University of Hull

Hull Campus Biodiversity Action Plan

Introduction

Both HEFCE and The Learning and Skills Council (LSC) support enhancing and protecting

biodiversity. HEFCE has made a commitment to promote more sustainable estates management in its recent strategy 'Sustainable Development in Higher Education', June 2008. Biodiversity is a very important element of this, particularly in areas where there are new opportunities for habitat creation and enhancement. The LSC identifies biodiversity as part of Higher Education Institutes' key principles and recommends that they should



implement a locally appropriate biodiversity programme that best manages the site for conservation.

The University's 52.7 hectares main campus sited north of Cottingham Road, Hull comprises enclosed planted courtyards and lawns, which have previously won the 'Yorkshire in Bloom' competition, green margins and an extensive area of sports fields to the north and north-west around a densely built core.

The Scarborough campus has an open southerly aspect across sports fields with a green margin to the west and east.

Residences at the Lawns, Needler Hall and Thwaite Hall all contain a mixture of lawned landscape and tree lined margins with a notable pond and botanic gardens at Thwaite Hall.

Biodiversity Policy

The University of Hull is committed to maintain and improve the biodiversity of its campuses at Hull and Scarborough; and on its residential sites at Cottingham.

The University will:

- comply with all relevant EU and UK environmental legislation
- identify the potential direct and indirect impacts of our activities on biodiversity and take measures to minimise the negative impacts and promote positive actions
- work to integrate biodiversity considerations into our activities through the Hull Campus Biodiversity Action Plan
- produce an annual grounds and gardens plan featuring efforts to develop biodiversity
- engage with local communities, government and non-government organisations and suppliers/disposers of goods in order to enhance our opportunities to support biodiversity
- engage with Friends of Thwaite Gardens to develop the distinctive environment of the Botanic Gardens site
- communicate this policy to all employees, students and visitors
- report annually on the University's progress towards achieving targets set upon its biodiversity performance

Review of the Hull campus

The University's main campus covers 52.7 hectares of land, to the north of Cottingham Road, Hull. It is composed of a densely built core with green margins and an extensive area of sports fields to the north and northwest (see Appendix 2, Figure 1).

The Hull Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) identified eight broad habitats which were of wildlife significance within Hull. Of these eight categories five are represented on the University's Hull campus:

- Gardens and Allotments
- Grassland
- Parks, Golf Courses & Cemeteries
- The Built Environment
- Trees, Scrub & Hedgerows



The Hull BAP also designated 25 species that were considered to be of conservation significance within Hull, either in their own right or as general indicators of the general health of the identified habitats. In most cases they were also been chosen as being readily identifiable, even by non-experts. The full list is given in Appendix 2 with an indication of the status of the species on the main campus. In March 2009 the tree sparrow was replaced on the Hull BAP list by the house sparrow, the spotted flycatcher was removed and the common swift and bees were added.

As a member of the Hull Biodiversity Partnership the University can support the Hull BAP through appropriate management of habitats on the campus.



Achievements:

The university has:

- established 'no-mow' conservation strips of 2000m² on the western campus playing fields and 400m² on the boundary with the Marist sports club
- used native species when closing gaps in hedges
- surveyed all trees on campus and produced a database these trees will be inspected twice yearly
- erected 20 bird boxes on the main campus and botanic gardens at Thwaite Hall
- erected 10 bat roosting boxes at Thwaite Hall
- previously derelict land has been planted with native wildflowers and grasses

- 1. Habitat management
- Leave un-mown portion of lawns in front of Derwent building to encourage potential bee orchids

- The fresh water habitat is represented at Thwaite Gardens, Cottingham but this falls within the East Riding of Yorkshire
- Land designated as derelict land in the Campus BAP in 2006 has been planted with native wildflowers and grasses and now is incorporated into managed/conservation grassland. This land will be redeveloped for student accommodation.

¹ Note:

- Leave some fallen branches/tree trunks on field margins to support fungi and invertebrates; latter will support song birds such as wren and robin
- Field margins to be cut annually and cuttings removed to prevent thatching and encourage plant diversity
- Development of woodland area on Salmon grove by planting native under-storey species e.g. English bluebell
- Promote deigns which permit swift access where buildings are being renovated or new building constructed, or promote the use of appropriate nest boxes where this is not possible

Promote the practice that building repair work should not begin between mid May and end of July where swift nest sites are suspected to exist



Note: specific actions with regard to each habitat represented on campus are identified in the appendices.

