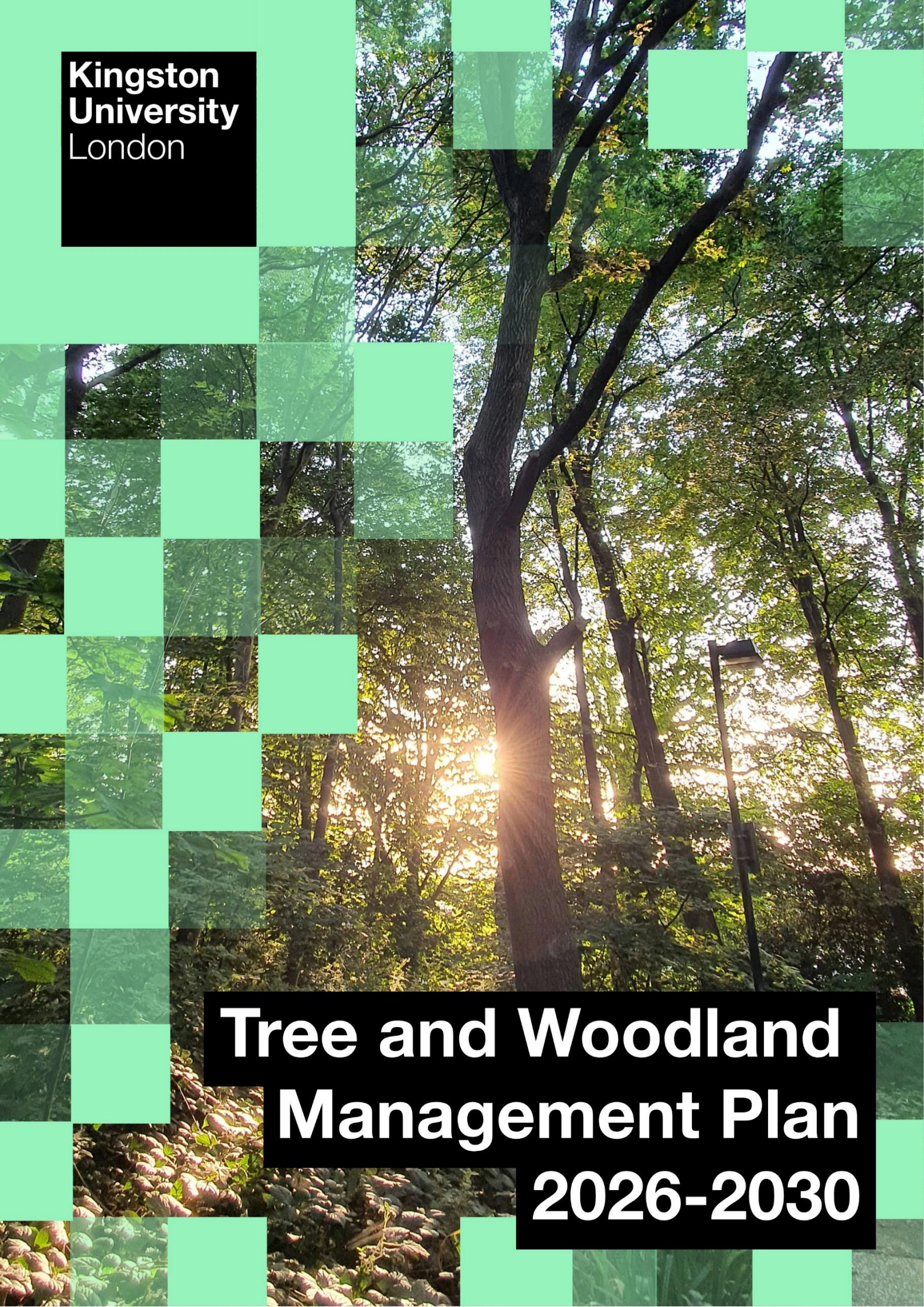
Kingston University London



Tree and Woodland Management Plan 2026-2030

Author:	Sivakhami Sivanesan Biodiversity and Landscape Manager
Date of update:	January 2026
Version:	5

Kingston University

Tree and Woodland Management Plan

2026-2030

For more information
Kingston University Biodiversity-link to all platforms: https://shorturl.at/BfZzL
Email: biodiversity@kingston.ac.uk

Additional
The updated Tree and Woodland Management Plan 2026-2030 was sent to the Kingston University Estates Committee for notification of the document update in March 2026

CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION

All sites at Kingston University (KU) contain trees with some sites only having a few trees; whilst other sites have exceptional cover, such as Kingston Hill with its closed canopy semi-natural deciduous woodland. Many of the trees on KU sites are protected through legislation such as the **Town and Country Planning Act 1990**.

