (*Rhinanthus minor*), marsh bedstraw (*Galium palustre*) and sneezewort (*Achillea ptarmica*).

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 08/07/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Borough Grade I (New Site)

Site Reference: PBI04

Site Name: Buzzard's-mouth Creek and Thames View Ditch

Summary: Creek and ditches draining the Thames View Estate, with extensive reed beds, tall herbs, planted trees and shrubs.

Grid ref: TQ 462 824

Area (ha): 5.93

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Planted shrubbery, Reedswamp, Scattered trees, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Standing water, Tall herbs

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

Buzzard's-mouth Creek and Thames View Ditch drains the southern part of the Thames View Estate.

The northern reaches of the creek have been planted with young trees, including poplars (*Populus* spp) and white willow (*Salix alba*), and planted shrubbery. A mosaic of scrub, tall herbs and semi-improved neutral grassland has built up between the plantings, supporting uncommon species in London such as sea beet (*Beta vulgaris*) and sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*). Common reed (*Phragmites australis*) is abundant within the channel, which could support the specially protected water vole.

The ditch to the north of the creek is dominated by common reed, with some great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*). The banks support scrub and tall herb habitats and offer suitable habitat for a variety of invertebrates and bird species, including reed warbler.

To the east of the creek, there is an area of recent origin with planted shrubbery, scrub, scattered trees and a pond with extensive reed beds. Wooden bridges and walkways allow pedestrian access through parts of the site.

Effectively, this site links the ditches of the Thames View Estate with the River Thames.

Site first notified: 12/09/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 12/09/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Borough Grade II

Site Reference: B&DBII01
Site Name: Barking Park and Loxford Water
Summary: Popular recreation ground with parkland, a lake and small stream.
Grid ref: TQ 446 850
Area (ha): 13.67
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Pond/lake, Running water, Scattered trees, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

Barking Park is a well-used recreation ground containing a lake, formal parkland with mature trees, and a section of the Loxford Water, a small stream. The Loxford Water, on the western edge of the park, forms the borough boundary with Redbridge. It has been known to support a few clumps of reed canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*), Nuttall's waterweed (*Elodea nuttallii*) and branched bur-reed (*Sparganium erectum*) in the margins, and is bordered by a strip of rough grassland and tall herbs. Kingfishers are known to use this stretch of water. The lake has little or no aquatic vegetation, but its three islands provide nest sites for common waterfowl, including mallard, tufted duck, moorhen and coot. Little egrets have also been recorded in this lake. The mature trees and dense shrubberies in the park provide habitat for common birds, including the declining spotted flycatcher and song thrush. Notable species include buck's-horn plantain (*Plantago coronopus*) and common storks-bill (*Erodium cicutarium*).

A recent addition to the site includes a newly created wildflower meadow, which support species such as common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), kidney vetch (*Anthyllis vulneraria*), birds-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*), crested dogstail (*Cynosurus cristatus*) and spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*).

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 06/06/2016

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Borough Grade II

Site Reference: B&DBII02

Site Name: Mayes Brook and associated watercourses

Summary: Watercourse and ditches with considerable scope for wildlife to flourish - wildlife corridor linking Mayesbrook Park, River Roding and Ship and Shovel Sewer

Grid ref: TQ 459 834

Area (ha): 8.11

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Marsh/swamp, Running water, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Wet ditches

Access: Free public access (part of site)

Ownership: Environment Agency and London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

South of Ripple Road the brook is characterised by narrow strips of fringing grassland and areas of reed canary-grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*). A flood relief channel supports more interesting wetland vegetation, known to include lesser spearwort (*Ranunculus flammula*), sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*) and rushes. South of the A13, the brook flows in a two-stage channel, this allows for more riparian vegetation, with frequent sea club-rush. The brook supports the uncommon fennel-leaved and curled pondweed (*Potamogeton pectinatus* and *crispus*). Kingfishers are often seen in this section.

Several drainage ditches join the Mayes Brook in this southern section, the largest known as the Roundabout Sewer. This supports abundant vegetation; several species which are scarce in London have been recorded here, such as horned pondweed (*Zanichellia palustris*), water dock (*Rumex hydrolapathum*), dittander (*Lepidium latifolia*) and galingale (*Cyperus longus*). The smaller ditches contain similarly diverse flora. The brook and ditches support a population of the specially protected water vole.

