

**HAVING NATURE CONSERVATION AND BIODIVERSITY
ACTION PLAN (2014-16)**

Rationale / Issues	Targets / Actions	Lead Organisation / Person
<p>1. Increasing the amount of natural space in the borough.</p> <p>Natural space provides a positive environment in which a variety of species can thrive. There is a need to balance the need for more formal green space, for sport and recreation activities, with spaces that are managed in way that supports nature conservation and biodiversity.</p> <p>Though the Council has taken opportunities to increase the size of parks and green spaces over the years, adding approximately 80 hectares to Dagnam Park in 2013; confirming 55 hectares as Rainham Wildspace in 2012; identifying 23 acres to be managed by the Council as a new nature reserve (adjoining Wildspace); adopting Hornchurch Country Park in 1980, adopting Havering Country Park in 1986 and enhancing the nature conservation value of spaces in town centres, through initiatives such as the wild flower planting next to Central Library in Romford; this objective is not seeking to increase the amount of designated public open space in the borough, although taking advantage of opportunities to increase the amount of open space in areas of deficiency may be desirable and it is recognised that urban development will have its benefits. Rather, the objective is primarily about increasing the amount of open space that is managed in a way that increases the amount of natural space.</p>	<p>To increase the amount of park land and open space that is managed as grass meadows and wildflower meadows, year on year.</p> <p>To prevent the intrusion of “scrub” in to areas of grassland that are important in nature conservation and biodiversity terms.</p> <p>To take advantage of opportunities to acquire land that could be converted in to a more natural environment, particularly in areas of the borough where there is a deficiency of open space.</p> <p>To create more natural environments in town centres, where opportunities arise, particularly where such areas can link to surrounding open space via green corridors.</p> <p>To manage Dagnam park in a way that support and enhances nature conservation and biodiversity.</p> <p>To work with the Cems and Crems Service to establish whether further effective ways to promote nature conservation and biodiversity in cemeteries can be developed.</p>	<p>LBH / Havering Wildlife Project / Friends of Groups</p>

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<p>2. Wetlands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingrebourne & Inner Thames Marshes SSSIs • Ingrebourne & Beam/Rom rivers <p>Lakes, ponds and other marshes</p> <p>Wetlands are nurseries and feeding areas for a vast range of animals, including a number of specially protected species such as water vole, bittern, marsh harrier and great crested newt.</p> <p>Within Greater London, Havering has 56% of the grazing marsh, 31% of the reedbed, 31% of the floodplain grassland, 25% of the marshland, and 19% of the lakes and ponds, in all cases more than any other London borough.</p> <p>Its river systems, the Beam/Rom and the Ingrebourne, are exceptional in London in that (with the exception of the Rom through central Romford) they are largely natural, i.e. not straightened or canalised.</p>	<p>Support the Environment Agency (EA) in the development and rollout of catchment management plans with the aim of working towards good ecological status as defined by the Water Framework Directive for the Ingrebourne and Beam/Rom river systems.</p> <p>As a riparian owner the Council will manage its landholdings alongside main rivers in the interests of Nature Conservation, at the same time as managing rivers and associated flood plains to reduce the risk of flooding.</p> <p>Continue the work of restoring Havering's wetland habitats and monitoring for priority species including great crested newts, water voles and wetland birds.</p> <p>Continue the creation of new ponds in suitable (i.e. not vulnerable to pollution) locations, seeking especially to extend existing clusters of ponds.</p> <p>Continue to support the "Froglife" project, focusing on amphibian and reptile conservation at Bedfords park, Dagnam park and Hornchurch Country park.</p> <p>Management of SSSI sites in line with HLS management prescriptions to maintain/achieve favourable condition</p> <p>Monitor and, where possible, eradicate non-native invasive species including floating pennywort, crassula, Himalayan balsam and Japanese knotweed</p> <p>Develop and promote the Ingrebourne Valley and Wildspace projects as exemplars of good practice in the management of wetland habitats in Greater London and Essex</p>	<p>Environment Agency / LBH / Havering Wildlife Project / Friends of Groups</p>

