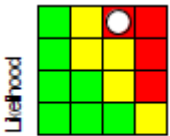
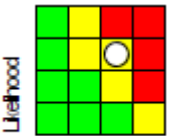


Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common Risk Register

Generated on: 20 December 2024



Rows are sorted by Risk Score

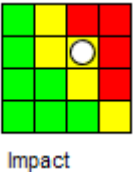

Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
ENV-NE-BBSC 002 Negative impacts of visitor pressure	<p>Cause: Burnham Beeches was damaged during 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>	 <p>Lifehood</p> <p>Impact</p>	16	<p>Visitor numbers have returned to more normal/pre-COVID levels, although the impact of 'normal use' may lead to ongoing site damage and degradation.</p> <p>Seasonal area/path restrictions have now become part of normal business to protect the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) but more work is required in order to reduce the impact of the long term risk.</p> <p>In addition, a Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMMs) Project has been established: A Community Engagement Ranger has been employed to raise awareness of the impact of recreation pressure at Burnham Beeches. A Monitoring Strategy has been prepared and first stages were implemented in 2024 to establish baselines for future comparison and allow for the monitoring of the impact of visitors and impact of mitigation efforts. A framework for sustainable visitor use at</p>	 <p>Lifehood</p> <p>Impact</p>	12	31-Mar-2026	

Appendix 3

24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup				Burnham Beeches is being developed. This risk will remain and will need to be managed long term. 09 Dec 2024				
							Reduce	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 002a Car parking	Prevent damage from car parking on surrounding roads and land.	Four miles of permanent parking restrictions are being installed by Buckinghamshire Council around Burnham Beeches. Buckinghamshire Council is completing works in phases: Phase 1 was completed in May 2024 and Phase 2 is due to complete by the end of the financial year. Sign locations are being marked out in December 2024.	Martin Hartup	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 002b Action Plan	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 a 'Sustainable Visitor Access and Mitigation Strategy' to mitigate the impacts of high visitor levels. The order has been placed with contractors and the final draft is expected the end of the financial year and we are looking to implement any actions. Second draft received in November expected to be completed by end of 24/25.	Helen Read	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 002c Mitigation Measures	Deliver action to monitor the impact of recreation and effect of mitigation measures.	Monitoring Strategy prepared and first stages implemented in 2024 to establish baselines for future comparison and allow for the monitoring of the impact of visitors and impact of mitigation efforts. Will improve information for 5 yearly SAMMs reviews – next one in December 2025.	Martin Hartup	03-Dec-2024	31-Jan-2026

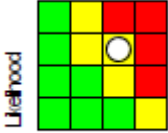
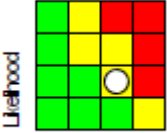
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Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
ENV-NE-BBSC 004 Negative impacts of development and encroachment 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	Cause: Pressure on Planning Authorities to meet housing targets. Failure to monitor and challenge housing and other development plans. Lack of partnership working with Planning Authorities and inclusion in Local Development Plans. Lack of resources to employ specialist support or carry out necessary monitoring/research. Event: Large housing or other developments on land affecting Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common. Effect: Increase in visitor numbers and general recreation pressure; potential decline in biodiversity due to disturbance and impact on habitat quality; increased air, light and noise pollution; decrease in water availability; increased hydrological pollution risk; increase in traffic on local road network causing pollution and erosion.		12	<p>Ongoing - Local Plans continue to be developed and are scrutinised and commented on when required. Staffing capacity is currently able to manage the volume of work associated with this.</p> <p>The Buckinghamshire Council Local Plan, whilst not yet produced, has established clear policies to protect the SAC at Burnham Beeches with an agreed mitigation strategy and funding mechanism for its delivery.</p> <p>The Slough Borough Council Local Plan is still very much a work in progress but, again, some mitigation has already been agreed for specific development and funding identified to help protect Burnham Beeches from the impacts of increased development. However, officers have some doubts that aspects of the agreed mitigation will be sufficient to protect Burnham Beeches and therefore further active engagement will be needed.</p> <p>The risk is accepted at its current level. The target date shown is the date of the next review.</p>		12	31-Mar-2025	
							Accept	