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is a major problem in the Roundabout Sewer.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 22/08/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Borough Grade II

Site Reference: B&DBII04
Site Name: Parsloes Park
Summary: Large park with a lake and an area of grassland important for wildlife.
Grid ref: TQ 477 849
Area (ha): 12.97
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Pond/lake, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Native hedge, Scattered trees
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

Two parts of this large park are of particular interest for wildlife. The lake in the south-west corner of the park supports good numbers of common waterfowl, with tufted duck among the species nesting on the two wooded islands, and little grebe and shoveler regular in winter. Marginal vegetation is quite diverse, and includes sea club-rush (*Bolboschoenus maritimus*) and hemlock water-dropwort (*Oenanthe crocata*) as well as the more common great reedmace (*Typha latifolia*), hard rush (*Juncus inflexus*), and gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*). The small-flowered cranesbill (*Geranium pusillum*) which is scarce in London is found in this area.

A little to the north of the lake is an area of rough grassland known as 'The Squatts'. Largely dominated by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*) and cock's-foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), the grassland contains typical meadow flowers including hairy tare (*Vicia hirsuta*) and meadow vetchling (*Lathyrus pratensis*), as well as hemlock water-dropwort, more usually associated with watersides. It supports many invertebrate species, particularly butterflies such as meadow brown, large white and various skippers. Skylarks have nested in The Squatts, and meadow pipits are frequent in winter. The rest of the park consists of wide expanses of amenity grassland of limited value to wildlife. These are not included in the site. However, there is considerable potential for enhancement of the nature conservation value of these areas, particularly where elements of acid grassland still survive. The Squatts has been declared a Local Nature Reserve by the borough.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1992

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Borough Grade II

Site Reference: B&DBII09
Site Name: Wantz Lake
Summary: Golf club grounds, with a lake, surrounding grassland and an ancient hedge.
Grid ref: TQ 495 872
Area (ha): 5.11
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Hedge, Pond/lake, Running water, Scattered trees, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs
Access: Perimeter footpath only
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

Wantz Lake is artificially banked with very sparse vegetation growing in cracks within the concrete. Although the greater part of the lake's surrounds are covered in amenity grassland there is an area of young trees, scrub (including ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and silver birch (*Betula pendula*) and semi-improved neutral grassland, dominated by creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) to the west. There are rows of hybrid black poplars (*Populus x canadensis*) at the northern and eastern boundary of the driving range area.

The triangle of land to the north (the pitch and putt area) is chiefly covered in amenity grassland but with a strip of neutral grassland with tall herbs at its western perimeter, providing habitat for invertebrates and potentially reptiles. This area is dominated by false-oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), with frequent common bent (*Agrostis capillaris*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*) and a small population of wild marjoram (*Origanum vulgare*), a notable species in London. There is an ancient hedge running north-south along the course of the Wantz Stream. This probably dates back to at least the 1300s. As a result, a good diversity of trees and shrubs occur, including hawthorn, elder (*Sambucus nigra*), pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), silver birch, hazel (*Corylus avellana*), hornbeam (*Carpinus betulus*) and blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*).

The whole of this site is managed by Crowlands Golf Course. The area surrounding the lake (and the lake itself) forms part of the driving range. This will probably discourage waterbirds from breeding there, although mute swans have been seen using the lake. The triangle of land to the north is used for pitch and putt.

Japanese knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) is present on site.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002
Citation last edited: 10/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 10/11/2006

Borough Grade II

Site Reference: B&DBII06
Site Name: White's Farm
Summary: Two fields, periodically grazed by horses, along with hedges and a pond.
Grid ref: TQ 485 900
Area (ha): 1.58
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Hedge, Pond/lake, Semi-improved neutral grassland
Access: No public access
Ownership: Private

Site Description:

This site consists of two fields, periodically grazed by horses, along with hedges and a pond. The fields contain moderately diverse grassland, with typical meadow flowers such as common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), meadow buttercup (*Ranunculus acris*) and black medick (*Medicago lupulina*) all frequent. Between the two fields is a hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) hedge which expands into a copse. An older hedge, marking the historic boundary of Hainault Forest, runs along the eastern edge of the site, and contains hawthorn, blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and hazel (*Corylus avellana*). A pond at the southern edge of the site is fringed by reed sweet-grass (*Glyceria maxima*), great willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*) and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*) and supports breeding moorhens. It may be of value to amphibians.