Trees and woodlands create a pleasant environment, enabling important ecological services including:

- providing wildlife habitat to a host of other species,
- photosynthesis,
- flood defence through the attenuation of rainwater in their canopies and from uptake through their roots,
- reduction of the Urban Heat Island (UHI) effect,
- aiding pollution absorption, [10]
- acting as noise buffers,
- and long-term carbon sequestration (but only for those that reach a level of maturity, and only for long lived species) [8].

As the owner of an extensive portfolio of trees and an important area of urban woodland, KU aims to continue our stewardship of these habitats, our main aim being to restore these habitats and habitat features to high quality, good condition habitats that have a fully functioning ecosystem. These are complex slow growing habitats; the work to restore them to their full condition is a long term one, which needs to be continued over decades (if not longer) for this to be achieved. This fully aligns to KU's aims under the Town House Strategy of being ambitious and being impactful in our professional practice, which is committed to looking ahead, working towards real long-term changes and sharing and evidencing best practice, as befitting an educational institution with a responsibility to future generations [22].

This tree and woodland management plan is linked to the University's wider aim of conserving and enhancing biodiversity across all of its campuses. This aim is partly motivated by the University's duty as a public body to conserve biodiversity under the **Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act 2006)**, although the prime motivation is the University's wish to conserve high quality green spaces for the health and wellbeing of the environment, biodiversity and future generations. Our work to regenerate and restore habitats such as the priority deciduous woodland at Kingston Hill and the woodland at Tolworth Court, can also contribute to our Estates Vision work, especially where these are subject to Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) under the **Environment Act 2021**.

For further details of Kingston University's aims and actions for biodiversity, see the Kingston University Biodiversity Policy [15] and the Kingston University Biodiversity Action Plan [16].

2 MANAGING FOR BIODIVERSITY AND SAFETY

2.1 Kingston University Tree Management Policy

The Kingston University Tree Management Policy applies to all our sites and is updated every 2 years. The latest version is available online here. The main aims of the policy are to provide a framework to manage trees for health and safety and biodiversity, where trees interact with set footpaths, boundaries, roads and buildings.

We assess trees on our sites using the Quantified Tree Risk Assessment (QTRA) methodology. A methodology based on the probability of tree failure combined with the level of site usage around

the tree (the target area). This means that a tree with a similar level of decay and probability of failure, will be inspected and managed very differently if it is located in the middle of a woodland away from formal footpaths, roads, buildings and set Outdoor Learning Environments (OLEs) or our boundaries, compared to if it was adjacent to a road or building.

Following two court cases in 2020 and 2021, the Health and Safety Executive issued some new guidance in 2022 [20] which resulted in changes to what is considered best practice. Previous guidance and case law allowed for trees deemed to have a low risk, to be inspected on a longer cycle for example every 3 or 4 years, this has now been reduced to a 2-year cycle, with some organisations requiring full annual surveys for all trees which may reach a target. The duty to inspect more frequently has been adopted by many Education Sector organisations. For KU, this has meant that the assessment methods used remain the same but the frequency for full tree re-inspections have increased alongside the associated increase in costs.

2.2 Signposting areas of increased risk

As part of our ongoing woodland restoration efforts, some trees classified as higher risk have become more visible as areas of clear ground are created and bramble cover is reduced to allow restoration work to progress. While these spaces will eventually be replanted with native species once invasive plants are fully removed, this interim stage can make these trees more accessible to anyone entering the woodland.

Our woodland is managed primarily for biodiversity and is not intended for general public amenity use. To support safe engagement, we have designed access for the KU community around a single maintained nature trail and an outdoor learning area. However, controlling access remains challenging, even with clear signage such as “No Entry” and “No Dogs,” as we have seen evidence of vandalism and other antisocial behaviour, including trespassing dog walkers.

To help manage these risks, we have installed additional signage and visible barriers in key locations where bramble cover no longer restricts entry. These measures highlight potential health and safety risks and make it clear that anyone choosing to enter beyond these points does so at their own risk, while still allowing wildlife movement through the area.

3 TREE MANAGEMENT ON NON-WOODLAND SITES

Our sites at Roehampton Vale, Dorich House Museum, Clayhill Halls of Residence, the Knights Park/Middle Mill Campus Complex and the Penrhyn Road Campus Complex, contain both single trees and trees within small groupings. These all provide valuable ecological services. Many of the trees on our Penrhyn Road Campus and at Dorich House Museum are protected by individual Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) or under a group TPO as they occur on a site within a Conservation Area.

