

IMPERIAL PARK CABLE ROUTE

Dormouse Conservation Strategy



ECO22022
1
January 2026

Document status

Version	Authored by	Reviewed by	Approved by	Review date
1 – For Full Submission	Lloyd Richards	Elizabeth White	Kerry Shakespeare	12/01/2025

Approval for issue

Lloyd Richards

20 January 2026

The report has been prepared for the exclusive use and benefit of our client and solely for the purpose for which it is provided. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by RPS Group Plc, any of its subsidiaries, or a related entity (collectively 'RPS') no part of this report should be reproduced, distributed or communicated to any third party. RPS does not accept any liability if this report is used for an alternative purpose from which it is intended, nor to any third party in respect of this report. The report does not account for any changes relating to the subject matter of the report, or any legislative or regulatory changes that have occurred since the report was produced and that may affect the report.

The report has been prepared using the information provided to RPS by its client, or others on behalf of its client. To the fullest extent permitted by law, RPS shall not be liable for any loss or damage suffered by the client arising from fraud, misrepresentation, withholding of information material relevant to the report or required by RPS, or other default relating to such information, whether on the client's part or that of the other information sources, unless such fraud, misrepresentation, withholding or such other default is evident to RPS without further enquiry. It is expressly stated that no independent verification of any documents or information supplied by the client or others on behalf of the client has been made. The report shall be used for general information only.

Prepared by:**Tetra Tech RPS**

114 – 116 Hodge House
St. Mary Street
Cardiff
CF10 1DY

Prepared for:**SSE Energy Solutions**

One Forbury Place
43 Forbury Road
Reading
RG1 3JH

Contents

1	INTRODUCTION	1
1.1	Project Background	1
1.2	Ecological Background	1
1.3	Purpose and Structure of the Dormouse Conservation Strategy	2
2	EXISTING ENVIRONMENT	3
2.1	Desk Study Data	3
2.2	Field Surveys	3
2.3	Habitat Suitability	3
2.4	Dormouse Density	8
3	DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS	9
3.1	Status of Hazel Dormouse	9
3.2	Construction Impacts	9
3.3	Habitat Modification – Creation, Restoration and Enhancement	10
4	PROPOSED MITIGATION AND COMPENSATION	12
4.2	Avoidance and Minimisation	12
4.3	Precautionary Methods	12
4.4	Compensatory Habitat and Enhancement	14
5	MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE	18
5.1	Monitoring	18
5.2	Maintenance and Remedial Actions	18
5.3	Roles and Responsibilities	19

Tables

Table 2-1	Records of Hazel Dormouse	3
Table 2-2	Hazel Dormouse Field Surveys Undertaken since 2020	3
Table 2-3	Habitat Quality Categories and Assessment of Quality within the Site	8
Table 2-4	Estimated Population Density within the Site	8
Table 3-1	Construction Activities and Estimated Timescales	9
Table 3-2	Estimated Habitat Loss from the Proposed Development	10
Table 3-3	Estimated Habitat Creation, Restoration and Enhancement	11
Table 4-1	Planting Palette for Proposed Compensation	15
Table 4-2	Indicative Establishment and Maintenance Plan	16
Table 5-1	Example of Modifications to Management and Remedial Measures	18

Figures

Figure 1	Site Location	20
Figure 2	Habitat Loss Plan	21
Figure 3	Habitat Creation, Restoration and Enhancement Plan	22

Appendices

Appendix A Proposed Development Designs

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

- 1.1.1 Tetra Tech RPS were commissioned by SSE Energy Solutions ('SSE') to prepare a Dormouse Conservation Strategy (DCS) of a site on land to the south of Imperial Park in Dyffryn, Newport.
- 1.1.2 SSE is seeking to install a series of cables (below ground) between the existing National Grid Imperial Park Substation site and a proposed data centre switchroom west of Celtic Way, hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development'. The cable route corridor is illustrated by the red line on Figure 1, hereafter referred to as the 'Site'. The Site is 1.89ha in total.
- 1.1.3 The Proposed Development comprises the installation of two 11kV and two 132kV cables and associated joint bays within an estimated cable corridor of just over 2km. To facilitate the laying of the cables, open cut trenching will be implemented for most of the cable route corridor length. An estimated 180m section of the corridor will be subject to horizontal directional drilling (HDD), to avoid adverse effects on the ditch network that forms part of the Gwent Levels Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The Proposed Development design is included in Appendix A.
- 1.1.4 It is anticipated that construction would take up to six months to complete. The easement required for the cable route is estimated to be 6m (just over 3m either side of the cable installation). Joint bays require 5 m either side of the cable installation (up to 10m) and are intermittent along the route. HDD Entrance and Exit pits are estimated to be 20m x 40m (as a worst case). All trenching, joint bays and HDD pits would be temporary in nature, with vegetative areas reinstated or compensated for following completion of construction, with existing material (where appropriate) and enhanced planting proposals.
- 1.1.5 The Proposed Development has been subject to statutory Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) and is to be submitted for full planning application to Newport City Council (NCC). As part of their PAC comments, Natural Resources Wales advised that a conservation strategy for hazel dormouse *Muscardinus avellanarius* should be prepared to support the proposed planning application.

1.2 Ecological Background

- 1.2.1 The Site is located to the south of the Imperial Park industrial area, located in the west of Newport, South Wales. The Site is approximately centred on Ordnance Survey Grid Reference ST 282 838. The Site comprises a linear corridor identified for the siting of 11 kV and 132 kV cables from the proposed Microsoft Datacentre at the former Quinn Radiator site (with planning reference 24/0006) to the existing National Grid 400kV Electricity Substation, at Celtic Lakes. The red line terminates at the west of the of the above substation site, which forms part of a proposed new Gas Insulated Substation (GIS) (with planning reference 25/0520).
- 1.2.2 Most of the Site encompasses a hard standing public footpath and cycleway forming the active travel section of an abandoned unadopted highway, now colloquially referred to as the 'Road to Nature'. The northern section of the Site, just off the proposed Microsoft Datacentre now falls within a live construction site (planning reference 24/0006), though in February 2025 the area was hardstanding, short-perennial grassland and scrub. The south eastern section of the Site between the western end of the Road to Nature highway and the National Grid Electricity Substation comprised standing water ditches, marginal vegetation, neutral grassland, bare ground and disturbed short-perennial vegetation along with the Road to Nature hardstanding highway, cycle path and roundabout. Areas of mixed plantation woodland, dense and scattered scrub and reedbed habitats are present in the wider Imperial Park area, with arable fields further to the south. All areas within the Site are under the ownership of NCC.

- 1.2.3 A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)¹ was prepared to support the Proposed Development, which incorporated desk study data, habitat survey data, impact assessment, outline biodiversity strategy, green infrastructure information and details of the Proposed Development's optioneering between January 2025 and December 2025.

1.3 Purpose and Structure of the Dormouse Conservation Strategy

- 1.3.1 The purpose of the DCS is to outline the potential impacts arising from the Proposed Development and the necessary measures to safeguard hazel dormouse populations within the local area, and to maintain the favourable conservation status of the population within Dyffryn and the wider Newport area.
- 1.3.2 No targeted survey work for hazel dormouse has been undertaken to support the Proposed Development. Presence was assumed based on recent records of the species, identified in proximity to the Site as part of previous survey work². Should planning consent be obtained for the Proposed Development, a European Protected Species (EPS) mitigation licence will be required from Natural Resources Wales before the construction phase can commence. The EPS mitigation licence and its associated method statement would be prepared using the information within this DCS, along with any further requirements as a result of planning conditions and/or discussion with NCC.
- 1.3.3 The DCS sets out the following elements:
- Assessment of hazel dormouse habitat quality within and in proximity to the Site;
 - Potential impacts from construction;
 - Precautionary measures and sensitive methods to reduce potential adverse effects;
 - Habitat creation, restoration and enhancement measures; and
 - Maintenance and monitoring.
- 1.3.4 It should be noted that this DCS targets the construction activities between the roundabout west of the Road to Nature and the cable route corridor leading to the existing National Grid 400kv substation. The remaining areas (i.e. along Dyffryn Lane) are not included given that it is situated within the live construction site for the Microsoft datacentre.