NB. No access was possible to this site -. Google historical imagery indicates that no change has occurred over 14 years. However the site description does not match what was described then or as it is now – site requires resurvey if access can be achieved.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002

Citation last edited: 13/09/2005 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Borough Grade II

Site Reference: B&DBII11
Site Name: Romford Line Railsides in Barking & Dagenham
Summary: Part of an important green corridor leading into London from the Havering countryside.
Grid ref: TQ 482 877
Area (ha): 4.62
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Scrub, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland
Access: Can be viewed from adjacent paths or roads only
Ownership: Network Rail

Site Description:

The Liverpool Street to Shenfield line forms an important green corridor leading into London from the Havering countryside. Within Barking and Dagenham, the railsides are characterised by steep narrow cuttings either side of the broad unvegetated tracks. The northern bank is covered in a mosaic of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.), rough grassland dominated by false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), and clumps of sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) woodland. To the south there are areas of similar vegetation, intermingled with patches of bare ground. Network Rail takes nature conservation into account in their management of railside vegetation, but the needs of safety and efficient operation of the railway must always be paramount.

Site first notified: 01/12/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002
Citation last edited: 12/01/2006 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Borough Grade II (New Site)

Site Reference: PBII01

Site Name: Cranfield Golf Centre

Summary: A golf course with habitats extending into Havering which together forms a significant area of importance for nature conservation value.

Grid ref: TQ 486 888

Area (ha): 14.22

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Scattered trees, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall ruderal

Access: Limited access (members only)

Ownership: Private

Site Description:

A golf course with a good variety of trees, shrubs and tall herbs, giving a sense of the countryside.

The site comprises amenity grassland with some areas of semi-improved neutral / species poor acid grassland, often dominated by perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*), red fescue (*Festuca rubra*) and creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*). Areas of tall herbs provide habitat for invertebrates such as red admirals and comma butterflies. Mature trees and shrubs, including ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*) and wild cherry (*Prunus avium*) provide good habitat for nesting birds.

The majority of the golf course lies within the London Borough of Havering and has good ecological connections with other green spaces in the borough, adding to the overall nature conservation value of the site.

Site first notified: 21/07/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 21/07/2016

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Borough Grade 2 (New Site)

Site Reference: PBII02
Site Name: Marks Warren Quarry
Summary: A restored quarry, grassland area and native hedgerows.
Grid ref: TQ 487 892
Area (ha): 12.05
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Non-native Hedge, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs
Access: No public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: Private

Site Description:

Two areas of restored quarry which have recently been seeded. Creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) and white clover (*Trifolium repens*) dominate the grassland area, with abundant bristly oxtongue (*Picris echioides*). A native hedge is located on the northern side of the site, including species such as hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.). A more mature hedge is located in the south of the site, adjacent to the A12, which is dominated by pedunculate oak (*Quercus robur*).

The site provides good opportunities for invertebrates and birds, including house sparrows and swallows. The site is likely to continue to provide suitable habitat for breeding skylarks with appropriate future management.

Site first notified: 21/07/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 21/07/2016
Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Borough Grade 2 (Upgrade from Local Site)

Site Reference: B&DL03
Site Name: Gascoigne Road Pumping Station Rough
Summary: A small area of 'wasteland', rich in habitat for insects and birds.
Grid ref: TQ 447 829
Area (ha): 1.21
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs
Access: No public access
Ownership: Thames Water

Site Description:

A small area of 'wasteland', a valuable habitat which is declining in London. The site is largely dominated by common nettle (*Urtica dioica*) and field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*). The intricate mix of rough grassland, tall herbs and scrub provides habitat for a good diversity of common birds and invertebrates such as speckled wood butterflies. Kestrels have been known to hunt over the site, suggesting the presence of small mammals and/or reptiles. The site acts as an important link in the Mayes Brook and associated watercourses to Barking Creek (River Thames and its tidal tributaries) wildlife corridor

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1992
Citation last edited: 10/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Local

Site Reference:	B&DL02
Site Name:	Barking Abbey Ruins and St Margaret's Churchyard
Summary:	This valuable open space, right in the heart of Barking town centre, has some rare plants on the Abbey ruins and in the adjacent grassland.
Grid ref:	TQ 440 839
Area (ha):	5.79
Borough(s):	Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s):	Amenity grassland, Scattered trees, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Vegetated wall/tombstones
Access:	Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership:	Diocese of Chelmsford and London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

This site provides valuable open space right in the heart of Barking town centre. The abbey ruins and adjacent churchyard have been known to support two plants which are worthy of note in Barking & Dagenham: fern-grass (*Catapodium rigidum*), which is scarce in London, and pellitory-of-the-wall (*Parietaria judaica*), which is of rather scattered distribution in the borough. Thyme-leaved sandwort (*Arenaria serpyllifolia*) has also been recorded to grow on the ruins.

