



Hampshire Biodiversity
Information Centre

Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre

Annual Progress Report for 2025-2026



HBIC presence at Mill Field LNR Bioblitz, Basingstoke

Sharing information about Hampshire's wildlife

The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre Partnership includes local authorities, government agencies, wildlife charities and species recording groups.

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1. Key Activities

A full programme of work has been achieved and delivered, as summarised below. HBIC delivered services to **24** funding partners set through Service Level Agreements & Data Supply Agreements. This included field survey and/or provision of GIS datasets

- Reported to the HBIC Users Advisory Group on the 20 May 2025 (in person) and 25 November 2025 (on-line), and to the Steering Group on the 24 September 2025 (on-line) and 12 March 2026 (on-line).
- The Annual HBIC Recorders Forum was held on the 7 March 2026 in person at Littleton Village Hall. **90** local recorders were booked in from **43** organisations.
- Carried out a Habitat Survey Programme (NVC/UKHab) of **226** sites (up from 203 last year) which included a review of **91** Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, down from 120 SINC last year.
- Held a SINC panel meeting in February 2025 with **27** new SINC approved (up from 11 new SINC last year), **15** deleted SINC (up from 8 deleted SINC last year), and **49** amended SINC (up from 43 amended SINC last year), resulting in a **total gain of 81.7 ha in SINC coverage** (against a total gain of only 9.75 ha last year).
- Another SINC panel was held in December 2025 resulting in a further **9** new SINC, **19** amended SINC and **5** deleted SINC (an additional 4 proposed for deletion were rejected)
- Surveyed **21** RVEIs and other verges resulting in **8** being deleted, **7** amended and **1** new one. Total now stands at **218** RVEIs
- Imported **just over 1 million** new species records from the species recording groups and HBIC's own survey programme. The Recorder and MapMate databases now hold **12,361,675 species** records, **up 9%** on the previous year.
- Continued to support Living Record as an efficient user-friendly on-line data capture tool for many recording groups/local community groups with **34,579** new records entered for 2025-26, down **20%** from last year and an ongoing downward trend. Only **14,000** of those records have been verified and passed to HBIC so far.
- Responded to **947** requests for biodiversity data, up **6%** from **892** last year with chargeable time increasing by **23%** along with an increase in income of **23%**. **99%** of requests were dealt with within 10 working days, the same as last year.
- Screened 9,700 planning applications, down 3% on last year. **34%** were flagged as having a potential impact on designated sites, priority habitats and notable species, down from 35% last year.
- Supported two bioblitzs; one at the New Forest Nature Discovery Day at Wilverley on 26th May 2025 organised by Forestry England, and one at the Mill Field LNR on 2nd August 2025 organised by Natural Basingstoke and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council.

2. The HBIC Partnership

2.1 HBIC Steering Group – meets twice a year in September and February/March

Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland – Tristan Norton, VC11
Butterfly Conservation – Dr Andy Barker
Environment Agency - no representative attends
Fareham Borough Council* – Pete Drake
Hampshire County Council - US Directorate – Simon Cramp
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust – Sarah Jackson
Hampshire Ornithological Society – Martin Pitt
New Forest District Council* – Chris Hodsman
New Forest National Park Authority – Ian Barker
South Downs National Park Authority – Kate Stuart/Jan Knowlson
Test Valley Borough Council* - Adam Rhodes

*3-4 District/Unitary Councils rotate once every four years.

2.1 Acknowledgements

The Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre is grateful to the HBIC Steering Group for support and guidance, and to the many species recording groups who provide regular copies of their data: Botanical Society of Britain & Ireland, Butterfly Conservation, Hampshire Amphibian & Reptile Recording Network, Hampshire & IoW Amphibian & Reptile Group, Hampshire Bat Group, Hampshire Ornithological Society, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, the Hampshire Mammal Group, and several other national schemes & societies including the Bees, Wasps & Ants Recording Society, the British Dragonfly Society, the British Bryology Society, and PTES.

The following organisations provide funding and other in-kind support to HBIC in return for a Biodiversity Information Service; Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council*, East Hampshire District Council*, Eastleigh Borough Council*, Forestry Commission, Environment Agency, Fareham Borough Council*, Gosport Borough Council*, Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust*, Hampshire County Council ETE Department* and the Countryside Service*, Hart District Council*, Havant Borough Council*, New Forest District Council*, New Forest National Park Authority*, Portsmouth City Council*, Portsmouth Water, Rushmoor Borough Council*, South Downs National Park Authority*, Southampton City Council*, Southern Water, South-West Water, Test Valley Borough Council*, Wessex Water and Winchester City Council*.

* Have SLAs with HBIC and sit on the HBIC Users Advisory Group – which meets twice a year (May and November)

3. Staffing & Contact Details

Table 1: Summary of HBIC staff roles and contact details

Role	Staff	Email
Management of HBIC (also part-time on LNRS Team)	Nicky Court, Specialist Environmental Services Manager	nicky.court@hants.gov.uk
SLA Lead: Survey Programme and SINC Programme Acting HBIC Manager (from Sept 2023-Aug 2025)	Sarah Callegari , Senior Ecologist (SLA Liaison) (Mon –Thurs)	sarah.callegari@hants.gov.uk
IT databases/GIS/Species data/Special Projects	Wolfgang Ritter , Senior Ecologist (Data Manager)	wolfgang.ritter@hants.gov.uk
Habitat Surveys & SINC evaluation West & South Hampshire	Ian Ralphs , Field Ecologist Retired May 2025	
Habitat Surveys & SINC evaluation North and East Hampshire	Joel Miller , Field Ecologist	joel.miller@hants.gov.uk
Habitat Surveys & SINC evaluation West & South Hampshire	Billy Dykes , Field Ecologist Started March 2025	billy.dykes@hants.gov.uk
Data requests, planning screening, and collation/validation of species data	Lizzy Peat , Ecologist	lizzy.peat@hants.gov.uk
Habitat Mapping, Data requests, planning screening, and survey validation	Amy Robjohns , Ecologist	amy.robjohns@hants.gov.uk
Habitat Survey organisation, SINC Programme assistance, survey validation	Elliot Hope-Ross , Ecologist Started June 2025	elliott.hope-ross@hants.gov.uk
Data requests, planning screening, survey validation, data entry/editing	Natalie Harvey , Assistant Ecologist	natalie.harvey@hants.gov.uk
Data management tasks (volunteer)	No volunteers due to staff homeworking and difficulties obtaining HCC IT software on a temporary basis.	

Address: HBIC, Universal Services Directorate, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UD

General email: enquiries.hbic@hants.gov.uk

4. Habitat Survey Programme Update

4.1 Overview

In March, we welcomed our new field ecologist, Billy Dykes, ready to hit the survey season which began promptly on 3rd April. A summary of the survey days allocated to date for each partner is presented in Table 2; these figures include time allocated for field surveys, write-up and SINC evaluation work. Allocations for several partners were exceeded this year, due to good response rates to SINC targeting and under-estimating the time that Billy would need to become familiar with the write up procedure and habitat classification systems. Some partners are currently under their allocation. Any over- or under-spends will be addressed next season with informal amendments to allocations, where priorities allow.

Table 2: Request for Surveys Allocated to each Partner

Partner	Number of Requests	Number of Sites	Days Spent	Days Left	Days Total	Allocation	Adjusted Allocation ¹
Basingstoke & Deane BC	4	21	29.00	0.00	29.00	25	25
East Hampshire DC	8	21	24.19	0.00	24.19	28	24
Eastleigh Borough Council	10	10	21.19	0.00	21.19	18	18
Fareham Borough Council	9	9	12.89	0.00	12.89	14	14
Gosport Borough Council	2	3	8.00	0.00	8.00	8	8
HCC – Countryside Service	5	19	20.01	0.00	20.01	18	14
HCC – Ecology	24	25	29.27	0.00	29.27	20	20
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	6	10	14.76	0.00	14.76	15	13
Hart District Council	10	16	19.42	0.00	19.42	20	19
Havant Borough Council	5	9	8.95	0.00	8.95	11	9
New Forest District Council	9	9	19.85	0.00	19.85	14	14
New Forest NPA	7	7	18.76	0.00	18.76	14	14
Portsmouth City Council	4	3	9.00	0.00	9.00	6	6
Rushmoor Borough Council	3	4	9.00	0.00	9.00	10	10
South Downs NPA	11	15	31.86	0.00	31.86	28	30
Southampton City Council	6	6	12.99	0.00	12.99	10	9.5
Test Valley Borough Council	12	12	25.40	0.00	25.40	24	22.5
Winchester City Council	20	22	23.32	0.00	23.32	27	24
Subtotal	155	221	333.36	4.50	337.9	310	294
Spare Capacity	5	5	24.28	0.00	24.28	20	36
Total	160	226	357.63	4.50	362.13	330	330

Notes:

1. Due to over or under spend on allocations in recent years, some allocations were informally increased or reduced to address the balance this year.

The HBIC partners requested 51.4% of the survey requests, the remaining 48.6% of requests were organised by HBIC on behalf of the partners to contribute to SINC/RVEI monitoring. The percentage of requests from the HBIC partners is lower than what was reported following last year's survey programme (55%).

4.2 SINC Monitoring

HBIC contacted 90 landowners requesting permission to re-survey 141 SINCS where data is old. Of these, 58 landowners gave permission to survey 63 SINCS. This is a positive return rate of 64% of landowners (36% last year) and 65% of sites targeted (36% last year). The reasons for the low return late last year are explained in last year's annual report.

In total, 91 SINCS were surveyed this year (down from 115 last year), which includes specific SINC monitoring requests, follow-on requests from the previous years and where SINCS fall within other sites requested by partners.

4.3 Road Verges of Ecological Importance (RVEIs) Monitoring

This year, 23 road verges were surveyed under the RVEI scheme. Two of these were current RVEIs supporting S41 species that are under special management; these are reviewed annually to ensure the management is taking place and is successful. The remainder were routine resurveys of existing RVEIs.