¹ RPS (2025) Imperial Park Cable Route. Preliminary Ecological Appraisal.

² Ove Arup and partners (2024) Celtic Lakes, Newport. Dormouse Survey Report.

2 EXISTING ENVIRONMENT

2.1 Desk Study Data

- 2.1.1 Biodiversity records were requested from South East Wales Biological Records Centre (SEWBRc) as part of the PEA, within 2 km of the Site and from the last 10 years. The desk study data specific to hazel dormouse is set out below in Table 2-1.
- 2.1.2 The records below have been recorded through a variety of different field methods, including incidental recordings, citizen science and targeted surveys for infrastructure projects.

Table 2-1 Records of Hazel Dormouse

Number of Records	Distance of Closest Record	Year of Closest Record	Year of Most Recent Record
12	0 m	2024	2024

2.2 Field Surveys

- 2.2.1 Targeted surveys have been undertaken at the Site since 2020. The surveys have been undertaken to support wider development in the area, including Newport Local Nature Partnership citizen science projects. All surveys and assessments for hazel dormouse (that are available in the public domain or through biodiversity records) are set out in the table below in Table 2-2.

Table 2-2 Hazel Dormouse Field Surveys Undertaken since 2020

Survey Type	Nature of Survey	Year	Headline Summary
Presence / likely absence survey – nest tubes and boxes	To support the National Grid Celtic Lakes development. Survey targeted the Celtic Lakes project footprint and the wider Imperial Park area. The Celtic Lakes survey area encompassed all suitable habitats recorded within the Site.	2021	Nesting evidence within 40 dormouse tubes within the Imperial Park Area. A total of 24 individuals were recorded between August 2021 and November 2021.
Footprint tunnels	Citizen science project at Road to Nature	2024	One adult confirmed through infrared camera footage of footprint tunnel

2.3 Habitat Suitability

- 2.3.1 The baseline habitats within the Site and wider aerial imagery of the Imperial Park landscape are illustrated on Figure 2 of this DCS. Full habitat data of the Site collected as part of the Proposed Development's optioneering is described in the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal report¹.
- 2.3.2 Selected images of all habitat compartments are depicted below each compartment description. Compartments have been identified to aid with descriptions, habitat loss, habitat gain and to differentiate between habitats along the cable route corridor.
- 2.3.3 The Site in its entirety is made up of approximately 1.89 ha. Of the 1.89 ha, 0.81 ha is scrub and 0.01 ha is woodland, which could support hazel dormouse populations. The remaining area comprises hard standing, reedbed, grassland and ruderal habitats.

Cable Route West and East

- 2.3.4 The compartments of Cable Route West and Cable Route East are situated along the southern edge of the Road to Nature and comprise dense and scattered scrub. The scrub makes up 16% of the Site. Cable Route West was assessed as being largely bramble *Rubus fruticosus* agg. dominated and had encroached over existing hardstanding habitats (of the Road to Nature), with scattered non-native shrubs and other scrub / tree species along its length. Parts of the scrub within Cable Route West comprised fly tipped material interspersed within and at the base of the habitat. Whilst the habitat was in poor condition given its low species diversity, stand variation and limited structural complexity, it did provide connectivity to the off-site woodland.
- 2.3.5 The off-site woodland to the south of the abandoned Road to Nature highway also had potential to be used by dormouse though it lacked the structural complexity (vertical and lateral routeways) that would be optimal for dormouse. Much of the woodland was non-native, comprising red oak *Quercus rubra*, aspen *Populus tremula* and sweet chestnut *Castanea sativa* alongside ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and alder *Alnus glutinosa*, with a varied shrub layer structure and no continuous understory. Fly tipped waste and recently felled parts of the woodland were also recorded which had caused damage and severance to the scrub edge.
- 2.3.6 Cable Route East was a low growing, scattered extension of Cable Route West, with presence of non-native and invasive plants. Virginia-creeper *Parthenocissus quinquefolia* was recorded along the edge of the abandoned Road to Nature highway colonising a localised section of the scrub. Butterfly bush *Buddleja davidii* and wall cotoneaster *Cotoneaster horizontalis* were also recorded.
- 2.3.7 Cable Route East and Cable Route West were considered to be areas with sub-optimal habitat for hazel dormouse given their relatively species poor, and lack of structural diversity. Photographs of Cable Route East and Cable Route West can be seen below in Photographs 1 – 7.



Photograph 1: Bramble scrub along Road to Nature cycle lane in Cable Route West, with plantation woodland in background.



Photograph 2: Bramble scrub further east in Cable Route West with 'central reservation' vegetation to the left and plantation woodland in background, to the right.



Photograph 3: Butterfly bush and scattered bramble scrub at the eastern most section of Cable Route West.



Photograph 4: Felled and damaged plantation woodland section to the south of the bramble scrub edge, Cable Route West.



Photograph 5: Virginia creeper amongst scattered bramble scrub within Cable Route East.



Photograph 6: Virginia creeper amongst bramble scrub and scattered vegetation behind (to the south of) Cable Route East.



Photograph 7: Scattered scrub fringe along Road to Nature in Cable Route East.

HDD Entrance and Exit Pits

- 2.3.8 The habitats within and in proximity to the HDD sections comprised a bramble-willow scrub community, with dogwood *Cornus sanguinea*, ash, blackthorn *Prunus spinosa* and pedunculate oak also recorded. The latter four species were recorded in greater abundance near the HDD Entrance, with more willow stands noted near HDD Exit Pit. The HDD Exit Pit offered increased opportunities for nesting, foraging and commuting compared to the scrub within and in proximity to the HDD Entrance Pit. The HDD Entrance Pit included areas of isolated scrub, patchy stands of buddleia, and low growing bramble. The scrub was typically no larger than 2 metres within the HDD Entrance.
- 2.3.9 The HDD Entrance Pit was made up of a scrub, bare ground and tall ruderal mosaic, and was not directly connected to Cable Area West of Cable Area East, with hardstanding providing barriers to direct dispersal. The HDD exit pit included mostly bramble and tall ruderal vegetation with scattered, larger willow stands (less than 5m). The area differed in its structural complexity due to its willow succession, vegetation heights and variety of species.
- 2.3.10 The HDD Entrance Pit comprises 2.6% of the Site and the HDD Exit Pit comprises 4.2%. Photographs 8 – 13 below depict the habitat conditions of both HDD Entrance and HDD Exit pits.



Photograph 8: Easternmost section of Road to Nature, with scrub on left within the HDD Entrance Pit.



Photograph 9: Scrub in proximity to the HDD Entrance Pit.



Photograph 10: Rubble and scrub encroachment at the eastern end of Cable Route East and to the south west of the HDD Entrance (with the Road to Nature roundabout on the right).



Photograph 11: Bare ground and tall ruderal habitat on edge of bramble and willow scrub in background (looking north) near HDD Exit.