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<p>3. Woodlands: established and developing</p> <p>Before the new plantings initiated by the Forestry Commission within the Thames Chase Community Forest (TCCF), Havering was poorly wooded (particularly in the south of the borough), but it had important woodland assets in the form of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wet woodland in the Ingrebourne Valley; • the parkland sites (Bedfords Park, Havering Country Park and Dagnam Park) in the north of the borough; • a scattering of ancient woodlands. • <p>158.3 ha of new community woodlands have been planted by the Forestry Commission, increasing woodland coverage in Havering by more than 40%.</p> <p>Established and immature woodland will lose its value unless actively managed, as the canopy closes and the understorey declines.</p>	<p>Encourage good management of ancient woodland, wet woodland and parkland, such as by encouraging take up of the Forestry Commissions’s English Woodland Grant Scheme (EWGS) and establishing markets for woodland products.</p> <p>Link established woods to developing woodlands and to one another via restoring or planting tree belts and new hedges.</p> <p>Support the Thames Chase Trust and the Forestry Commission in their ongoing development and management of the Thames Chase Community Forest.</p> <p>Devise and implement woodland management plans using diverse resources including local colleges, forestry operators and local wood fuel suppliers</p> <p>In managing its own woodlands, the Council will work towards a target of thinning 30%, under the agreed felling licence.</p>	<p>Forestry Commission / Thames Chase Trust / Havering Wildlife Project / Essex County Council</p>

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<p>4. Grasslands, meadows and pastures</p> <p>Having have 12% of London's grassland resource, more than any other London borough except Bromley and Hillingdon. Roughly half is high-value (acid and unimproved) grassland, and half is 'semi-improved', in other words it has been ploughed and/or fertilized and/or reseeded in the recent past to improve it for agricultural purposes. This reduces its wildlife value drastically in the short term, but in time this value can be recovered through appropriate management, such as by grazing and hay cutting.</p> <p>Having Council has introduced a new Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) scheme at 3 of the most important grassland sites in the borough at Bedfords Park, Dagnam Park and Havering Country Park.</p>	<p>Improve grassland management by the encouragement of sustainable long term conservation grazing and sympathetic cutting regimes.</p> <p>In the management of its own grasslands, meadows and pastures, the Council will consider the improvement of grassland management through sustainable conservation grazing and sympathetic cutting regimes. This will include the management of its parks and road side verges.</p> <p>Identify potentially valuable scrubbed over grasslands for restoration.</p> <p>Work with Natural England to encourage private landowners to enter their grasslands into agri-environment schemes, particularly where this buffers existing priority habitats or improves ecological networks.</p>	<p>LBH / Forestry commission / NE / Private landowners</p>

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<p>5. Restored landscapes</p> <p>The Council, in partnership with a wide range of local, regional and national organisations will be progressing a significant number of projects and initiatives to conserve and protect the natural environment in the next few years:</p> <p>The Green Belt land around Havering has been mined heavily for gravel in the past and former gravel pits and other brownfield sites are now being exploited for landfill.</p> <p>Habitats of high value for invertebrates (e.g. Thames Terrace grasslands) have developed on some brownfield sites, while others have reptile assemblages that are rare in Greater London and should be prioritised for protection and restoration.</p>	<p>The restoration of Raphael Park; the restoration of Langtons Gardens; the creation of a new park on the Broxhill site; the creation of a new park in Rainham (“Wildspace”); the proposed “naturalisation” of the River Ingrebourne in Harrow Lodge park; the restoration of the Bedfords Walled garden and the growing of “indigenous” vegetables, fruits and plants; the proposed new visitor centre in the Ingreborne Valley; the creation of new, publically accessible open space in the heart of Romford town centre; the creation of new meadow areas in parks and open spaces; the continuation of the “Rainham to the River”project; the “Greening the Ringroad” project in Romford, which will include the promotion of walks connecting the town centre to local open space; environmental improvements in Hornchurch Town Centre, which will include the promotion of walks connecting the town centre to local open space and the countryside; the creation of a new open space on Briar Road estate; the extension of Dagnam park.</p> <p>Use planning conditions and other means to gain optimum advantage from restored brownfield sites for significant species (such as invertebrates and reptiles) and for ecological and public access networks.</p>	<p>LBH / RSPB / EWT / Veolia / NE / EA / Forestry Commission / Friends Groups / Clear Village / Sustrans</p> <p>LBH</p>