2. Habitat creation

Biodiversity on campus could be enhanced by developing new habitats. Three areas for investigation have been identified:

- Development of low-lying areas on the western campus as pond(s). This would create a freshwater habitat, which is one of the habitats identified on the Hull BAP but not yet represented on campus
- Development of flat roofs as 'Green roofs'. The University has a range of potentially suitable flat roofs. Green roofs can provide additional wildlife habitat, insulation, help prevent excess run-off from storms and can add amenity value.
- Potential location for a peregrine falcon nesting platform on the library roof

3. Future developments on campus

The Facilities Directorate will work to integrate biodiversity considerations into future developments on campus as part of the University of Hull Master Plan

4. Develop channels of communication and reporting

The Facilities Directorate will report progress on actions identified in the BAP to the Environmental Action Group and to the Senior Management Team.

5. Engagement

The Campus BAP offers opportunities to raise awareness of the importance of biodiversity and involvement of staff, students and the local community.

- Relevant information on environmental matters is available on the University of Hull Environmental Web
 - http://www.hull.ac.uk/environment/index.html
- As part of the national 'Get active' programme the Sports Centre is planning some 'Active Campus Routes'. The routes are designed to involve staff, students and members of the local community. Interpretation boards will be sited along the routes to encourage interest in the wildlife on campus and how the campus is managed for biodiversity
- Grounds and Gardens Newsletter produced by the Facilities Directorate and circulated electronically to all staff from May 2009
- Students could be involved in monitoring programmes and practical conservation work
- The University is a member of the Hull Biodiversity Partnership

6. Monitoring

- Through staff including Facilities Directorate
- Students: there is potential to involve students in survey work as volunteers or formally through projects associated with course work
- Involvement with local organisations e.g. Hull Natural History Society, Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, East Yorkshire Bat Group

References

DEFRA Guidance for Public Authorities on Implementing the Biodiversity Duty

EAUC Biodiversity on Campus: An EAUC practical guide. The Environmental Association for Universities and Colleges (EAUC) www.eauc.org.uk/biodiversity

HEFCE (2008) Sustainable Development in Higher Education http://www.hefce.ac.uk/pubs/hefce/2009/09 03/

Hull Biodiversity Partnership (2002) Hull Biodiversity Action Plan. http://www.hull.ac.uk/HBP/

Middleton, **R.** (2000) The plants of Hull: a Millennium atlas. Hull Natural History Society. http://hull.ac.uk/hullflora

UK Local Issues Advisory Group (1997) Guidance for local biodiversity action plans: an introduction.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Review of 2006 Hull Campus Habitat Action Plans (May 2009)

Appendix 2: Hull Campus Biodiversity Action Plan 2006

APPENDIX 1: Review of 2006 Hull Campus Habitat Action Plans (May 2009)

1. The Built Environment

Aims

It is important to establish the way in which bats are utilising the University's buildings. This will provide useful data enabling us to comply with current legislation.



| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Status (May 2009) | Cost |
|--|--|---------------|----------------|--|------|
| Establish the locations of any bat roosts on campus. | Instigate a bat monitoring scheme. | Campus EAG | Summer 2006 | ? | |
| Ensure that building work adheres to current guidelines for wildlife access, particularly bats and swifts. | Review existing practices, obtain copies of and act upon current guidelines. | Estates | 2006 | This is a consideration for the Facilities Directorate in new projects | |
| Ensure the conservation of wall ferns. | Identify and conserve existing wall fern sites. | RM/Estates | 2006 | Wall ferns on the Newland School wall are signed There are several smaller ferns here & elsewhere on the campus | |



2: Formal Plantings

Aims

There is some scope for increasing the wildlife value of these areas, particularly by careful selection of the species used and their maintenance regime.