Photograph 12: Bramble scrub and tall ruderal habitat mosaic within and in proximity to HDD Exit, with willow stands in the background (to the left and right)



Photograph 13: Willow, dogwood and bramble scrub proximal to HDD Exit

Dormouse Habitat Quality

- 2.3.11 The information obtained from multiple ecological survey and assessments in 2025 have been used to prepare an assessment of the habitat quality for hazel dormouse, which is set out in Table 2-3 below. The information in the table below is taken from the Dormouse Mitigation Guidelines³, whereby habitat quality is assessed based on structural complexity and species diversity. Diversity is based on species number within a habitat, with categories high (>6 species), medium (3-6 species) and low (<3 species) as per Table 3.4 of the Guidelines. Complexity is based on the habitat's structure and character, as per Table 3.5 of the Guidelines.
- 2.3.12 The Dormouse Mitigation Guidelines suggests that a precautionary approach should be taken to an assessment of habitat quality. Parts of the Site, specifically willow and bramble scrub areas within the HDD sections (within and outside of the Entrance and Exit Pits) are considered to be between **medium** and **low** in terms of structural complexity given its limited canopy cover. Taking the precautionary approach, the scrub section between the HDD Entrance and HDD Exit Pit has been assessed as having a **medium structural complexity**. The scrub along the edge of the Road to Nature in compartments Cable Route East and Cable Route West have been assessed as having a **low structural complexity**. All suitable habitats within the Site were assessed as having **medium species diversity** (3-6 species). The respective areas in Table 2-3 below include all dense, scattered scrub and relatively small amount of woodland (i.e. suitable habitat) within the Site.

³ Wells, D., Chanin, P. & Gubert, L. (2025) Hazel Dormouse Mitigation Handbook. The Mammal Society. ISBN: 978-1-0687982-2-1

Table 2-3 Habitat Quality Categories and Assessment of Quality within the Site

		Diversity		
		High	Medium	Low
Complexity	High	Excellent	Good	Fair
	Medium	Good	0.50ha Good	Poor
	Low	Fair	Poor	0.32ha Poor

2.4 Dormouse Density

- 2.4.1 The areas and quality of the habitats in Table 2-3 above can be used to provide an estimated population density using the breeding adult numbers in Table 3.7 of the Dormouse Mitigation Guidelines. The total estimated population density within the Site is 3.64 breeding adults, which has been calculated in Table 2-4 below. This number has been rounded to the nearest whole number and is shown in brackets in Table 2-4.
- 2.4.2 It should be noted that the density relates to the Site rather than suitable areas within the wider Imperial Park area. The estimated density provides a baseline for understanding how many individual breeding adults could theoretically use the habitats on Site that could be impacted by the Proposed Development. Given the relatively small scale of loss required for the Proposed Development, the estimated density of hazel dormouse is relatively low, particularly for the poor-quality habitat.

Table 2-4 Estimated Population Density within the Site

Habitat Quality	Area of Scrub (ha)	Dormouse Density (n ha ⁻¹) ⁴	No. of Breeding Adults
Good	0.50	6	3
Poor	0.32	2	0.64
Total	0.82		3.64 (4)

⁴ As per Dormouse Mitigation Handbook

3 DEVELOPMENT IMPACTS

3.1 Status of Hazel Dormouse

- 3.1.1 Hazel dormouse is a declining species across the UK, with up to 52% population decline between 1995 and 2015⁵, though the species' range has remained stable. Some local populations are recovering. In South Wales, the species is widespread, with a localised distribution. Their range is assessed as 'frequent' in South East Wales, specifically Cardiff, Newport and Monmouthshire as per the Dormouse Conservation Handbook⁶.
- 3.1.2 As per Table 2-4 in Section 2, it is estimated that the Site could support up to four breeding adults as per the parameters in the Dormouse Mitigation Guidelines.

3.2 Construction Impacts

- 3.2.1 The estimated construction period and anticipated construction activity is set out in Table 3-1 below. The six-month construction phase is considered to be a short-term period. Based on professional judgement, short-term is anticipated to be a time period between 0 and two years. Medium term is considered to be 2 – 10 years. Long term time periods are considered to be durations more than 10 years.

Table 3-1 Construction Activities and Estimated Timescales

Activity	Estimated Start Date	Estimated Completion Date
Enabling and Trenching Works (including vegetation clearance)	May 2026	September 2026
Joint Bays	July 2026	October 2026
11kV Energisation and De-Mobilisation	October 2026	November 2026

Short-Term Impacts

- 3.2.2 Direct impacts could occur as a result of the Proposed Development's six-month construction phase, potentially leading to the mortality and/or injury of up to four hazel dormouse individuals, destruction of summer nest sites, giving rise to breeding failure.
- 3.2.3 Direct impacts would include vegetation and Site clearance as part of the cable route's easement requirements (during enabling and trenching works) along the abandoned Road to Nature highway (i.e. Cable Route West and East). Vegetation clearance and excavation works would also be undertaken as part of the HDD Entrance and Exit Pits.
- 3.2.4 It is estimated that up to 0.44ha of scrub habitat would be cut back and temporarily cleared to facilitate the Proposed Development, though, this area is a worst scenario and does not consist entirely of optimal dormouse habitat. The predicted loss is not a continuous section of habitat, and the total loss is scattered across the Site. The 0.44ha of habitat loss is a relatively small part of the wider Imperial Park area.

⁵ Mathews F, Kubasiewicz LM, Gurnell J, Harrower CA, McDonald RA, Shore RF. (2018) A Review of the Population and Conservation Status of British Mammals: Technical Summary. A report by the Mammal Society under contract to Natural England, Natural Resources Wales and Scottish Natural Heritage. Natural England, Peterborough.

⁶ Bullion, S., Wolton, R. & White, I. (2025) Hazel Dormouse Conservation Handbook – Third edition. The Mammal Society. ISBN: 978-1-0687982-3-8

3.2.5 Additionally, indirect impacts through aural and visual stimuli could lead to the disturbance of hazel dormouse, causing individuals to move further away from the Site and suitable habitat (increasing risk of predation and/or starvation) and increase the likelihood of abandoning nest sites. Though, as hazel dormouse is typically present at night, visual stimuli is less likely to lead to disturbance.

3.2.6 In the absence of mitigation, the scrub removal and aural stimuli would give rise to a negative effect at a Site level.

Habitat Loss and Long-Term Impacts

3.2.7 Habitat loss would reduce areas that could be used by hazel dormouse to nest, forage and commute. It is likely to give rise to a negative effect at a Site level on a relatively small population of hazel dormouse (estimated to be up to 4 breeding adults) in the absence of mitigation but would not lead to adverse effects beyond a Site level (i.e. local, county or regional levels). The Proposed Development is not predicted to lead to an adverse effect on the favourable conservation status at these levels. This is primarily a result of small-scale loss (see Table 3-2) in locations that would not isolate or fragment dispersal routes or optimal breeding habitat.

3.2.8 Whilst it is acknowledged that the scrub habitat in Cable Route West would be cut back to facilitate the cable easement. Wooded habitat, including scrub and woodland would remain in sufficient quantities to sustain hazel dormouse populations, and to enable individuals to disperse, commute and forage. Similarly, localised loss within HDD Entrance and HDD Exit Pits would not cause fragmentation or cause optimal habitats to become isolated (in the same way loss of a hedgerow connecting with other hedgerows or woodland would). Tree lines, individual mature trees or valuable understory systems would not be felled or cleared. The estimated habitat loss from the Proposed Development is set out in Table 3-2 below. It should be noted that the estimation in Table 3-2 is based on overlaying the Proposed Development design drawings onto habitat maps and aerial plans. As a result the estimation in Table 3-2 is considered to be a worst-case, with actual habitat loss expected to be less during construction.

3.2.9 The Imperial Park area is already a relatively disturbed area given the existing and proposed energy infrastructure to the north and northeast of the Site. The loss of habitat from the Proposed Development would not significantly increase predation (in the same way residential developments could), nor would there be a significant increase in disturbance following completion of construction. Recreational pressure is unlikely to increase significantly as the landscape character in the immediate area is not expected to change considerably, and woodland and scrub habitats in the wider vicinity will largely be unchanged.

