

# **The Work of the Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre**

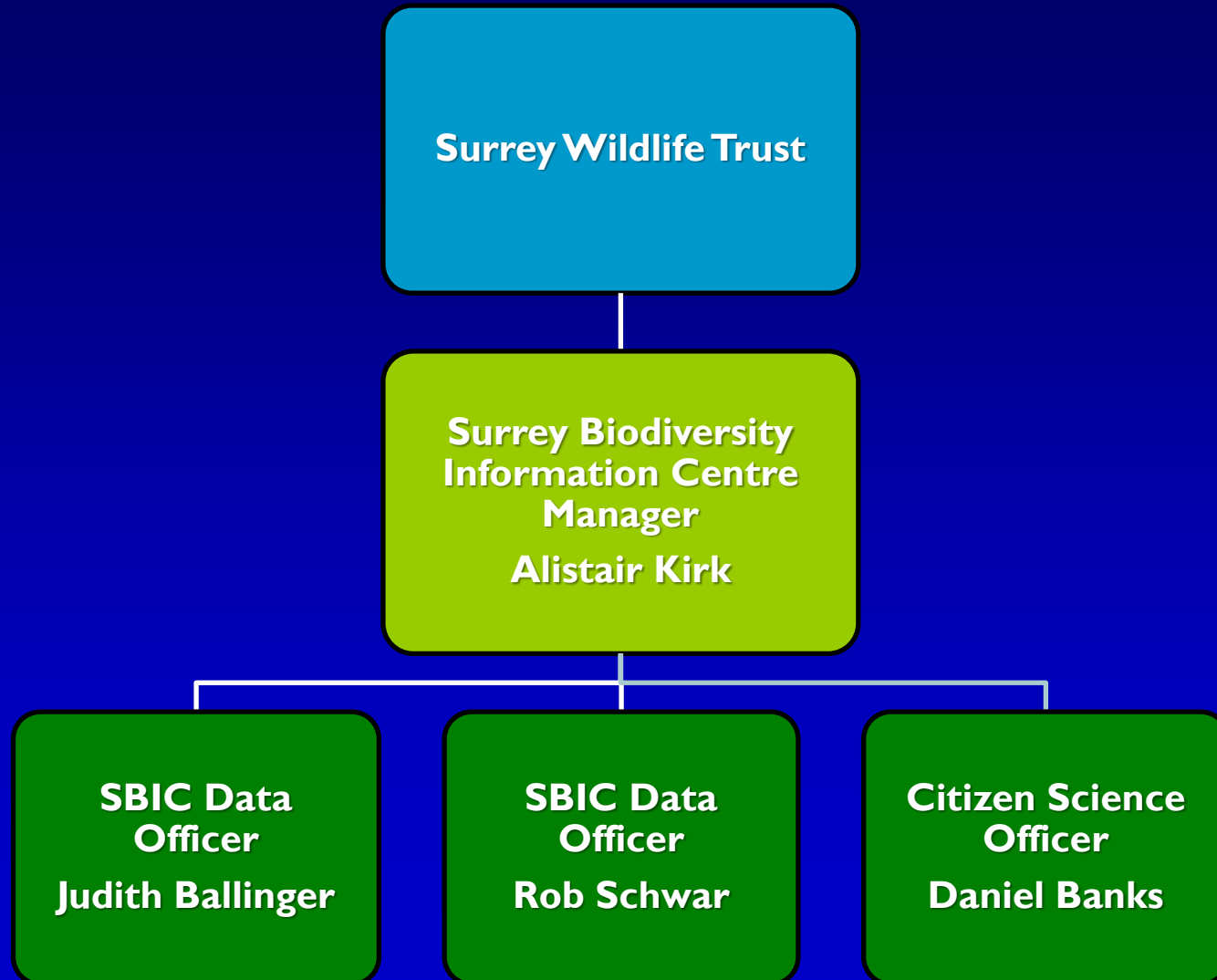
**Alistair Kirk  
Surrey Biodiversity Information  
Centre Manager**



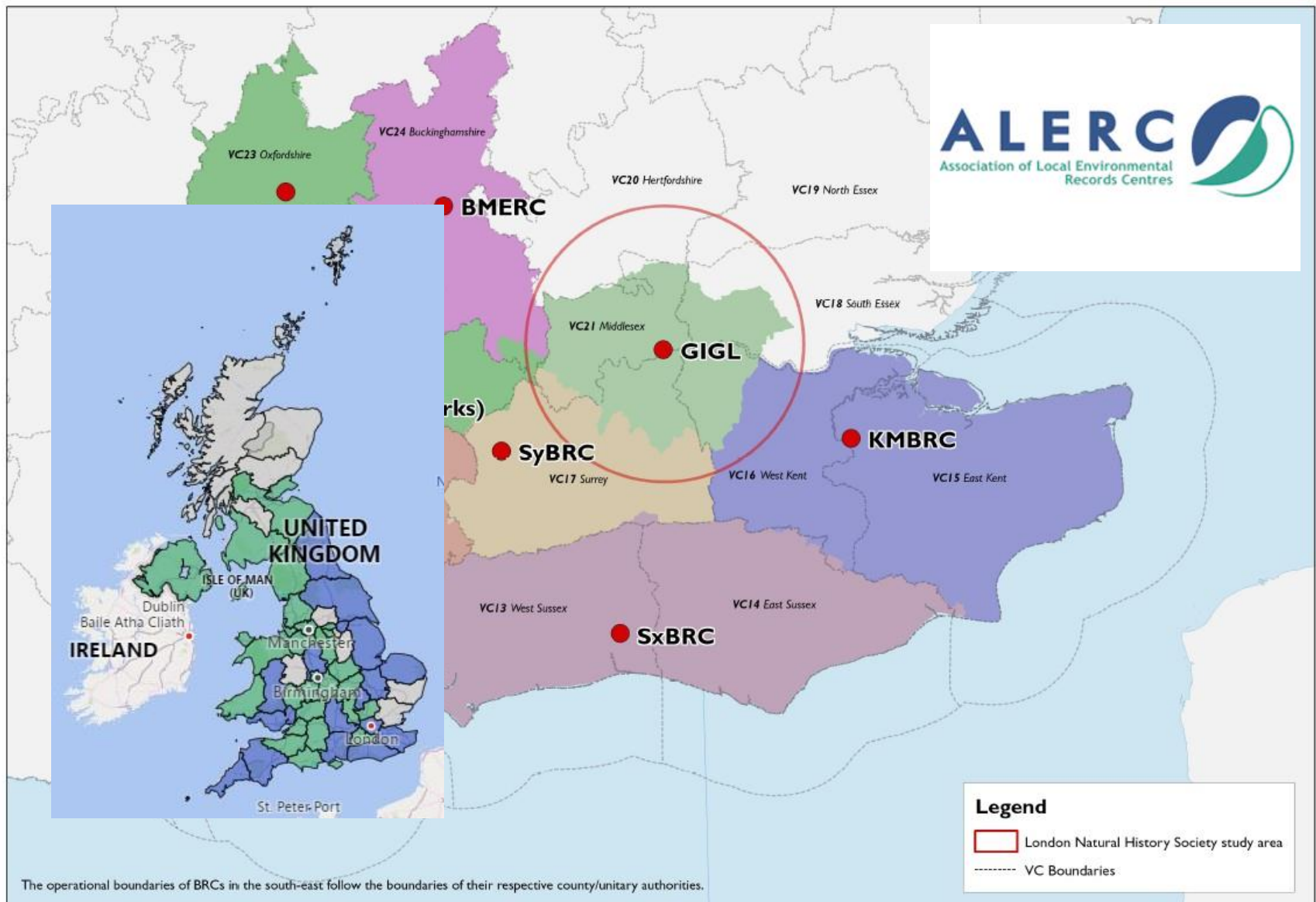
## **Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre**

- A focus for biodiversity information and recording in Surrey.
- Collects, manages and makes available information on Surrey's plants and animals, wildlife habitats, statutory and non-statutory wildlife sites and open spaces.
- Works with organisations and individuals that produce or use biodiversity data either through their work or leisure activities.