4.4 Purpose of Surveys

Figure 2a presents data on the purpose of surveys as a percentage of the number of requests; Figure 2b represents the data as a percentage of survey allocation time.

This year, 59% of survey programme requests were for SINC monitoring, which is more than last year (48%) but continuing to reflect a normal pattern of SINC monitoring and partner requests. The figure was very similar, at 58.5%, when considered as a percentage of the survey programme days. Again, higher than last year (38.1%). SINC monitoring still made up the largest proportion of requests and survey days.

Requests for surveys for Road Verges of Ecological Importance comprised 14% of the number requests, which ranks it much higher than last year (6.3%), but is a result of fewer requests in other categories rather than a real increase in the number of requests for road verges (which are consistent year on year). However, the amount of allocation time spent on road verge surveys was much lower at 2.5%, consistent with previous years, reflecting that road verges are often quite simple and quick to survey.

New surveys to establish if there was any wildlife interest stood at 10% of requests and 6% of survey allocation time. This was almost the same as last year when both of these percentages stood at 9.4% and 6% respectively. This may reflect a continuing interest in LPA owned land.

A new category of survey for BNG surveys was added last year. This year, 6 sites were scheduled for surveys related to capturing baseline data for BNG, which is considerably fewer than last year. These generally have included formal BNG survey to UKHABs and condition assessment. These requests totalled 4% of the total number of requests and 9% of survey

time, which reflects that BNG surveys are more complex and require additional survey and reporting.

The number of surveys requested for Local Plan purposes decreased from last year, which reflects a declining pattern in requests for these surveys over the last few years (3% compared to 6.4% in 2024/25 and 8.9% in 2023/24), and it has previously been as high as 21% of requests. These requests took 8.6% of survey allocation time.

A further 3% of surveys were requested to inform management. These requests took 3.7% of the survey allocation time. These include surveys of HWT reserves, HCC Countryside Sites and sites owned by LAs. The figure last year was 15% for requests and 18.9% for survey allocation time.

Monitoring of SSSIs comprised 3.0% of requests. When considered as a percentage of survey allocation time, this figure increased to 4.4%. This was down on last year when the resurvey of Basingstoke Canal was completed (3% of requests, 15% of survey time).

Three requests were marked as “other” in the below figures. These correspond to two requests for training/shadowing days with the SDNPA ranger team and a request to survey an arable plant translocation site in Test Valley. These comprised 2% of requests and 1% of survey time.

Impact Assessment and Section 39 Monitoring both comprised less than 1% of requests and survey time.

Figure 2a. Purpose of Survey Requests – by number of requests

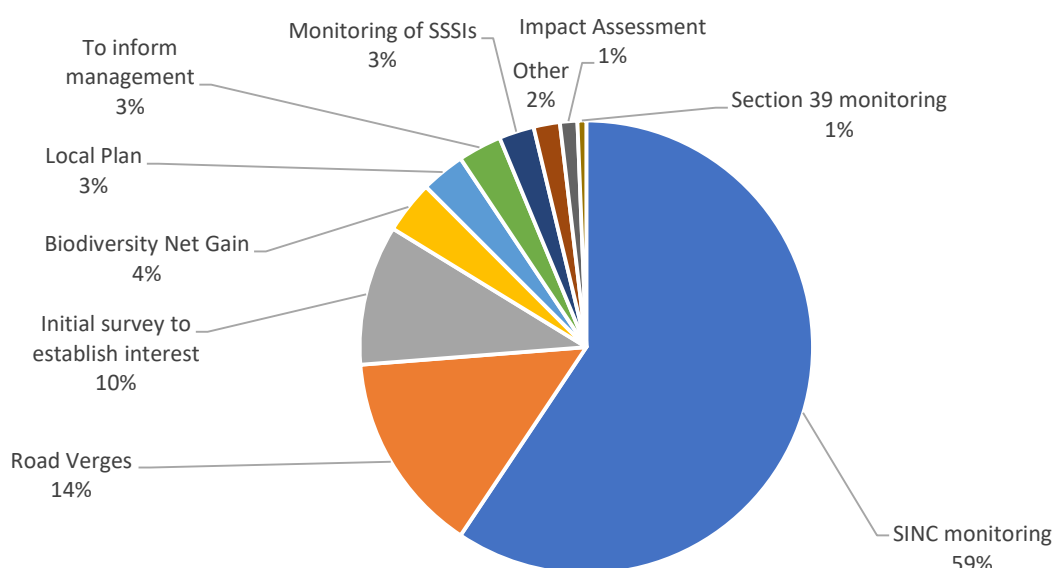


Figure 2b. Purpose of Survey Requests – by time spent

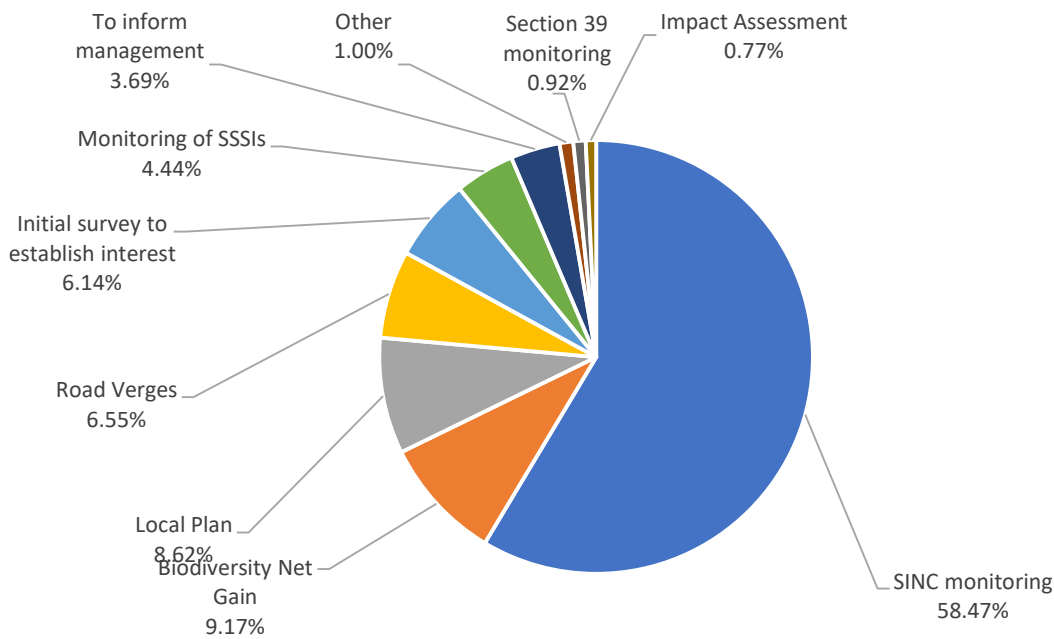
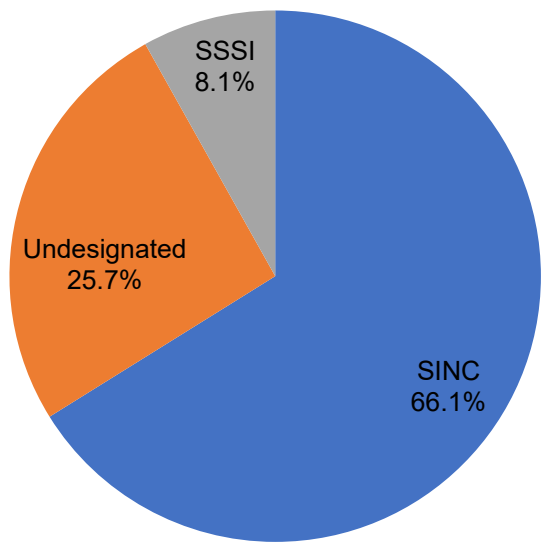


Figure 3 presents data on how the requests are divided by designation. This year, 66.1% of the survey allocation time was allocated to surveying sites designated as SINC, which is an increase compared to last year (50.5%). 25.7% has been spent surveying undesignated land, which is a small decrease from last year (28.6%). 8.1% of allocation has been spent on SSSI sites, a large decrease from last year (20.2%) due to the Basingstoke Canal survey last year.

Figure 3. Percentage of Survey Requests (allocation of time) by Designation



4.5 Additional surveys from spare capacity

This year, the spare survey capacity was informally reduced from 30 days to 20 days to allow 10 days to train our new field ecologist in HBIC survey procedures. Despite scheduling 20.5 spare survey days, Farlington Marshes, Hartland Park and Cove Valley took slightly more time each and the total survey time came in at 24.3 days.

Table 3: Additional Requests for Survey and Funding

Project	Partner	Survey Days	Data Management Days	Amount (excl VAT)	Mileage
Farlington Marshes	HIWWT	9.5	1	£3,200.00	£89.10
Hartland Park SANG ¹	HDC	4.5	0.27	[£1,322.00]	[£58.50]
Cove Valley	RBC	2.0	0.27	£528.50	£32.34
Lee Lane	HCC Property	1.75	0.5	£810.00	£13.50
Mill Lane SANG	HCC Ecology	6.5	0.5	£2600.00	£86.40
Total		24.3	2.54	£8,460.50	£279.84

Sarah Callegari, HBIC Senior Ecologist

¹ Will be paid in 2026/27 year

Highlights of the 2025 Survey Year

Joel Miller, HBIC Field Ecologist

Looking back at my survey highlights from previous years I notice that I usually bang on about liking long walks in the country and disliking BNG. Well, this year is no different.