Figure 1: Image of the non-woodland treescape at Penrhyn Road Campus

On these sites, lines of trees provide linkages for wildlife to use for navigation, to feed along and for nesting sites. Trees on all of the sites also provide important ecosystem functions ranging from shade provision, mitigating some of the light pollution emitted from buildings, to removal of air pollution where studies showed an estimated removal of 1,354 ktonnes of PM2.5, SO_2, NO_2 and O_3, as an overall figure for UK vegetation [10], with an annual value of £1 billion assessed in 2015, at 2012 prices.

Dorich House Museum contains a small kitchen orchard with a wide range of fruiting species including one Black Mulberry (*Morus nigra*) which is over 100 years old. Fruit trees develop veteran features such as hollow trunks, rot holes, dead wood and sap runs which are very beneficial for wildlife, relatively quickly; this is known as "early senescent" [28]. As Dorich House Museum has no capacity for more trees, the aim is to restore the existing veteran fruit trees to encourage fruiting while retaining their early senescent features for as long as possible. As well as retaining any standing dead trees where safe to do so and replanting any fallen fruit trees with different fruit species to maintain pollinator groups for orchards in the Kingston Hill and Kingston Vale areas.

4 TREE MANAGEMENT ON WOODLAND SITES – KINGSTON HILL

4.1 Campus plan

See Appendix 1 for the Kingston Hill Master Campus Plan which illustrates the site boundaries (in red).

4.2 Location

Address: Kingston Hill, Kingston Upon Thames, Surrey, KT2 7LB
OS grid ref: (520762, 171479)

4.3 Area

Whole site area: 16.8 ha.
Woodland area: 9.1 ha.

4.4 Land use and history

Kingston Hill Campus is located on land which used to be part of the ancient Coombe Wood, which covered much of the area between the edges of Richmond Park and Wimbledon Common in the area of Coombe; the 1746 map of London and its environs showing the extent of the woodland at the time. Currently the site is the largest of the teaching campuses of Kingston University, including student halls of residences and is surrounded by woodland. The surrounding land use is predominantly private residential such as the Coombe Park Estate to the South West. The site also borders a busy road (the A308). While the majority of the woodland on our site contain relatively young trees, dating from the 1800s onwards, there are still scattered Oaks within the site that would pre-date the fragmentation of Coombe Wood in 1832[27]. Other remnants of the ancient Coombe Wood are found nearby on Coomb Hill Golf Course and Hopping Wood.

4.5 Conservation status

Kingston Hill campus sits within the Royal Borough of Kingston's Conservation Area Number 23, which was designated in November 2004. Part of the reason for Kingston Hill's conservation area status is because of the high proportion of mature tree cover, and the area's 'strong relationship' to Richmond Park which sits to the West and North West of the conservation area [2].

The trees and woodland on Kingston Hill campus are covered by a number of Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) which cover both individual trees and all of the trees within the woodland, designated under Section 198 of the **Town and Country Planning Act 1990**. TPOs make it an offence to cut

down, uproot, prune, damage or destroy any tree without the permission of the local planning authority.

The woodland in Kingston Hill campus is designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) within this category; it is a Site of Borough Importance Grade 1. It is one of only 12 Borough Grade 1 sites within the borough of Kingston upon Thames [(23)] [a]. The main aim of the woodland restoration for Kingston Hill is to restore the characteristics of the ancient Coombe Wood, replanting the site with native species that are characteristic of the area. This will firstly focus on the removal of invasive non-native species from the site and then focusing on replanting the woodland with species which are characteristic of the site in areas where the non-native regrowth has halted.

4.6 Access

The urban areas of the campus are readily accessible by foot, bicycle, intercampus bus and vehicles. Footpaths join the 26 buildings that compose the built environment of the campus. A number of roads also run around the interior of the campus, leading to the 8 car parks on site. There are a total of 896 vehicle and motorcycle parking spaces on campus and 334 bicycle and e-bike spaces [(19)] [b].

Access to the woodland at Kingston Hill is limited, with one nature trail running through part of the eastern area of the woodland. A maintenance track for internal site maintenance only, runs around the periphery with neighbouring properties, known for historic fly tipping issues. There have been instances of trespass in the woodland both from dog walkers (resulting in dog fouling and wildlife disturbance issues) and other antisocial behaviour including setting fires and the use of air-rifles. This has resulted in the rear gate into the campus on the eastern boundary becoming time limited.

There is poor public access throughout the rest of the Kingston Hill woodland and further access is discouraged for several compliance reasons, including:

- the protection of active Badger setts,
- preserving key large tree specimens for wildlife without the requirement to remove them for health and safety reasons,
- Management of areas outside of the nature trail and teaching circle focused on increasing biodiversity.

4.7 Public rights of way

A public footpath (Footpath 11) runs adjacent to the entire northern edge of the site (outside of the site boundary), however there is no human access to the woodland or campus along this boundary via gates (only access for wildlife). There is no public right of way on Kingston Hill campus.