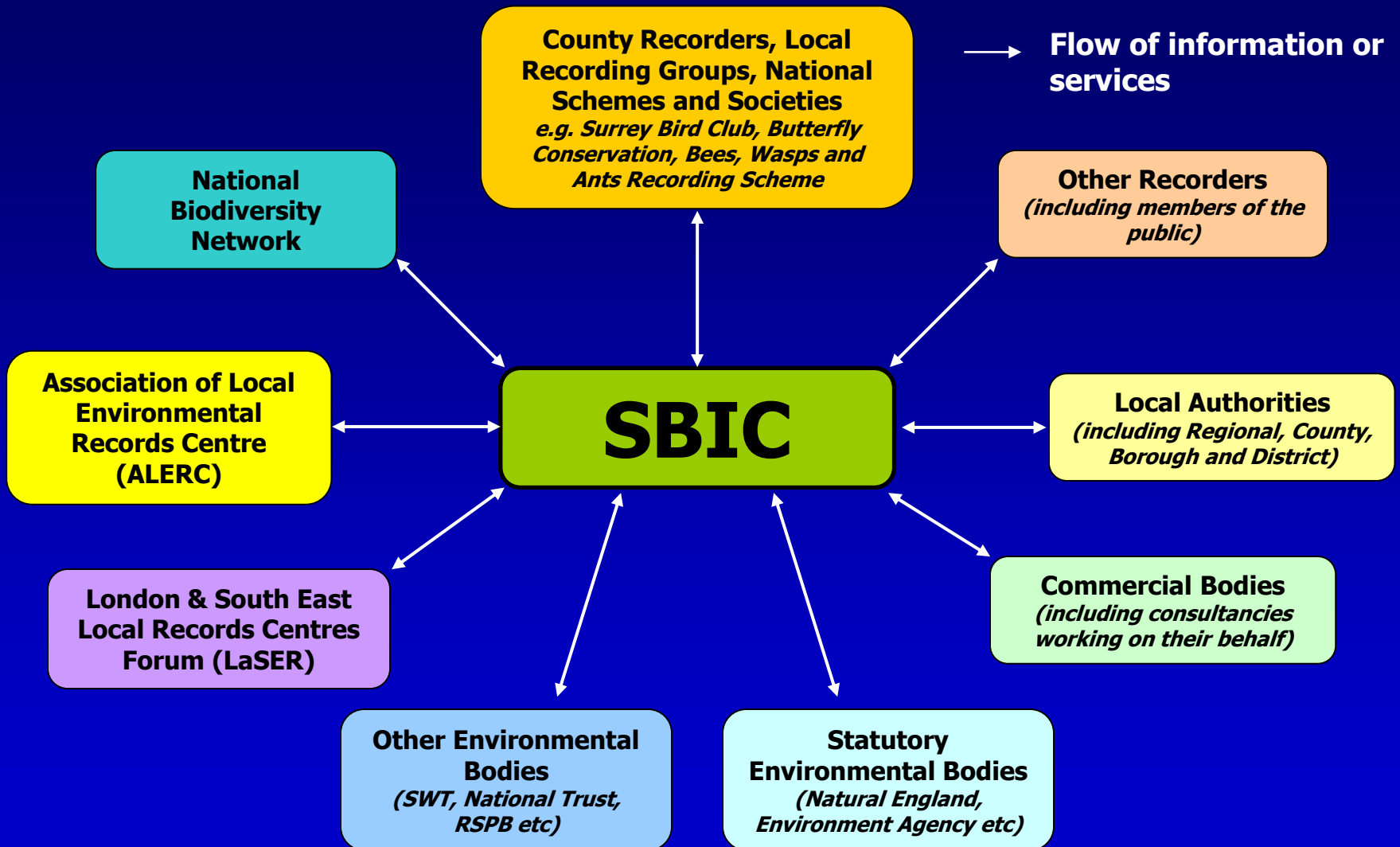
# Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre



# Part of a National Network



# Working in Partnership



**Informed decision making and a better understanding of the landscape of Surrey can only be achieved through access to relevant information on the distribution and abundance of species and habitats across the County**

# SBIC Partners

- **Core Partners**

- Surrey Wildlife Trust (Host Body): Rolling SLA
- Surrey County Council: Annual SLA
- Environment Agency: Five Year Agreement,

- **Other SLAs**

- Affinity Water / Thames Water: Annual Licence
- Network Rail: Joint SLA with all LERCs covering Southern Region

# Information In...

- **Sites**
  - Statutory e.g. SSSI
  - Non-Statutory e.g. LWS or SNCIs
  - And everywhere else...
- **Species**
  - Over 2.25 million records
  - Data sharing agreements with many of Surrey's specialist recording groups
- **Habitats**
  - Surrey Habitat Framework



# Information Out...

- **Automated Enquiry Service**
  - Online Ordering
  - Standard Report
  - Includes information on...
    - Protected Sites (Statutory & Non-statutory)
    - Protected Species
    - Rare/Notable Species (e.g “Red List”)
    - Priority Species
    - INNS Species
  - Commercial enquiries, chargeable
  - Members of public/Schools etc., no charge
- **Services for SLA Holders**

## Data Request Form

1 Declarations 2 Site Details 3 Data Requirements 4

### Declarations

Please read our [Terms and Conditions](#) and [Charging Policy](#) and agree to the:

Please note: Information submitted by this form, personal and/or business Centre and its host The Surrey Wildlife Trust with respect to invoicing.

Fields marked with \* are required.

#### Terms and Conditions \*

I have read and agree to the Terms and Conditions.

#### Charging Policy \*

I have read the Charging Policy and Rates and understand the charges.

#### Who are you \*

- Ecological Consultant/Developer
- Ecological Consultant/Developer working for SBIC funding Partner
- SBIC Funding Partner
- SBIC Partner (Charged)
- Government Agency (non-SBIC Partner)
- Non-Government Agency
- Landowner
- Parish Council/Town Council/Neighbourhood Plan Group
- Member of the public
- Local Recorder/Recording Group
- Community Group
- Student/Teacher
- Scientific Researcher
- Other (specify below)

Some options may have charges waived or be at a reduced rate subject to the terms and conditions.

#### Reason for request \*

- Planning application/development
- Land management (for conservation purposes)
- Land management (other)
- Education or research
- Utilities or infrastructure works
- Conservation/research relating to a single site (e.g. LWS or nature reserve)
- Neighbourhood plan
- Other (specify below)

Select the most appropriate reason for the data request.

Next

Data Searches \_ □ ×

<b>Ref No</b> SBIC/19/001	Date Received 19/02/2021	Status <b>In progress</b>	<b>Time and Charges</b>
<b>Req No</b> 758	Quote Required? <input type="checkbox"/>	Fast Track Standard (10 days)	Estimated Charge (£) £0.00
<b>Request Type</b> Partner	Date Quote Sent	Quote Returned	Final Charge (£) £0.00
	Date Due 19/02/2021	Date Complete	Charged at Partner Rate? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Data Supply Expires 19/02/2022	Invoice Raised	Estimated Time (hrs)
		Invoice No.	Final Time (hrs)