Table 3-2 Estimated Habitat Loss from the Proposed Development

Habitat Type	Location	Estimated Habitat Loss (ha)
Dense scrub	Cable Route West	0.18
Dense and scattered scrub	Cable Route East	0.13
Dense and scattered scrub	HDD Entrance	0.05
Dense and scattered scrub	HDD Exit	0.08
Total		0.44

3.3 Habitat Modification – Creation, Restoration and Enhancement

3.3.1 The bramble dominated scrub in Cable Route West and Cable Route East along the edge of the Road to Nature is anticipated to be lost permanently. The scrub edge has grown over existing hardstanding and would be cut back to facilitate the easement required for cable trenching. As assessed in Table 3.2 this is considered to be a negative, short-term impact.

3.3.2 To compensate for loss of the scrub edge (i.e. Cable Route West and East), new hazel scrub is to be planted along the edge of the existing woodland (i.e. along its northern perimeter) with the

objective of enhancing the understory and the woodland-scrub mosaic's vertical connectivity. The HDD Entrance and Exit Pit would be reinstated with native tree species in place of bramble, and in line with any operational easement restrictions.

3.3.3 Existing habitat within the wider Imperial Park area would be subject to habitat modification. This would include selective removal of invasive non-native stands to reduce pressure on the existing scrub, interplanting and coppicing of existing trees (where suitable for coppicing). Habitat modification would be sympathetic and is considered to be a positive impact, with effects experienced in the medium to long-term when planting has become established. The estimated area of creation, restoration and enhancement measures to be implemented as part of the Proposed Development are set out in Table 3-3 overleaf.

3.3.4 Habitat modification through planting of tree whips and the control of undesirable and invasive non-native species, would be implemented sympathetically and is not expected to give rise to adverse effects on the hazel dormouse population.

Table 3-3 Estimated Habitat Creation, Restoration and Enhancement

Habitat Type / Measure	Location	Estimated Net Benefit (ha)
Scrub creation	Cable Route East	0.13
Woodland resotation	Cable Route West	0.02
Scrub restoration and enhancement	Cable Route East / South of Cable Route East	0.42
Reinstatement of scrub	HDD Entrance and HDD Exit Pits	0.11
Total		0.68

4 PROPOSED MITIGATION AND COMPENSATION

- 4.1.1 The construction phase of the Proposed Development will require an EPS mitigation licence given the potential for hazel dormouse individuals to be disturbed, killed or injured, and their resting places to be damaged and/or destroyed. The full details of the method statement and the necessary detailed measures for implementation during construction will be confirmed and finalised in agreement with Natural Resources Wales. The sections below set out how the Proposed Development has arrived at its current layout, the techniques proposed to avoid killing and injuring hazel dormouse individuals and the measures required to compensate for lost habitat.
- 4.1.2 The proposed habitat creation, restoration and enhancement measures would be secured by a condition of successful planning consent and will form part of a detailed Biodiversity Strategy or Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP), as decided by NCC. Long-term management and monitoring is typically required for a minimum of 20 years, however, given the scale and nature of the Proposed Development (i.e. linear cable route, impacting less than 0.5ha), the timeframe for long-term management could be reduced, but this would be discussed and agreed with NCC. Any long-term management would require collaboration and liaison with Newport Local Nature Partnership.
- 4.1.3 A grassland compensation site has been proposed as part of the Celtic Lakes development, just north of the HDD section within Welsh Government land. The measures set out below are not anticipated to interfere with the grassland compensation area, and measures devised in this DCS are independent of the Celtic Lakes development.
- 4.1.4 This DCS sets out the necessary actions for the first five years following construction.

4.2 Avoidance and Minimisation

- 4.2.1 The Proposed Development design has sought to avoid areas within the wider Imperial Park area that would lead to greater risk of giving rise to adverse effects on biodiversity, if cleared. The initial option for the Proposed Development's cable route was to extend northwards from the existing National Grid substation, through dense scrub grassland and the ditch network. The current Proposed Development corridor was deemed to be a lower risk option from a biodiversity impact perspective, given the presence of existing hardstanding, and the potential to use sympathetic drilling techniques.
- 4.2.2 It is anticipated that no night-time working would be undertaken, and as such, illumination of previously unlit features would not take place. Where the approach to construction lighting changes, the potential impacts would need to be assessed prior to construction to ensure sufficient mitigation is in place to prevent disturbance impacts on hazel dormouse populations.
- 4.2.3 A total of 1.47ha of the Site is to be retained as part of the Proposed Development. Of the 0.82ha of scrub and woodland within the Site, 0.44 would be lost. A total of 0.13ha would be reinstated and enhanced, 0.31ha would be lost permanently. The retained habitat is illustrated on Figure 2.

4.3 Precautionary Methods

- 4.3.1 If hazel dormouse is present within scrub habitats during Site clearance and enabling works there is potential for individuals to be harmed if this is not conducted sensitively and at the appropriate time of year.
- 4.3.2 Enabling works are proposed for May 2026 and so a single stage clearance will be implemented as part of construction. The single stage clearance will require progressive habitat clearance (i.e. in phases) towards retained habitats to ensure hazel dormouse individuals are encouraged to disperse out of the construction areas. As the areas of Cable Route West and Cable Route East are linear stretches of bramble, they can be cleared south-south westwards with hand tools, so

that hazel dormouse individuals (if present) can be displaced into the woodland and adjacent scrub. Scattered young tree roots / stumps can be removed at the same time as the clearance given that the activities would be undertaken outside of the hibernation period. No more than 150m of habitat should be cleared in a day (as per the Dormouse Mitigation Guidelines) to prevent increasing the distance at which hazel dormouse individuals are displaced. Clearance would be progressed north and north west at the HDD entrance and exit pits. On this basis (and given that the scrub edge in Cable Route West and Cable Route East is more than 600m in length) the habitat clearance should take a minimum of five days, which includes four days along Cable Route West and Cable Route East, and a fifth day for the HDD entrance and HDD exit. If planning consent has not been obtained before end of April 2026, a revised approach may be required if the enabling works could extend into the peak breeding period for hazel dormouse (June – September). The approach would be discussed and agreed with Natural Resources Wales.

- 4.3.3 Vegetation clearance would be supervised by a Natural Resources Wales licensed ecologist (or accredited agent). The ecologist would undertake a hand search of all areas of scrub to be cleared to check for hazel dormouse presence prior to vegetation clearance. A licenced ecologist would continue to supervise the clearance works to monitor housekeeping, clearance techniques and to respond to an unforeseen event. Cutting will be conducted using only hand tools (i.e. chainsaws and brush cutters) and ensuring that there is no significant ground disturbance. All bramble arisings will be removed from the Site after cutting, or where immature trees are removed they would be sympathetically stacked within the surrounding woodlands as hibernacula for other, non-target species of fauna. If a hazel dormouse nest is discovered, it should be carefully checked by a licenced ecologist for its status. Where an active nest with juveniles is discovered, a suitably sized buffer (typically 30m) around the nest will be set up to exclude all works and to ensure disturbance does not give rise to an adverse effect on breeding hazel dormouse. Following a change in the status of the nest (i.e. becomes inactive due to juvenile dispersal), the area could then be cleared.
- 4.3.4 Where active hazel dormouse individuals are discovered during works and it is possible to allow them to move independently to safe habitats, outside high-risk work areas, this will be the first course of action. If a hazel dormouse is encountered during vegetation removal and does not disperse out of the clearance area, it would be carefully captured by the licenced ecologist and placed within a small mammal bag. It would be taken to suitable habitat away from the works and released.
- 4.3.5 In the active season, active or torpid individuals will be relocated in their existing nest to suitable habitat, or a specially installed dormouse nest box within 100m of the location it was captured.
- 4.3.6 Works would be in the demobilising stage during the hibernation period and so, it is unlikely that hibernating individuals would be discovered and/or impacted. Notwithstanding this assessment, should works continue on for longer than expected where hibernating hazel dormouse are present, a specific method would be implemented. During hibernation, hazel dormouse individuals found outside high-risk areas, must remain in-situ with a suitable buffer implemented around the nest site, and adequate habitat left in place to enable safe dispersal when emerging from torpor (specifically dead hedging of native vegetation). Where hibernating individuals need to be moved, an assessment would be made of the need, before an appropriate plan is implemented. Approaches could include the relocation of the nest and its surrounding material, to a location within 100m of its original location, similar in condition and aspect to the existing hibernation nest site. It must then be covered by suitable material. In the unlikely event of the animal rousing from hibernation, an assessment would be made as to whether the individual can continue to be relocated with their nest material into a deployed dormouse box. This could be a suitable option given that hazel dormouse is known to emerge from hibernation several times during the hibernation period. This approach may be more suited than to take the individual into captivity. Where an individual is to be taken into captivity, it would be transported safely to Severn Wildlife Rescue or Secret World Wildlife Rescue, with the aim of reintroducing the individual back to the wild in the appropriate period.