The survey year always starts off with the best bit really, the glorious show of colour and life that is an ancient woodland in Spring. Few rarities are found in these sites but there is still always a sense of discovery with each one – the ancient soil holding secrets which it reveals each year. There were some cracking ancient woodlands down by Fareham where local specialties of **southern wood-rush** and **wild-service** were dotted about. Woods north of Winchester provided the violet-blue ocean of **bluebells** as well as diverse glades supporting the always exciting **adder's-tongue fern** (below left). A wood near Shedfield supported rich ancient and wet woodland flora, with an outlier population of **wood horsetail** and the spectacular, alien-looking alien **purple toothwort** (below right). Days went by wandering the forestry of West Walk, disappearing into the plantation thickets searching for **small-leaved limes** and remnant ancient woodland species.



Away from the woods I ventured onto MOD land at Minley and Oxney Farm, once partly hidden landscapes, now with increasing public access. The fields and wet woodland along the Oxney Stream floodplain provided interesting days. Wading through the tall grass and swamp along the floodplain of the Oxney Stream was a challenge, as was sorting out the medley of pond sedges, **common sedge** and **slender tufted-sedge**.

I began the survey of the MOD's Broxhead Common by spotting a small, trampled specimen of **coral-necklace**, and noted its location a long way from its New Forest stronghold, only to find out it grew in profusion along all of the tracks and in nearby Hogmoor Inclosure too. Another once rare species that is increasingly unexciting is **Jersey cudweed** – I found a whole field of this down by Horndean.

BNG condition assessments continued to pop up with annoying regularity. This work manages to be the most stimulating and maddening at the same time.



The year finished on a high. Whilst carrying out monitoring work for the saltwater flooding at Farlington Marshes I was able to see quite a few of its floral specialties. The pink fruited **strawberry clover**, the **straw-coloured tuft of sea barley** (see left), the dowdy spiny restharrow and the delicate weirdness of **slender hare's-ear**. Unfortunately, what looked like a new species of low swamp grass from a distance turned out to be agglomerates of tubeworm casts on top of dead reed stems.

Ever vigilant for my health and safety, I need to finish by listing my various ailments from this year. There is 'quadratters elbow' - from carrying out so much monitoring work; 'BNG jaw' – from whinging about BNG all the time; and bleary eyes after wiping away the tears from saying adieu to my retiring colleague Ian after twenty odd years.

Billy Dykes, HBIC Field Ecologist

It was my first season, and I had some big boots to fill. The first few months were spent soaking up as much knowledge as I could from Ian, my retiring predecessor, before Joel took over the reins to continue my training in the art of HBIC field surveying.

I received a good number of responses from landowners granting permission for surveys. This included a curious farmer who owned a SINC called Ashley Wood, an old hanger tucked away on farmland in the Test Valley, which to his knowledge had never been subject to a botanical survey. It was to be my first and probably favourite survey of the season. Hidden among the arable fields was this forgotten strip of ancient woodland clinging to a chalky hillside; remnants of a larger wooded area that has since become farmland. There were gnarled old field maples and huge multi-stemmed hazels that hadn't seen a coppice cut in generations. Several hefty wych elms added to the mix, and at the heart of it all I stumbled across a huge veteran ash that sadly appeared to be on its last legs.

I had hoped to stumble across herb-paris or maybe fly orchid, but I was more than happy to make do with common woodland delicacies like **sanicle**, **moschatel** and **common twayblades**.

It begs the question how many more fragments like this are hidden away out there in our arable landscape waiting to be properly surveyed for the first time.



A mid-summer survey at the 'capped' landfill site at Somerley was not quite such an idyllic location but it produced some of my best plant highlights. A successful habitat restoration project has been carried out here with lowland heathland being returned on top of what was once an active landfill site. A healthy population of the stunning **deptford pink** (see left) was the obvious highlight, with a fine supporting cast including **coral necklace**, **hairy bird's-foot trefoil** and the diminutive **all-seed**.

Other floral highlights from the season included the dainty **long-stalked crane's-bill** (see right) at Ox Drove Meadows in Andover, a small population of **marsh-mallow** (see below left) found during a two-day survey at Fawley Refinery, **dotted sedge** on a road verge in the New Forest, **Nottingham catchfly** on Eastney beach, **corn parsley** in an arable field margin near Popham and the mystical **deadly nightshade** (see below right) on farmland near Ashley. It was also nice to be able to survey one of the few SINCS designated for bryophytes: an enchanting sunken lane near Liss with populations of the scarce moss *Bartramia pomiformis* and the liverwort *Reboulia hemisphaerica*.



Probably my most unexpected highlight came whilst driving back home from a survey one evening in late summer, when I pulled into a layby just outside Winchester to have a quick scan for arable weeds along the edge of a nice-looking roadside field margin and promptly stumbled across **hungarian vetch** (*Vicia pannonica*). It's just an introduced casual that sometimes makes its way into seed mixes, but it was still a new species for VC11. Beginner's luck? Never.

5. SINC Programme

5.1 Work for the Feb 2025 SINC Panel - See Table 4a and section 5.1.1 for details.

- All HBIC surveys from 2023 (and priority sites from 2024, plus some sites surveyed between 2020-2022 that were not evaluated in time for the previous SINC Panel) have now been evaluated against the SINC criteria.
- The proposals were sent to the Panel at the beginning of February 2025. Panel members were given a month to respond with their decisions.
- 27 new SINC were proposed, 15 SINC were proposed for deletion and 49 SINC had major amendments proposed to the boundary and/or criteria (Table 4).
- Due to staffing issues, the SINC Panel sign-off meeting didn't take place until 23rd June 2025.
- One new SINC has been deferred due to a dispute with the landowner, following notification the previous year. Three proposals were rejected by the Panel; 2 deletions and a major/boundary amendment. Four proposals were removed from the Panel by HBIC at the request of Southampton City Council (on the basis that management plans are being drawn up for the sites).
- Landowner notification letters were sent out at the beginning of July and landowners were given until the end of the month to raise objections or comments. Seven landowners were given extended deadlines for responses due to various circumstances (for example, where the notification letter was returned following a change in address, meaning a new notification letter had to be sent out).
- The final objection was due to submit evidence by the 31st October but the landowner has now confirmed that the objection will not be upheld (the amendment has now been confirmed on the SINC layer).
- The SINC Panel consisted of Sarah Jackson (HWT) and Megan Owen (HCC). NE has confirmed that it will no longer be able to give resource to the SINC Panel. This appears to be a national policy direction, although one or two LWS partnerships are still receiving support. Tristan Norton (BSBI) stepped into the SINC Panel meeting to act as the third independent Panel member.
- Andy Barker has been approached as a third, independent all-round naturalist with experience of the SINC system. He was unable to assist with this panel but will sit on the November 2025 panel.

Table 4a: Number of Proposed new/amended/deleted SINC evaluated from 2022-2023 surveys (and some from 2020-2022) submitted to the SINC Panel in Feb 2025

Partner	New SINC	Amended SINC	Deleted SINC	Total
Basingstoke & Deane BC	5	2	0	7
Eastleigh BC	0	2	0	2
East Hampshire DC	3	9	0	12
Fareham BC	1	2	2	5
Gosport BC	3	1	0	4
HCC – Countryside Service ¹	0	2	0	2

Partner	New SINC	Amended SINC	Deleted SINC	Total
HCC – Ecology ¹	5	1	1	7
Hart DC	2	3	0	5
Havant BC	1	1	1	3
Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust ¹	0	2	0	2
New Forest DC	1	2	4	7
New Forest NPA	1	6	2	9
Portsmouth CC	0	0	0	0
Rushmoor BC	0	4	0	4
Southampton CC	0	3	1	4
South Downs NPA	3	2	0	5
Test Valley BC	1	2	0	3
Winchester CC	1	5	4	10
Total	27	49	15	91

Notes:

- 1 Time spent on proposals listed for HCC – CS, HCC – Ecology, and HWT has been subtracted from the respective LPA totals

5.1.1 Details of the proposed New/Deleted/Amended SINC

Deleted SINC: The 15 proposed deleted SINC

- 6 SINC
- 3 SINC
- 2 SINC
- 2 SINC
- 1 SINC
- 1 SINC

New SINC: The 27 new SINC

- 6 areas of previously unsurveyed ancient woodland, plantation on ancient woodland or wet woodland
- 5 areas of species-rich lowland meadow
- 4 areas of species-rich calcareous grassland
- 4 areas supporting notable species
- 3 areas of recently recreated species-rich grassland
- 3 area of fen meadow/purple moor grass and rush pasture priority habitat
- 1 area of afforested heathland

- 1 area of open freshwater supporting a good floristic assemblage

Amended SINC: The 49 amended SINC's comprise;

- 17 SINC's where more detailed survey has necessitated a criteria change or a boundary change, including where additional Priority habitat had been discovered adjacent
- 9 SINC's where the habitat had shown a decline in quality or actual loss due to inappropriate management, forcing a boundary or criteria change
- 9 SINC's which had lost some habitat, because of development, amenity, or extended gardens
- 8 SINC's whereby the habitat had reflected a positive change, usually because of good management, restoration or re-creation, enabling a criteria change or boundary extension
- 3 SINC's with major boundary amendment marked as data correction/reinterpretation. The quality of habitats in these SINC's has not necessarily changed but a different approach to digitising SINC boundaries has resulted in a change in SINC area.
- 2 SINC where agricultural improvement has reduced the quality of grassland habitat, leading to a criteria change
- 1 SINC where there is evidence of habitat creation/restoration that has brought more of the area up to SINC quality

In total, following the SINC Panel and the landowner objection period, new SINC's accounted for an additional 70.9ha (up from 60.4ha last year), deleted SINC's a loss of 15ha (up from 8.9ha last year), and amended SINC's a net gain of 25.78ha (down from a net loss of 41.7ha last year). Combined, this resulted in a **total gain of 81.7ha in SINC coverage** (against a total gain of 9.8ha last year). At the end of the Panel process, there were 4166 confirmed SINC's in Hampshire.