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Status (May 2009) | Cost |
|--|--|----------------------------|---------|---|------|
| Review the species used in formal plantings to maximise the number of nectar, seed and fruitbearing and native species used. | Develop a planting strategy that will increase the number of nectar, seed and fruit-bearing and native species used in formal plantings. | Estates + campus EAG | 2006 | 5 year grounds development plan produced in 2006 which includes a variety of native/ornamental planting. | |
| Review the use of herbicides and pesticides to ensure that their use is kept to an absolute minimum. | Review existing practices with a view to reducing the use of herbicides and pesticides to an absolute minimum. | Estates + campus EAG | By 2007 | Second large chipper purchased in 2008 to produce more chippings for beds to reduce necessity for weed control. Legislation & the desire to reduce usage has meant looking into mechanical methods of weed removal. | |

3: Grassland: formal lawns & sports fields

Aims

The extensive areas of grassland provide the greatest opportunity for improving the biodiversity of the campus. There are many areas where a 2-3 metre margin of conservatively managed grassland could be left to grow, providing a valuable habitat for plants, insects, birds and small mammals.



| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Status (May 2009) | Cost |
|--|--|--|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| Monitor the use of formal lawns by Song Thrushes. | Establish the distribution and population levels of Song Thrushes on the Campus. | Campus EAG | 2006 | ? | |
| Monitor the use of formal lawns by Hedgehogs. | Establish the distribution and population levels of Hedgehogs on the Campus. | Campus EAG | 2006 | | |
| Establish conservation strips which will only be mown in the Autumn. | 400 m ² extra 400 m ² extra | Estates | 2006 2007 | established 'no- mow' conservation strips of 2000m ² on the western campus playing fields and 400m ² on the boundary with the Marist sports club | |
| Monitor the development of the conservation strips to establish the species present. | Instigate annual monitoring of the conservation strips. | Geography Department Students in module 16321: Living Landscapes | 2006 onward | Geography department student project | |
| Introduction of suitable local provenance native species, as plugs, to increase the diversity of these strips. | Plant 100 wild flower plugs per year. | Community involvement. (Friends of HBP) | 2007 2008 2009 | | £100 pa Grants available? |

Hull Campus BAP: 2009

4: Shrubberies and hedges

Aims

There are many areas of boundary hedge that could be given an enhanced wildlife value. A wide range of native species could be used to fill gaps in hedges and would provide a food-source for insects (e.g. Alder Buckthorn for Brimstone butterflies).

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Status (May 2009) | Cost |
|--|---|---------------|-----------------|--|------|
| Survey the plant species content of existing shrubberies and hedges. | Produce a report on the composition and state of the campus shrubberies and hedges. | Campus EAG | 2006 | State of hedges identified & action recommended in grounds development plan | |
| Identify any hedges shrubberies which may be of importance for nesting birds and sheltering mammals. | Produce a report based on the results of the above survey and further field observations. | Campus EAG | 2007 | | |
| Gap-up existing hedges with suitable native species. | Improve the quality of the existing campus hedges by gapping-up with suitable native species. | Estates | 2007 onwards | As part of the grounds development plan, these have been identified and re-planting has taken place. | |

5: Specimen trees and woodland

Aims

The abundant, but immature trees have few of the natural holes and crevices that are used for small songbirds as nesting sites or by bats for roosting. The limited availability of nesting sites on campus is restricting both the number and variety of breeding birds. Strategic positioning of suitable boxes will encourage more birds to breed on the site e.g. house sparrow



| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Status (May 2009) | Cost |
|---|--|---|------|--|------|
| Survey the trees on campus and build a database of location, species, condition, etc. | Complete a survey of the specimen trees on campus. Enter the results into a GIS. | Campus EAG. Geography Dept. | 2006 | Database built & held by Grounds Manager, all trees numbered & identified on an AutoCAD map of campus. All trees get inspected twice annually | |
| Affix bird nesting boxes, of appropriate design, to suitable trees. | Identify suitable trees and affix 20 nesting boxes. | Estates + Community involvement. (Friends of HBP, etc.) | 2007 | 2007/2008 Boxes erected in Taylor Court woodlands' by estates & in Botanic gardens woodlands by associates of Friends of Thwaite | £200 |
| Affix bat roosting boxes to suitable trees. | Identify suitable trees and affix bat 10 roosting boxes. | Estates + Community involvement. (Friends of HBP, etc.) | 2007 | 2007/2008 Boxes erected Botanic gardens woodlands by associates of Friends of Thwaite | £100 |
| Development of woodland area on Salmon grove | Planting native under- storey species e.g. English bluebell | Estates | | 2007/2008 Planted native ferns and bulbs to add to the existing flora. Consider further planting with native species e.g. English bluebell | |