- 4.3.7 As construction would be short-term in duration and largely temporary in nature, impacts would only be experienced over the course of one breeding season, restricted to a relatively small area of habitat loss, though the effects of habitat loss would be experienced over several years until compensation has established. The cutting back and loss of scrub habitat would be fully replaced with better quality features (hazel planting), which would benefit hazel dormouse in the medium term once the planting becomes established. As suitable habitat is present in the wider Imperial Park area, indirect impacts leading to the temporary displacement of hazel dormouse would not lead to adverse effects on the local population and would not impact the favourable conservation status of hazel dormouse in Dyffryn and the wider Newport area.
- 4.3.8 Cleared bramble and scattered material would be taken off-Site rather than chipped and left on-site. Given the presence of several invasive non-native species, chipped material may cause the spread of Schedule 9 plants (wall cotoneaster and Virginia-creeper) so all material must be disposed of securely to prevent an infringement of the relevant legislation and lead to increased ecosystem pressure.
- 4.3.9 It should be noted that the measures would be sympathetic to both hazel dormouse and breeding birds.

4.4 Compensatory Habitat and Enhancement

- 4.4.1 All proposed creation, restoration and enhancement measures within their respective compartments and locations are illustrated on Figure 3. All land within and in proximity to the Site identified for the compensation of habitat loss and for habitat restoration and enhancement is within the ownership of NCC. The final extent, habitat prescriptions and measures to be implemented would be discussed and agreed with NCC. As parts of the Site fall within the Gwent Levels SSSI, Natural Resources Wales would be required to confirm their agreement to the final planting palette / species composition to be planted in the respective locations.

- 4.4.2 The proposed measures below are illustrated on Figure 3.

Scrub Creation

- 4.4.3 An estimated 600m long (minimum) section of woodland edge habitat (Cable Route West and Cable Route East) will be supplemented with hazel. The objective of the proposed scrub creation is to compensate for the estimated loss of 0.21ha of bramble scrub and to create increased structural complexity along the woodland edge. The bramble scrub has colonised over areas of former bare ground and hardstanding as can be seen in Photographs 5, 6 and 10.
- 4.4.4 A minimum of 0.12ha of hazel scrub would increase the species and structural diversity of the northern woodland edge. The proposal would be to plant hazel whips in the autumn of 2026 during or following demobilisation. Given that bramble is a rapid coloniser, it is anticipated that bramble scrub would regenerate proximal to the area of loss in a relatively short time frame (less two years), with fruiting taking place thereafter. Whips would be obtained from Gwent Wildlife Trust or Celtic Wildflowers if not from a local nursery.

Scrub Restoration and Habitat Enhancement

- 4.4.5 Existing scrub to the south of the Road to Nature, outside of the Site would be subject to restoration and enhancement. Poor conditions specifically within scrub areas near to Cable Route East would be managed to develop greater structural diversity and increase species diversity, enhancing its connectivity into the woodland and the wider landscape
- 4.4.6 Invasive non-native and undesirable species would be controlled during the construction period, and hazel planting (along with other typical scrub species) would be introduced. Rubble, invasive non-native species and other undesirable material within this area would be taken off-Site, with the substrate restored where possible through the use of machinery.

Woodland Restoration

- 4.4.7 A relatively small section of the off-Site woodland, south of the Road to Nature was recorded as recently felled / damaged in 2025 along with a break in the scrub edge. Its restoration and enhancement have been incorporated into this DCS with the aim of contributing to a more diverse understory within the woodland, and to reconnect it with the scrub edge severed as part of the woodland felling. The area would be cleared and the substrate prepared to receive new tree whips. The aim would be for the area to form a valuable understory and increase the vertical structure, providing additional opportunities for hazel dormouse to move through the landscape.
- 4.4.8 Woodland meadow forbs (i.e. vascular plant species tolerant of shade) would also be plug planted or seeded within this area alongside planted whips. Natural regeneration would be encouraged following preparation of the ground. Woodland meadow forbs would be obtained Gwent Wildlife Trust or Celtic Wildflowers if not from a local nursery.

Planting Palette

- 4.2 The proposed planting palette for new scrub and trees would be drawn from species outlined in Table 4-1 below. The species in this table reflect the landscape character and have been derived from the species recorded during the habitat and arboriculture⁷ surveys.
- 4.3 The lists below are not comprehensive but includes species which have an abundant, frequent or occasional presence across the Site. Additional species may be added following further consultation with NCC. Ash has been excluded from the planting palette given potential future issues with ash dieback..

Table 4-1 Planting Palette for Proposed Compensation

Proposed Biodiversity Measure	Location	Indicative Species
Scrub creation	Cable Route West Cable Route East	Hazel
Scrub restoration and enhancement	South of Cable Route East	Hawthorn Blackthorn Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i> Dog rose <i>Rosa canina</i> Honeysuckle <i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Woodland restoration	South of Cable Route West	Pedunculate oak Hazel Wood melick <i>Melica uniflora</i> Red campion <i>Silene dioica</i> Wood anemone <i>Anemone nemorosa</i> Early dog violet <i>Viola reichenbachiana</i>
Reinstatement of scrub	HDD Entrance HDD Exit	Hawthorn Blackthorn Goat willow <i>Salix caprea</i> Grey willow <i>Salix cinerea</i>

Dormouse Boxes

- 4.4.1 Dormouse boxes would be installed within the woodland off-Site. At present, eight boxes have been included on Figure 3. The total number of boxes would be discussed and agreed with Natural Resources Wales. A minimum of eight boxes should be deployed with their final locations

⁷ RPS (2025) Imperial Park Cable Route. Arboricultural Impact Assessment.

identified as part of an EPS licence application. Dormouse boxes would be obtained from People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES).

- 4.4.2 Hazel dormouse boxes provide artificial nesting sites, mimicking natural nesting features. The boxes would be monitored every year for a period of three years after construction.

Establishment and Management

- 4.4.3 An indicative establishment and management plan for the first five years is set out in Table 4-2 below. The table sets out the locations referred to earlier in this DCS and the indicative measures for successful establishment and management in the initial 12 months, and subsequent four years following completion of construction. It is anticipated that the establishment and management plan would be adapted after the initial five years (following monitoring, reviews and remedial actions). The initial plan would be adapted for inclusion in any forthcoming EPS mitigation licence method statement.
- 4.4.4 Where habitat creation, restoration and enhancement measures can be implemented during the construction stage (such as within scrub and woodland areas away from the cable installation) this would be agreed with SSE, NCC and Natural Resources Wales. This approach would reduce the temporal impacts on biodiversity by providing biodiversity features in advance of loss.