5.2 Work carried out for the Nov 2025 SINC Panel – see Table 4b and section 5.2.1 for details

- The remainder of 2024 survey data (and priority data from 2025) has been evaluated.
- The proposals were sent to the Panel just before Christmas. Panel members were given 6 weeks to respond with their decisions.
- 9 new SINC's were proposed, 8 SINC's were proposed for deletion and 21 SINC's had major amendments proposed to the boundary and/or criteria (Table 5).
- The SINC Panel sign-off meeting took place on the 25th February 2026.
- One new SINC has been deferred to allow time for collecting butterfly data on the site. Six proposals have been rejected by the Panel; 4 deletions, one boundary revision and one criteria revision.
- Landowner notification letters were sent out at the beginning of March, and landowners were given until 31st March to express any comments or objections. Formal evidence in support of any objections will be due by 31st October 2026.
- No objections were received.
- The SINC Panel consisted of Sarah Jackson (HWT) Nicky Court (HCC) and Andy Barker (Butterfly Conservation).

Table 4b: Number of Proposed new/amended/deleted SINC's evaluated from 2023-2024 surveys (and priorities from 2025-2026) submitted to the SINC Panel in Dec 2025

Partner	New SINC's	Amended SINC's	Deleted SINC's	Total
Basingstoke & Deane BC	5	0	1	6
Eastleigh BC	0	1	0	1
East Hampshire DC	0	0	0	0
Fareham BC	0	0	1	1
Gosport BC	0	0	0	0
HCC – Countryside Service ¹	0	0	0	0
HCC – Ecology ¹	0	0	0	0
Hart DC	0	1	0	1
Havant BC	0	1	0	1
Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust ¹	1	3	0	4
New Forest DC	0	5	2	7
New Forest NPA	0	3	1	4
Portsmouth CC	1	0	0	1
Rushmoor BC	0	1	0	1
Southampton CC	0	0	0	0
South Downs NPA	0	1	0	1
Test Valley BC	2	3	0	5
Winchester CC	0	2	3	5
Total	9	21	8	38

Notes:

- 1 Proposals listed for HCC – CS, HCC – Ecology, and HWT have been subtracted from the respective LPA totals

5.2.1 Details of the proposed New/Deleted/Amended SINC's

Deleted SINC's: The 8 proposed deleted SINC's comprise:

- 7 SINC's proposed for deletion due to lack of management, which has either reduced the quality of the whole site below the threshold for inclusion as a SINC or left too small an area of SINC quality habitat to qualify (3 rejected by panel, as on LNRS with measures to restore species-rich habitat).
- 1 SINC proposed for deletion because of development - metalling of track surface reducing interest (rejected by panel, habitat to be retained as SINC within adjacent woodland SINC boundary).

New SINC: The 9 new SINCs comprise:

- 4 areas of previously unsurveyed ancient woodland, plantation on ancient woodland or wet woodland (including associated meadow/purple moor grass and rush pasture priority habitat).
- 3 areas supporting notable species.
- 1 area with a scrub-grassland mosaic habitat (deferred by panel).
- 1 area of species-rich calcareous grassland.

Amended SINC: The 21 amended SINCs comprise;

- 9 SINC whereby the habitat had reflected a positive change, usually because of good management, restoration or re-creation, enabling a criteria change or boundary extension.
- 6 SINC where more detailed survey has necessitated a criteria change or a boundary change, including where additional Priority habitat had been discovered adjacent (1 rejected by panel, as the evidence did not support the additional criteria).
- 4 SINC where the habitat had shown a decline in quality or actual loss due to inappropriate management, forcing a boundary or criteria change (1 rejected by panel, due to plans to manage appropriately)
- 1 SINC which had lost some habitat, because of development, amenity, or extended gardens.
- 1 SINC with a major boundary and criteria amendment marked as data correction/reinterpretation. This site reflects a complex situation where there is recognition that more SINC quality habitat is present than previously recorded in the SINC designation, with more qualifying criteria and a bigger area, but with other areas removed for development.

Following the SINC Panel and the landowner objection period, new SINC will account for an additional 16.1ha (down from 70.9ha last panel), deleted SINC a loss of 3.7ha (down from 15ha last panel), and amended SINC a net gain of 5.4ha (down from a net loss of 25.8ha last panel). Combined, this results in a **total gain of 17.8ha in SINC coverage** (against a total gain of 81.7ha last panel). There are currently 4,170 confirmed SINC in Hampshire.

5.3. Work for Nov 2026 SINC Panel

- The initial evaluation of sites surveyed in 2025 will be completed by the field ecologists at the end of May.
- These will be evaluated by the SINC officers over the course of the summer and proposed to the SINC Panel later in the year (November/December 2026).

5.4. Time spent on SINC evaluation and reporting to the Hampshire SINC Panel

From the data in Table 5, HBIC have spent in total **28 days** maintaining the SINC system, based on the calculations in the footnotes.

Table 5: Time spent on SINC evaluation & reporting to the Hampshire SINC Panel

Partner	Preparation of SINC list for Nov 2025 SINC Panel ¹ (hrs)	Initial evaluation of 2025 survey data		Total time spent to date (hrs)
		No. of surveys evaluated ²	HBIC Field ecologists (hrs) ³	
BDBC	27.0	10	2.50	29.5
EBC	4.5	10	2.50	7.0
EHDC	0.0	11	2.75	2.8
FBC	4.5	9	2.25	6.8
GBC	0.0	2	0.50	0.5
HCC – CS	0.0	2	0.50	0.5
HCC – Ecology	0.0	22	5.50	5.5
HDC	4.5	11	2.75	7.3
HvBC	4.5	4	1.00	5.5
HIWWT	18.0	3	0.75	18.8
NFDC	31.5	9	2.25	33.8
NFNPA	18.0	6	1.50	19.5
PCC	4.5	5	1.25	5.8
RBC	4.5	4	1.00	5.5
SCC	0.0	6	1.50	1.5
SDNPA	4.5	7	1.75	6.3
TVBC	22.5	14	3.50	26.0
WCC	22.5	20	5.00	27.5
Total	171.0 (23 days)	155	38.75 (5 days)	209.8 (28 days)

Notes:

1 - Time spent producing statements and maps for reporting to the SINC Panel, updating the database, GIS editing and notifying landowners - a total of 4.5 hrs per site sent to the panel

2 - Excludes any SSSIs and hedgerows surveyed.

3 - Time spent evaluating 2025 survey data by field ecologists – to be undertaken in March 2026 (0.25 hr/site)

Because of the timing of the February 2025 SINC Panel, some of the preparation and notification work was carried out in the 2025–26 year. However, this additional time cannot be separated from the time recorded in the previous year, as SINC Panel preparation and landowner notifications are combined into a standard 4.5-hour unit. As a result, the time associated with the February 2025 Panel has been included in last year's annual report (and appears higher than it should, due to work completed this year). Conversely, the figures reported above for this year are lower than they should be, as they do not include the time spent on the February 2025 Panel.

This figure does not include time spent dealing with landowner comments/objections to notifications (which can be time-consuming) or time spent on minor amendments. Separate

time spent dealing with landowners and other interested parties who have queries on SINCs are logged separately.

5.3 Road Verges of Ecological Importance (RVEI) Evaluation and Review Programme (work carried out for the Jan 2026 update to County Highways)

- 23 verges were surveyed this year.
- The reports and RVEI evaluations were completed by mid-December.
- The changes were communicated to Highways on the 18th December.
- 8 RVEIs were deleted; 6 sites where the interest feature had declined in quality (3 chalk grassland verges, 2 lowland meadow verges and 1 ancient woodland verge), 2 because the notable species was either no longer present on site or no longer notable.
- 7 RVEIs were amended; 3 involved removal of habitat no longer of RVEI quality, 3 involved addition of habitat of RVEI quality and the last one was a change to the interest feature.
- 1 new RVEI was proposed for orchids
- There are currently 218 RVEI's.

Sarah Callegari, HBIC Senior Ecologist

5.4 Indicator SD160 Local Sites in positive conservation management

Defra paused the collection of data for this indicator for two years due to the Covid 19 pandemic. In March 2022 they resumed requesting data from local authorities for the 2021-22 year but the response rate in 2021/22 (46%) was the lowest it has been since this publication began. However, Defra have decided that with the advent of Local Nature Recovery Strategies that having data on the management of SINCs would be a good thing and are continuing with the indicator. Percentage returns from local authorities rose slightly to 50% for the 23/24 period and back to 46% for the 24/25 period.

See [ENV10 - Local sites in positive conservation management - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/env10-local-sites-in-positive-conservation-management)

Hampshire County Council has not reported on this indicator since 2011 due to lack of resources and concern over the usefulness of the indicator. Previous time spent on collating data for this Indicator has never been included within the partnership SLAs.

However, HBIC has been recording condition on SINCs it has surveyed over the past 11 years and prior to, that collating data on management status from different evidence sources since 2006 (e.g. Environmental Stewardship Schemes, advisory visits, surveys) – now standing at over 2,000 SINCs. The stats produced have ensured that SINCs known to be in poor or uncertain condition have been included in the LNRS mapping for biodiversity improvements. Worth noting that many more SINCs have been included in the LNRS mapping where previous surveys are over 20 years old, the measure being to get them resurveyed.

Table 6: Number of SINC's in positive and negative management

Total Number of SINC's	Total Number of SINC's in positive management	Total Number of SINC's in negative management	Total number of SINC's with unknown management	SINC's surveyed in 2025	
				Number of SINC's in positive management	Number of SINC's in negative management
4163	1775 (42.6%)	731 (17.6%)	1,657 (39.8%)	45 (45%)	56 (55%)

Sarah Callegari, HBIC Senior Ecologist

6. Provision of data

6.1 GIS Data to partners

- Protected/Notable species and Invasive species layers: update provided in June 2025. Next update March 2026 (delayed).
- SINCs: update provided October 2025. Next update September 2026
- RVEI layer: an update provided February 2026. Next update February 2027.
- Broad & Priority Habitats - update sent out December 2025. Next update July 2026.
- Biosites: update provided in April 2025. Next update May 2026.
- SDNPA layers merged for Hants/W.Sussex sent out end of mid-April 2026 for 2026/27.
- Species layers for SDNPA will be sent in July 2026.
- Swift layer of breeding hotspots: update sent January 2024. Next update unclear. We are in contact with the county recorder.
- LNRS layers were sent to partners in Jan/Feb 2026.
- A combined AWI layer with the most recent updates was sent in March 2026.