Enquiry Details | Contact Details | Invoice Details | Information | Notes

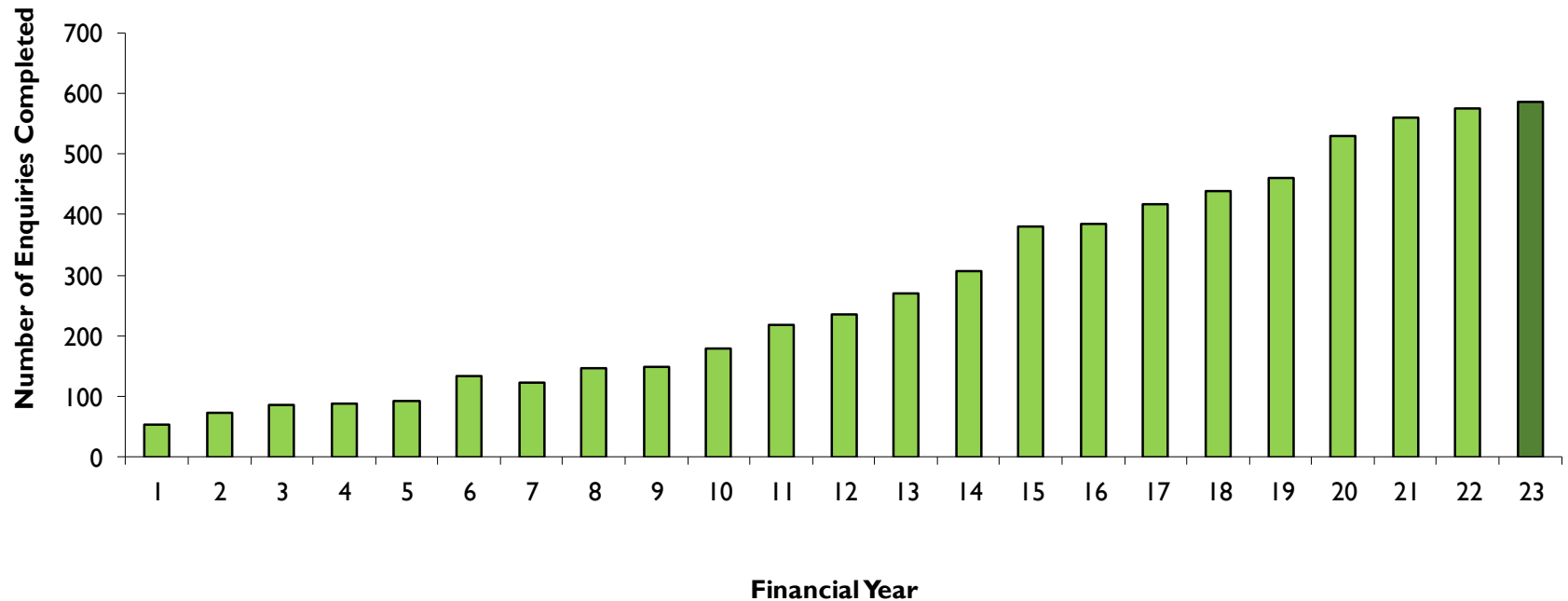
<b>Search Details</b>	<b>Partner(s)</b>
Customer Type SBIC Funding Partner	▶ Surrey Wildlife Trust
Reason Other	* [ ]
Other ... Demonstration	
Site Name Surrey Wildlife Trust HQ, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU	<b>District(s) / Borough(s)</b>
Site Grid Ref SU943563	▶ Guildford Borough Council
Search Type Search around central point	▶ Woking Borough Council
Their Ref	* [ ]
Supply species as Excel? <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SBIC Staff</b>
Attachments? <input type="checkbox"/>	▶ Alistair Kirk
	▶ Kat Laing
	* [ ]

First | Previous | Next | Last | Database Version : 1.15 | Last Updated : 23/10/2020 | Delete | New | Copy | Save | Import Requests

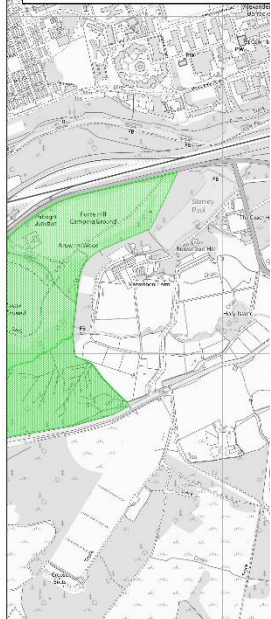
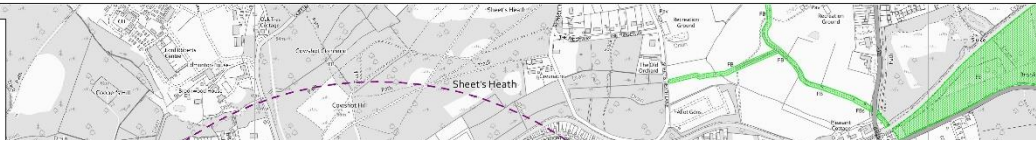
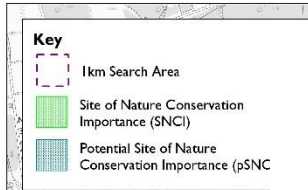
Make Sub-Folder

Create Search Report

# SBIC Enquiry Service – Year on Year Figures



# Enquiry Service - Standard Report



Please note, the Key shown above is standardised at

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February 2021

## Notable / Rare Species

SBIC currently holds information on the following species recorded from sites whose spatial reference falls within the search area covered by this report which are thought to be rare or notable at either a national or a regional level.

The following table lists species by each one kilometre square of the search area sorted by date, sample spatial reference and taxonomic order. Information on the national status of each species is taken from the Recorder 6 species database. In each case, the known distribution of all populations (both native and non-native) as shown in the relevant County atlas is also shown where available. For more information please see the Annexes of Supporting Information.

1km Square	Sample Spatial Reference	Common Name	Taxon Name	National Species Status	Surrey Status	No. of Records	Latest Sample Date	Source of Record
SU9355	SU9355	Wild Strawberry	<i>Fragaria vesca</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 764	1	10/10/2014	BSBI VC17
	SU9355	Heather	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 347	1	10/10/2014	BSBI VC17
	SU9355	Bell Heather	<i>Erica cinerea</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 226	1	10/10/2014	BSBI VC17
	SU9355	Cross-leaved Heath	<i>Erica tetralix</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 131	1	10/10/2014	BSBI VC17
	SU9355	Common Valerian	<i>Valeriana officinalis</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 149	1	10/10/2014	BSBI VC17
SU9356	SU9356	Frogbit	<i>Hydrocharis marsus-ranae</i>	RedList GB Post2001 VU, RedList Eng post2001 VU	VC17 Rare, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 4	1	1990	BSBI VC17
	SU936568	Red Pondweed	<i>Potamogeton alpinus</i>	RedList Eng post2001 VU	VC17 Rare, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 2	1	09/12/1999	BSBI VC17
	SU933566	Common Cottongrass	<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	RedList Eng post2001 VU	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 54	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU9356	Needle Spike-rush	<i>Eleocharis acicularis</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Rare, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 4	1	1990	BSBI VC17
	SU937567	Needle Spike-rush	<i>Eleocharis acicularis</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Rare, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 4	1	09/04/1995	BSBI VC17
	SU933566	Star Sedge	<i>Carex echinata</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Local & Declining, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 37	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU933566	Lesser Spearwort	<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	RedList Eng post2001 VU	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 268	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU936568	Tormentil	<i>Potentilla erecta</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 408	1	09/06/2003	BSBI VC17
	SU933566	Bog-myrtle	<i>Myrica gale</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 17	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU937561	Heather	<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 347	1	08/08/1994	SNCI Survey
	SU933566	Cross-leaved Heath	<i>Erica tetralix</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Not Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 131	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU933566	Common Wintergreen	<i>Pyrola minor</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 18	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU933566	Round-leaved Sundew	<i>Drasera rotundifolia</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Local & Declining, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 47	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records
	SU933566	Marsh St John's-wort	<i>Hypericum elodes</i>	RedList Eng post2001 NT	VC17 Scarce, SRPR Post 2000 1 kilometre squares; 20	1	23/07/1996	SBIC - Other Records

For the purposes of biological recording the modern administrative county of Surrey is covered by two smaller units, the Watsonian Vice-Counties of Surrey (VC 17) and Middlesex (VC 21). The vice-county was first proposed by H.C. Watson in 1852 as a standard unit for botanical recording in Britain and it is still in this way by many of Surrey's specialist societies. Based on traditional county boundaries it enables comparisons to be made between past, present and future surveys without the influence of politically based administrative changes. The general terms, the main difference between modern Surrey and the Watsonian county concerns Spelthorne borough which was only transferred from Middlesex to Surrey in 1965.

## Summary of Results

A background ecological data search for the Surrey Wildlife Trust HQ, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN.