Table 4-2 Indicative Establishment and Maintenance Plan

Strategy / Measure	Compartment	Establishment (year 1)	On-going Activities and aftercare (year 2)	On-going Activities and aftercare (years 3-5)
Scrub creation	Cable Route West	All new hazel whips to be planted during the demobilisation period in Autumn 2026 during or following completion of demobilisation	Inspect for presence and effectiveness of mulch mats at base of plants During establishment, water at a frequency of no less than two times per week for a period of six weeks (if necessary). Thereafter, the watering regime will be based on continuous monthly advanced review of weather forecasts to determine appropriate watering frequency, though this would only be required in the key growing season in case of drought.	Review needs for mulch mats in year 3. Trimming should be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season, and ideally during late winter (January to February), to allow fruits to be foraged by over-wintering birds and small mammals.
Woodland restoration	Cable Route West	Woodland to be cleared of flytipped material. Proposed planting palette will be installed within woodland during or following completion of demobilisation in Autumn 2026.	Inspect planting for windblow, re-firm trees and check staking and tree ties, replace where necessary. Check for damaged or diseased shrubs, replace shrubs where sufficient damage has occurred to jeopardise long term survival of the	Review watering regime based on continuous monthly advanced review of weather forecasts and determine appropriate watering frequency (years 2 – 3). Strim to control competition from grass and herbaceous growth outside of areas controlled by mulch mats (requirement for strimming to be reviewed following year three as growth reduces impact of competition). Thereafter, replace if failure would reduce the effectiveness, density of the established planting (replacement during first available planting). Inspection of fencing / guards during routine maintenance
Scrub restoration and enhancement	Cable Route East / South of Cable Route East	Undesirable species would be removed and/or controlled Planting palette will be installed within the scrub section during or following completion of demobilisation in Autumn 2026.		

Strategy / Measure	Compartment	Establishment (Year 1)	On-going Activities and aftercare (year 2)	On-going Activities and aftercare (years 3-5)
Reinstatement of scrub	HDD Entrance and Exit Pits	To be planted during the demobilisation period in Autumn 2026 (or earlier).	shrub (during first available planting season) and replace in the next planting season following identification.	visits and make good any damage. Remove fencing/guards (end of year 5 – subject to review of plant vigour and density). Ensure secondary woodland planting (i.e. newly planted trees) are planted in the appropriate places that would not lead to negative impacts on other habitats
Dormouse boxes	Off-site Woodland	To be installed during the enabling works in May 2026 or during demobilisation, within woodland south of the Road to Nature.	Boxes to be checked twice per year in May and in September.	Boxes to be checked twice per year in years 3 and 5 as part of monitoring.

Biosecurity

- 4.4.5 Two invasive non-native species were recorded during habitat surveys in 2025, this included Virginia-creeper and wall cotoneaster. These species were recorded in Cable Route East and the HDD Entrance Pit. As a result, a bespoke invasive non-native species management plan would be required as part of the enabling works. This would typically form part of a detailed CEMP.
- 4.4.6 Details of any invasive species management would be a requirement of the construction contractor and set out in a detailed CEMP, which should detail site-specific methods to ensure that all site activities are controlled and are in accordance with best practice procedures.
- 4.4.7 Standard best practice measures including those detailed in the Guidelines on Pollution Prevention (GPP) by the Joint Agencies and the Great Britain Invasive Non-Native Species Strategy⁸ be implemented which would avoid the potential spread of invasive species. All personnel are to be made aware of the presence of invasive species and if they suspect that they may be present in other areas, should immediately inform the site supervisor. The CEMP, bespoke measures and adherences to best practice guidelines would ensure an offence is not committed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act or the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019.

⁸ DEFRA, Welsh Government, Scottish Government (2023) Great Britain Invasive Non-Native Species Strategy 2023 - 2030. [The Great Britain Invasive Non-Native Species Strategy 2023 to 2030](#)

5 MONITORING AND MAINTENANCE

5.1 Monitoring

- 5.1.1 The Dormouse Mitigation Guidelines indicates that monitoring for small scale developments (<1 ha of loss) is not typically required/ applicable due to the low probability of detecting hazel dormouse. Notwithstanding this assessment, a monitoring proposal for both hazel dormouse presence and to appraise the success of compensatory and enhancement measures would be implemented, with monitoring undertaken as per the items in Table 4-2 above and Table 5-1 below.
- 5.1.2 Monitoring for hazel dormouse presence would be undertaken in years 2, 3 and 5 alongside the monitoring of compensatory planting. The monitoring would include a hazel nut search (where present) and checking the installed hazel dormouse boxes.

5.2 Maintenance and Remedial Actions

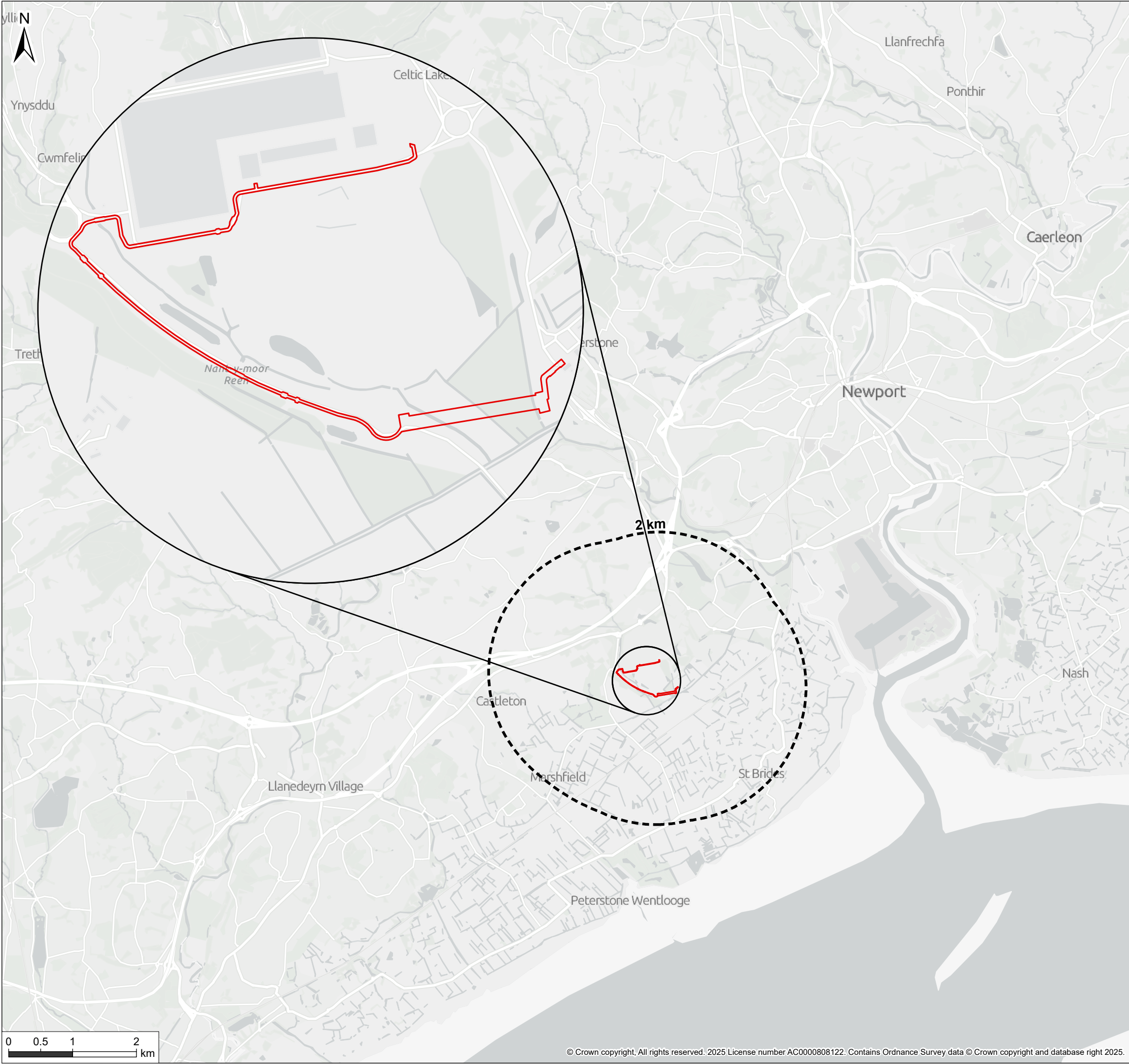
- 5.2.1 Management reviews would consider the extent to which the objectives and aims are being achieved through the ongoing implementation of management actions throughout the management period. The effectiveness of the measures, methods and timing of management would be assessed based on the status and condition of new or enhanced habitats.
- 5.2.2 The monitoring results will be compiled into a monitoring report. The report would highlight positive and negative outcomes for hazel dormouse and habitats. The monitoring report would highlight any unforeseen changes to factors influencing management decisions and actions and the continued relevance of each of the management prescriptions.
- 5.2.3 Where habitats and features are not achieving the management objectives this would be highlighted. The monitoring reports would include additional management actions to be implemented to address undesirable and negative changes in the new baseline. This would include management of native plants, actions to repair dramatic effects on a habitat or where current management measures are not effective. This would be in line with the conditioned Biodiversity Strategy or LEMP.
- 5.2.4 Remedial measures may be required following monitoring visits; typical examples are listed in Table 5-1 below. The need for the implementation of any of these would be triggered by monitoring visits.
- 5.2.5 The table below sets out the potential actions following monitoring of proposed habitat.