Table 7: GIS data to Partners

Partner	Protected & Notable Species	Non-Native Invasive sp.	Broad/Priority Habitats	Biosites	SINCs	RVEIs	Swifts
B'stoke & Deane BC	25/07/25	25/07/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
East Hants DC	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Eastleigh BC	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Fareham BC	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Gosport BC	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Hart DC	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Havant BC	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
New Forest DC	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
NFNPA	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Portsmouth CC	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Rushmoor BC	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Southampton CC	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Test Valley BC	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Winchester CC	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Forest Enterprise	23/06/25	23/06/25			28/10/25		
HCC Countryside	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	**	**	**	
HCC Universal Serv.	19/06/25	19/06/25	27/10/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
HIWWT	23/06/25	23/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Nat. England (1)	11/03/16	11/03/16			27/08/15		
Env. Agency (2)	18/10/24	18/10/24	31/05/23		04/08/23		
Portsmouth Water	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
South Downs NPA	20/06/25	20/06/25	15/04/25		15/04/25	15/04/25	
Southern Water	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Wessex Water	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24
Southwest Water	24/06/25	24/06/25	10/12/25	29/04/25	28/10/25	05/02/26	19/01/24

(1) Natural England no longer fund HBIC for county-wide datasets. (2) EA do not receive Broad habitats

** HCC Countryside Service can load these datasets directly from the HCC GIS catalogue.

Wolfgang Ritter, HBIC Senior Ecologist

6.2 Data requests

99% of data requests were responded to within the target of 10 working days, compared to 98% within the same timeframe last year.

Table 8: Data requests summary

Summary	2025/26	2024/25	2023/24
Total no. of requests	947	892	944
Total no. of chargeable requests	776	706	688
Total time logged (hrs)	1082	875.25	1072
Total time logged to chargeable requests (hrs)	936	764	828
Proportion of time chargeable	87%	87%	77%
Total income	£256,689.25*	£208,109.77	£192,115

*HBIC's target income for 2025-26 for data requests was set at £200,000 in the Business Plan 2024-27. Important to note that £20,305 of this total has been set against the 2026/27 budget due to the delays caused by the HCC Business Centre in the way they now batch invoices going out

Table 9: Data requests allocated to each partner

Partner	Total Enquiries	Total Time (Hrs)	Chargeable Time (Hrs)	Non Chargeable Time (Hrs)
Basingstoke & Deane BC	117	129.14	122.64	6.5
Eastleigh BC	44	48	43.9	4.1
East Hampshire DC	91	89.2	79.37	9.83
Fareham BC	34	38.77	37.02	1.75
Forestry England	4	5		5
Gosport BC	9	10	8.5	1.5
HBIC (Note 1)	69	88.5	41	47.5
HCC Countryside Service	4	3		3
HCC – Ecology (Note 2)	1	0.75		0.75
HCC – Universal Services	2	1.75		1.75
Hart DC	68	75.75	69	6.75
Hampshire Wildlife Trust	1	0.25		0.25
Havant BC	25	30.58	25	5.58
New Forest DC	79	84.09	76.97	7.12
New Forest NPA	58	67.12	63.5	3.62
Portsmouth CC	12	11.13	10.38	0.75
Portsmouth Water	2	1.5		1.5
Rushmoor BC	20	19.89	18.89	1
Southampton CC	29	31.72	30.22	1.5
South Downs NPA	51	56.14	49.14	7
Southern Water	4	3.25		3.25
South West Water	1	1.75		1.75
Test Valley BC	165	185.15	167.1	18.05
Winchester CC	94	99.73	93.4	6.33
(Note 3) Total	984	1082.16	936.03	146.13

(Note 1) Includes time spent on requests carried out to support recording groups, developing relationships with new partners and time spent re-directing out of county requests.

(Note 2) There is a separate levy applied to all HCC development projects by the HCC Ecology Team when accessing HBIC data directly. This is shown in Table 11 under internal charging

(Note 3) The total number of enquiries includes those 'double-counted' where they are allocated a proportion of time spent to more than one partner organisation.

Table 10: Data requests by type of enquirer

Contact Type	Total Enquiries	Total Time	Total
Consultancy/Developer	789	903	£246,487.25
Landowner/Agent/Tenant	19	26.75	£3,510.00
Government Agency	7	5	£3,340.00
Public Utility	6	6.25	£1,510.00
Non-Governmental Organisation	20	36.75	£1,122.00
Member of the public/Local group	35	37.25	£490.00
Local Authority/Parish Council	36	30.40	£230.00
Researcher/Student/School/College	12	14.25	£0.00
Consultancy/Developer (for Partner)	14	13.25	£0.00
National Park Authority	4	4.25	£0.00
Local Record Centre	4	3.25	£0.00
Public Utility (for Partner)	1	1.75	£0.00

Table 11: Data requests by reason

Enquiry Reason	Total Enquiries
Proposed development	768
Conservation/Land management	75
Research/Study	26
Community/Planning	24
Utilities	21
SINC Query	13
Woodland Creation	12
Other	6
Agri-Environment Scheme	2

The 'other' reasons relate to an enforcement appeal hearing; a police investigation; supply of Great Crested Newt data for the NatureSpace licensing scheme; supply of bat data for a Natural England project exploring the planning and licensing regulatory systems; BNG BioBank creation; and the NBN Award nomination of a Hampshire recorder.

Natalie Harvey, HBIC Assistant Ecologist and Lizzy Peat, HBIC Ecologist

6.3 Production of Annual Biodiversity Monitoring Report for District AMRs

As in previous years HBIC has produced an Annual Biodiversity Monitoring Report (Dec 2025) covering changes in:

- Area covered by different priority habitats and designated sites by district.
- Extent of priority habitats within designated sites by district
- Conditions of SSSIs by District.
- Extent and number of SINCs and reasons for loss by district.

All GIS layers were archived at the end of March 2025 and the figures broken down by district using GIS models, an Access database and VBA scripts to make the extraction of the statistics quicker and easier. Previous years reports are available on our web pages.

These reports are now being used to support the mandatory Biodiversity Duty Reports required of all local planning authorities.

A similar report based on HCC Landholdings was produced for the HCC Biodiversity Duty Report

[HBIC policies and reports | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://hants.gov.uk)

All GIS layers were archived at the end of March 2026 again in preparation for the figures for the next AMR.

Wolfgang Ritter, HBIC Senior Ecologist

7. Screening Planning Lists, Highway works and Cultivation Licences

7.1 Screening planning applications

Table 12: Planning applications screened for each partner organisation

District/Partner	Checked	Flagged	Hours spent pro rata
East Hampshire DC	960	321 (33%)	50
East Hampshire DC - SDNP	583	181 (31%)	28
Fareham BC	895	292 (33%)	45
Gosport BC	333	126 (38%)	20
Hampshire CC	57	35 (61%)	5
Havant BC	610	165 (27%)	26
New Forest DC	1,071	457 (43%)	71
New Forest NP	1,240	363 (29%)	57
Test Valley BC	2,176	710 (33%)	111
Winchester CC	1,389	544 (39%)	85
Winchester CC - SDNP	386	140 (36%)	22
Total	9,700	3,334 (34%)	520
2024-25 Total	9,943	3,446 (35%)	530
2023-24 Total*	12,085	3,696 (31%)	572

*We stopped checking applications for Basingstoke and Deane at the end of November 2023, and Eastleigh at the end of March 2024. These two districts combined accounted for 1,559 of the 12,085 applications checked during 2023-24.

The hours spent per week pro rata on the screening, based on numbers flagged, currently averages 10 hours staff time per week. The average was 11 hours per week in 2023-24 as more districts were screened.

7.2 Screening road works for Highways which may affect a Road Verge of Ecological Importance (RVEI)

Table 13: Highways- Road Verge Screening

	New	Flagged	Time Spent (hours)
2025-2026	344	104 (30.2%)	52
2024-2025	391	119 (30.4%)	53

A weekly spreadsheet is sent to the HBIC Inbox from Highways containing all new road works which may affect a Road Verge of Ecological Importance (RVEI). Any works which are thought

likely to impact on a RVEI are noted and comments submitted directly to the organisation/utility who raised the job. Approximately one hour per week is spent on this.

7.3 Cultivation Licences

Hampshire County Council consult HBIC when they receive a cultivation licence application, usually for the planting of wild flower mixes. HBIC provide comments on the proposed seed mix and the areas proposed, especially in relation to existing RVEI's and SINC's.

We commented on 18 completed cultivation licence applications through the Confirm system.

Guidance is published on the HCC website [Apply for a licence or consent to plant alongside the highway | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/apply-for-a-licence-or-consent-to-plant-alongside-the-highway)

Natalie Harvey, HBIC Assistant Ecologist

8. Data Holdings (to 30th April 2026)

Table 14: Total Species data holdings by database

Database	Total no. of species	Total no. of records to April 2025	Total no. of records to April 2026	An increase of...
MapMate (<i>Moths, bats and historic records from others</i>)	10,544	5,098,346	5,208,799	110,453
Recorder (<i>Vascular plants from HBIC surveys, plus all other datasets</i>)	17,233	6,257,337	7,152,876	895,539
Totals	19,955	11,355,683	12,361,675	1,005,992

Approximately **21%** of all species records held in MapMate and Recorder are protected and/or notable species. This figure has stayed remarkably consistent with previous years.