The following datasets were searched:

Statutory Designated sites  
Non-Statutory Designated sites  
Protected, notable, priority and biodiversity opportunity areas

### Summary of results:

#### Sites

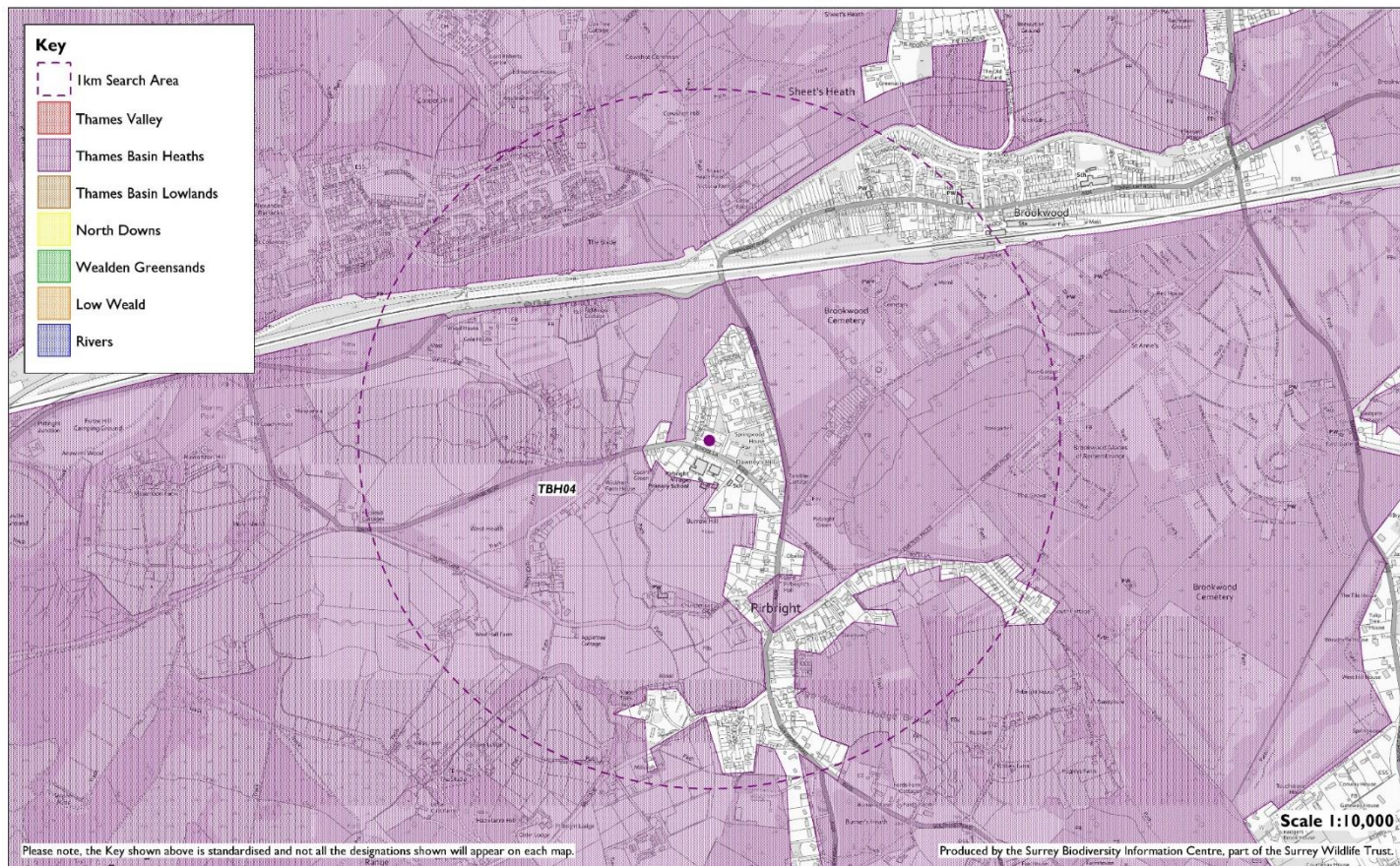
Statutory Designated Sites  
Non-statutory Designated Sites  
Ancient Woodland  
Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

#### Protected and designated species records

Protected species records (1km)  
Protected species records (Tetra)  
Notable species records (1km)  
Notable species records (Tetra)  
Priority species records (1km)  
Priority species records (Tetra)  
Invasive non-natives species (1km)  
Invasive non-natives species (Tetra)

The report is compiled using data from the request. SBIC does not hold, a lack of records for a species does not occur there – it may be present but not recorded.

**This summary is a preview of the full report. For the full report and maps, please contact the background ecological data search team.**



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February 2021

**Background Ecological Data Search;**  
Surrey Wildlife Trust HQ, School Lane,  
Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0JN  
Biodiversity Opportunity Areas