The neutral grassland in the churchyard and park to the north is dominated by false-oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) and cock's foot (*Dactylis glomerata*) and contains further unusual plants, including chicory (*Cichorium intybus*) and buck's-horn plantain (*Plantago coronopus*). The nationally rare Bermuda-grass (*Cynodon dactylon*) has also been recorded here, as well as field madder (*Sherardia arvensis*) and dwarf mallow (*Malva neglecta*), both uncommon in the borough.

There is free public access to the site, which is popular for informal recreation.

Site first notified:	01/01/1992	Boundary last changed:	01/01/1992
Citation last edited:	16/11/2016	Mayor Agreed:	
Defunct:	N		
Last Updated:	16/11/2016		

Local

Site Reference: B&DL04

Site Name: St Chad's Park

Summary: An attractive formal park offering contact with nature for residents of Chadwell Heath.

Grid ref: TQ 478 883

Area (ha): 14.23

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Hedge, Planted shrubbery, Scattered trees, Semi-improved neutral grassland

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

An attractive formal park offering the best contact with nature for residents of Chadwell Heath, in the north of the Borough of Barking & Dagenham.

The park contains a good number and range of mature trees, mostly London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*) and common lime (*Tilia x europaea*), with a few silver birch (*Betula pendula*), Swedish whitebeam (*Sorbus intermedia*), poplars (*Populus* spp) and wild cherry (*Prunus avium*). Hedges and shrubbery provide further habitat for common birds.

In the north of the park is an area of long grassland, surrounded by a native hedgerow and a variety of scattered trees. The semi-improved neutral grassland is dominated by cock's foot (*Dactylis glomerata*), wall barley (*Hordeum murinum*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*). The hedgerow consists of native species such as hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and, alongside the mature trees, provides good habitat for nesting birds, such as blackbird and house sparrow, and possibly roosting / foraging bats.

There is free public access to the park, which is well used for informal recreation.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1992

Citation last edited: 10/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Local

Site Reference: B&DL05

Site Name: Valence House Gardens

Summary: The former grounds of a moated manor house; this is now an attractive park, with most of the wildlife interest close to the house and moat.

Grid ref: TQ 480 865

Area (ha): 1.3

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Flower beds, Planted shrubbery, Pond/lake, Scattered trees, Secondary woodland

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

The former grounds of a moated manor house; this is now an attractive park, with most of the wildlife interest close to the house and moat. Two sides of the moat now form a pond, with waterside vegetation dominated by ribwort plantain (*Plantago lanceolata*), thistle (*Cirsium* spp) and hedge woundwort (*Stachys sylvatica*). Yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), false fox-sedge (*Carex otrubae*) and gypsywort (*Lycopus europaeus*) have also been recorded amongst the marginal vegetation here. Mallards and coots nest on a small wooded island.

There are numerous mature trees around the house, including some fine old oaks (*Quercus robur*), a veteran 350 year old holm oak (*Quercus ilex*) which is possibly the oldest specimen in London and numerous sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). An understorey of hazel (*Corylus avellana*) and holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) produces a woodland structure in places. Many bird species use the site for nesting, including dunnoek and house sparrow.

A new feature of interest is a recently-restored herb garden, which provides suitable habitat for a variety of invertebrates. There is free public access to the site, which is popular for informal recreation. The old manor house is now home to Barking & Dagenham's local history museum.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/12/2002

Citation last edited: 08/03/2006 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 26/01/2007

Local

Site Reference: B&DL07

Site Name: Pondfield Park and adjacent railside

Summary: Pondfield Park is a formal park providing important green space for residents of the Becontree Estate.

