

Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common Detailed Risk Register

Generated on: 29 August 2023



Rows are sorted by Risk Score

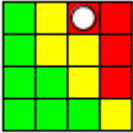
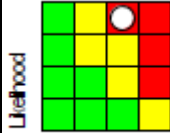
Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE-BBSC 002 Damage to sites 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	<p>Cause: Burnham Beeches was damaged during the COVID-19 pandemic due to higher than usual visitor numbers. Even though numbers have since returned to 'normal' levels, the site is still subject to ongoing degradation.</p> <p>Event: Long-term environmental damage, with a particular focus on protected landscapes, especially Burnham Beeches which is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and not designed for such high visitor numbers.</p> <p>Effect: Ecological and environmental damage; negative press coverage; loss of grants related to conservation; increased spend required to maintain the sites/mitigate damage.</p>	 Likelihood Impact	16	Visitor numbers have returned to more normal/pre-COVID levels, although the impact of 'normal use' may lead to ongoing site damage and degradation. Seasonal area/path restrictions have now become part of normal business to protect the SAC but more work is required in order to reduce the impact of the risk. 29 Aug 2023	 Likelihood Impact	12	31-Dec-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 002a	Prevent damage from car parking on surrounding roads and land.	Four miles of permanent parking restrictions are still expected to be installed by Buckinghamshire Council around Burnham Beeches. Officers have been in contact with Buckinghamshire Council and we expect the work to commence in October 2023.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Dec-2023

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ENV-NE-BBSC 002b	Develop an action plan to reduce the impact of high visitor levels.	A 'Carrying Capacity' study has been carried out, the results of which will be used to formulate an action plan to mitigate the impacts of high visitor levels. Funding to carry out mobile phone-based visitor assessment to gather additional data on visitor numbers and movements is being finalised.	Helen Read	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024
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Risk no, title, creation date, owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Current Risk score change indicator
ENV-NE-BBSC 005 Tree Diseases and Other Pests 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	<p>Cause: Inadequate biosecurity, purchase or transfer of infected plants, soil and animals. ‘Natural’ spread of pests and diseases e.g. Oak Processionary Moth, and lack of funding to deliver requirements of the OPM Plant Health Notice.</p> <p>Event: OPM spreads further throughout the site and inability to carry out legal requirements.</p> <p>Effect: Potential consequences of non-compliance with legal requirements; reputational damage; temporary site/area closures; increased costs for reactive maintenance; health and safety risk to staff and visitors.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Impact</p>	16	<p>OPM is now well established at Stoke Common and still spreading there. OPM has also been discovered in trees at Burnham Beeches.</p> <p>We have been monitoring Ash Trees and have now confirmed the presence of Ash Dieback at Burnham Beeches. Funding for works to deal with this issue is available from the Division’s central budget.</p> <p>Without additional funding there is nothing more we can do to reduce the risk. We will continue to undertake all reasonable actions to keep the situation under control as far as we are able.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">29 Aug 2023</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Impact</p>	16	Accept	Constant

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 005a	Ensure staff training is kept updated to enable timely identification of pests and knowledge of correct treatment/prevention.	Ongoing. Training needs reviewed at regular team meetings, and proactively promoted via Departmental Health and Safety Group and relevant corporate boards. Needs are also reviewed at 6 monthly local Health and Safety meetings.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Jan-2024
ENV-NE-BBSC 005b	Annual tree inspections undertaken by qualified personnel.	Ongoing. Inspections continue on a scheduled basis or if and when the need arises.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE-BBSC 005d	Measures in place for staff, volunteers and contractors including public messages	Ongoing biosecurity actions and implementation of biosecurity policy.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024

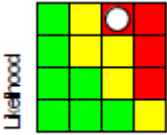
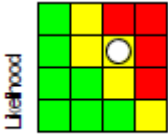