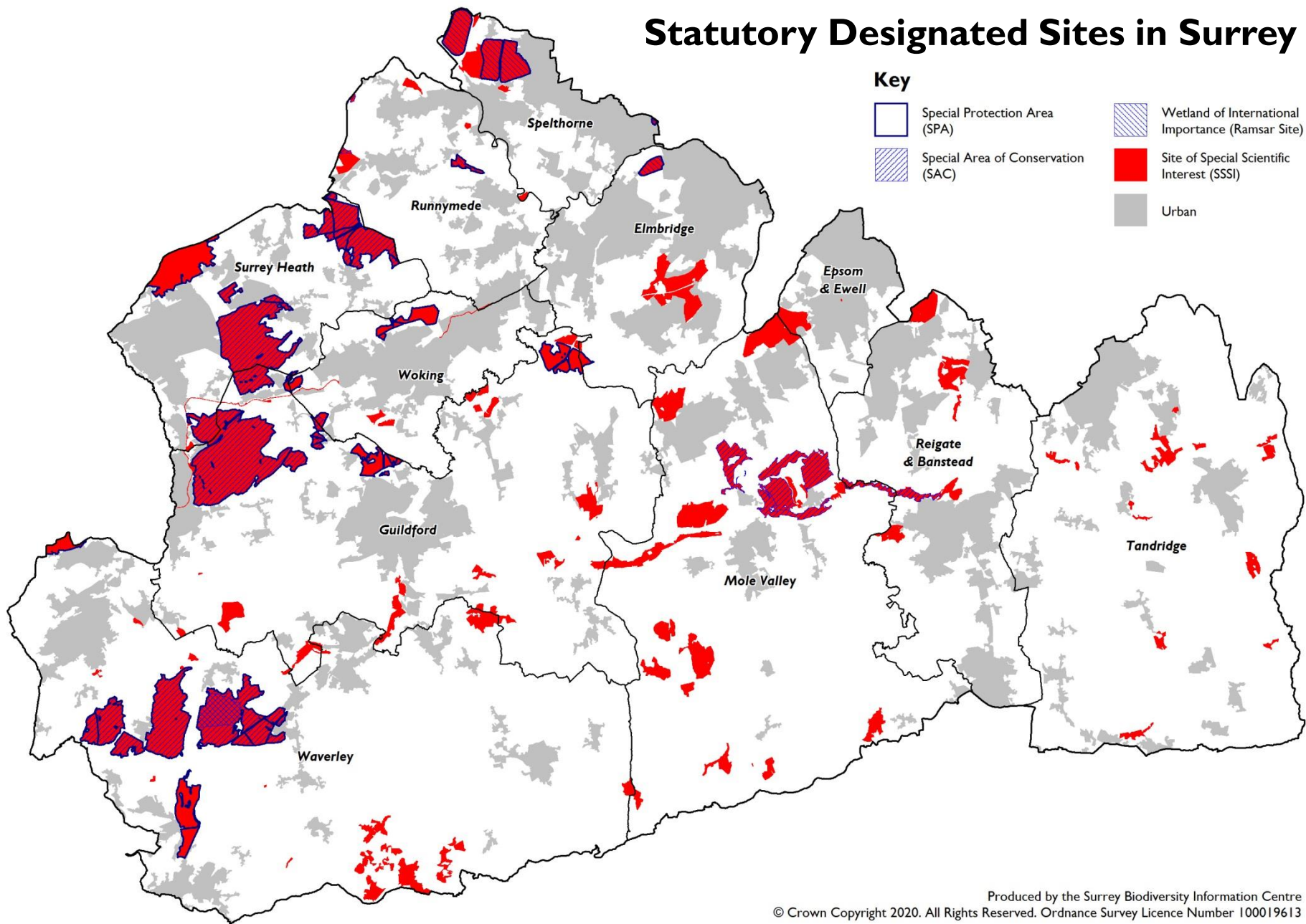


SBIC/19

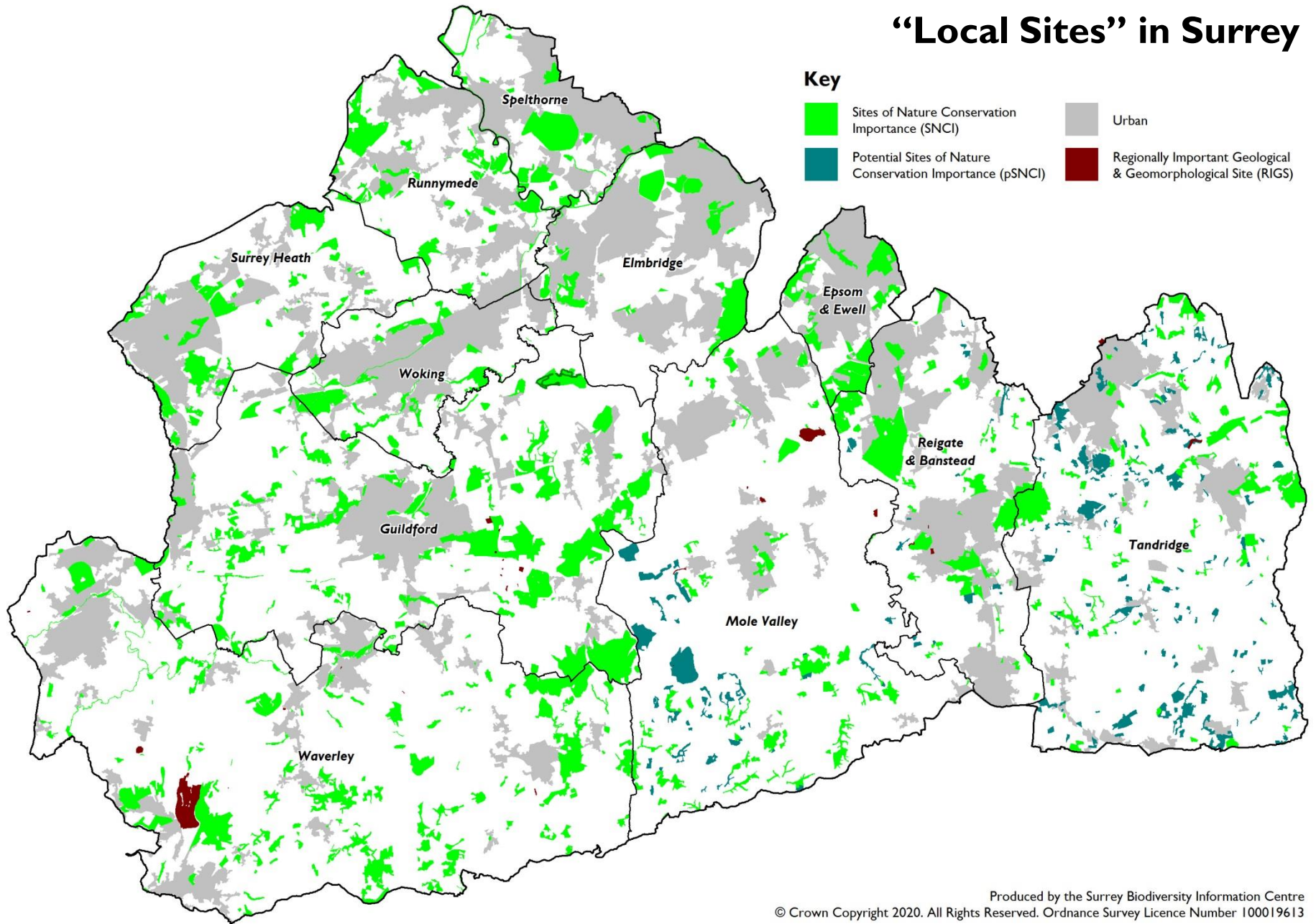
Surrey Biodiversity Information Centre, 19/02/2021