4.8 Land tenure

The site is owned by KU and maintained by Kingston University Service Company (KUSCO), which is a wholly owned subsidiary of KU.

4.9 Planning Authority

In terms of building control, Kingston Hill campus falls under the jurisdiction of the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames (RBK).

4.10 Key stakeholders

There are a number of stakeholders that are involved or would be interested in the management of Kingston Hill woodland. These key stakeholders include: KU's Faculties and Directorates/KUSCO;

[a] Status based on all recommendations of the 2021 SINC review being accepted and on implementation of the RBK local plan date not yet determined.

[b] Correct in November 2025 – these figures are subject to change over time.

KU's arboriculture and grounds contractors; KU staff and students, volunteers (comprising local residents, staff and students); Kingston Hill Conservation Area Committee; RBK and neighbouring residents.

4.11 Ecosystem Overview: Climate

The campus has a temperate climate typical of its location in South East England. Temperatures range from the February average of 1.7°C to the July average of 23°C. Annual rainfall in the region averages around 656mm [(24)].

4.12 Ecosystem Overview: Soil

The site sits on London clay with overlying deposits of acidic Claygate Beds.

4.13 Ecosystem Overview: Hydrology

It is estimated that groundwater levels on the site are around 5m below ground. It is likely that groundwater sits within the clay component of the underlying soil, although areas of perched groundwater above the clay may exist. A number of springs are known to exist across the site [(7)].

4.14 Ecosystem Overview: National Vegetation Classification

Under the National Vegetation (NVC) Classification, the Kingston Hill woodland best fits into category W10: '*Quercus robur – Pteridium aquilinum – Rubus fruticosus'* woodland [(21)].

4.15 Ecosystem Overview: Ecology

From an ecological point of view, Kingston Hill can be divided into five distinct ecological zones. This zoning was conceived by Harry Pepper and Ben Holding of the AAIS (Arboricultural Advisory and Information Service) in their 2006 wildlife management plan for Kingston Hill campus [(4)]. These zones are illustrated in Appendix 3. A number of detailed ecological surveys have been carried out on Kingston Hill campus by a number of organisations and individuals including those by the AAIS [(4)] and by the Kingston University Biodiversity Officer (2007 – 2008 [(24)]) and Biodiversity and Landscape Administrators and Manager (2008-current). It is from these documents and surveys that the following ecology information was taken.

Zone 1

This zone encompasses the urban areas of the campus including buildings, car parks, roads, footpaths and tennis courts. The majority of vegetation within this zone is heavily landscaped for amenity and ornamental purposes. Areas of wildflower meadows and changes to grassland management have been instigated in 2012 and from 2014 onwards and have increased wildlife corridors and foraging habitat for invertebrates in zone 1.

Zone 2

The densest area of closed canopy woodland on the campus, zone 2 lies to the North of the campus. The trees in this zone are predominantly broadleaved and have an uneven age structure, ranging from mature examples to young naturally regenerated saplings and large

Figure 2: Under storey habitat of part of Zone 2

established stands of invasive Rhododendron *Rhododendron ponticum.* Works are ongoing to clear the large stands of Rhododendron in this area. Table 4.15.1 describes the dominant species in this zone. In all tables, species which are listed on the London Invasive Species Initiative (LISI) as a species of concern are marked using **LISI** and species which are on Schedule 9 of the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** are denoted by **Schd 9**.

Dominant cover species	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) Beech (*Fagus spp.*) Birch (*Betula spp.*) Oak (*Quercus spp.*) Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)
Dominant under storey species	Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) Yew (*Taxus baccata*) Rhododendron[Schd 9] **(***Rhododendron ponticum***)** False Acacia[LISI] (*Robinia pseudoacacia*)
Dominant Ground flora species	Bramble (*Rubus fruiticosus*) Ivy (*Hedera helix*)

Table 4.15.1: Zone 2 dominant species 2006

Zone 3

Zone 3 is subdivided into two areas, zone 3a to the West of the campus and zone 3b to the East of the campus. Like zone 2, the woodland here is closed canopy, predominately broadleaved and uneven in age structure. Table 4.15.2 describes the dominant species in this zone. Zone 3a has undergone significant clearance of Rhododendron.

Dominant cover species	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) Beech (*Fagus spp.*) Birch (*Betula spp.*) Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippocastanum*) Oak (*Quercus spp.*) Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*)
Dominant under storey species	Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) Goat Willow (*Salix caprea*) Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*) Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) Yew (*Taxus baccata*)
Dominant Ground flora species	Bramble (*Rubus fruiticosus*) Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) Bluebell (native, hybrids and Spanish) (*Hyacinthoides spp*)

Table 4.15.2: *Zone 3 dominant species 2006*

Zone 4

This zone is divided by the urban areas of the campus (zone 1) and encompasses a small area to the North of zone 1, and a larger area to the South and Southwest of the campus.