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ENV-NE-BBSC 005e	Review The Commons' Tree Safety Policy tri-annually and the local site policy annually.	The Commons' Tree Safety Policy is reviewed every three years: next due in July 2024. Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common local site policy is reviewed annually: next due in July 2024.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	01-Aug-2024
ENV-NE-BBSC 005f	Actions for the management of OPM at Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common.	OPM Management Plan for 2023 was produced for both sites. The Plan sets out the actions that we will take in relation to OPM at BB&SC and will be reviewed in 2024.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	30-Jun-2024

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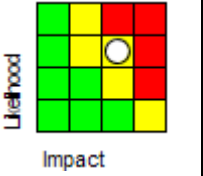
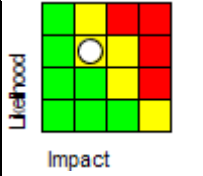

	Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common (BBSC).	trees was declined. We continue to challenge this and further decisions from the RPA. In view of this situation we have had to set our 2023/24 budget based on the minimum BE6 payments. An appeal with the Independent Arbitration Board will take place on 18 September. We are seeking external support for advice on preparing for the meeting.			
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ENV-NE-BBSC 009 Maintenance of buildings and other structures 15-Jun-2022 Martin Hartup	<p>Cause: Poor condition of buildings and other structures, combined with inadequate planned and/or reactive maintenance, reduced CWP budget and limited capital programme.</p> <p>Event: Structures become unsafe or unusable.</p> <p>Effect: Potential serious injury to a member of the public, or member of staff; disruption to service delivery/performance; financial loss; reputational damage as a result of legal action and/or negative publicity.</p>	 <p>Likelihood</p> <p>Impact</p>	16	<p>The key issues at Burnham Beeches include the large, wooden corporate image (byelaw) boards located across the site and the 'access for all' gate which has been out of use since February.</p> <p>We are hoping to resolve the issue with the byelaw boards this year with funding from local budget and CWP programme.</p> <p>Concerns about the general situation are raised at quarterly client liaison meetings with CSD. We continue to work with CSD to resolve service delivery issues.</p> <p>29 Aug 2023</p>	 <p>Likelihood</p> <p>Impact</p>	12	31-Mar-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 009a	Periodic infrastructure checks.	<p>Continual monitoring of byelaw boards and other structures. Any boards which are found to be unsound are removed. The Burnham Beeches Team have designed an alternative board and have installed this. We hope we will have the resources this year through the CWP to replace the remaining boards as well.</p> <p>The issue with the 'access for all' gate is discussed with CSD at regular liaison meetings and we will continue to press for a swift resolution.</p>	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024

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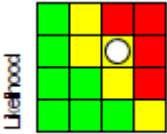
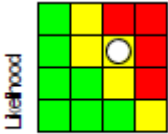

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ENV-NE-BBSC 001 Budget reduction and income loss 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	<p>Cause: 12% budget reduction with in-year unidentified savings. Loss of income from car parking, filming and other funding streams.</p> <p>Event: Fewer visitors and less filming interest.</p> <p>Effect: Inability to meet approved budgets; reduction in essential repairs and maintenance; reduction in key services; failure to meet business plan objectives; reputational damage.</p>		12	<p>Whilst the 12% budget reductions were addressed in 2021/22 and through stage one of the Natural Environment Division's Target Operating Model process, there are still unidentified savings listed in the budget until April 2024.</p> <p>The Rural Payment Agency (RPA) has proposed a change in the value of the Countryside Stewardship Scheme grant at Burnham Beeches, reducing it by around 50% due to a change in the claim rules after the agreement was signed. See ENV-NE- BBSC 007 for details.</p> <p>29 Aug 2023</p>		6	31-Mar-2024	 Constant
							Reduce	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 001a	Keep budgets under continual review.	Budgets are kept under continual review and reported quarterly as part of the budget forecast process. We continue to liaise with our Chamberlain's Business Partners on potential solutions to this matter.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024