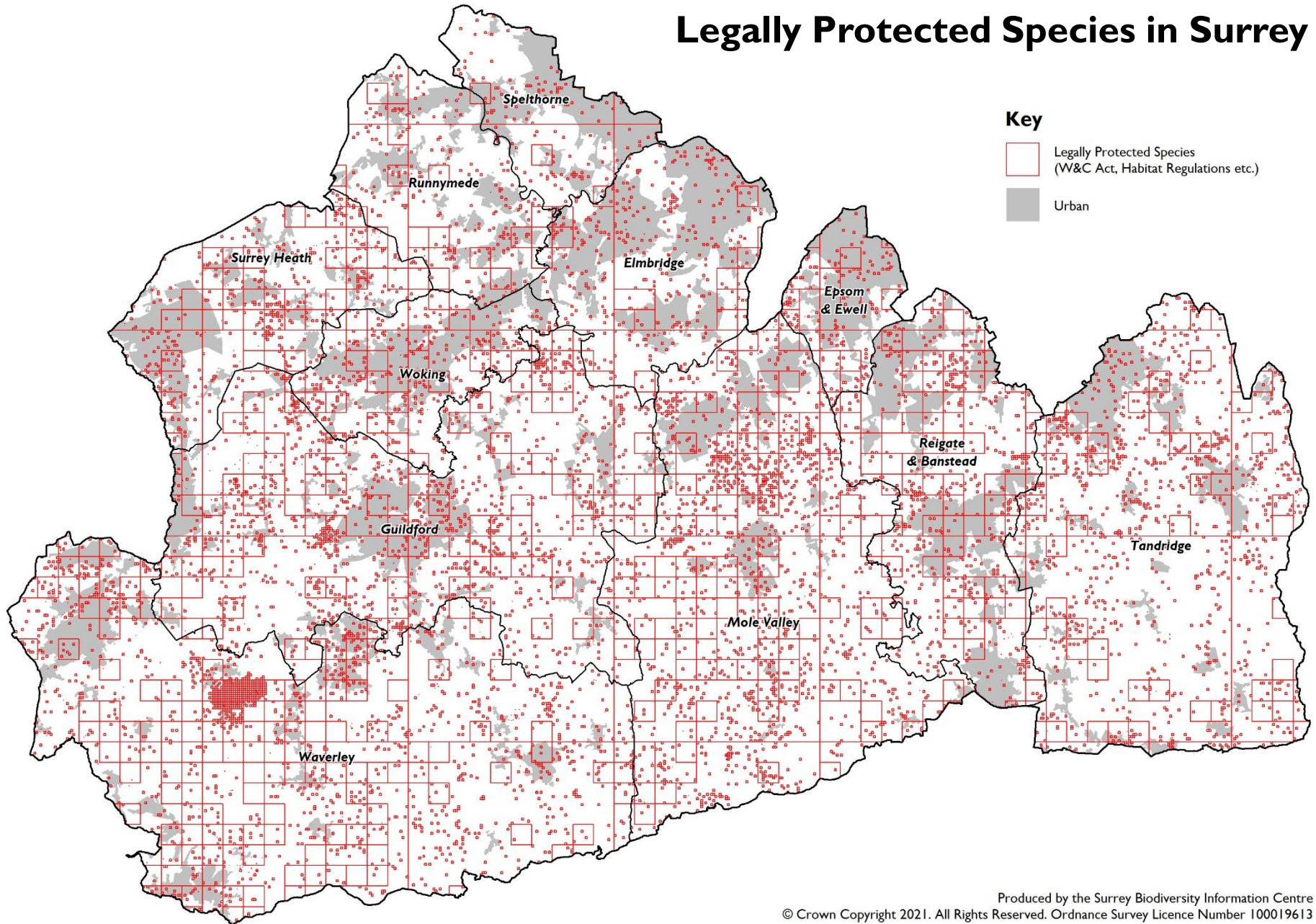
# Statutory Designated Sites in Surrey



# “Local Sites” in Surrey

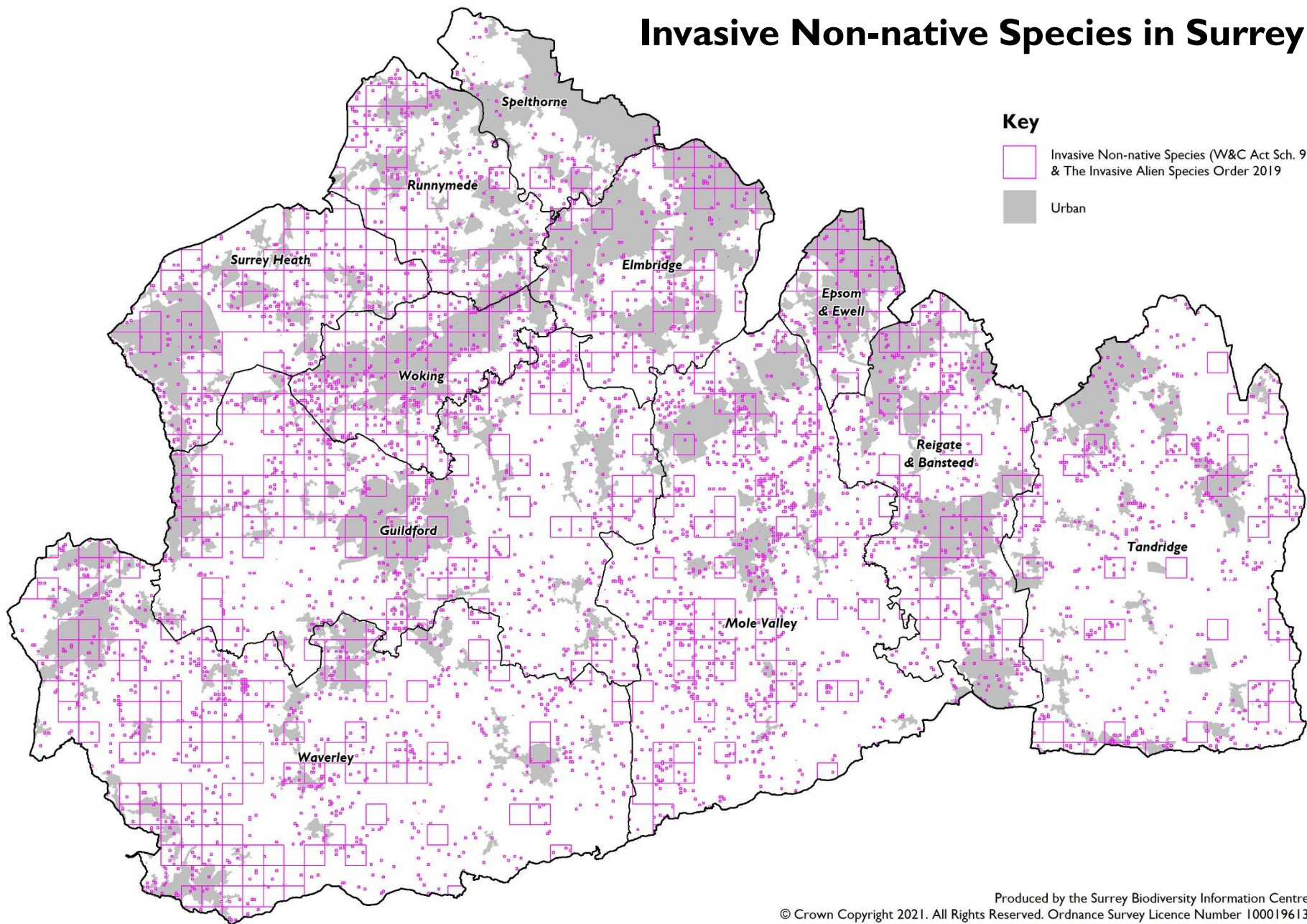


# Legally Protected Species in Surrey





# Invasive Non-native Species in Surrey





**However...**

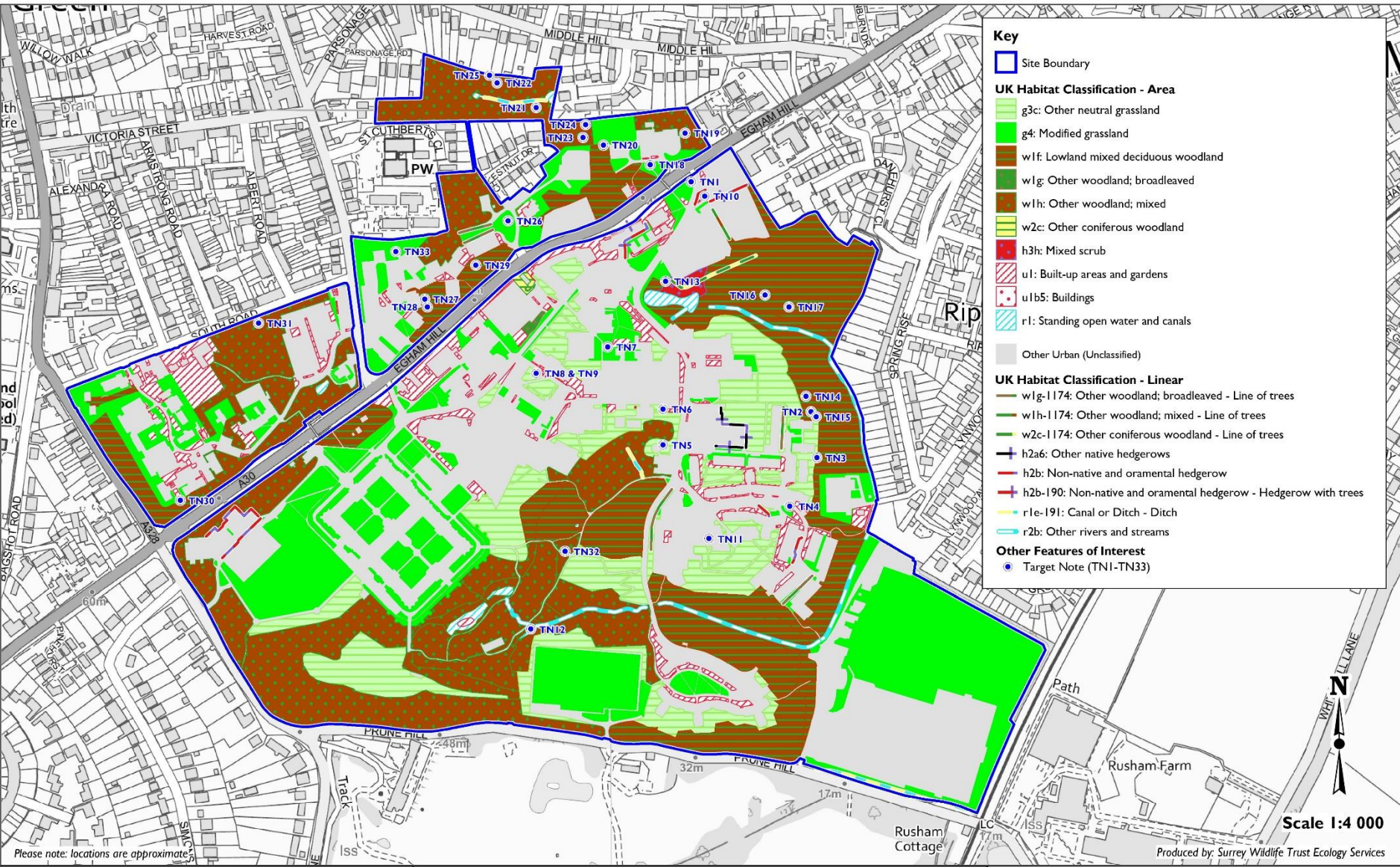
**We also make it clear to enquirers that the information contained in the report is not infallible so that enquirers should take any additional steps as appropriate.**

