

## DATA STATEMENTS

### STATEMENT ON BIRD RECORDS IN OXFORDSHIRE (DATA MARKED AS "OOS" IN THE DATA ORIGIN COLUMN)

The majority of bird records in Oxfordshire, except those in the north of the county, have been provided by the Oxford Ornithological Society. Such records are denoted by an asterisk next to their common name. Please note that:

- a. Not all species are subject to the same degree of recording; the absence of records of a species in a given geographical area does not necessarily indicate absence of that species.
- b. Not all parts of the county are subject to the same degree of recording; the absence of records for a given area does not necessarily indicate the absence of bird species.
- c. Records of species regarded as sensitive have been provided with reduced information about location. Any requests for more precise information about the location of such "confidential" sites should be addressed directly to OOS ([www.oos.org.uk](http://www.oos.org.uk)) You can use the following email contacts [chairman@oos.org.uk](mailto:chairman@oos.org.uk) (the chairman) and [ian@recorder.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:ian@recorder.fsnet.co.uk) (the county bird recorder).

### USE OF NBN GATEWAY DATA

Commercial organisations and members of the public may refer to the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway for wildlife records and habitat and designated site information for their own private use.

The NBN Gateway's Terms and Conditions state "*You may not republish wholesale the material, data and/or information made available to you, or exploit it for commercial or academic research purposes without first obtaining written permission from the relevant data provider*". This means that environmental consultants cannot use NBN data in ecology reports for planning applications unless they have obtained written permission from all the data providers. If NBN Gateway data are also provided for this project please make sure that the NBN Gateway's terms and conditions are followed precisely.

The National Planning Policy Framework states that "*planning policies and decisions should be based on up-to date information about the natural environment and other characteristics of the area*". The NBN Gateway does not hold the most up-to-date, comprehensive or highest resolution information on protected and notable species, local sites or habitats in Berkshire and Oxfordshire.

TVERC have advised planning authorities in Berkshire and Oxfordshire that ecology reports using only NBN data should not usually be validated and the NBN has requested that suspected breaches of NBN terms and conditions are reported to the NBN Data Access Officer, who will take appropriate action. Further detail is available on our website:

<http://www.tverc.org/cms/content/ecological-survey-reports-planning-applications>.

## STATEMENT ON GRID REFERENCES

The following types of grid references are provided:

- Six figure grid references. Many of these will be an assigned relatively central grid reference for a site though with small sites the assigned grid reference for a site could be close to the edge. The record may have come from anywhere within the site. Where additional location information is provided the reference may be more accurate or central to a subsite within the larger site. Where the location is not site based, the grid reference should be within 100 metres of the location.
- Four figure grid references. Generally these are 1km square records often with some location information to give an idea of which part of the 1km square the record was found. Sometime this information can be quite accurate. Where a large site is referred to the location should be in that part of the 1km square that is within the site. In some case these may be tetrad records with grid reference referring to a 2km x 2km square. This includes some confidential records from Oxford Ornithological Society. Other tetrad data is rarely included.
- Eight and ten figure grid references: These are generally accurately worked out to the location where the species was found. However for small and narrow sites eight figure grid references may be used as a central grid reference for a site.
- TVERC intends to start tagging data to qualify these grid references but at present only a limited amount of qualification is provided. 1km square records are tagged as 1km record and 2km square records are tagged as 2km record.