Table 5-1 Example of Modifications to Management and Remedial Measures

Proposed Measure	Potential Actions following Monitoring Results
Scrub creation and reinstatement	- Selective cutting back of dominant species, specifically undesirable vascular plants to promote species diversity. - Adapting cutting regime/method to promote dense growth and flowering ability - Supplementary planting to fill gaps and replace failures
Woodland restoration	- Removal of any invasive non-native and undesirable species if colonised - Removal of undesirable species - Removal of any new flytipped material - Supplementary planting to replace failures
Scrub restoration and enhancement	- Check for the presence of non-native species with a view to controlling the stands - Supplementary planting for tree failures
Dormouse Boxes	Repair or replacement

5.3 Roles and Responsibilities

- 5.3.1 The appointed contractor will be responsible for implementing the DCS throughout construction, with planting proposals maintained for a period of at least 12 months post construction. Following this period, SSE will be responsible for the management and aftercare, with any transfer of land and/or management agreements to include clauses and/or conditions for commitments to undertake the management prescriptions for at least four years after the initial 12 months. SSE would also be responsible for obtaining the required EPS mitigation licence for hazel dormouse following successful planning consent and prior to construction.
- 5.3.2 The details of the measures to ensure initial aftercare and long-term management and the maintenance of new and retained dormouse habitat would be detailed within a Biodiversity Strategy or LEMP forming a condition of successful planning consent. An outline Biodiversity Strategy forms part of the PEA and includes scrub creation and enhancement alongside grassland management to benefit the wider Imperial Park.





Legend

Cable route

2 km buffer



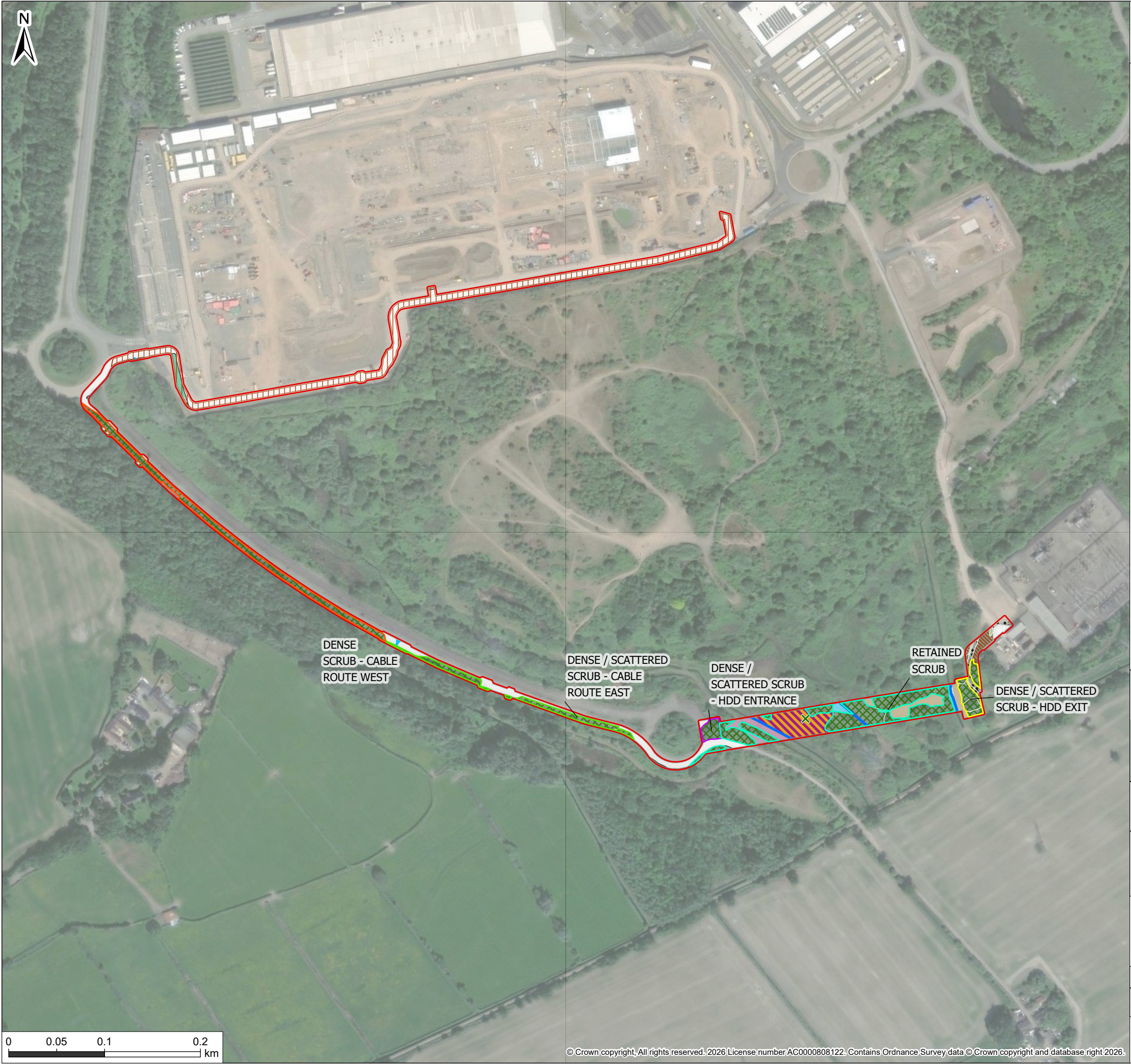
© 2025 RPS Group

1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.