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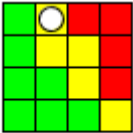
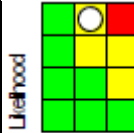

	as appropriate.	Officers have made comments on the proposed Farnham Common Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan is now due to go out for formal consultation and we will respond again as appropriate.			
ENV-NE-BBSC 004b	Active monitoring of air pollution where possible. Active monitoring of environmental impacts where possible. Undertake research where appropriate and where resources allow.	Implementation of a section 106 funded project on air quality work and subsequent report will start the process of producing a Site Nitrogen Action Plan (SNAP) in conjunction with Natural England and Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. Other monitoring and mitigation projects identified and carried out where possible. Responding to planning applications regarding air quality issues	Helen Read	29-Aug-2023	30-Sep-2023
ENV-NE-BBSC 004e	Monitor the success of the funded Ranger posts.	Establish monitoring programmes to measure the success of the two funded Ranger posts to deliver s106 and SAMMS commitments. This will involve annual SAMMS 106 reports to the relevant parts of Buckinghamshire Council and Slough Borough Council on how the funds have been spent, and the EF&CC will be kept updated throughout the year.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024

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ENV-NE-BBSC 006 Climate and Weather 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	Cause: Severe wind events, prolonged precipitation or restricted precipitation. May be climate change influenced. Event: Severe weather/climate impacts; fire, flood and storm events (potentially increasing in frequency). Effect: Service capability disrupted; increased demand for staff resources to respond to incidents and maintain site safety; loss of species, temporary site closures and associated access; increased costs for reactive management; injury or death to staff, visitors, contractors and volunteers; damage/loss of rare/fragile habitats and species.	 Likelihood Impact	12	Work on site continues to mitigate the impact of extreme weather events and this is monitored on an ongoing basis. We accept the current level of risk. 29 Aug 2023	 Likelihood Impact	12	Accept	 Constant

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 006a	Review and update plan annually. Habitat fire management and monitoring policies and plans are in place and link to staff training and local emergency services.	New Burnham Beeches site maps are currently under construction in collaboration with local fire services. Emergency plan for Stoke Common agreed with Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue is in place and subject to annual review and fire drills.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024
ENV-NE-BBSC 006b	Storm monitoring & management and closure policies are in place across the sites and are linked to high staff awareness and training.	The site continues to monitor and respond to warnings of extreme weather.	Martin Hartup	29-Aug-2023	31-Mar-2024

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ENV-NE-BBSC 008 Pollution 15-Jun-2022 Martin Hartup	<p>Cause: Continual pollution of Burnham Beeches as a result of inadequate sewerage provision for existing development in the local area, which is managed by Thames Water.</p> <p>Event: Sewage escapes into the watercourse running into Burnham Beeches after heavy rain.</p> <p>Effect: Pollution of the watercourses running into Burnham Beeches and associated degradation of the environment; potential reputational damage.</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Likelihood</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Impact</p>	8	<p>Thames Water is looking at the whole sewer system in Farnham Common with a view to carrying out work to resolve the issue across the whole area. We are engaging in the process, which so far has largely been fact finding, prior to drawing up detailed proposals. Thames Water have now stated that they will present detailed proposals by December 2023.</p> <p>We are unable to reduce the possibility of the risk occurring but continue to report any issues to the Environment Agency and Thames Water.</p> <p>29 Aug 2023</p>	 <p style="text-align: center;">Likelihood</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Impact</p>	8		 Constant
							Accept	

Action no	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
NE-ENV-BBSC 008a	Commission surveys to assess the impact of pollution on indicator species.	BBSC has commissioned a project to compare the mosses and liverworts of the polluted stream with those of another local unpolluted stream. Thames Water is funding an equivalent project on freshwater invertebrates, the first part of the field work for which has been completed. Surveys and associated reports have been completed. Thames Water will continue to support monitoring activity and have committed to propose a solution by Dec 2023	Helen Read	29-Aug-2023	31-Dec-2023