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<p>6. Wildlife Corridors and Ecological networks</p> <p>Priority habitats in Havering support a wealth of plant and animal communities that, given an effective ecological network, can disperse to other habitats and enrich the borough's wildlife</p> <p>Havering has already defined a network of wildlife corridors, intended to allow wildlife to disperse from high-value areas into all parts of the borough and beyond *. So far this has been improved reactively via the planning system but, with wildlife under pressure to adapt to a changing climate, it is now clear that a proactive approach is essential to halt the loss of wildlife.</p>	<p>Audit and improve the borough's ecological network, securing good management of existing linkages and creating new linkages where possible, including into urban areas and neighbouring boroughs.</p> <p>Monitor the effect of improvements by tracking the fortunes (numbers and distribution) of indicator species*, chosen to reflect what is happening to the important habitats identified above and also the urban and suburban areas in which most people live.</p> <p>* See Appendix 2</p> <p>Produce maps highlighting the green corridors and accessible open space within and surrounding the borough's town centres. A map for Hornchurch town centre to be developed in the first instance.</p>	<p>LBH / Havering Wildlife Project</p>

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<p>7. Gardens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • private • informal parks associated with schools, churches & cemeteries <p>Private gardens are estimated by the GLA to occupy about 20% (31,600 ha.) of London's surface area. Wildlife value increases with garden size, and hence the large gardens in parts of the borough such as Gidea Park, Emerson Park and Upminster are particularly valuable (as evidenced by the high incidence of stag beetles – a national priority species), but all gardens contribute something, such as by providing nectar plants for bees. Larger public or semi-public gardens such as in parks, churchyards or cemeteries can – and some already do – contribute significantly.</p>	<p>Advocate through publicity and promotion the importance of gardens for wildlife and the best things to do (or not do).</p> <p>Encourage residents to proactively encourage biodiversity in the outdoor areas which they own, whether it be a window box, balcony or a garden.</p> <p>Increase the weighting for wildlife features in the borough through In Bloom garden competitions (and publicise the fact).</p> <p>Adopt best ecological practice guidelines for gardens in public or semi-public spaces.</p> <p>Use the planning process to minimise the number of gardens that are built on and/or appropriate mitigation is implemented where garden space is lost through development.</p>	<p>LBH – Planning / Communications</p>
<p>8. Significant species</p> <p>In addition to legally protected species including bats, great crested newts, badgers, reptiles and water voles, Havering has important populations of other species listed in National, London or Havering Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP)</p>	<p>Use the planning system to protect and promote both protected and BAP priority species.</p> <p>While improving ecological and access networks, look out for opportunities to support protected and priority BAP species.</p> <p>Run awareness campaigns to recruit public support for flagship species.</p>	<p>LBH – Planning / Communications</p>

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<p>9. Major roads as barriers to movement</p> <p>Major roads such as the A12, A127, A13/1306 and M25 form significant barriers to wildlife movement, both through their sheer size and because of the noise and vibration associated with them that deters many small animals. (Railways are less of a problem, because they are narrower and because activity is intermittent.) It follows that two-level junctions, culverts under bridges or over bridges form pinch points in ecological networks that demand particular attention.</p>	<p>Encourage the appropriate highway authority and the Environment Agency to improve/green/reopen existing culverts and underpasses.</p> <p>Install hedges, fences etc. where needed, to channel wildlife towards them.</p> <p>Create new wildlife bridges where opportunities arise.</p>	<p>LBH Planning / Streetcare / Havering Wildlife Project</p>
<p>10. Rapid drainage of built-up areas and well-drained arable fields, leading to 'boom or bust' water flows.</p> <p>Rapid drainage increases flood risk and is also detrimental to wildlife in watercourses, carrying contaminants, inhibiting the growth of marginal vegetation and sweeping small animals downstream. Highly variable water levels also expose animals, such as water voles, that rely on water for protection from predators.</p>	<p>Where opportunities arise and where external funding is available, create:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) new small urban wetlands as components of sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS), both in new developments and by retro-fit; (ii) new backwaters and floodable areas in rivers and streams to mitigate water flows. (iii) re-align water courses that have been straightened 	<p>LBH Streetcare / Planning / EA / Thames Water</p>

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<p>11. Eutrophication (enrichment of water and soil by excess of nutrients)</p> <p>Eutrophication is caused mainly by nitrate runoff from agriculture and also by phosphates from household products in urban runoff, carried into watercourses.</p> <p>Its effect is to encourage coarse plants such as nettles and creeping thistles and invasive alien plants, reducing plant diversity and in turn the diversity of animals that feed on plants.</p> <p>Rampant growth of coarse plants also creates physical barriers to access to the countryside and raises the cost of managing watercourses, footpaths and the like.</p>	<p>Work with Environment Agency and Thames Water to reduce entry of pollutants into river systems.</p> <p>To reduce inputs, encourage take up of environmental stewardship schemes and/or plant trees in areas adjacent to water courses.</p> <p>To enhance in-stream vegetation that can absorb nutrients:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage community groups, schools, etc. to adopt and manage local river and stream banks; • develop new sustainable methods of managing bankside vegetation (e.g. rotational grazing by goats or konik ponies). 	<p>Environment Agency / Thames Water / LBH</p>