Figure 3: Dense rhododendron understorey being cut down by volunteers in January 2015

The tree cover here is mostly broadleaved closed canopy, although some open areas do exist here. This zone contained the largest stand of invasive Bamboo at Kingston Hill as well as a dominating understorey of Rhododendron at the time of the 2006 assessment, but both of these species have been largely reduced since 2014 onwards, with the Bamboo responding best to volunteer efforts to dig it out. While the Rhododendron has now been removed as the dominant under storey species, its regrowth and root structure still form parts of the ground flora, here all replanting efforts are paused until more of the roots can be excavated. The trees here are of uneven age structure. Table 4.15.3 describes the dominant species in this zone.

Dominant cover species	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) Beech (*Fagus spp.*) Birch (*Betula spp.*) False Acacia[LISI] (*Robinia pseudoacacia*) Cherry (*Prunus spp.*) Cypress (*Cupressus spp.*) Hornbeam (*Caprinus betulus*) Oak (*Quercus spp.*) Rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) Sweet Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*) Willow (*Salix spp*) Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)
Dominant under storey species	Rhododendron[Schd 9] (*Rhododendron ponticum*)
Dominant Ground flora species	Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) Bramble (*Rubus fruiticosus*)

Table 4.15.3*: Zone 4 dominant species 2006*

Zone 5

This zone is predominantly made up of acid grassland remnants and wildflower meadow dominated grassland. It is currently managed through regular mowing. This zone also contains Kingston Hill's pond. This area is suffering from a lowering of the acid properties in the soil due to soil mixing during the installation of a ground source heat pump in 2010. This area has a dense outer edge of Rhododendron which is being slowly cleared and replanted through volunteer and contractor efforts.

4.16 Key features

There are a number of key features within the woodland which will impact upon any potential management strategies.

Badger Sett

One of the most important of the key features is the extensive Badger sett network that exists throughout the campus.

Setts are identified, documented and regularly monitored for activity by the Biodiversity and Landscape Manager (BLM). Care must be taken when surveying in the area as well as when undertaking works. Works in this area should be restricted to outside of the breeding season. The badger breeding season runs from December to June inclusive, with January and February being particularly sensitive times [(14)]. Biodiversity Good Practice document 4 (Works near to Badger setts) provides further guidance on this.

Badger sett: Legal issues

Badgers are protected by law under the **Protection of Badgers Act 1992**. This law makes it illegal to "wilfully kill, injure or take a Badger; to interfere with a sett by damaging or

obstructing it or by disturbing a badger when it is occupying a Badger sett, with intent or recklessly" [17].

Nesting birds

Many different species of bird exist at Kingston Hill, many of which are likely to use the woodland as a source of food and shelter. Bird species seen and heard on Kingston Hill campus include Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*), Green Woodpecker (*Picus viridis*) and Goldcrest (*Regulus regulus*). It is recommended that woodland works are avoided during bird nesting season which generally runs from early March to late August. If urgent or emergency works must be undertaken during this period, a suitably qualified person must be consulted to investigate whether the planned works will disturb any nests in the vicinity. Biodiversity Good Practice document 2 (Nesting birds, the law and best practice) provides further guidance on this.

Nesting birds: Legal issues

Birds, and their eggs and nests are protected under the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (WCA)**. Among other things, this law makes it illegal to intentionally or recklessly disturb any species of bird whilst it is nest building or occupying a nest containing eggs or young.

Bat roosts and foraging areas

The number of bat roosts within the woodland at Kingston Hill is unknown. The largest maternity roost for Pipistrelle Bat species in RBK is situated in one of the buildings on campus.

The conditions within the woodland are suitable for a number of different species using the site for hibernation roosts. Bats have also been recorded foraging in the woodland during bat surveys and bat walks at Kingston Hill.

Given the good conditions on site, it should be assumed that bats are using trees which are of the correct age and have features that can support bat roosts. Therefore, until the existence of a bat population can be proven or disproven, it is recommended that a visual tree assessment should be undertaken by a suitably qualified person before tree works take place to assess bat roost potential. If deemed likely, a full survey should be undertaken by a bat ecologist who will then recommend the best course of action.

Artificial light pollution is the largest persistent negative impact on bat roosts, foraging areas and flight routes at Kingston Hill.

The use of artificial light in and around the woodland and any light spillage onto the woodland must be minimised to avoid impacting these species. Any future developments at Kingston Hill will have to be assessed for the impact of any lighting schemes associated with the development, on the outdoor environment.

Figure 4 Light sources in the woodland envelope adding light pollution to the surrounding canopy and impacting bats.

