

Llandough Allotments (Corbett Road) Biodiversity Report

07 October 2023

The inspection team consisting of Roger Chandler, Frances Hutchings and Alun Hutchings conducted the habitat audit over a period of two days (6th and the 7th October 2023). Findings, outcomes and recommendations appear below, and updated biodiversity map and audit table are attached at the end of this report.

Findings

- Of the 28 bird boxes assigned the previous year 26 remained. This reduction was due either to irreparable damage or removal due to poor position.
- Two bird boxes were removed (plots 23 and 36) due to a lack of an appropriate site on those plots.
- Eleven boxes had been nested. This represents 42% of the available boxes and compares well with previous years.
- Of the 5 starling boxes positioned at the stables (next to plot 61), only 3 had been nested. In two cases it appeared that a robin had attempted occupation but abandoned the nest before a clutch could be established (see figure below).



Evidence of Robin nesting in Starling Box

- The Tawny Owl box sited in the adjacent field had clearly been nested as evidenced by the copious presence of nesting material and the remains of a Corvid which had presumably been used to feed the chicks (see figures below).



Owl Box nesting material



Corvid remains found amongst the nesting material

- 4 hedgehog boxes were installed in the Spring of 2022. None showed any sign of having been nested.
- The presence of 11 Ponds were confirmed.
- The presence of 11 Bee Boxes were confirmed.
- The presence of 1 Bat Box was confirmed.
- The presence of 1 Butterfly Hotel was a confirmed.
- The presence of 4 Bird Feeders were confirmed.
- It was found that the Eco Hedge installed in the Community Garden had been vandalised. The Eco Hedge consists of two parallel rows of wooden posts, each sunk into the ground to a depth of about twelve inches. These posts provide a framework for dead branches and saplings which in turn provides habitat for various species. One of the posts had been removed, thereby weakening one side of the hedge and leading to its likely collapse (see figures below).



Post pair in evidence



Post missing

Outcomes

- Of the bird boxes removed from plots 23 and 36 one was used to replace an old damaged bird box on plot 48, and the other was taken into stock for re-siting at a later date.
- All bird boxes were cleaned in preparation for next season.

Recommendations

- The Hedgehog Boxes will be re-inspected in March 2024 for signs of winter hibernation.
- The Eco Hedge will be repaired in late Autumn.
- One small bird box (removed from plot 36) will be reassigned.

Llandough Allotments (Corbett Road) Habitat Audit - 07 Oct 2023

Plot No.	Bird Box					Hedge Hog Boxes	Number of Bee Boxes	Number of Ponds	Notes
	Species	Type	Nest	Cond.	Face				
2	Small	Wood	No	Good	N				
4								1	
5	Small	Wood	Yes	Good	S	1		1	
6	Small	Wood	No	Good	N		1		
8	Previously installed box absent						1		
11								1	
12	Wren	Wood	Yes	Good	N				
13	Small	Eco	No	Good	W				
15							1		
19	Wren	Eco	Yes	Bad	N				
20A	Small	Eco	No	Good	N		1		
22	Small	Wood	No	Good	N				
23	Small	Eco	No	Good	S		1	1	Poor position. Removed for re-siting
26	Small	Wood	No	Good	S				
Rear 30	Starling	Timber	Yes	Good	N				
Rear 30	Starling	Timber	Yes	Good	N				
32	Small	Eco	Yes	Good	N				
36	Small	Eco	No	Good	S				Poor position. Removed for re-siting
37							1		
41								2	
48	Wren	Eco	No	Good	N				Replaced (re-sited from 23)
55	Wren	Eco	No	Good	N			1	
59							1	2	
60	Wren	Eco	No	Good	N		1		
61	Small	Wood	No	Good	N	1		1	
62B	Small	Wood	No	Good	N			1	
63B	Small	Wood	Yes	Good	S		1		
65	Small	Wood	No	Good	S		1		
Comm. Garden	Starling	Eco	No	Good	E	2	1		
Comm. Garden	Starling	Eco	Yes	Good	E				
Comm. Garden	Starling	Eco	Yes	Good	E				
Comm. Garden	Starling	Eco	Yes	Good	E				
Comm. Garden	Starling	Eco	No	Good	E				
Copse	Tawny	Eco	Yes	Good	N				

Biodiversity Map (ver 2.5)

Habitat Locations

-  Starling Box
-  Wren/Robin Box
-  Tawny Owl Box
-  Small Bird Box
-  Bee Box
-  Butterfly Box
-  Bat Box
-  Amphibian Habitat
-  Bird Feeder
-  Hedgehog Box

Flowering Bulbs

-  Picnic Area and Wildlife Garden
-  Daffodil
-  Bluebell
-  Snowdrop
-  Fritillary
-  Wood Anemone