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<p>12. Volunteering</p> <p>Havering has a strong network of volunteer groups involved in small scale practical nature conservation work, including those associated with the Thames Chase Trust, conservation organisations such as EWT and RSPB, and 'Friends of' parks groups. To be effective, such volunteers often need support in the form of coordination and guidance, tools and sometimes expert assistance (e.g. a chainsaw operative to do the heavy work).</p> <p>Local people can also make a contribution through monitoring for and reporting indicator species, suspected pollution of watercourses, anti-social behaviour and the like.</p>	<p>Encourage 'Friends of' and other community groups, local employers, schools to take on (some of) the Living Landscapes agenda in their local area.</p> <p>Continue, and extend where possible, the support of volunteer groups by Council staff and community groups.</p> <p>Encourage – via leaflets, website, smart Phone applications (apps”) – reporting of sightings of indicator species *.</p> <p>* See appendix 2</p>	<p>LBH / Voluntary sector</p>

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<p>13. Access</p> <p>Havering has an extensive network of public and permissive footpaths but this network does not fully meet the needs of people who use it to walk the dog, for exercise or to get a taste of the countryside, often preferring circular to out-and-back routes. Many countryside footpaths are unsuitable for people with fairly minor walking difficulties, and many are partly obstructed by crops in summer.</p>	<p>Define a strategic network of recommended walking routes and concentrate management effort on those.</p> <p>Identify and create new circular routes by agreement with landowners.</p> <p>Train and support Walking for Health walk leaders to increase appreciation of the natural environment among participants.</p>	<p>LBH Parks / Walking for Health</p>
<p>14. Education</p> <p>The beneficial effects to people of contact with the nature are widely acknowledged and, through initiatives such as Forest Schools, its educational benefits may be formalized within the system.</p>	<p>Encourage local schools to use local resources such as LNRs and visitor centres for educational purposes.</p> <p>Involve local schools in the management of nearby natural assets, and in monitoring of indicator species.</p> <p>Advocate and promote the uptake of Forest Schools.</p> <p>Continue to take a lead on the Havering Environmental Education Partnership</p>	<p>LBH / Schools</p>
<p>15. Natural Products / sustainable management</p> <p>To stay or become healthy, many natural habitats depend on traditional management practices such as grazing, haymaking and coppicing. The associated product markets are much weaker than they used to be.</p>	<p>Encourage the development of local markets for natural products such as logs, charcoal, woodland crafts and hay, by publicity, grants and purchasing power.</p>	<p>LBH</p>

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<p>16. Publicity and Promotion</p> <p>It is believed that there is a limited understanding of Havering's significance in terms of nature conservation and biodiversity, despite the best efforts of individual organisations who promote what they do. There is a need to provide accessible information about the whole borough.</p>	<p>To produce a brochure on nature and biodiversity in Havering.</p> <p>To develop the nature conservation and biodiversity pages on the Council's Web Site.</p> <p>To ensure all recorded and verified material covering nature and biodiversity in Havering is available on the Council's Data Hub, as well as being made available to GiGL.</p> <p>To produce and disseminate information about the planting of flowers, shrubs and trees that are beneficial in relation to nature conservation and biodiversity</p> <p>Where resources allow, install new signage at entrances to parks and open spaces, promoting the ecological and biodiversity value of the site.</p> <p>Install new signage next to grass meadows, wildflower meadows and butterfly gardens to explain how they will encourage important local habitats and species.</p>	<p>LBH / Havering Wildlife Project</p>

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<p>17. Tourism</p> <p>Havering can justifiably claim to be one of the greenest boroughs in London, but currently lacks any spectacular 'claim to fame' to attract visitors beyond the sub region, such as a Richmond Park or having a population of red kites. However, the RSPB site in Rainham and Havering's wetlands / grasslands could provide such a Unique Selling Point (USP), particularly if they were stocked with charismatic animals such as konik ponies, highland cattle or beavers (and which should also contain or reduce management costs).</p> <p>Havering nevertheless has open spaces of sub regional importance, which have been improved significantly in recent years (and are set to improve further in future years); so there is significant scope to encourage visitors from adjoining areas and inner east London.</p>	<p>Encourage people to visit Havering, to experience and enjoy the borough's green assets, the natural environment and biodiversity.</p> <p>Ensure that any tourism plans or strategies focus on nature conservation and biodiversity in Havering.</p> <p>Ensure marketing material is available in adjoining areas.</p> <p>Continue to develop and promote the work of partners through existing and new visitor centres</p>	<p>LBH / RSPB / EWT</p>