# Working with Surrey's Recording Community

- Annual Recorders' Meeting
- Recorders' Field Meetings & "BioBlitz" Events
- Surrey Wildlife Atlas Series

# Working with SWT Ecology Services

- Provide mapping support including;
  - Preliminary Ecological Assessment (PEA – inc. habitat mapping using UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) system)
  - Protected Species Surveys / Licencing
  - Ecological Constraints and Opportunities (ECOP)
  - Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Assessment
  - Other Projects;
    - Hastings G&BI Study,
    - Ashdown Forest Habitat Management Plan Review



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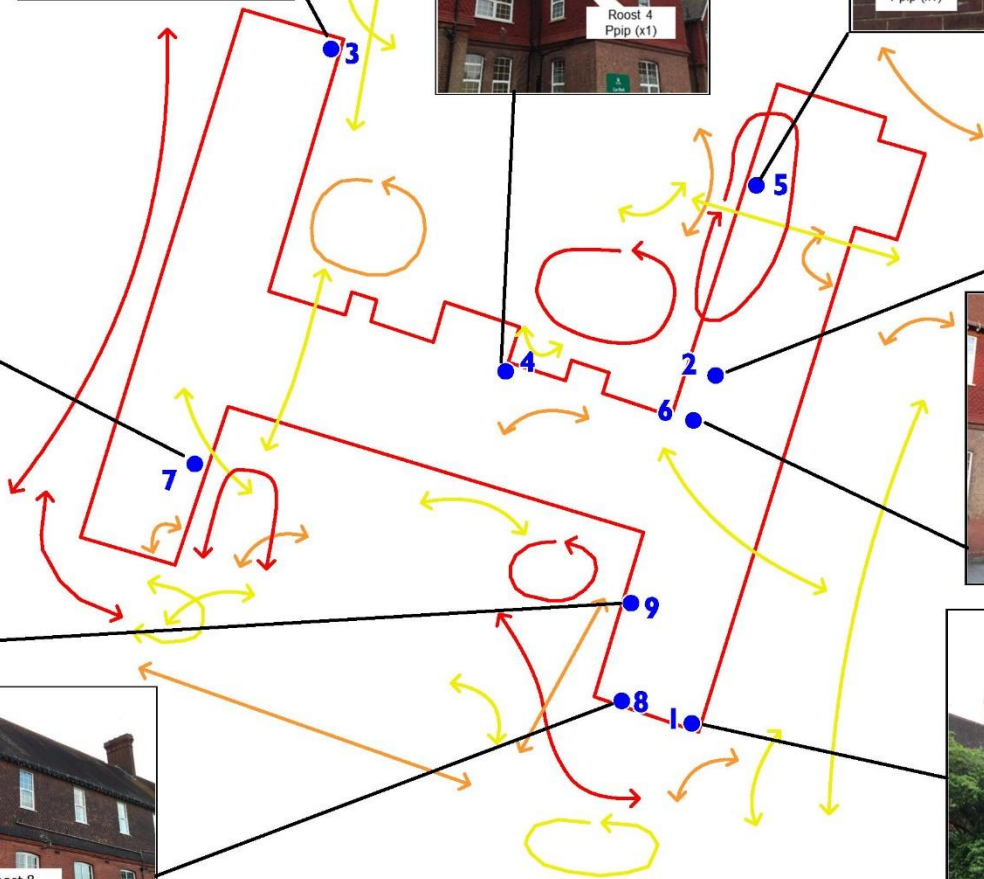
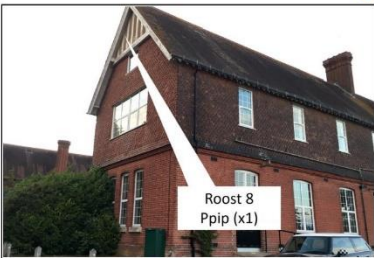
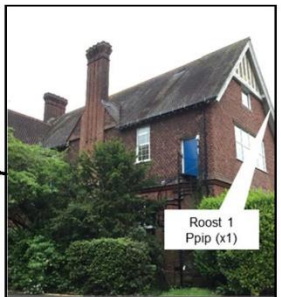
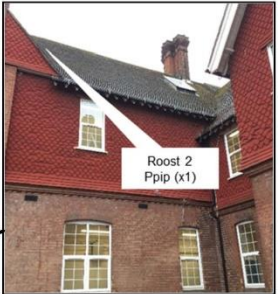
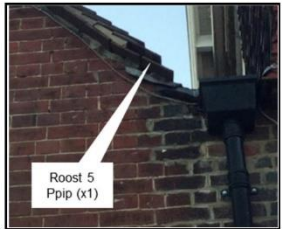
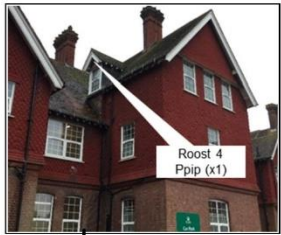
**Figure 1: Royal Holloway, University of London,  
 Egham, Surrey TW20 0EX  
 Habitat Baseline Plan - Overview**



**Surrey Wildlife Trust  
 Ecology Services**

**Key**

- Survey Area
- Bat Roosts (1-9)
- ↔ Low No. of Flight Paths (1-2)
- ↔ Moderate No. of Flight Paths (3-5)



Please note: locations are approximate



Scale 1:500

Produced by: SWT Ecology Services

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4010-1, April 2021

**Figure C6**  
**Mayford Business Centre Bat Licence**  
**Survey Results**



# The Future...

- More of the same!
- Complete ALERC Accreditation Process
- Continued development of Enquiry Service / plus new services for partners
- Continued focus on data / building closer links with Surrey's Recording Community
- Recorders' Field Meeting Program
- Atlas Series
- New Challenges (e.g. BNG, DLL, LNRS)

# SNCI Selection Criteria Review

## CRITERIA FOR SNCI SELECTION IN SURREY

PRODUCED BY THE  
SURREY NATURE CONSERVATION  
LIAISON GROUP

JULY 1997

[www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk)