Any increase in lighting will have to be managed and mitigated in areas where the woodland, and existing foraging and flight routes exist. Documentation adapted and or created specifically for Kingston University including “Landscaping and Urban Design for Bats and biodiversity: August 2016” [(11)] and “Kingston University Desktop Lighting Guidance” [(12)] provides further guidance on this.

Bat roosts: Legal issues
Bats, their roosts and foraging areas are protected under the **WCA 1981**, the **Countryside Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW act)**, the **EC Council Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora 1992 (EC Habitats Directive)** and **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (England and Wales**).

The **WCA** makes it unlawful to undertake any works which may harm or disturb bats or their roosts without first consulting with the appropriate SNCO (Statutory Nature Conservation Organisation).

The **CROW act** makes it an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb or destroy a bat roost whether it is occupied or not.

The **EC Habitats Directive** names all species of bat under Annex IV (species in need of strict protection). It is an offence under the directive to deliberately disturb, injure or kill a bat, and to damage or destroy a breeding site.

If bats or their roosts are likely to be disturbed during tree works, an application must be made to **Natural England** for a licence [(6)].

The **Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010** (England and Wales) section 41-part b, makes it an offence to disturb certain species, where that disturbance is likely to:

(a) impair their ability—
  (i) to survive, to breed or reproduce, or to rear or nurture their young, or
  (ii) in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or
(b) affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

Waterlogged areas
Some areas of the Kingston Hill woodland (particularly in zone 3) are affected by natural springs. These wet areas contain a number of dead trees and provide an ecological niche not seen elsewhere on the site. Where possible these trees should be retained as standing dead wood, though they may be sectioned to 7m high to aid stability if required.

Figure 5: Stranded bat being returned to its roost

Works that need to be undertaken in this area may need additional health and safety considerations as the ground and trees may be unstable. Where planting is needed in these areas, using one or two specimen trees of either native Alder or Willow are recommended.

Veteran trees

Zones 2, 3 and 4 contain numerous veteran oak trees. Such trees provide a wealth of decaying material and deadwood essential for roosting bats, hole-nesting bird species, insects, fungi and lichen.

It is important to manage these trees to prolong their life for as long as possible, without the trees near areas of site use (paths, roads, boundaries and buildings) becoming hazardous to people, as such:

- No new pathways will be added to the site near veteran trees.
- Light touch work to maximise the lift of the tree, but to ensure that itis not overly sanitised to retain the value for biodiversity.

Mycorrhizal Fungi

We have found different types of fungi throughout the site, but for trees, an important group of fungi are the mycorrhizal fungi. These form beneficial associations with the roots of trees and other wild plants, effectively extending the root area of the plant in exchange for food. It can take many years for a complex fungi community to develop in areas of woodland. Fungi help [(29)]:

- Transfer essential minerals from decaying organic matter to the host plant,
- Extend the plants roots surface area to increase the area from which nutrients and water uptake,
- Mitigate impacts of droughts; and
- Protect host plants from predators and pathogens to enable the host plant to better deal with environmental stresses.

Mycorrhizal fungi were found in surveys of the woodland in 2020, in zones 2 and 4 of the Kingston Hill Campus [(18)], reiterating the long-standing nature of the woodland on the site. They also indicate the levels of site disturbance are relatively low, outside of the long-term negative impacts of Rhododendron colonisation, as the fungi species found, would disappear without their host species being present.

Fungi and the species reliant on them, can suffer from high human activity including foraging, clearance, soil compaction through high foot fall/site works, and excessive nitrogen deposits (from sources including fertiliser application and atmospheric pollution).

Because fungi are the hidden part of a web vital to the health of our trees and woodland, on sites where we find mycorrhizal fungi, we must work to encourage them to flourish, to maximise the positive benefits to trees and other biodiversity.

Figure 6: Example of a Fly Agaric (Amanita muscaria), a mycorrhizal fungus found at Kingston Hill. © M. Stanton

As an organisation we do not undertake or give permission for the following activities on our sites to help preserve the health of the fungi and so the trees and other fauna species which rely on them:

- fungi foraging and the removal of fruiting bodies,
- high footfall in areas with these species to avoid impacts of soil compaction,
- fertiliser use in areas of the woodland or areas with recorded mycorrhizal fungi.

5 TREE MANAGEMENT ON WOODLAND SITES – TOLWORTH COURT SPORTS GROUND (TCSG)

5.1 Campus plan

See Appendix 1 for the TCSG Master Plan which illustrates the site boundaries (in red).

5.2 Location

Address: Old Kingston Road, Tolworth, Surrey, KT4 7QH
OS grid ref: (520197, 165597)

5.3 Area

Whole site area: 22.64 ha.
Woodland area: 0.92 ha.