2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

Project Name		Imperial Park Cable Route		
Drawing Title		Site Location		
Figure Number		1		
Drawing Number		22022-0006-03		
03	11/09/2025	FINAL	AC	LR
Rev	Date	Status	By	CB
Scale @ A3		Plot Size		Datum
1:60,000		294 x 277 mm		OSGB 1936

I:\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanningProjects\Current projects\794-ENV-ECO-22022 Imperial Park\TechDrawings\22022-0006-03.aprx - 22022-0006-03





Legend

- Cable Route
- Dense / Scattered Scrub - Cable Route East
- Dense / Scattered Scrub - HDD Entrance
- Dense / Scattered Scrub - HDD Exit
- Dense Scrub - Cable Route West
- Retained Scrub
- Live Construction Site

Phase 1 Habitat Data

- A1.1.2 - Broadleaved woodland - plantation
- A2.1 - Dense scrub
- B5 - Marsh/marshy grassland
- C3.1 - Tall ruderal
- F1 - Swamp (reedbed)
- J4 - Bare ground
- Hard standing
- Neutral grassland
- Marginal vegetation
- Regenerating grassland
- Short ephemeral / perennial vegetation and bare ground mosaic
- Recently felled woodland
- G1 - Wet ditch
- G2 - Running water
- A2.2 - Scattered scrub



© 2026 RPS Group
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.
2. If received electronically it is the recipients responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.

Project Name		Imperial Park Cable Route		
Drawing Title		Dormouse Conservation Strategy: Estimated Worst Case Habitat Loss		
Figure Number		2		
Drawing Number		22022-0009-03		
02	09/01/2026	FINAL	JM	LR
Rev	Date	Status	By	CB
Scale @ A3		Plot Size	Datum	
1:4,000		294 x 277 mm	OSGB 1936	

I:\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanningProjects\Current projects\794-ENV-ECO-22022 Imperial Park\TechDrawings\22022-0009-03.aprx - 22022-0009-01





Legend

 Cable route

Phase 1 Habitat Data

 A1.1.2 - Broadleaved woodland - plantation

 A2.1 - Dense scrub

 F1 - Swamp (reedbed)

 Hard standing

 Neutral grassland

 Short ephemeral / perennial vegetation and bare ground mosaic

 Recently felled woodland

 G2 - Running water

 A2.2 - Scattered scrub

Outline Biodiversity Measures

 Dormouse box

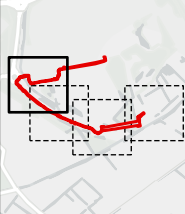
Dormouse Conservation Measures

 New Hazel Scrub Edge

 Restored Woodland



© 2026 RPS Group
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.
2. If received electronically it is the recipient's responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.



Project Name		Imperial Park Cable Route		
Drawing Title		Dormouse Conservation Strategy: Habitat Creation, Enhancement, and Restoration		
Figure Number		3		
Drawing Number		22022-0010-02		
01	09/01/2026	FINAL	JM	LR
Rev	Date	Status	By	CB
Scale @ A3		Plot Size	Datum	
1:1,500		294 x 277 mm	OSGB 1936	

I:\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanningProjects\Current projects\794-ENV-ECO-22022 Imperial Park\TechDrawings\22022-0010-02.aprx - 22022-0010-01





Legend

 Cable route

Phase 1 Habitat Data

 A1.1.2 - Broadleaved woodland - plantation

 A2.1 - Dense scrub

 F1 - Swamp (reedbed)

 Hard standing

 Neutral grassland

 Short ephemeral / perennial vegetation and bare ground mosaic

 G2 - Running water

 A2.2 - Scattered scrub

Outline Biodiversity Measures

 Dormouse box

Dormouse Conservation Measures

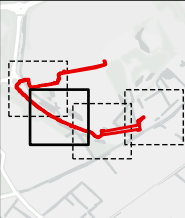
 Enhanced Scrub

 New Hazel Scrub Edge

 Restored and Enhanced Scrub - INNS management and new hazel planting



© 2026 RPS Group
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.
2. If received electronically it is the recipient's responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.



Project Name		Imperial Park Cable Route		
Drawing Title		Dormouse Conservation Strategy: Habitat Creation, Enhancement, and Restoration		
Figure Number		3		
Drawing Number		22022-0010-02		
01	09/01/2026	FINAL	JM	LR
Rev	Date	Status	By	CB
Scale @ A3		Plot Size	Datum	
1:1,500		294 x 277 mm	OSGB 1936	

I:\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanningProjects\Current projects\794-ENV-ECO-22022 Imperial Park\TechDrawings\22022-0010-02.aprx - 22022-0010-01





rps
A TETRA TECH COMPANY



sse
Energy Solutions

Legend

 Cable route

Phase 1 Habitat Data

 A1.1.2 - Broadleaved woodland - plantation

 A2.1 - Dense scrub

 B5 - Marsh/marshy grassland

 F1 - Swamp (reedbed)

 G1 - Standing water

 J4 - Bare ground

 Hard standing

 Neutral grassland

 Marginal vegetation

 Short ephemeral / perennial vegetation and bare ground mosaic

 G1 - Wet ditch

 G2 - Running water

 J2.3.2 - Hedge with trees - species-poor

 A2.2 - Scattered scrub

Dormouse Conservation Measures

 New Hazel Scrub Edge

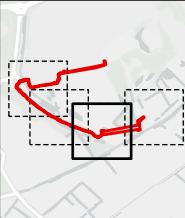
 Reinstated Scrub - hawthorn and blackthorn dominant

 Restored and Enhanced Scrub - INNS management and new hazel planting



ENGLA
WALES

© 2026 RPS Group
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.
2. If received electronically it is the recipient's responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.



Project Name

Imperial Park Cable Route

Drawing Title

Dormouse Conservation Strategy: Habitat Creation, Enhancement, and Restoration

Figure Number

3

Drawing Number

22022-0010-02

01	09/01/2026	FINAL	JM	LR
Rev	Date	Status	By	CB

Scale @ A3

Plot Size

Datum

1:1,500

294 x 277 mm

OSGB 1936

© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. 2026 License number AC0000808122. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2026.

\\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanningProjects\Current projects\794-ENV-ECO-22022 Imperial Park\TechDrawings\22022-0010-02.aprx - 22022-0010-01





Legend

 Cable route

Phase 1 Habitat Data

 A1.1.1 - Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural

 A2.1 - Dense scrub

 B5 - Marsh/marshy grassland

 C3.1 - Tall ruderal

 F1 - Swamp (reedbed)

 G1 - Standing water

 J4 - Bare ground

 J6 - Buildings

 Hard standing

 Neutral grassland

 Marginal vegetation

 Regenerating grassland

 Short ephemeral / perennial vegetation and bare ground mosaic

 G1 - Wet ditch

 J2.3.2 - Hedge with trees - species-poor

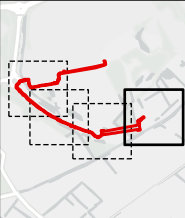
 A2.2 - Scattered scrub

Dormouse Conservation Measures

 Reinstated Scrub - willow, hawthorn, and blackthorn



© 2026 RPS Group
1. This drawing has been prepared in accordance with the scope of RPS's appointment with its client and is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment. RPS accepts no liability for any use of this document other than by its client and only for the purposes for which it was prepared and provided.
2. If received electronically it is the recipient's responsibility to print to correct scale. Only written dimensions should be used.



Project Name		Imperial Park Cable Route		
Drawing Title		Dormouse Conservation Strategy: Habitat Creation, Enhancement, and Restoration		
Figure Number		3		
Drawing Number		22022-0010-02		
01	09/01/2026	FINAL	JM	LR
Rev	Date	Status	By	CB
Scale @ A3		Plot Size	Datum	
1:1,500		294 x 277 mm	OSGB 1936	

I:\CARD-PH-02\EnvPlanningProjects\Current projects\794-ENV-ECO-22022 Imperial Park\Drawings\22022-0010-02.aprx - 22022-0010-01

Appendix A Proposed Development Designs