### Local Sites

Guidance on their Identification,  
Selection and Management



## Guidance for the Selection of Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCIs) in Surrey



May 2008

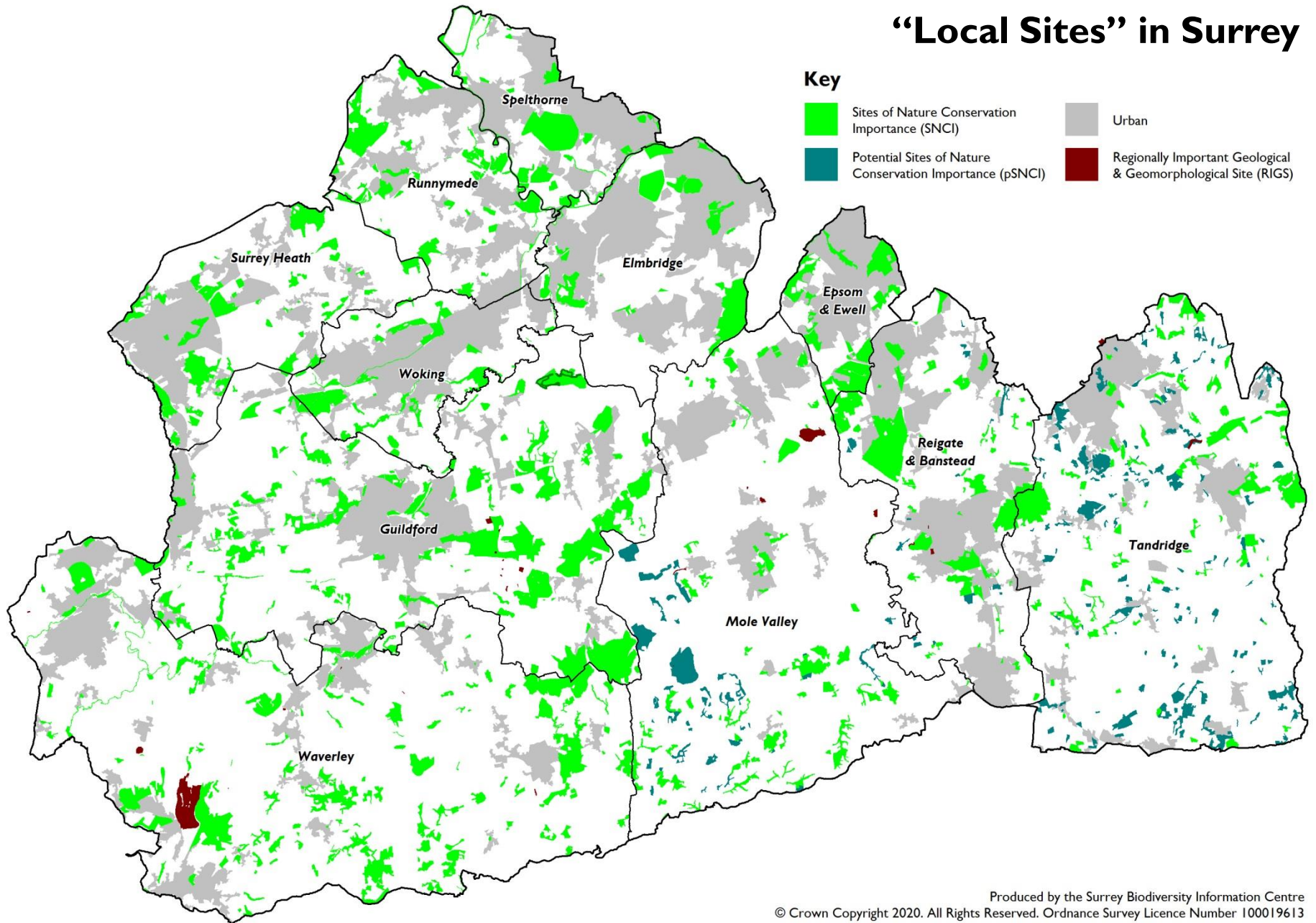
Edited by Claire Gibbs MSc, BSc, MIEEM



Surrey Wildlife Trust, School Lane, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey GU24 0JN



# “Local Sites” in Surrey



# Background

- Non-statutory (i.e. no legal protection),
- Protection only through the planning system,
- Many equal in quality to statutory Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI),
- More than 40,000 Local Sites in England,
- Criteria for selection derived locally with reference to national site selection framework (DEFRA 2006),
- Aim to be Inclusive and comprehensive rather than representative (e.g. SSSIs).

# SNCLs in Surrey

- Origin in 1975 Surrey Structure Plan
  - Areas of High Ecological Quality (AHEQ),
- Original surveys from mid-1990s onwards, managed by SWT in partnership with SCC and relevant LA,
- Identification and selection overseen by Surrey Nature Conservation Liaison Group (SNCLG),
- Renamed Surrey Local Sites Partnership (SLSP) in 2010,

# SNClS in Surrey

<b>Borough/District</b>	<b>No. of SNClS</b>	<b>No. of pSNCl</b>	<b>Last Major Review</b>
Elmbridge	22		2005
Epsom & Ewell	13		2013
Guildford	162		Ongoing
Mole Valley	80	48	1995 (Desktop 2021)
Reigate & Banstead	53	18	2016
Runnymede	35		2003
Spelthorne	30		2014
Surrey Heath	55		2013
Tandridge	97	164	1998 (pSNCl 2018)
Waverley	184		1998
Woking	44		2010
<b>Total</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>227</b>	

# SNClS in Surrey

- SNClS: 15,326 ha or 9.2% of Surrey,
- pSNClS: 1,735 ha or 1.0% of Surrey,
- By comparison...
- Surrey's SSSIs cover 12,311 ha or 7.4% of Surrey,
- Hampshire: 4000+,
- East Sussex: 340, West Sussex: 358,
- Kent: 454,
- Greater London: 1,600+ (three tier system).

# SNCI Selection Criteria

- Current version published in 2008 by Surrey Wildlife Trust,
- Based on DEFRA guidance with support of Surrey's specialist recording groups,
- Three parts;
  - General Guidelines (Ratcliffe Criteria),
  - Habitat Guidelines,
  - Species Guidelines,

# SNCI Selection Criteria Review

- Revision & update long overdue,
- Needed to account for changes to legislation & conservation policies / priorities since 2008,
- Changes in species status both locally and nationally,
- Claire Gibbs (SWT Ecology Services) funded by SCC, SWT & SBIC,
- Issues considered included...
  - UK Habitat Classification,
  - Irreplaceable Habitats Guidance for Surrey,
  - Grassland Inventory,
  - Ancient Woodland Inventory,
  - Rivers.

# SNCI Selection Criteria Review

- SWT ES review included;
  - Latest knowledge of the species group nationally and in Surrey
  - Updated SSSI Selection Guidance.
  - Wider Best Practice (e.g. other county's LWS selection criteria e.g. Hampshire / Devon)
- Species expert groups examined existing criteria and advised on applicability and/or measurability,
- Also advised on proposed changes,
- Draft Criteria passed to SLSP & SNP for formal signoff & adoption



## 17 Birds

Sites which meet the following criteria should be considered for selection;

- S32 Any site that holds 5% or more of the total Surrey breeding population and/or wintering population and/or migratory waterbird (includes wildfowl and waders) population of a single species.**
- S33 Any site that holds 1% or more of the total Surrey breeding population of any UK Rare Breeding Bird species, as defined by the UK Rare Breeding Bird Panel.**
- S34 Any site that supports species on the conservation concern list for Surrey categories 1-4 (devised by Surrey Bird Club, see table 7 – the species must be either breeding or wintering as specified in the table).**
- S35 Any site which supports a breeding bird assemblage or wintering waterbird assemblage of county importance as indicated by table 10.**

### Justification

- 17.1.1 Sites supporting more than 10% of the Surrey population are important for the maintenance of the total county population.
- 17.1.2 The list of species of conservation concern within Surrey has been devised by Surrey Bird Club using the criteria shown in table 9.
- 17.1.3 Criteria S32 is intended to identify important assemblages of different bird species, characteristic of particular habitats, which are significant in a County context. Table 10 has been adapted, by Surrey Bird Club, from the guidelines regarding the selection of SSSIs (Drewitt, Whitehead, & Cohen, 2023), to identify sites that are likely to be of county importance within Surrey. The species points have been adjusted from the SSSI guidelines so that one point has been added for a species with a Surrey breeding population of 10 or less pairs. Half a point has been added for species with a Surrey breeding population of 11-20 pairs. The score for sites indicative of high quality habitat has been taken from the site threshold values in the SSSI guidelines and divided by 2 to indicate sites likely to be of county importance. The SSSI guidelines do not include a scoring system for winter waterbird communities. The scoring system for this community has been retained from the previous SNCI criteria for Surrey (Surrey Wildlife Trust, 2008).

### Application

- 17.1.4 Bird data can be complex and require expert interpretation therefore sites should be considered on a case by case basis following advice from local experts such as Surrey Bird Club.
- 17.1.5 When considering criteria S29 & S30, evidence should be based on the last 5 years of published bird data (i.e. the last 5 Surrey Bird reports published) and sites should be judged on the average population over 5 years if known. If

# Thanks To...

- Surrey Wildlife Trust,
- Surrey County Council,
- Environment Agency,
- South East Rivers Trust,
- Surrey Botanical Society (SBS)
- Surrey Dormouse Group,
- Surrey Bat Group,
- Surrey Amphibian and Reptile Group (SARG),
- Surrey Bird Club,
- Butterfly Conservation (SW London and Surrey Branch),
- Surrey Moth Group,
- British Dragonfly Society (BDS),
- Surrey Fungus Study Group,
- Invertebrate ecologists: Jonty Denton, Scotty Dodd,
- Lichen ecologist: Professor David Hawkswood.