5.4 Land use and history

Historically the site of the sports ground was once part of a larger patchwork of farm fields through which the Hogsmill River and its tributaries ran. The system was part of the historic Tolworth Court Farm in the 1800s [(26)] and the characteristics of the historical rural landscape with well-developed complex hedgerows, ditches and field edges. Collectively despite landownership boundaries, the management of the habitats on all of the different sites including the University's still retain these historical characteristics and due to this, the site helps to support and connect wildlife species which are more prevalent in the local nature reserves and SINCs, into the wider landscape beyond.

At TCSG the majority of the field systems are now sports pitches, but the site still retains two of the complex established hedgerows with mature trees from the 1800s which would have acted as field boundaries and the site owns and manages the ditch part of a ditch and hedgerow system that acts as the north-northwestern boundary with a neighbouring site.

The southwest end of the site contains a large mound created at the time of the development of the current Sports Pavilion in 2010 this was allowed to seed naturally and has developed into a scrub and grassland mosaic. A young hedgerow was planted on the western side of the mound in 2012. This hedgerow became big enough to undergo a traditional lay in 2021 and now forms a dense 100-metre hedgerow for wildlife in this area. The remains of the south-west areas of the site acts as a winter floodplain adjacent to the Hogsmill. The grassland in this part of the site is managed as a meadow for wildlife beyond which is located the early mature wet woodland forming the south-south-west boundary with TCSG and the Hogsmill River.

5.5 Conservation status

Tolworth Court and much of the surrounding land is designated as Metropolitan Open Land (MOL), which is protected (under the jurisdiction of the Mayor of London and borough councils), from 'inappropriate development'. MOL is often designated because of its high value as an outdoor sport, leisure or recreation area, an area of archaeological interest, or as a wildlife habitat and corridor.

Some of the trees on the site are covered by a number of individual TPOs, however much of the data on the RBK website is inaccurate as many of the mapped trees have not been present on site for over a decade.

TCSG is sited between two adjacent SINCs – the Riverhill Estates and Moated Manor Nature Reserve. Both of which contain more established woodland habitats. Though a younger woodland by comparison, the woodland at TCSG still contains Willow Carr habitat which is over 100 years old; this woodland forms a vital lynch pin to habitat connectivity in the area, linking the more mature woodland parcels and collectively forming an important habitat parcel in the area. TCSG has been proposed for inclusion in the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) mapping by the Greater London Authority in 2025[c].

5.6 Access

There is no official public access at Tolworth Court. The main entrance sits on the Old Kingston Road, a cul-de-sac accessed via the A240. There is a car park and bicycle park on site. On campus, access is on foot using dirt tracks. There are no paved footpaths away from the immediate surrounds of the built environs of the site. The grounds management team on site utilise lightweight electric vehicles and tractors to transport equipment and materials within the campus. There are a total of 125 vehicle and motorcycle parking spaces on campus and 80 bicycle spaces[d].

Access to the woodland at Tolworth Court is not encouraged to allow the mature veteran trees to be managed for wildlife only. Only volunteer events to undertake habitat management such as invasive species removal are facilitated following local risk assessments prior to each event.

5.7 Public rights of way

There is no current public right of way on TCSG. A Section 106 agreement signed by the University in 2005 gives permission for a public footpath to be implemented to cross through two sections of the site should the council choose to implement it [(13)]. If implemented this would have a negative impact on the slow worm habitat (both through habitat removal to install the path and degradation of any remaining habitat via litter and dog access) as well as the sports pitches themselves.

Should the council choose to implement the path, it is recommended that the edge of the sports field outside of the pitches is sacrificed for the required width of the pathway, and that the entire length of the footpath is fenced on both sides at a high level with a gate through both sides to allow the slow worm habitat and main sports ground to remain managed by the university and the main path managed by the council. This would allow the reptile habitat and pitches to be protected by stopping ingress by the public and domestic pets and minimise litter and dog fouling bags being thrown over the fencing.

5.8 Land tenure

The site is owned by KU and maintained by KUSCO.

5.9 Planning Authority

In terms of building control, TCSG falls under the jurisdiction of the RBK.

---

[c] A consultation on the LNRS closed on the 29th of October 2025. https://www.london.gov.uk/programmes-strategies/environment-and-climate-change/parks-green-spaces-and-biodiversity/local-nature-recovery-strategy So recommendations for TC to be included in the LNRS are currently still a drafted proposal..

[d] Correct in November 2025 – these figures are subject to change over time.

5.10 Key stakeholders

There are a number of stakeholders that are involved or would be interested in the management of TCSG. These key stakeholders include: KU's Faculties and Directorates / KUSCO; KU Sports teams and the sports and lifestyle services/student services and KU's arboriculture and grounds contractors and biodiversity volunteers.