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<p>18. Planning</p> <p>Reforms to planning legislation could bring about significant changes.</p> <p>One of the 24 recommendations within the Lawton report is to consider off-setting impacts to biodiversity, in particular in relation to development. In addition to established mitigation and compensation the report goes one step further to recommend that offsets should compensate for the loss of identified future wildlife networks and for the effects of diffuse issues such as air and water pollution. This recognises that in order to achieve resilient ecosystems for the future, it will be necessary to restore or 're-build' the existing biodiversity network.</p>	<p>LBH to investigate how biodiversity offsetting could benefit the existing network.</p> <p>The Local Plan to include a focus on how nature conservation and biodiversity can be promoted in Havering.</p>	<p>LBH</p>

Appendix 2

Habitat/Species	Legal designation		Other classification						notes
	European	Wildlife & Countryside Act	UK BAP Priority	Lon BAP Priority	LBH BAP Priority	Nationally scarce	Locally scarce	Other	
Pond & Lakes			✓	✓	✓				<p>Havering has 19% of the total resource in London, made up of 343 sites. Associated species include great crested newt, bats, pochard, and water vole.</p>
Reedbed			✓	✓	✓				<p>Havering has 31% of London resource, mainly in Ingrebourne and Rainham Marshes. Associated species include reed bunting, harvest mouse.</p>
Thames Terrace Grasslands			✓	✓	✓				<p>Rare habitat holding nationally significant resource. Associated species include bumblebees.</p>
Woodland			✓	✓	✓				<p>Havering is a focus of woodland creation through the Thames Chase Community Forest. Associated species include stag beetle, song thrush, and green woodpecker.</p>
Hedgerows			✓	✓	✓				<p>Havering has 32% of the total native-species hedgerows in London. Associated species include song thrush, stag beetle & reed bunting.</p>
Private gardens				✓	✓				<p>Estimated to cover 20% of surface area in Havering. Associated species song thrush, house martin, slow worm, stag beetle.</p>
Great crested newt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			SPI ² ,	<p>Havering has largest population in London. In decline in London</p>
Stag Beetle		✓		✓	✓	✓		SPI ² ,	<p>Havering has largest percentage of London population. In decline in London</p>

Bumblebees			✓	✓	✓			SPI ² ,	Important population in Havering, especially along the east Thames corridor. In decline in London
Green woodpecker					✓				Good indicator of woodland/parkland management.
Slow Worm		✓	✓	✓	✓				Nationally in decline. Vulnerable to development as it occurs on brownfield sites.
Serotine (bat)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				Threatened with local extinction.
Brown Hare			✓		✓				Havering has largest population in London.
Harvest Mouse					✓				Nationally in decline, Havering has largest percentage of London population.
Water vole		✓	✓	✓	✓				Nationally in decline, Havering has largest percentage of London population.
Barn owl		✓			✓				In decline nationally, Havering has large %age of Essex population.
Grey Partridge			✓		✓			Red list ¹	Limited to Berwick Ponds and Thameside Marshes.
House Martin					✓				In decline nationally, 70% decline in Havering, indicator of clean air.
Pochard					✓	✓			Nationally rare. Important breeding populations at Berwick Ponds and Rainham gravel pits(20% of Essex pop)
Reed bunting			✓		✓			Red list ¹	Important population in south of borough.
Skylark			✓		✓			Red list ¹	Important population in south of borough.
Song Thrush			✓		✓			Red list ¹	In decline in Havering.

¹ Birds of Conservation Concern: Red-list species are those that are Globally Threatened according to the IUCN criteria; those whose population or range has declined years; and those that have declined historically and not shown a substantial recent recovery.

² Species of Principal Importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England (CRoW Act 2000).

Sites of Metropolitan Importance

These are sites containing the best examples of London's habitats, sites which contain particularly rare species, rare assemblages of species or important populations. They are of the highest priority for protection and include SSSI's. There are 9 such sites identified in Havering, these are listed below with their grid square reference.

