



Mindenhurst Nature Trail



1. Basingstoke Canal – did you know the Basingstoke Canal is a Site of Special Scientific Interest? It has one of the largest varieties of aquatic plants and invertebrates along the length of a single waterway in the UK and it's our starting spot for the Mindenhurst Nature Trail.



2. Village Green Pond – attracts wildlife such as dragonflies and moorhens. It is also part of the Sustainable Urban Drainage System, which means it helps us manage surface water across Mindenhurst.



3. Swales – you'll find swales across the site, they feed water into the Village Green Pond. This water then feeds into the Basingstoke Canal. Planting within swales, such as wildflowers, acts as a natural filtration system and slows the flow of water down during times of peak rainfall. Wildflowers help attract pollinators such as bees, butterflies and hoverflies and provide food for animals that prey on insects.





4. Bat Boxes on Trees in

Formal Park – from Mindenhurst Road you can spot bat boxes on one of the pine trees that is within the future Formal Park area. They are specially designed to provide a habitat for local bats.



5. Area of Semi-Improved Neutral Grassland - this

area, and the edge of the woodland, can provide natural habitats that supports reptiles. It has a mix of grasses and herbs such as false oatgrass, cock's foot and red fescue, white clover and common ragwort.



6. Central SANGs - within the Central SANGs there are different

varieties of trees and plants that that support a range of wildlife. Tree species to spot include pine trees, silver birches, English oak trees, Rowan, Sweet Chestnut, Sycamore, Hawthorns and more! Common plant varieties include gorse and bracken. The Central SANGs support plenty of wildlife, such as badgers, bats, deer, reptiles and invertebrates.



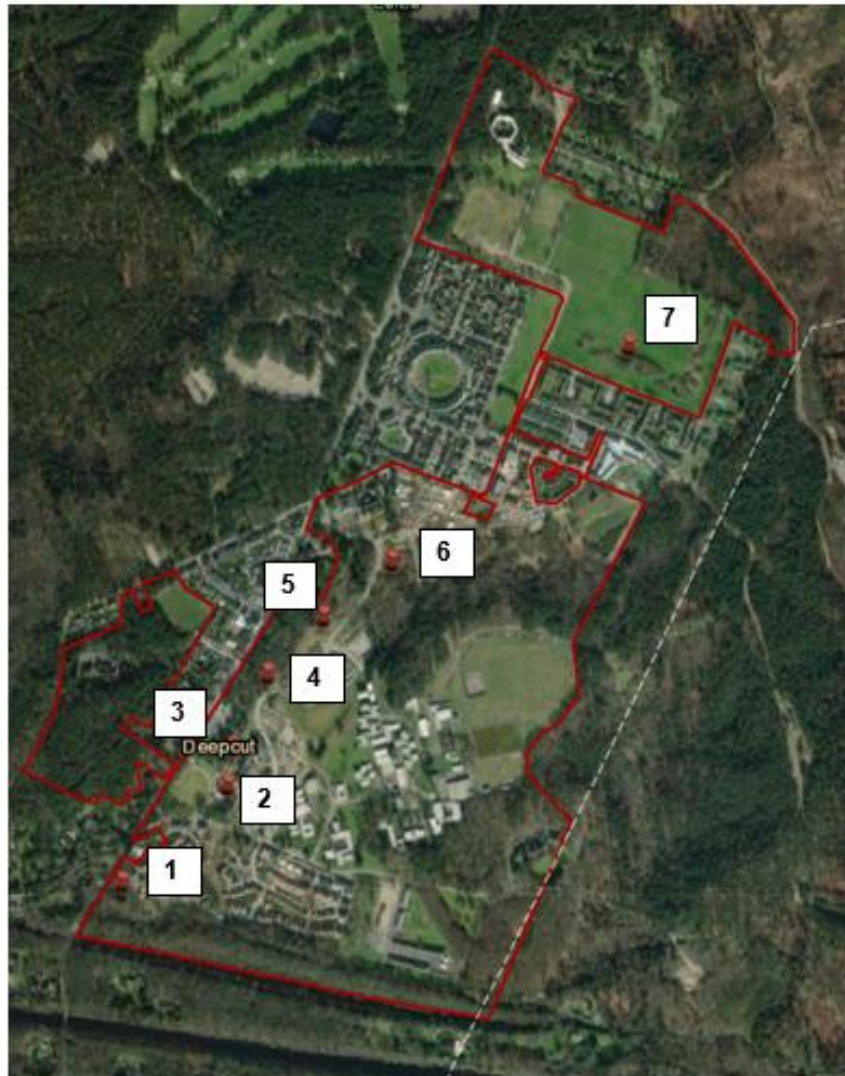


7. Northern site trees and vegetation –

patches of Broadleaved Woodland with unmanaged grassland underneath scattered trees.



Areas such as this provide good refuge and foraging habitats for reptiles, in addition to providing a good foraging habitat for badgers.



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