Table 15: Data holdings MapMate and Recorder

Group	Total no of records in Recorder	Total no of records in MapMate	Total no of records	Total no of notable or protected records	Net change over the year
Amoebozoa		3	3		0
Amphibians & Reptiles	50,532	27,695	78,227	45,193	-14,543
Bacteria	3	2	5		0
Birds	3,314,982	825,673	4,140,655	1,716,630	702,154
Fish	14,550	2,229	16,779	4,401	10
Fungi	63,395	927	64,322	1,378	57
Higher plants - Clubmosses & Quillworts	192	1,119	1,311	1,291	61
Higher plants - Conifers	10,807	13,395	24,202	1,324	928
Higher plants - Ferns	28,590	32,895	61,485	2,885	1,757
Higher plants - Flowering Plants	1,131,530	1,254,254	2,385,784	110,893	86,273
Higher plants - Horsetails	3,993	4,783	8,776	553	246
Invertebrates - Acarina	133	2	135		72
Invertebrates - Annelida	18,774	40	18,814	25	5
Invertebrates - Araneae	3,878	4,746	8,624	684	2,455
Invertebrates - Archaeognatha	7	1	8		0
Invertebrates - Blattaria	347	242	589	571	39
Invertebrates - Bryozoa		1	1		0
Invertebrates - Chilopoda	27	131	158	0	27
Invertebrates - Cnidaria	2,735	1	2,736	28	0
Invertebrates - Coleoptera	48,828	69,376	118,204	27,475	3,001
Invertebrates - Collembola	117	5	122		117
Invertebrates - Crustacea	11,674	1,177	12,851	774	179

Group	Total no of records in Recorder	Total no of records in MapMate	Total no of records	Total no of notable or protected records	Net change over the year
Invertebrates - Dermaptera	629	625	1,254	67	69
Invertebrates - Diplopoda	31	121	152	0	27
Invertebrates - Diptera	26,985	49,166	76,151	4,958	7,708
Invertebrates - Echinodermata	329	2	331	10	0
Invertebrates - Ephemeroptera	10,889	148	11,037	451	8
Invertebrates - Hemiptera	4,721	19,271	23,992	646	2,013
Invertebrates - Hymenoptera	36,125	39,011	75,136	6,785	6,705
Invertebrates - Lepidoptera	2,008,314	2,729,066	4,737,380	543,934	103,365
Invertebrates - Mantodea	1	3	4		0
Invertebrates - Mecoptera	25	159	184		18
Invertebrates - Megaloptera	751	44	795	18	4
Invertebrates - Mollusca	23,942	2,783	26,725	1,106	244
Invertebrates - Nematoda	3		3		0
Invertebrates - Neuroptera	73	326	399	1	41
Invertebrates - Odonata	120,161	6,527	126,688	7,549	251
Invertebrates - Orthoptera	11,122	5,038	16,160	2,651	1,028
Invertebrates - Phasmatodea	24		24		1
Invertebrates - Platyhelminthes	1,825		1,825		4
Invertebrates - Plecoptera	1,710	51	1,761	25	22
Invertebrates - Porifera	2,159	1	2,160	4	0
Invertebrates - Pseudoscorpionida	6		6		5
Invertebrates - Psocoptera	8	22	30		1
Invertebrates - Pycnogonida	127		127		127
Invertebrates - Raphidioptera	11	22	33		1
Invertebrates - Thysanoptera	3		3		0
Invertebrates - Thysanura		4	4		0
Invertebrates - Trichoptera	21,093	777	21,870	649	81
Invertebrates - Turbellaria		2	2		0
Invertebrates - Urochordata	1,743		1,743	19	0
Lichens	49,091	905	49,996	6,579	167
Lower plants - Algae	3,297	72	3,369	21	0
Lower plants - Liverworts, Hornworts & Mosses	47,095	4,225	51,320	6,202	18,711
Lower plants - Stoneworts	77	293	370	334	1
Mammals - Marine	72	1,046	1,118	1,119	70
Mammals - Terrestrial (bats)	66,551	67,289	133,840	143,551	75,916
Mammals - Terrestrial (non-bats)	8,789	43,103	51,892	25,993	6,566
Total	7,152,876	5,208,799	12,361,675	2,666,777	1,005,992

Large increases are usually due to the annual or biannual major updates from key species groups with data exchange agreements (birds, moths, butterflies, vascular plants, mammals, bats, amphibians & reptiles), minor changes are normally due to data corrections.

8.1 Currently we organise our data holdings as follows:

- Newer HOS and BSBI records are held in Recorder, Older records are still in MapMate at present.
- Each year the previous HBIC survey season's data is entered into Recorder.
- One copy of MapMate (Identification **6dn**) holds moth data from Butterfly Conservation only
- Another copy (Identification **5pw**) holds all other MapMate data.
- Any new data will be imported into Recorder.

8.2 Updates so far this year are as follows:

- RSPB records for the Wessex Stone-curlew Project, 1985-2024, imported 9th May 2025
- BSBI records as at 25th February 2025, imported 23th July 2025
- Hampshire Bat Group, three separate record updates on 7th May 2025, 6th October 2025 and 24th November 2025 (final update using MapMate).
- HARRN records outstanding from last year, 354 records imported 17th October 2025. When we provided Great crested newt records to NatureSpace we noticed 282 duplicated records within the HARRN dataset, which have been removed above.
- Moths 2024 with a full resynchronisation of older records, imported 17th December 2025.
- Hampshire Bryophyte record update 2025, imported 15th January 2026.
- Hampshire Mammal Group update 2025, imported 20th January 2026.
- ARC 2024/25 records, imported 22nd January 2025. Duplicated records within the ARC database have been removed, further contributing to the negative net change detailed in the table above.
- 28 records from NatureSpace for years 2024 & 2025, imported 29th January 2026.
- HOS update for 2024, imported 10th April 2026.

In Addition, we also received and imported:

- 39 records of a rare caddisfly Window Winged Sedge *Hagenella clathrata* recorded this year by Mr Stephen Woodcock.
- 12,393 records of many different groups kindly provided by entomologist Mr Graeme Lyons consisting of all his Hampshire records over the past few years.
- *16 otter records from Southern Water.
- *16 Badger and Brown Hare records from 2010 found in an old email from Ecoline.

*Now that HIWWT are no longer supporting the mammal group, HBIC are now the owners and managers of the older mammal records previously held on MapMate. Records received through the normal routes (Such as Living record and emails) by HMG are being imported to iRecord and managed from there by Andy Rothwell with the mammal society. Unfortunately, some recorders (Such as Southern Water) are uncomfortable with that so HBIC are accepting records which owners do not want to go onto iRecord. HBIC are also accepting older mammal data (as HBIC are the only ones now able to check for duplication).

8.3 Ongoing work

The Hampshire Bat Group is now the owner of a Recorder 6 database and we have almost finished a data transfer project on their behalf, extracting, cleaning and re-importing all their records to the new system from MapMate. This is due to be completed in May 2026.

8.4 Planned future works

HIWWT, plus HMG and HARRN whom they support, have confirmed that they are no longer using MapMate and want us to move all their historical records into Recorder to be managed by ourselves going forward. We will be extracting all their records from 5pw and re-importing them to Recorder.

Following a planned review of site names by HOS, we plan to re-import all their previous records again, to replace what we have as they have made many corrections which are not reflected in our current data. This complete re-import will ensure everything is up to date.

Howard Moss, the chair of North-East Hampshire Badger Group contacted us in March 2026 wanting to “discuss... the sharing of data going forward”.

Datasets of interest from the NBN gateway will also be freshly downloaded and imported when time allows.

8.5 MapMate

HBIC is increasingly facing problems with using MapMate as HCC IT can no longer install it on the HCC network due to the age of the underlying Access database. HBIC is independently running two unsupported laptops hosting MapMate, the data is safe as it is backed up on the HCC server after every import. HBIC hope to move away from using MapMate for data exchange as it is becoming increasingly difficult to transfer to newer versions of Windows. User support, updates and maintenance by MapMate have also now ceased, although a taxa group library update for moths was recently shared by an independent party.

MapMate is currently still used for data exchange with Richard Dickson, Hampshire Swift group, and Hampshire Moth group.

Natalie Harvey, Lizzy Peat, and Wolfgang Ritter

9. Additional Community Recording

9.1 BioBlitz Events

HBIC provided the data entry and support for two community recording events in 2025.

Ian and Billy attended the New Forest Nature Discovery Day at Wilverley on 26th May 2025, organised by Forestry England. A total of 640 records were gathered from 355 different species, including some freshwater invertebrate species collected from Wootton Bridge and identified at the River Laboratory.

Billy and Elliot attended the Mill Field BioBlitz on 2nd August 2025, organised and promoted by Natural Basingstoke and Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. A total of 523 records from 354 species were recorded on the day. A dormouse nest containing an adult and three babies was a particular highlight.

50% of time spent by HBIC supporting BioBlitz events is either allocated to SLAs or charged for separately. The other 50% is in-kind by HBIC and allocated to 'community engagement' time code.

9.2 Living Record

HBIC continue to support the use of Living Record in Hampshire, which allows recorders to easily add records to an online mapping system (using it as their own database) but also allowing County Recorders to download relevant records to incorporate into their databases. It is particularly useful for people wanting to record across taxon groups.

Use of Living Record has been declining year on year, and the total for 2025-26 (34,579) is less than the equivalent period in 2024-25 (41,274).