Grid ref: TQ 498 849

Area (ha): 3.22

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Neutral grassland (semi-improved), Amenity grassland, Scattered trees, Scrub

Access: Free public access (part of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham and Network Rail

Site Description:

Pondfield Park is a formal park providing an important green space for residents of the Dagenham East. The site is dominated by amenity grassland and scattered trees. Spotted medick (*Medicago arabica*) a species regarded as notable in London occurs. To the south east of the park, a small wooded area has been planted with native species such as rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and field maple (*Acer campestre*). This woodland provides good nesting habitat for common birds.

An adjacent area of land owned by Network Rail provides dense banks of bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) which are attractive to a variety of common birds and invertebrates.

Public access to nature could be enhanced by habitat improvements in the park, and by allowing access to the railway land, which is separated from operational railside land by a fence.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 25/04/2003

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Local

Site Reference: B&DL08

Site Name: St Peter's and St Paul's Churchyard, Dagenham

Summary: This site has the ambience of a country churchyard, despite its location among the housing estates of Dagenham.

Grid ref: TQ 500 844

Area (ha): 0.87

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Scattered trees, Planted Shrubbery, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs, Vegetated wall/tombstones

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: Diocese of Chelmsford

Site Description:

This site has the ambience of a country churchyard, despite its location among the housing estates of Dagenham. Several fine old ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) trees to the north of the church provide shade where hart's-tongue fern (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*) thrives - this is a rare plant in the borough. There are good range of scattered trees which circle the church building, including lime (*Tilia x europaea*) and sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*). A more formal garden area is located around the church itself, parts of which are less intensively manage and allowed to grow wild.

There is a small area of false oat grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) dominated grassland to the south of the site which once comprised acid grassland which through appropriate management it might be possibly reinstate. Elsewhere, there is a mix of more persistent rough grassland, tall herbs and scrub, supporting a good range of invertebrates and common birds. An avenue of mature common lime trees flanks the churchyard's central pathway. The site has been declared a Local Nature Reserve by the local authority which is also responsible for its management. There is free public access.

Site first notified: 01/01/1992 **Boundary last changed:** 01/01/1992

Citation last edited: 10/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 10/11/2016

Local

Site Reference: B&DL09

Site Name: Wellgate Community Farm

Summary: A community farm specialising in environmental education, with a good range of wildlife habitats.

Grid ref: TQ 487 905

Area (ha): 0.66

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Flower beds, Hedge, Planted shrubbery, Pond/lake, Scattered trees, Semi-improved grassland, Tall herbs

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

This is an environmentally aware community farm with a variety of features for wildlife, including nest boxes in trees and hibernacula for bats. It is a well-used resource for local schools both on site and as a result of outreach work. Additionally, after school and summer holiday activities regularly take place where training and volunteering opportunities are offered.

The farm is a relatively small area but includes a number of habitats. There is a small, created pond planted with native aquatic plants, including yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*). Smooth newts have colonised the pond, and there have been reports of the specially-protected great crested newt. There is a reasonably mature hedge (particularly along the western edge of the site) dominated by hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) but also includes bullace (*Prunus domestica* ssp. *insititia*), Midland hawthorn (*Crataegus laevigata*) and a little ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and oak (*Quercus robur*).

Other parts are cultivated as flower beds (with insect attractive herbs included) and vegetables. There are also areas of semi-improved grassland dominated by creeping bent (*Agrostis stolonifera*) and rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) but also supporting some herb species including birds-foot-trefoil (*Lotus corniculatus*) and selfheal (*Prunella vulgaris*).

The farm is open to the public daily from 9am to 3.30pm, and is fully accessible to wheelchair users. Schools and other groups wanting a formal visit must book in advance by phoning 01708 747850.

Site first notified: 01/12/2002 **Boundary last changed:** 27/01/2003

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL05
Site Name: Padnall Lake
Summary: A pond and surrounding land offering contact with nature for local residents.
Grid ref: TQ 476 891
Area (ha): 2.03
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Scattered trees, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Lake/pond, Tall herbs
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

A pond which proves popular with local residents, surrounded by some marginal vegetation including yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*), great pond sedge (*Carex riparia*) and pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*). Young trees surround the pond edges, including willows (*Salix* spp) and alder (*Alnus glutinosa*). Within the pond is a narrow wooded island covered in willows. The pond provides habitat for common water fowl such as coots and mallards. Grey herons are often seen predated on the abundant fish present.

