

Wormwood Scrubs Ecological Masterplan

3. Enhancing ecology and biodiversity

The primary purpose of the masterplan is to improve the ecology of the site, this diagram illustrates the key ecological enhancements proposed for The Scrubs



Meadow grass



A relaxation of grassland mowing regimes along the woodland edge should be implemented, which would benefit wildlife.

Tree avenue



A new avenue of parkland trees is proposed across the eastern half of the site to improve habitat, connectivity and reduce the dominance of the pitches.

Bulb planting



New native bulb planting below the new tree avenue and along Braybrook Street will enhance the amenity space for wildlife and provide floral biodiversity, benefitting pollinators.

Woodland management



Management will include selective thinning to enhance woodland quality. Glade creation will improve ground flora and understorey, increasing habitats and species diversity.

Wildflower meadow



New areas of meadow will improve the site's ecology, particularly for invertebrates and pollinators.

Tree planting



Areas of large scale tree planting of broad-leaved woodland will provide an extension to the existing woodland habitat and improve connectivity in the south.

Standing water



The addition of standing water on the site will provide a new type of ecosystem which will encourage a wider range of species and increase biodiversity.

Wet woodland



Enhancement of alder and willow woodland and establishment of wet woodland habitat would improve biodiversity, particularly for invertebrates.

Orchard



A new orchard in the NW corner of the site is proposed. Orchards are a valuable food source for many invertebrates, and species which prey on them such as reptiles, birds and bats.

Hedgerows



Hedgerows provide important habitat connectivity and protection for sensitive habitat areas. New areas will be planted to increase the species diversity with an aim of creating species-rich hedges.

Scrub



The scrub habitat on site needs to be managed carefully to prevent the dominance of certain species and the succession to a more mature woodland habitat.

Specimen trees



Large, mature trees are of a high ecological value, therefore these should be planted to provide future specimen trees for future generations.