APPENDIX 2: Hull Campus Biodiversity Action Plan 2006

Introduction

The University's main campus covers 52.7 hectares of land, to the north of Cottingham Road, Hull. It is composed of a densely built core with green margins and an extensive area of sports fields to the north and north-west (see figure 1).

The Hull Biodiversity Action Plan identified eight broad habitats which were of wildlife significance within Hull. Of these eight categories six are represented on the University's Hull campus.

| | Significant on Hull Campus |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Estuarine | NO |
| Fresh Water | NO |
| Gardens and Allotments | YES |
| Grassland | YES |
| Industrial Land | NO |
| Parks, Golf Courses & Cemeteries | YES |
| The Built Environment | YES |
| Trees, Scrub & Hedgerows | YES |

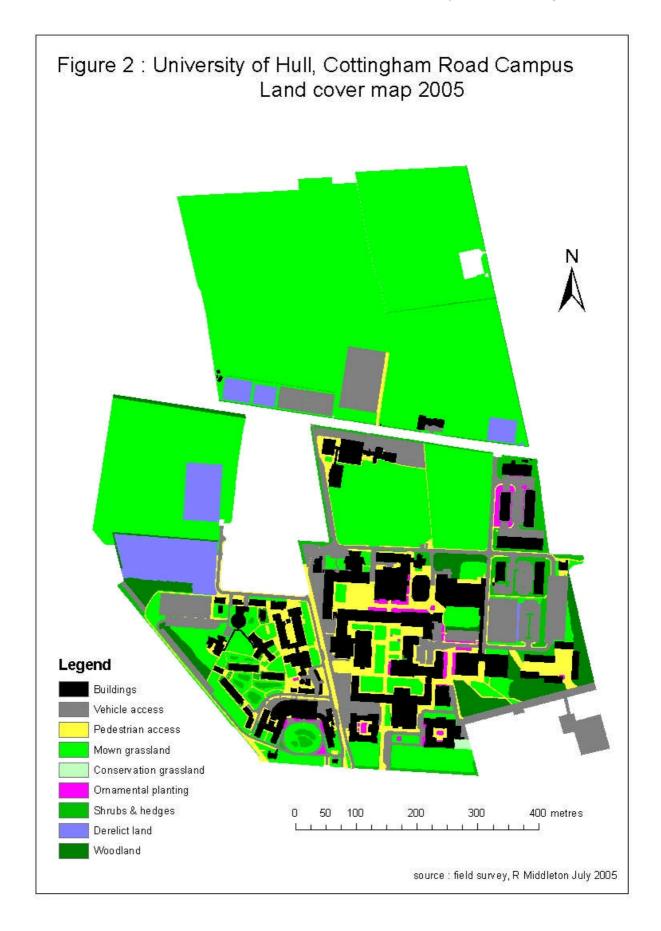
The Hull BAP also designated 25 species that were considered to be of conservation significance within Hull, either in their own right or as general indicators of the general health of the identified habitats. In most cases they were also been chosen as being readily identifiable, even by non-experts.

There has not yet been a systematic biodiversity audit of the campus but the following table indicates the status of each species or group of species based on our current knowledge.