The land surrounding the pond has relatively sparse flora, however, six apple trees are present as a remnant orchard from the Padnall Hall Estate. Some native trees and shrubs have been planted between the site and the A12, providing opportunities for common nesting birds.

There is free public access to the site, which is well used for informal recreation.

Site first notified: 25/08/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 25/08/2016
Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL06
Site Name: Pond South of Gatward Place
Summary: A pond offering some habitat for invertebrates and some bird species.
Grid ref: TQ 4760 824
Area (ha): 0.32
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Pond/lake, Reedswamp, Planted shrubbery, Tall herbs
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: Barking Riverside

Site Description:

A pond with good marginal vegetation, including a reed bed, dominated by common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and some planted shrubbery. Tall herbs are plentiful between and around the planted shrubs and provide good habitat for a variety of invertebrates and some species of bird.

Site first notified: 12/09/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 12/09/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL07

Site Name: Square East of Gatward Place

Summary: A new sustainable development site, supporting a mixture of reed beds and tall herb habitats.

Grid ref: TQ 459 825

Area (ha): 0.19

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Reedswamp, Scattered trees, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: Barking Riverside

Site Description:

A town square situated within a sustainable development area. This example of a Suds (Sustainable Urban Drainage System) comprises swales of common reed (*Phragmites australis*), areas of semi-improved neutral grassland and tall herbs. This is an exemplar of this type of drainage system within the locality.

The site has potential to sustain a good range of invertebrate species. Swales between roadside and housing are crossed via a series of wooden bridges which helps protect these sensitive wetland habitats from disturbance.

Site first notified: 10/09/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 10/09/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL08
Site Name: Square West of Sedge Gardens
Summary: A new sustainable development site, supporting marginal vegetation and tall herb habitats.
Grid ref: TQ 461 825
Area (ha): 0.28
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: Barking Riverside

Site Description:

A town square within a sustainable development area. This exemplar of a SUDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage System) comprises swales of marginal vegetation, tall herbs and areas of semi-improved and amenity grassland.

Species recorded include pendulous sedge (*Carex pendula*), soft rush (*Juncus effusus*), hard rush (*Juncus inflexus*), chives (*Allium schoenoprasum*) and yellow iris (*Iris pseudacorus*). The site is likely to support a variety of invertebrates particularly as it matures.

Site first notified: 12/09/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 12/09/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL09
Site Name: Central Park Hedge
Summary: A native hedge, providing nesting and foraging opportunity for small birds.
Grid ref: TQ 502 869
Area (ha): 0.18
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Hedge, Planted shrubbery
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

A native hedge, dominated by hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). Other species include field maple (*Acer campestre*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and elder (*Sambucus nigra*). The western end of the site is characterised by planted shrubbery.

The site provides good habitat for nesting and foraging birds and is a hot spot for house sparrow a London Biodiversity Action Plan species and Red List species in the UK, Has some invertebrate interest.

Site first notified: 13/09/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 13/09/2016
Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL10
Site Name: Rippleside Cemetery
Summary: A formal cemetery with some good opportunities for common bird species.
Grid ref: TQ 462 839
Area (ha): 12.68
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Scattered trees
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

A formal cemetery with a fair number of young and mature trees, the majority of which are species of cedar (*Cedrus* spp.) common lime (*Tilia x vulgaris*) and horsechestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*). There is also a large specimen of eastern plane (*Platanus orientalis*).

Most grave stones are un-vegetated and surrounded by amenity grassland, dominated by perennial rye grass (*Lolium perenne*). The cemetery is so placed that it forms a `stepping stone` between Mayesbrook Park and the Mayes Brook and provides opportunities to strengthen connectivity between the two.

The site provides habitat for nesting birds, including green woodpecker, carrion crow and house sparrow.

There is free public access to the cemetery.

Site first notified: 02/08/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 02/08/2016

Citation last edited: 22/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 22/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL11

Site Name: Chadwell Heath Cemetery

Summary: A cemetery with areas of amenity and semi-improved neutral grassland, native hedgerow and mature trees.