Table 16. Living Record Verification
(showing records entered between 01/04/2025 and 31/03/2026 for Hampshire)

Hampshire	Total	New	Record Cleaner		Query	Reject	Accept	Locked
			Pass	Fail				
Mammals (excluding bats)	125	25			1			99
Bats	419	263						156
Otters	1							1
Birds	3,309	4						3,305
Reptiles	46	9						37
ARC Reptile Survey	100							100
Amphibians	31	4						27
<u>ARC Natterjack Toad Survey (2018-)</u>	347					1		346
Freshwater Fish	22	22						

Hampshire	Total	New	Record Cleaner		Query	Reject	Accept	Locked
			Pass	Fail				
Insects: Bees, Wasps & Ants	44	44						
Insects: Moths	13,127	2,925			2		10,200	
Insects: Butterflies	3,590	391			3	2	23	3,171
Insects: Caddisflies	2	2						
Insects: Flies (Diptera)	17	17						
Insects: Beetles	30	30						
Insects: Orthoptera – Grasshoppers etc.	9	9						
Insects: Bugs	8	8						
Insects: Dragonflies	477	296			1	1		179
Spiders, Harvestmen & Pseudoscorpions	7	7						
Molluscs: non-marine	2	2						
Vascular plants	12,844	1,188			8		4,226	7,422
Fungi	5	5						
Seaweeds	1	1						
Marine Cnidaria: jellyfish, anemone, coral etc.	1	1						
Source to Sea method - for invasive plants	14	14						
Totals	34,579	5,267			15	4	14,449	14,843

- “New” records have been entered by users but the verifiers have not yet looked at them.
- “Accepted records” have been checked for errors and accepted but not yet downloaded.
- “Locked records” are those which have been verified and downloaded by the County recorders and passed through to HBIC in the usual way.
- The number of queried and rejected records can also be seen, feedback is provided by email within the system.

Natalie Harvey, HBIC Assistant Ecologist

10. Updating the HBIC GIS Habitat Layer & Dataset

There are only two incomplete 2020 surveys awaiting digitisation into the HLU (Habitat data capture) Tool. These are currently being investigated by the Field Ecologists, then will be entered as soon as possible.

The 2024 survey reports have been verified for accuracy and the 2025 survey reports are being written up and verified. Before translation into the HLU begins, the 2024 survey boundaries are digitised on the Biosite layer.

The HLU Tool software is having two updates, which might lead to a small delay. The first update is to ensure the tool works with ArcGIS Pro which is replacing ArcMap in April 2026. The second update will include UKHab codes, as well as translation ability between UKHab and IHS. The 2025 surveys were the first year in which UKHab codes were used instead of IHS.

In addition to capturing data from survey reports, other outstanding tasks include removing areas that are now settlements based on OS Master Map, designating priority habitat ponds based on the presence of certain protected species as described in the JNCC definition and using the latest Ancient Woodland Inventory. Roughly one third of the new inventory has been checked and updated.

However, due to helping with LNRS digitising, not much progress has been made with additional tasks. Now that the LNRS is finished it should be possible to dedicate more time to the HLU Tool again. A second member of staff has been trained to use the HLU Tool to allow work to be shared, which should help.

Table 17: Survey updates outstanding on the GIS Habitat layer.

Year of Surveys	Total number of Surveys	Entered since April 2025	Outstanding Surveys (31/01/2026)
2020	308	0	2 (1%)
2024	246	1	245 (99%)
Total	554	1	247

Total number of surveys remaining to translate = 247
Number of site surveys that can be translated per day = approx. 10
Number of days to complete all surveys = 25 days (at 1 day/week) ~ 6 months

- Verifying and incorporating the following datasets into the GIS Habitat Layer is still planned:
- PTES Traditional Orchards national inventory data – very few now thought to remain
 - RSPB/EA Reedbeds regional inventory data
 - Brownfield “Open Mosaic Habitats on Previously Developed Land” data from BugLife

The field ecologists have been asked to ground truth areas they may come across during the survey programme, subject to access/visibility.

Amy Robjohns, HBIC Ecologist

11. Projects

11.1 A Local Nature Recovery Strategy for Hampshire

The Hampshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy has now been published. It was launched on the 8 December 2025 in Ashburton Hall, HCC HQ by the Leader of the County Council and attended by c100 partner organisations and other stakeholders, with a video message from Chris Packham. [Local Nature Recovery Strategy launched | Environment | Hampshire County Council](#)

HBIC has been working on the mapping that has been produced for the LNRS, which has been intense at times, and has also been working with the species recording groups on prioritising species targeted for recovery as part of the LNRS.

Because of this extra work for HBIC, backfill arrangements were put in place to hire an 18-month E grade post to support Sarah's work as Sarah became Acting HBIC manager from the 4 September 2023. The E grade resigned in Feb 2025 and his replacement started in June 2025 on a one-year contract (now permanent). Funding for LNRS backfill ended on the 31 August 2025 although further work on the mapping by HBIC has been charged to the LNRS budget since then. The current HBIC manager who was seconded to work 3.5 days per week as technical lead to the LNRS is now back in post full-time although continuing to work on the LNRS monitoring framework and transition to delivery.

11.2 Farlington Marshes

HIWWT commissioned HBIC to conduct a monitoring survey to identify areas of the marshes that have been affected by saltwater inundation, to determine the impact of saltwater inundation on community distribution, and to understand transitional habitats, to inform future management decisions.

These areas were subject to an NVC survey, with quadrat data collected along transect lines away from the point of inundation, to map the habitat communities present and their distribution. Additional attributes will be collected at each quadrat point. The surveys took place during September.

The report was delivered at the end of March 2026.

11.3 New Forest Biodiversity Audit

The New Forest Biodiversity Forum have commissioned Footprint Ecology to carry out a full species audit for the New Forest National Park plus a 3km buffer. HBIC has provided its full species data holdings for this plus up to 45 hours. The project incorporates an 'Assemblage Assessment', which identifies multi-taxa groups of rare plant, fungi and invertebrate species with similar ecological requirements - similar to the LNRS but focussed on the New Forest SSSI. Using these assemblage groups will enable Footprint Ecology to consider the relative importance of different management techniques in delivering for a large proportion of rare species within the New Forest.

11.4 EIA Support

18 hours GIS Support was provided for the Environmental Impact Assessment team at Hampshire County Council for some bespoke mapping work.

No other projects have been undertaken this year due to embedding new staff and working on the LNRS.

Nicky Court, HBIC Manager and Sarah Callegari, Senior Ecologist

12. IT Development & Improvements

HBIC's involvement in developing the mapping for the Local Nature Recovering Strategy for Hampshire has slowed down other IT development work:

- The on-going IT plan for HBIC is to enable greater integration between the HBIC databases and GIS to ensure duplication of effort is kept to a minimum and to enable greater flexibility and speed when interrogating and extracting data. Specifically, this includes further improvements to the extraction of GIS data using Python code. HBIC uses tools in ArcGIS to connect it to its Access databases. However, HCC will be moving from ArcMap to ArcGIS Pro from May 2026. The new software uses a new version of Python and all Python tools have to be re-coded. There was not enough time to do that for all Python tools and so some GIS tasks will be slower than previously until all Python tools are done.
- Support for MS Access has been extended until 2028. HBIC has 2 more years to transition its databases into a new system. IT thinks it might be possible to replace some of the Access databases with Power Apps and have promised support. Andy Foy is working on an options paper for HBIC's most complex databases.
- HBIC has discussed with IT how to integrate species data from MapMate and Recorder6 into SQL Server. Ideally this can lead to easier ways of extracting species layers and analyzing the data. It would also remove the reliance on Access for these datasets. HBIC now has access to its own database on SQL Server and has started transferring some (backend) Access databases into SQL Server. This task has been interrupted by the work for the LNRS and will continue when there is time again.
- HBIC currently uses MapMate for data exchange with several species recording groups. It is also used by other LERCs and national species-recording groups. However, it is based on Access 97 and we now use Office 365. That means MapMate can no longer be opened in Access, which is necessary for extracting notable and invasive species records. So MapMate is now held on two HBIC standalone laptops. The Access 97 tables can be read by SQL Server, which is easier than exporting via .csv files. Support for MapMate itself also ceased at the end of 2024 so HBIC is discussing with its species group and other LERCs who use MapMate on how to go forward. It is hoped/expected that current MapMate users will move away from MapMate.
- HBIC are continually improving the efficiency of extracting GIS data into a Word template via an intermediate database for producing the annual biodiversity monitoring statistics.
- JNCC no longer support Recorder6 so ALERC have taken over responsibility with the majority of LERCs agreeing to keep and further develop Recorder and pay an annual license fee (£250) which funds on-going updates to its dictionaries and software. Andy Foy, on contract to the SE LERCs, has asked all Recorder users which components of Recorder 6 are used/not used, with a view to setting up a priority list for its re-development. This has been slow to progress.
- The SE LERCs are progressing the integration of the new habitat classification system UKHab into the HLU tool because of BNG requirements. Andy Foy has now delivered a new version of the HLU tool which works with ArcGIS Pro and which uses UKHab instead of IHS. HCC IT has installed it and HBIC now needs to test it. Then HBIC needs to transfer the data from the old HLU database to the new database by translating the IHS codes into UKHab codes. This translation cannot be done completely automatically but needs significant manual work because there is no one-to-one relationship between IHS and UKHab.