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Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 004a Local authorities/Cou nties Local Plans and Core Strategies	Inclusion in core strategy planning documents or equivalent. Close partnership working with local planning authorities. Active monitoring of planning applications with responses as appropriate.	Monitoring activity continues. Mitigation strategy with Buckinghamshire Council completed and projects within it are underway. Plan/Mitigation Strategy is still a work in progress with Slough Borough Council. Officers made comments on the proposed Farnham Common Neighbourhood Plan and responded to the formal consultation. Officers are maintaining contact with local authorities and Natural England but further engagement will be required to ensure mitigation for Slough developments is effective.	Helen Read	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 004b Monitoring of impacts	Active monitoring of air pollution and environmental impacts where possible. Undertake research where appropriate and where resources allow.	A section 106 funded project on air quality work resulted in the production of a Site Nitrogen Action Plan (SNAP) in conjunction with Natural England and Centre for Ecology and Hydrology. Other monitoring and mitigation projects are identified and carried out where possible. Officers respond to planning applications regarding air quality issues. £10,000 has been secured from Scottish & Southern Electricity, some of which will be used for a further project on lichens and air quality.	Helen Read	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 004e Monitor success	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 Epping Forest and Commons Committee will be kept updated throughout the year. The 2025 report will be produced by the end of April 2025.	Martin Hartup	05-Dec-2024	30-Apr-2025

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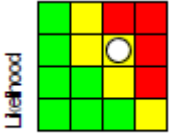
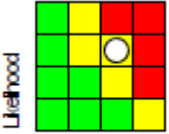
Risk no, Title, Creation date, Owner	Risk Description (Cause, Event, Impact)	Current Risk Rating & Score		Risk Update and date of update	Target Risk Rating & Score		Target Date/Risk Approach	Flight path
ENV-NE-BBSC 005 Negative impacts from pests and diseases 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	Cause: Inadequate biosecurity, purchase or transfer of infected plants, soil and animals. 'Natural' spread of pests and diseases e.g. Oak Processionary Moth/Ash Dieback, and lack of funding to deliver requirements of the OPM survey and nest removal. Event: OPM spreads further throughout sites. Additional Ash Dieback survey and tree works become necessary. Effect: Health and safety risk to staff and visitors: individuals suffer an allergic reaction to OPM. Increased costs for survey and tree works and reactive maintenance. Potential consequences of non-compliance with legal requirements. Reputational damage. Temporary site/area closures.	 Likelihood Impact	12	OPM is now well established at Stoke Common and is still spreading there. OPM has also been discovered in trees at Burnham Beeches. This is now managed on a health and safety basis rather than Plant Health Notice. Ash Dieback is present at Burnham Beeches. Tree safety costs are likely to rise. Current risk score has been reduced from 16 (likely / major) to 12 (possible / major). We have set a target to reduce the risk to 8 (unlikely / major) but this is dependent upon additional funding becoming available. We will continue to undertake all reasonable actions to keep the situation under control as far as we are able.	 Likelihood Impact	8	31-Mar-2025	
							Reduce	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 005a Staff training	Ensure staff training is kept updated to enable timely identification of pests and knowledge of correct treatment/prevention.	Ongoing action. Training needs are reviewed annually as part of Performance Development Reviews and in line with the Tree Safety Policy. Training needs are also proactively reviewed at six-monthly local Health and Safety meetings.	Martin Hartup	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 005b Inspections	Annual tree inspections undertaken by qualified personnel.	Inspections continue on a scheduled basis or if and when the need arises and are subject to annual review of tree safety maps/training needs which are checked in July each year. This is an ongoing action with reviews completed in July 2024 as scheduled, and tree inspection and remedial works are all in progress, in accordance with the 2024/25 plan.	Martin Hartup	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025