| | Present on Hull Campus |
|--------------------|--|
| Bee Orchid | YES - front lawn of Western Campus |
| Brimstone | YES - regular passing adults |
| Common Blue | ? |
| Common Lizard | NO |
| Common Toad | NO |
| Cowslip | NO |
| Dragonflies | YES - feeding adults, no suitable breeding sites |
| Elm Trees | ? |
| Newt | NO |
| Harvest Mouse | NO |
| Hedgehog | YES - animals seen but status not known |
| House Martin | YES - feeding adults, breeding status not known |
| Lichens | YES - present but status unknown |
| Linnet | ? |
| Mute Swan | NO |
| Pipistrelle Bats | YES - present but campus roosts not identified |
| Reed Bunting | NO |
| Saltmarsh Snails | NO |
| Skylark | ? |
| Song Thrush | YES - infrequent but present, breeding likely |
| Spotted Flycatcher | YES - rare on campus but has bred in the past |
| Tree Sparrow | ? |
| Wall Ferns | YES - Hart's Tongue Fern present |
| Water Vole | NO |
| Yellow-wort | NO |

Shaded rows indicate species which are unlikely ever to be of significance on the Hull campus based on their environmental requirements.





How the Campus corresponds to the Hull BAP habitats

| Hull Campus habitats | Applicable Hull BAP Habitat Action Plans |
|---|--|
| University buildings and walk-ways | The Built Environment |
| Formal plantings | Gardens and Allotments |
| Formal lawns | Grassland |
| Sports fields | Grassland |
| Areas of grassland with scattered trees | Grassland; |
| · · | Parks, Golf Courses & Cemeteries |
| Shrubberies, hedges and minor woodland | Trees, Scrub & Hedgerows |
| Specimen trees | Trees, Scrub & Hedgerows |
| Derelict land | Industrial Land? |

Although the distinction between some of these categories is clear, there may be continuous gradation between grassland, parks and trees. For the purposes of this action plan it seems unnecessary to make a formal categorisation of all areas and accept that more than one habitat may be present in a particular place. Figure 2 shows the distribution of various habitats on the Hull Campus.

The areas of each cover type mapped are shown in the table below.

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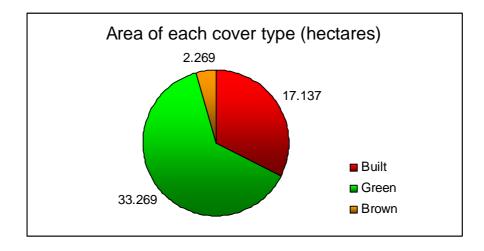
| Category | hectares |
|--------------------|----------|
| Buildings | 6.319 |
| Vehicle access | 7.248 |
| Pedestrian access | 3.569 |
| Managed grass | 29.563 |
| Conservation grass | 0.041 |
| Formal planting | 0.380 |
| Shrubs and hedges | 1.604 |
| Derelict | 2.269 |
| Woodland | 1.681 |

buildings, roads and pedestrian access, together constitute around one third of the campus area.

The Built environment, comprising

Significantly more than a half of the campus may be classed as having a permanent green cover of some type, the great majority of this being grass.

Derelict land, with a fine mosaic of built and unmanaged green cover, is classified as "brown field" and covers 6% of the campus.



How the Campus habitats could support the Hull BAP target species

| Hull Campus habitats | Applicable Hull BAP target species |
|---|--|
| University buildings and walk-ways | House Martin; Lichens; Pipistrelle Bats; |
| | Wall Ferns. |
| Formal plantings | Hedgehog; Song Thrush |
| Formal lawns | Bee Orchid; Hedgehog; Song Thrush |
| Sports fields | Common Blue; Cowslip; Hedgehog; |
| | Linnet; Skylark; Song Thrush |
| Areas of grassland with scattered trees | Song Thrush; Spotted Flycatcher |
| Shrubberies and hedges | Brimstone; Hedgehog; Linnet; |
| | Song Thrush |
| Minor woodland and specimen trees | Elm Trees; Lichens; Song Thrush; |
| | Spotted Flycatcher; |

The Built Environment

Preamble

One third of the Hull Campus is covered with buildings, footpaths or access roadways.

Current Status

Bats are regularly seen on the campus. Despite the fact that there will almost certainly be roosts in the University buildings (or University owned student houses in the vicinity), we have no data currently available to identify these sites. All bat species are protected under current wildlife legislation and there is a duty to avoid injury or disturbance to bats when building work or maintenance is carried out.

Wall ferns, particularly Hart's Tongue Fern (*Phyllitis scolopendrium*) are known to occur in a few sites on the campus.