M014 Cranham Marsh	TQ 565 854
M031 River Thames and tidal tributaries	TQ 167 754
M039 Rainham Marshes	TQ 528 804
M090 The Chase and Eastbrookend Country Park	TQ 512 863
M108 Ingrebourne Valley	TQ 538 842
M150 Bedfords Park	TQ 518 923
M151 Dagnam Park and Hatters Wood	TQ 550 930
M152 Belhus Woods	TQ 568 825
M153 Havering Country Park	TQ 505 928

Sites of Borough Importance

These are sites which are important at a borough level. Borough sites are divided, on the basis of their quality, into two grades, but they are all important on a borough wide view. There are 21 Grade I sites identified in Havering, these are listed below with their grid square reference.

HvBI 01 Mudlands	TQ 510 824
HvBI 02 Frank's Wood and Cranham Brickfields	TQ 580 881
HvBI 03 Fields south of Cranham Marsh	TQ 573 852
HvBI 04 Codham Hall Wood West	TQ 582 886
HvBI 05 Hornchurch Country Park (inc Southern Grasslands of St George's Hospital)	TQ 532 842
HvBI 06 Tylers Common	TQ 566 905
HvBI 07 Tomkyns East Pastures	TQ 571 897

HvBI 08 Upminster Lodge Farm Horse Field	TQ 556 891
HvBI 09 Fairplay Farm	TQ 601 862
HvBI 10 Warwick Wood	TQ 558 830
HvBI 11 Bellvue	TQ 528 921
HvBI 12 Foxburrow Wood, Havering-Atte-Bower	TQ 526 933
HvBI 13 Spice Pits Wood	TQ 539 940
HvBI 14 Long Wood and Sage Wood	TQ 544 922
HvBI 15 Romford Golf Course	TQ 524 903
HvBI 16 Mid Beam Valley	TQ 514 848
HvBI 17 Beam Valley South	TQ 506 836
HvBI 18 Lower River Beam & Ford Works ditches	TQ 499 819
HvBI 19 Hainault Forest Golf Centre	TQ 486 929
HvBI 20 Duck Wood	TQ 555 923
HvBI 21 Clay Tye Wood	TQ 596 868

In addition, there are 43 Grade II sites identified in Havering:

HvBII 01 Bower School Wood	TQ 509 920
HvBII 02 South Park Plantation	TQ 516 934
HvBII 03 River Rom in North West Havering	TQ 496 917
HvBII 04 Bedfords Farm Wood	TQ 522 927
HvBII 05 Immanuel School Wood	TQ 507 922
HvBII 06 Cranham Hall Shaws and Pasture	TQ 577 866
HvBII 07 All Saints Churchyard, Cranham	TQ 572 861
HvBII 08 Strawberry Farm Wood	TQ 568 889
HvBII 09 Puddle Dock Angling Centre	TQ 594 868
HvBII 10 Lodge Farm Spinney	TQ 548 846
HvBII 11 Curtis Plantation	TQ 540 947

HvBII 12 Central Farm streamsides	TQ 551 842
HvBII 13 Foxlands Farm	TQ 551 895
HvBII 14 Hall Lane Verge and Montrose Pasture	TQ 561 899
HvBII 15 Boxhill Road Wood	TQ 528 927
HvBII 16 Home Farm Wildnerness	TQ 552 938
HvBII 17 The Butchers Paddock	TQ 513 937
HvBII 18 Carters Brook and Paines Brook	TQ 541 929
HvBII 19 Tylers Hall Pond	TQ 566 913
HvBII 20 Jarmains Wood	TQ 570 908
HvBII 21 Foxburrow Wood, Upminster	TQ 573 902
HvBII 22 Broadfields Farm	TQ 583 861
HvBII 23 Upminster Sewage Works Grass Bed	TQ 608 865
HvBII 24 Bourningwood Fields	TQ 557 906
HvBII 25 Hall Farm Moat, Paddock & St Mary Magdelene Churchyard, N.Ockendon	TQ 587 847
HvBII 26 Stubbers Outdoor Pursuit Centre	TQ 573 844
HvBII 27 Redlands Aggregates Angling Lake	TQ 572 832
HvBII 28 Common Watercourse & Williams Lake	TQ 544 822
HvBII 29 Moor Hall Farm Shaws	TQ 552 812
HvBII 30 The Willows	TQ 550 814
HvBII 31 Noak Hill Archery Field	TQ 526 915
HvBII 32 Tench Pond Plantation	TQ 531 935
HvBII 33 St Thomas's Churchyard, Noak Hill	TQ 541 940
HvBII 34 Forge House Paddocks and Fishing Lake	TQ 543 936
HvBII 35 Home Farm Broxhill	TQ 530 930
HvBII 36 Brett Havering Aggregates East	TQ 550 828
HvBII 37 Brett Havering Aggregates West	TQ 536 816

