

Appendix 3 – Summary of Initial Ecological Assessments

Ecological Survey of Horsdean: SUMMARY

An ecological assessment was carried out at land at Horsdean, Brighton and Hove in February 2012. The assessment was carried out in order to determine whether any ecological constraints could affect proposals for a Gypsy and Traveller Site at the site. The main findings of the survey are as follows:

- The majority of the site is likely to be of low nature conservation value. Nevertheless the land is wholly within the South Downs National Park.
- A small length of defunct hedgerow exists to the north of the site. This could be accommodated within the site design. Alternatively mitigation could be undertaken to ensure conformity with legislation and local planning policy.
- Should this site be considered further for a Gypsy and Traveller Site, then site survey should be carried out to corroborate the findings of this report. Additional hedgerow planting, a dew pond and wild flower planting could be integrated into the design of any final scheme.

Ecological Survey of Land at Sweet Hill, Waterhall: SUMMARY

An ecological assessment was carried out at land at Sweet Hill, Waterhall, Brighton and Hove in February 2012. The assessment was carried out in order to determine whether any ecological constraints could affect proposals for a Gypsy and Traveller Site at the site. The main findings of the survey are as follows:

- The majority of the site is likely to be of low nature conservation value. Nevertheless the land is wholly within the South Downs National Park.
- Defunct hedgerow and hedgerow trees exist around the periphery of the site. These could be accommodated within the site design. Alternatively mitigation could be undertaken to ensure conformity with legislation and local planning policy.

- There is a Site of Nature Conservation Importance on adjacent land and the site boundary would need to be strengthened through additional planting to ensure the SNCI is not impacted by a Gypsy and Traveller Site nearby.
- Should this site be considered further for a Gypsy and Traveller Site, then site survey should be carried out to corroborate the findings of this report. Additional tree and hedgerow planting could be integrated into the design of any final scheme.

Ecological Survey of Hangleton Bottom: SUMMARY

An ecological assessment was carried out at Hangleton Bottom in Mile Oak, Brighton and Hove in June 2010. The assessment was carried out in order to determine whether any ecological constraints could affect proposals for a Gypsy and Traveller Site at the site. The main findings of the survey are as follows:

- The majority of the site is of low nature conservation value and could accommodate a Gypsy and Traveller Site without there being a significant impact on the nature conservation value of the area.
- Small areas of scrub, defunct hedgerow and ephemeral short perennial vegetation exist around the periphery of the site. These could be accommodated within the site design. Alternatively mitigation could be undertaken to ensure conformity with legislation and local planning policy.
- Sites of Nature Conservation Importance on adjacent land are unlikely to be significantly impacted by a Gypsy and Traveller Site nearby.
- Should this site be chosen for a Gypsy and Traveller Site, then nature conservation enhancement, in the form of species-rich grassland creation and hedgerow planting, should be integrated into the design.