Constraints

Some specialist knowledge is required to conduct bat surveys and, if roosts are identified, only licensed bat workers will be able to conduct a full survey of the building.

Aims

It is important to establish the way in which bats are utilising the University's buildings. This will provide useful data enabling us to comply with current legislation.

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Cost |
|--|--|---------------|----------------|------|
| Establish the locations of any bat roosts on campus. | Instigate a bat monitoring scheme. | Campus EAG | Summer 2006 | |
| Ensure that building work adheres to current guidelines for wildlife access, particularly bats and swifts. | Review existing practices, obtain copies of and act upon current guidelines. | Estates | 2006 | |
| Ensure the conservation of wall ferns. | Identify and conserve existing wall fern sites. | RM/Estates | 2006 | |

Formal Plantings

Preamble

The University manages a wide range of formally planted areas ranging from frequently changed annual beds, perennial borders to low-growing ornamental shrubberies.

Current Status

It is likely that the main value to wildlife of the formally planted areas is as a nectar source to insects and as shelter for insects, birds and small mammals in the larger, more permanent areas

Constraints

By their nature, the areas involved are usually prominent and seen by many people. It is important for the image of the University that they are maintained in a visually attractive and tidy manner.

Aims

There is some scope for increasing the wildlife value of these areas, particularly by careful selection of the species used and their maintenance regime.

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Cost |
|---|---|----------------------------|---------|------|
| Review the species used in formal plantings to maximise the number of nectar, seed and fruit-bearing and native species used. | Develop a planting strategy that will increase the number of nectar, seed and fruitbearing and native species used in formal plantings. | Estates + campus EAG | 2006 | |
| Review the use of herbicides and pesticides to ensure that their use is kept to an absolute minimum. | Review existing practices with a view to reducing the use of herbicides and pesticides to an absolute minimum. | Estates + campus EAG | By 2007 | |

Grassland: formal lawns & sports fields

Preamble

More than half of the campus is covered with managed grassland of one kind or another. The two sports fields adjoining Inglemire Lane contribute the largest proportion of this but there are many smaller patches scattered throughout the site.

Current Status

With the exception of one small patch adjoining the Cohen Building all of the Hull Campus grassland is closely mown. Even in this state it is providing an important feeding ground for nocturnal mammals and birds of the Thrush family. It is likely that the sports fields are used by roosting gulls in the winter months.

In 2004 an experimental patch of grassland was established in the lawn next to the Cohen Building. The Geography department is monitoring the development of this area and uses it as a teaching aid.

Constraints

In the main built-up area of the campus there is little scope for relaxing the mowing regime. The visible areas will need to be maintained in a close-cut and tidy manner. There are, however, several sites where conservation strips could be established without detriment to the visual impact of the site. These occur mainly along the boundaries of sports fields, particularly where they adjoin roads or other University-managed property. Where there is an existing hedge they would be even more valuable to wildlife.

Aims

The extensive areas of grassland provide the greatest opportunity for improving the biodiversity of the campus. There are many areas where a 2-3 metre margin of conservatively managed grassland could be left to grow, providing a valuable habitat for plants, insects, birds and small mammals.

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Cost |
|--|--|--|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Monitor the use of formal lawns by Song Thrushes. | Establish the distribution and population levels of Song Thrushes on the Campus. | Campus EAG | 2006 | |
| Monitor the use of formal lawns by Hedgehogs. | Establish the distribution and population levels of Hedgehogs on the Campus. | Campus EAG | 2006 | |
| Establish conservation strips which will only be mown in the Autumn. | 400 m ² extra 400 m ² extra | Estates | 2006 2007 | |
| Monitor the development of the conservation strips to establish the species present. | Instigate annual monitoring of the conservation strips. | Geography Department Students in module 16321: Living Landscapes | 2006 onward | |
| Introduction of suitable local provenance native species, as plugs, to increase the diversity of these strips. | Plant 100 wild flower plugs per year. | Community involvement. (Friends of HBP) | 2007 2008 2009 | £100 pa Grants available? |

Shrubberies and hedges

Preamble

There are several areas of shrubs on the campus and a wide range of hedges varying from recently planted, single species hedges to older boundary features with a wider range of species.