HvBII 38 North Ockenden Pit	TQ 591 844
HvBII 39 Riverside Sewage Treatment Works	TQ 511 821
HvBII 40 Little Chef Pasture	TQ 555 889
HvBII 41 Chequers Road Wood	TQ 544 939
HvBII 42 Railside Land (divided into 6 sections A-F)	TQ 530 894
HvBII 43 Hill View	TQ 573 889

Sites of Local Importance

These are sites which are important to local residents or schools. Local sites can be important in areas which would otherwise be deficient in wildlife sites. There are 16 such sites identified in Havering, these are:

HvL 01 Raphael Park	TQ 518 899
HvL 02 River Rom at King George's Playing Fields	TQ 501 897
HvL 03 Wennington Churchyard	TQ 539 809
HvL 04 Shoulder of Mutton Wood	TQ 551 919
HvL 05 Westlands Rough	TQ 495 880
HvL 06 Romford Cemetery	TQ 505 876
HvL 07 Harrow Lodge Park	TQ 530 866
HvL 08 Clockhouse Gardens	TQ 563 865
HvL 09 St Lawrence's Churchyard, Upminster	TQ 559 864
HvL 10 Pot Kiln Wood & Sickle Wood	TQ 571 886
HvL 11 Langton's Gardens	TQ 537 874
HvL 12 Parklands, Corbets Tey	TQ 555 849
HvL 13 Rise Park Stream	TQ 514 911
HvL 14 Bob's Lane and Ash Lane	TQ 522 914
HvL 15 Bower Farm Green Lane	TQ 512 939
HvL 16 The Dell	TQ 544 868

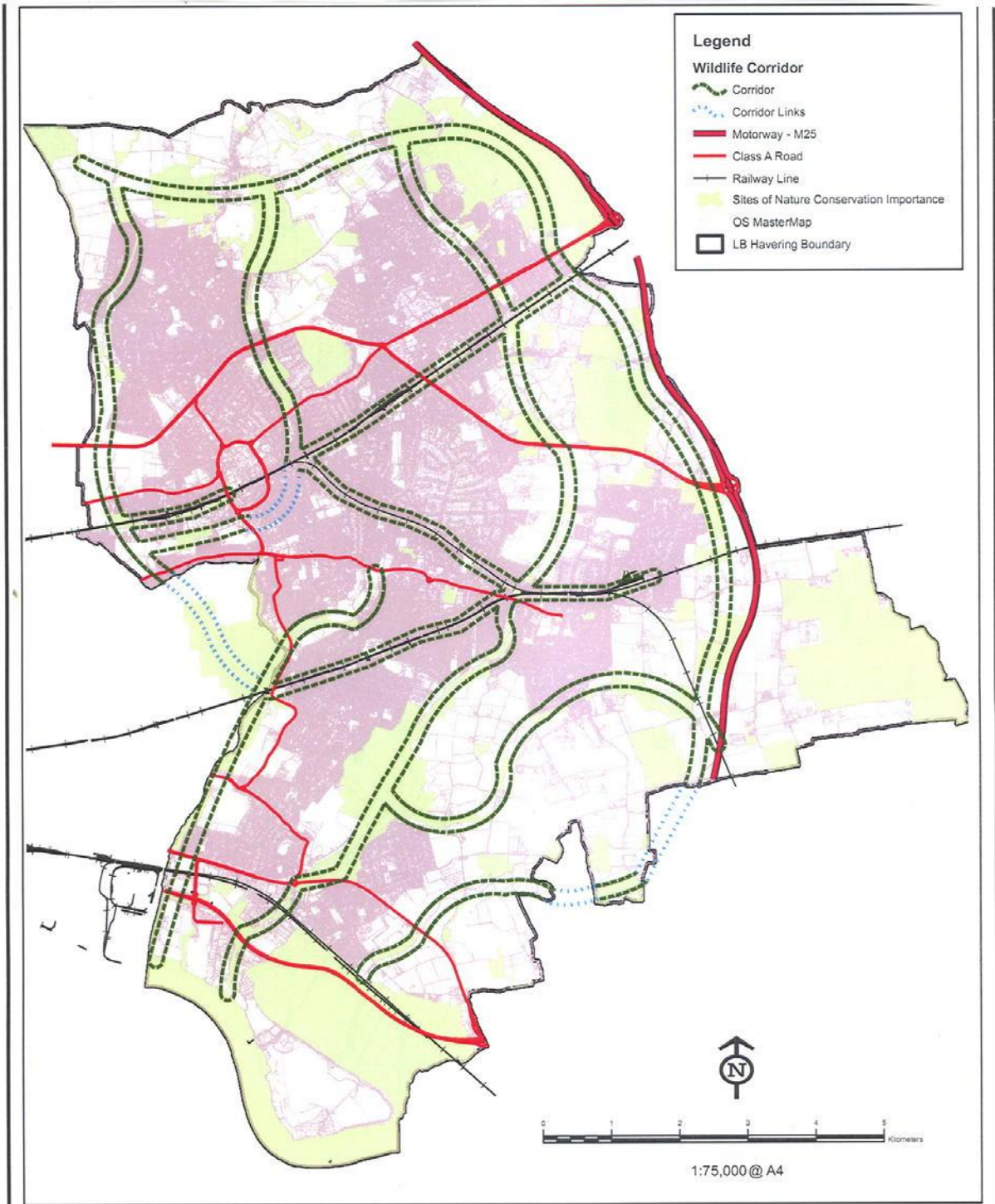
A Review of Havering's Wildlife Corridors