Grid ref: TQ 483 897

Area (ha): 9.08

Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham

Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Improved grassland, Hedge, Scattered trees, Secondary woodland, Semi-improved neutral grassland, Tall herbs

Access: Free public access (all/most of site)

Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

The cemetery is predominantly amenity grassland, dominated by perennial rye-grass (*Lolium perenne*) and red fescue (*Festuca rubra*). In some areas where mowing is relaxed, the sward is more species-rich with indicators of more unimproved conditions, such as ladies bedstraw (*Galium verum*), common knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*) and cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*). Scattered planted trees are dotted around the site and a line of hybrid black poplars (*Populus x canadensis*) form the southern boundary.

Kingston Hill Open-space, a northern extension to the cemetery, also supports regularly cut amenity grassland. A mixed species hedgerow forms the northern and western boundary.

The land to the west of the cemetery is characterised by tall herb vegetation with a few mature boundary trees and some semi-improved grassland. The hedgerows and mature trees on site provide nesting opportunities for birds and possibly bats.

There is free public access to the cemetery.

Site first notified: 30/06/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 30/06/2016

Citation last edited: 24/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 24/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL12
Site Name: Greatfields Park
Summary: An attractive formal park offering contact with nature for local residents.
Grid ref: TQ 450 834
Area (ha): 5.79
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Planted shrubbery, Scattered trees
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

A well-managed formal park offering contact with nature for local residents.

The park contains a variety of mature trees, mostly London plane (*Platanus x hispanica*) and common lime (*Tilia x europaea*), as well as a few ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and oak (*Quercus* spp). These provide good habitat for common nesting birds.

A small wildflower meadow has been created in the north of the site which, alongside other planted shrubs, offers good habitat for invertebrates.

There is free public access to the park, which is well used for informal recreation.

Site first notified: 03/08/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 03/08/2016

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL13
Site Name: Castle Green
Summary: An area of planted native woodland situated within Castle Green recreation ground.
Grid ref: TQ 474 836
Area (ha): 2.23
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Amenity grassland, Planted woodland, Scrub
Access: Free public access (all/most of site)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

An area of planted native woodland and scrub, situated within Castle Green, an area of amenity grassland and recreation ground which runs alongside the A13. The site offers the best contact with nature for nearby residents.

The site contains a good number and range of native species, including hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), hazel (*Corylus avellana*), elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and a range of poplars (*Populus* spp). This habitat provides good opportunity for common nesting birds, which have very little opportunity in the surrounding area.

There is free public access to the site and surrounding area, which is well used for informal recreation.

Site first notified: 03/08/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 03/08/2016

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL14
Site Name: Gale Street Organic Gardeners' Association
Summary: An organically maintained allotment, providing good habitat for birds and reptiles
Grid ref: TQ 477 844
Area (ha): 0.23
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Allotments, Roughland, Scattered trees, Scrub
Access: Limited access (members only)
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

An organically maintained allotment, dominated by tall herbs and rough grassland species such as false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*), white campion (*Silene latifolia*) and curled dock (*Rumex crispus*).

Towards the north-east of the site, scattered trees and scrub are present, dominated by hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) and various fruit trees. There is also a large area dominated by bramble (*Rubus fruticosus* agg.) and field bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*) which provides suitable habitat for small mammals and various invertebrates.

The site overall provides good habitat for nesting birds, invertebrates, small mammals, amphibians and reptiles. The specially-protected slow worm is known to use this site.

The site can only be accessed by members of the Gale Street Organic Gardeners' Association.

Site first notified: 18/07/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 18/07/2016

Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**

Defunct: N

Last Updated: 16/11/2016

Local (New Site)

Site Reference: PL15
Site Name: Panyers Gardens Wildlife Site
Summary: A small wildlife site offering habitat for birds and possibly reptiles
Grid ref: TQ 497 860
Area (ha): 0.02
Borough(s): Barking and Dagenham
Habitat(s): Scattered trees, Scrub, Semi-improved neutral grassland
Access: Limited access
Ownership: London Borough of Barking & Dagenham

Site Description:

A small wildlife site believed to originally be part of the adjacent allotment site. The site is dominated by semi-improved grassland, scrub and scattered trees and includes native species such as hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), false oat-grass (*Arrhenatherum elatius*) and Yorkshire fog (*Holcus lanatus*).

The site offers good opportunities for common nesting birds and perhaps a small population of slow-worm.

Site first notified: 06/09/2016 **Boundary last changed:** 06/09/2016
Citation last edited: 16/11/2016 **Mayor Agreed:**
Defunct: N
Last Updated: 16/11/2016