Current Status

In their present state the shrubberies and hedges provide cover for both small mammals and birds

Constraints

There is little scope for modification of many of the formal hedges, particularly on the built-up part of the campus, but their management could be scheduled to avoid disturbance to nesting birds.

Aims

There are many areas of boundary hedge that could be given an enhanced wildlife value. A wide range of native species could be used to fill gaps in hedges and would provide a food-source for insects (e.g. Alder Buckthorn for Brimstone butterflies).

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Cost |
|--|---|---------------|-----------------|------|
| Survey the plant species content of existing shrubberies and hedges. | Produce a report on the composition and state of the campus shrubberies and hedges. | Campus EAG | 2006 | |
| Identify any hedges shrubberies which may be of importance for nesting birds and sheltering mammals. | Produce a report based on the results of the above survey and further field observations. | Campus EAG | 2007 | |
| Gap-up existing hedges with suitable native species. | Improve the quality of the existing campus hedges by gapping-up with suitable native species. | Estates | 2007 onwards | ??? |

Specimen trees

Preamble

Both the East and West Campuses have many mature trees. There are also some small areas of woodland amounting in total to around 1.7 hectares.

Current Status

There is a great variety of specimen trees which are of interest in their own right. The areas of woodland are, in general, of lower diversity and in many cases immature offering little in the way of nesting sites to small birds.

Constraints

There seems to be little that would prevent a programme of nest box provision on campus. However it is recognised that felling in some areas will be inevitable as building work progresses.

Aims

The abundant, but immature trees have few of the natural holes and crevices that are used for small songbirds as nesting sites of by bats for roosting. The limited availability of nesting sites on campus is restricting both the number and variety of breeding birds. By strategic positioning of suitable boxes it may even be possible to encourage the Spotted Flycatcher to breed on the site once-more.

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Cost |
|---|--|---|------|------|
| Survey the trees on campus and build a database of location, species, condition, etc. | Complete a survey of the specimen trees on campus. Enter the results into a GIS. | Campus EAG. Geography Dept. | 2006 | |
| Affix bird nesting boxes, of appropriate design, to suitable trees. | Identify suitable trees and affix 20 nesting boxes. | Estates + Community involvement. (Friends of HBP, etc.) | 2007 | £200 |
| Affix bat roosting boxes to suitable trees. | Identify suitable trees and affix bat 10 roosting boxes. | Estates + Community involvement. (Friends of HBP, etc.) | 2007 | £100 |

Derelict land

Preamble

Over the last few years there have been enormous changes to the Hull Campus. Following the purchase of the Western Campus land there has been an extensive programme of building and alteration.

Current Status

Perversely it is some of the campus's neglected land that has the highest biodiversity. At a little over 1 hectare the largest single area of derelict land is that once occupied by **** School on the Western Campus. This site is presently overgrown and provides a wide variety of vegetation and a range of micro-habitats.

The remainder of the derelict land is largely composed of shale-surfaced sports areas. Although starting to become overgrown they are developing an interesting and unusual flora.

Constraints

Almost by definition, derelict land is transitory and it would be unreasonable to formulate long-term conservation plans for such sites.

Aims

Although the old school site will inevitably be developed, there may be scope for the incorporation of some existing wildlife features (trees, shrubs, etc) into future designs. It may be possible to translocate particularly significant species if the need arises.

Actions

| Action | Target | Agency | Date | Cost |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------|
| Survey the biodiversity of derelict areas on campus. | Produce a report on the biodiversity of the unused parts of the campus. | Hull Natural History Society | 2006 | |
| Identify any significant features which may be worthy of retention. | Produce a map identifying areas of unused land on campus which have significant wildlife value. | Campus EAG | 2007 | |
| Consider translocation of any significant species from land that is to be developed. | Examine the results of the 2006 survey and relocate any notable species which are in areas likely to be developed. | Campus EAG | 2007 onwards | |

References

Hull Biodiversity Partnership, 2002. *Hull Biodiversity Action Plan.* (available online at http://www.hull.ac.uk/HBAP)

Middleton, R. 2000. The plants of Hull: a Millennium atlas. Hull Natural History Society. (available online at http://hull.ac.uk/hullflora)