Wildlife corridors are linear features whose primary function is to connect significant areas of wildlife habitat and, in so doing, moderate some of the adverse ecological effects of habitat fragmentation. Habitat fragmentation is a threat to many wildlife species because chance events such as freak weather can wipe out an isolated population with little possibility of re-colonisation and also because it limits the size of the gene pool, weakening the species through inbreeding and low genetic variance. In the context of a changing climate, habitat fragmentation limits the options available to species if the changing climate creates unsuitable conditions in their current habitat, because they cannot easily move to other habitats where conditions are more favourable.

Havering has a concentration of sites of high biodiversity value across the northern ridge and, in the south of the borough, the high-value Ingrebourne and Inner Thames Marshes SSSIs and the corridor of the River Thames. The aims of protecting and enhancing wildlife corridors are:

- To link these high-value areas to one another and to developing sites such as those recently planted within the Thames Chase Community Forest;
- To improve links northwards and eastwards from the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI and the Thames Corridor;
- To improve links to high-value sites outside the borough, including to Hainault Forest to the north-west and to the Thorndon complex to the north-east;
- To support existing corridors in the west of the borough via the Beam River and the Dagenham Corridor.

A map of the designated corridors is included below.



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Habitat requirements

The effectiveness of a wildlife corridor depends on continuity of the types of habitat along which wildlife will migrate. Hence land managers and/or developers should be encouraged to retain all relevant existing natural features and where possible to introduce improvements. As a minimum, the aim is to maintain a continuous band of natural vegetation that is at least 10m. wide and ideally 30m. wide.

The types of habitat that are desirable are as follows:

- For all corridors: rough grassland/low scrub, with or without a hedgerow.
- For corridors running north from the Thames: open grassland on south-facing slopes of river/stream valleys, where possible with exposed gravels.
- For rivers and streams: continuity of bankside vegetation, ideally 15m wide, with occasional trees or shrubs but without heavy shading.
- For the Thames Corridor: continuity of open habitat – foreshore and rough grassland/low scrub – at least 30m wide.

Corridor features

- Maintain as much natural open space as possible next to any culverts to encourage the use of the culverts.
- Maximize land uses adjacent to the corridor that reduce human impacts to the corridor. Isolation effects along corridors can be offset by having surrounding habitat similar to that found within corridors.
- Do not allow housing or other impacts to project into the corridor to form impediments to movement and increase harmful edge effects.
- If housing is to be permitted next to the corridor, apply conditions on adjacent properties to prohibit structures nearest the corridor.
- Develop strict lighting restrictions for the houses adjacent to the corridor to prevent light pollution into the corridor: for example, external lighting should be directed downward and inward toward the home.

“Formal” Wildlife Corridors in Havering

1. From the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI following the Common Sewer NE into Running Water Brook and Belhus Woods.
2. The Ingrebourne Valley from the Thames to Harold Wood, then up through Harold Hill via Carters and Paines Brooks.
3. The stream valley from Berwick Ponds up to Cranham Marsh and then via Broadfields Farm, Cranham Brickfields, Tylers Commons and Maylands Golf Course to Dagnam Park.
4. From Dagnam Park via Bedfords Park to Havering Country Park and Hainault Forest.
5. Beam Valley and Dagenham Corridor, with a branch up through Harrow Lodge Park into Hornchurch.
6. From Bedfords Park south via Rise Park and Raphael Park.
7. The River Thames.