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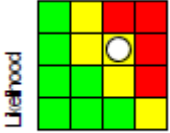
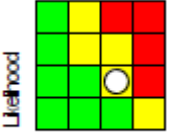
ENV-NE-BBSC 005d Biosecurity	Measures in place for staff, volunteers and contractors including public messages	Ongoing biosecurity actions and implementation of biosecurity policy.	Martin Hartup	03-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 005e Tree Safety Policy	Review The Commons' Tree Safety Policy tri-annually and the local site policy annually.	The Commons' Tree Safety Policy is reviewed every three years: next due in December 2024 Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common local site policy is reviewed annually, procedure review happened in July 2024.	Martin Hartup	03-Dec-2024	31-Jan-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 005f OPM at Stoke Common	Actions for the management of OPM at Burnham Beeches and Stoke Common.	OPM Management Plan for 2024 was produced for both sites and was implemented.	Martin Hartup	03-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025

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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	Flight path
ENV-NE-BBSC 006 Adverse impacts of extreme weather and climate change 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.	 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. The target date shown is the date of the next review. 05 Dec 2024	 Impact	12	31-Mar-2025	
							Accept	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 006a Fire management	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. Next meeting booked January 2025. An emergency plan for Stoke Common, agreed with Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue, is in place and subject to annual review and fire drills. There is now one being developed for Berkshire Fire and Rescue. Next meeting booked for January 2025.	Martin Hartup	05-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025
ENV-NE-BBSC 006b Storms	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. There has been one two-day closure in the last quarter of 2024 due to storm force winds.	Martin Hartup	09-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025

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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	Flight path
ENV-NE-BBSC 009 Decline in condition of assets 15-Jun-2022 Martin Hartup	Cause: Poor condition of buildings and other structures, combined with inadequate planned and/or reactive maintenance, reduced Cyclical Works Programme (CWP) budget and limited capital programme. Event: Structures become unsafe or unusable. 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.	 Impact	12	There has been some improvement in reactive repairs work and Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM). However, there has been a failure in the quoted work system to progress items and these have now been moved into the into Cyclical Works Programme (CWP). The original CWP backlog still exists and there has been little progress so far on programming works. However, a complete fabric condition survey has been undertaken to help guide priorities on this with a pre-start meeting due to be held in mid-December. Concerns about the general situation are raised at quarterly client liaison meetings with City Surveyor's Department (CSD), and we continue to work with CSD to resolve service delivery issues. The risk has been reduced to 12 major/possible to reflect the positive actions above. 09 Dec 2024	 Impact	8	31-Mar-2025	
							Reduce	

Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
ENV-NE-BBSC 009b Liaison with City Surveyor's Department	Continual liaison with CSD on overdue PPM checks on key infrastructure.	The Head Ranger continues to liaise with colleagues in the City Surveyor's Department (CSD) to restore a programme of regular PPM checks on key infrastructure. We are reliant on the CSD Facilities Management Team to achieve this.	Martin Hartup	03-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025

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Action no, Title,	Action description	Latest Note	Action owner	Latest Note Date	Due Date
NE-ENV- BBSC 008a Surveys to monitor impact	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 committed to propose a solution by December 2023, however, we have not yet heard from them and await communications.	Helen Read	05-Dec-2024	31-Mar-2025

The following risk has been closed and will be removed from the risk register.

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	Flight path
ENV-NE-BBSC 001 Budget pressures 24-Feb-2022 Martin Hartup	Cause: 12% budget reduction with in-year unidentified savings. Loss of income from car parking, filming and other funding streams. Event: Fewer visitors and less filming interest. Effect: Inability to meet approved budgets; reduction in essential repairs and maintenance; reduction in key services; failure to meet business plan objectives; reputational damage.	 Likelihood Impact	1	Budget management is now controlled sufficiently as business as usual activity. This risk will now be closed. 20 Dec 2024	 Likelihood Impact	6	31-Mar-2025	
							Reduce	