Wolfgang Ritter, HBIC Senior Ecologist

13. Financial Statement for 2025-26

13.1 Service level Agreements and Data Supply Agreements

Most local authority and national park partners, and the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust, are now in the 2nd year of their 2024-2027 SLAs. A four-year agreement with EA started April 2023, with an annual uplift in line with the CPI. New 5-year data supply agreements were negotiated with Southern Water and Wessex Water with 3% increases

Table 18: Income from Partners 2025-26

Partner	Agreement type	Survey days	Hours	Fee
Local Planning Authorities				
Basingstoke & Deane Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	25	147	
East Hampshire District Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	28	174	
Eastleigh Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	18	74	
Fareham Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	14	105	
Gosport Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	8	60	
Hart District Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	20	106	
Havant Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	11	75	
New Forest District Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	14	146	
New Forest National Park Authority	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	14	160	
Portsmouth City Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	6	30	
Rushmoor Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	10	41	
South Downs National Park Authority	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	28	166	
Southampton City Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	10	47	
Test Valley Borough Council	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	24	224	
Winchester City Council	Annual SLA	27	203	
Total				£159,582
Other organisations				
Environment Agency	3 rd yr of 4 yr MOA			
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	15	52	
Forestry England (own land + buffer)	Annual	-	5	
Southern Water	1 st yr of 5yr DSA		5	
Wessex Water	1 st yr of 5yr DSA		0	
Thames Water – withdrew 2024/25	-	-		
Portsmouth Water	Annual		5	
South-West Water	3 rd y of 5 yr DSA		5	
Network Rail – <i>to be paid April 2026</i>	Annual		0	
Total				£35,851
Internal HCC				
Hampshire County Council Countryside.	2nd yr of 3 yr SLA	18	70	£8,777
Hampshire County Council	In kind	20	169	[c£40,000]
Total (£189,997 in 2024/25)		310	2062	£206,380

13.2 Main HBIC Revenue Account (J067M)

Table 19: Expenditure and Income for 2025-26

SUMMARY	Budget set for 2025-26	Projected	Final
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries/on-costs for 1.85 x F, 5 x E and 1 x D grade ¹	£378,000	£364,000	£399,295
Travel, training, equipment, hire of all etc.	£6,000	£6,000	£7,357
10% Income from data requests to the species recording groups	£20,000	£25,000	£23,600
Consultancy – HLU Tool IHS to UKhab and Feasibility study for Access replacement - £10,000 allocated		£10,000	£4,458
Total	£404,000	£405,000	£434,710
INCOME			£
LPA SLAs & data licences (see above)	£181,000	£159,582	£159,582
SLAs/Data supply licences with other bodies		£38,449	£35,851
Chargeable data requests ²	£200,000	£250,000	£237,074 ³
Chargeable survey days from spare capacity & consultancy (up to 20 days @ £400/day)		£8,000	£7,138 ⁴
Recharge for LNRS work (3 months E grade + 5 months G grade acting up + WR time on mapping)		£15,000	£28,116
New Forest Biodiversity Audit - will be paid 2026/27			[£4,885]
EIA Team support (18 hours) - will be paid 2026/27			[£882]
Internal HCC Universal Services (Property Services/Highways/Ecology data fee) and Countryside Services SLA of £8,777	£16,000	£12,000	£11,663
Bioblitz – 2		£1,000	£984
Total	£397,000	£484,041	£479,938
Final balance	-£7,000⁵	£79,041	£45,228
Other costs that are currently in-kind			
Corporate overheads (15% of salary costs not including 0.5FTE HBIC manager)		£55,380	
Salary/on-costs for 0.5 FTE Manager post (not through HBIC cost centre)		£40,500	
HCC US direct delivery (0.7 FTE mixed grades)		c£35-40,000	

¹ Includes an overlap of 2.5 months between retiring and new field ecologist, plus a June start for new temp E grade, return of E from Maternity mid-June, acting up from F to G grade (5 months) and transfer of existing temp E to permanent D grade. Also includes pension strain/redundancy for NC June 2026 set against the surplus

² Includes £285 wrongly coded for HIOWWT data requests

³ Is £20,305 less than that set out in Table 7 due to reason given in Table 7. Will appear in the 2026/27 budget

⁴ Includes HCC Ecology Team surveys but not payment for HDC SANG survey - will be paid into 2026/27 budget

⁵ HBIC currently has a budget set at achieving £7,000 in the HCC Budget. Any 'surplus' over that goes towards offsetting overheads. Investment is needed to replace HBIC's Access databases and upgrade the HLU tool, hence £10K was set aside and will be needed again in 2026/27 as work is ongoing

Nicky Court, HBIC Centre Manager

13.3 Local Recorders Fund (Holding Account A985H)

£20,000 (10% income from data requests for 2024/25) was transferred at year end to the Local Recording Fund holding account with 90% of it divided amongst the species recording groups with data exchange agreements, and remainder available for grants for projects to increase local recording capacity, expertise and available data.

Table 20: Local Recorders Fund expenditure and income

Balance carried forward from 2024/25		£
Includes £20,000 c/f from data request income from 2024/25		£28,126.91
Expenditure		£
Data Exchange Agreements		
• Butterfly Conservation – ringfenced to Hampshire Branch	20%	£4,000.00
• Hampshire Ornithological Society	20%	£4,000.00
• Hampshire Bat Group	10%	£2,000.00
• HIOWWT (HARRN/HMG/HFG) – £4000 to be ringfenced to HFG	35%	£7,000.00
• HIWARG	5%	£1,000.00
Total		£18,000.00
Local Recording Fund		
• HOS Laptop - paid		£350.00
• <i>British Dragonfly Society water testing kit – to be paid</i>		<i>[£350.00]</i>
• Wilder Hook field survey equipment - paid		£140.34
• Woodlands Web field survey equipment – paid		£224.48
• HARRN atlas - paid		£350.00
Total		£1,064.82
Living Record support costs 2024-25 – paid		£1,400.00
Total expenditure		£20,464.82
Income		
Living Record (HCC Countryside) support costs		£275.00
Balance (anticipated)		£7,937.09
Carry forward income from data requests 2025-2026		£23,600
Balance at year end		£31,537.09

Nicky Court, HBIC Centre Manager

14. HBIC Annual Recorders Forum

Held on Saturday 7th March 2026 at Littleton Millennium Memorial Hall

14.1 Programme

Programme: Evidence-based Nature Recovery in Action

Chair: Sarah Callegari, HBIC

09:30 10:00 *Hall open for tea/coffee and to find your seats*

10:00 10:10 **Welcome & HBIC update:** Sarah Callegari, HBIC Senior Ecologist

10:10 10:30 **Conservation translocations and the natterjack toad: A brief history and a recent case study from Hampshire:** Jack Harper, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation

10:35 10:55 **Greater Horseshoe Bat Radio Tracking in West Hampshire:** Colleen Hope, Hampshire Bat group and Ecological Consultancy Services Ltd.

11:00 11:15 *Break*

11:15 11:35 **Local Nature Recovery Strategy Update:** Nicky Court, HBIC

11:40 12:00 **Blacknest Fields Volunteer Recording Group:** Alison Melvin

12:05 12:35 **A series of 5 minute project updates:**

- **Biodiversity Audit Event at Enham Alamein:** Lizzy Staincliffe, on behalf of Enham Trust
- **The Status of 'Vulnerable':** Joel Miller, HBIC
- **Hampshire's Magnificent Meadows Project:** Rachel Remnant, Land Lore Consulting
- **HCC and LNRS priority species:** Andy Davidson, Hampshire County Council
- **The natural sciences collection at Chilcomb House:** Richard Dickson

12:35 13:30 *Time for Lunch, browse the book swap and networking!*

Chair Nicky Court, HBIC

13:30 15:00 **Verification and other problems** - an afternoon for those involved in running local recording schemes, featuring;

- **Journey of a record** Lizzy Peat, HBIC
- **Data bias and visualisation** Chris Dennis, HOS data manager

3pm *Close*

14.2 Organisations attending the Recorders Forum:

Alton Natural History Society
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
British Bryological Society
British Entomology and Natural History Society
British Dragonfly Society
British Trust for Ornithology
Botanical Society for Britain and Ireland
Butterfly Conservation
East Hampshire District Council
Enham Trust
Fareham Moth Group
Friends of Blacknest Fields
FWAG South-East
Hampshire Amphibian and Reptile Recording Network
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Reptile Group Hampshire
and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
Hampshire Bat Group
Hampshire County Council/Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre
Hampshire Ecological Services Ltd
Hampshire Fungus Recording Group
Hampshire Magnificent Meadows
Hampshire Ornithological Society
Hart District Council
Hatch Warren Nature Group
Horndean Biodiversity Group
Kempshott Conservation Group
Leckford Estate, The Waitrose Farm
Lepe Survey Group
New Forest National Park Authority
Oakley Woodlands Group
Portsmouth City Council
Portsmouth Water
South Downs National Park
Southampton City Council
Sparsholt University
Telegraph Woods Nature Recovery Group
Test Valley Borough Council
The River Wey Trust
University of Southampton
Vesper Conservation & Ecology Limited
Wild New Forest
Wilder Hook

Appendix – Acronyms used throughout the report

ARC Amphibian and Reptile Conservation
AWI Ancient Woodland Inventory
BC Borough Council
BNG Biodiversity Net Gain
BSBI Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland
CC City Council
CIEEM Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
DC District Council
DEFRA Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs
EA Environment Agency
EIA Environmental Impact Assessment
ETE Economy, Transport and Environment Department
FHT Freshwater Habitats Trust
GIS Geographical Information System
HARRN Hampshire Amphibian and Reptile Recording Network
HBIC Hampshire Biodiversity Information Centre
HCC Hampshire County Council
HFG Hampshire Flora Group
HIOWWT Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust
HIWARG Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian and Reptile Group
HLU Habitat and Land Use (Mapping tool)
HMG Hampshire Mammal Group
HOS Hampshire Ornithological Society
JNCC Joint Nature Conservancy Council
LA Local Authority
LNR Local Nature Reserve
LNRS Local Nature Recovery Strategy
LPA Local Planning Authority
NBN National Biodiversity Network
NE Natural England
NF New Forest
NNR National Nature Reserve
NPA National Park Authority
NVC National Vegetation Classification
OSMM Ordnance Survey MasterMap
PTES People's Trust for Endangered Species
RVEI Road Verge of Ecological Importance
SD South Downs
SE LERCs South-East Local Environmental Record Centres
SINC Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SLA Service Level Agreement
SPA Special Protection Area
SSSI Sites of Special Scientific Interest
UKHABS UK Habitat Classification
US Universal Services Directorate, HCC
VBA Visual Basic for Applications