5.11 Ecosystem Overview: Climate

The campus has a temperate climate typical of its location in South East England. Temperatures range from the February average of 1.7°C to the July average of 23°C. Annual rainfall in the region averages around 656mm [(24)].

5.12 Ecosystem Overview: Soil

The lower, southern most 'fields' of Tolworth Court have "slowly permeable, seasonally wet, slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soil", whereas the upper, northern most 'fields' have "loamy soil with naturally high groundwater" [(13)]. It should be noted that works to the drainage of the site undertaken in 2008 included the import of materials such as topsoil, sand and gravel to some areas. In addition, the application of fertilisers is part of the current management of the grounds. These factors will have had some effect on the natural soil type/structure, and therefore the natural soil types for the area, as described above, so may not be completely accurate for the site.

5.13 Ecosystem Overview: Hydrology

There is a high water table present throughout much of the southern and northern ends of the site, sections of these ends of the site often have water within the first 0.5 metres of ground level in the summer and are flooded each winter. This would be expected with the smaller ditch and tributaries leading into the main river channel as it curves around the site. Between the northern and southern ends, the ground levels first rise and then fall, resulting in a lower water table in the middle of the site. The hydrology of the site was altered in 2008, because seasonally waterlogged ground (a natural feature dictated by the natural land drainage, water table and soil type) had been a persistent issue which hampered the use of some pitches. Due to changes to drainage works, and various factors noted in 5.12, it may be useful to get a full analysis of the different soil structures over the site. This will give a more accurate picture of permeability and hydrology of the site.

5.14 Ecosystem Overview: National Vegetation Classification

Under the **National Vegetation (NVC) Classification**, the woodland at TCSG is a mixture of category W6a-W11: '*Alnus glutinosa-Urtica diocia' –'Quercus petraea-Betula pubescens-Oxalis acetosella'* woodland [(21)].

5.15 Ecosystem Overview: Ecology

Following the ecological zonation at Kingston Hill Campus, TCSG can be divided into 6 distinct ecological zones as determined in 2025 by Sivi Sivanesan the Biodiversity and Landscape Manager for Kingston University and Arborist Mark Clews [(9)]. These zones are illustrated in Appendix 2. The following ecological information has been amalgamated from the 2025 assessment combined with detailed and ad hoc surveys from the last 20 years. The woodland contains the invasive Himalayan Balsam, which colonised the site from the adjacent Hogsmill River.

Zone 1

The majority of the site (84%) is managed as high-quality sports pitches, sports buildings, grounds buildings and car parking; while there is a comparatively limited interest for biodiversity compared to the other habitat zones, the open fields are often used by large mixed flocks of birds for feeding in the open. And used by many lepidoptera species for basking where the habitats are adjacent to the site hedgerows.

Zone 2

When collectively measured, the hedgerows on the site with their associated scrublands make up 8% of the habitat.

Zone 3

Approximately 5% of the site is a large area of seasonally wet grassland managed as a meadow, which largely sits over the area of slowly permeable, seasonally wet, slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soil.

And the remaining 3% of the site is an early mature wet woodland The woodland has three separate characteristics, which allow it to be split into the three zones.

Zone 4

The Southern part of the woodland compromising mainly a closed canopy woodland, which shows a succession to a drier broadleaved woodland characteristic. Table 5.15.1 lists the dominant species of the woodland structure.

Dominant cover species	Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) English Oak (*Quercus robur*)
Dominant under storey species	Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*)
Dominant Ground flora species	Bramble (*Rubus sp*) Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) Himalayan Balsam **Schd 9** (Impatiens glandulifera) Ivy (*Hedera helix*) Wood ferns (*Dryopteris sp*)

Table 5.15.1: Zone 4 dominant species 2025 [9].

Zone 5

The middle parcel of the woodland contains the remains of the Willow Carr habitat, dominated by ancient/veteran White Willows, some of which are standing deadwood, others which have fallen and continue to grow as phoenix trees. Table 5.15.2 lists the dominant species of the woodland structure.

Dominant cover species	White Willow (*Salix alba*) (predominantly ancient/veteran) Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)
Dominant under storey species	Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) Horse Chestnut (*Aesculus hippoocastanum*) Elder (*Sambucus nigra*)
Dominant Ground flora species	Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) Bramble (*Rubus sp*) Himalayan Balsam **Schd 9** (Impatiens glandulifera) Ivy (*Hedera helix*) Numerous Bryophytes sp Great Willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*) Herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*) Wood ferns (*Dryopteris sp*)

Table 5.15.2: Zone 5 dominant species 2025 [9].

Zone 6

The northern parcel of the woodland contains two glades and possesses the greatest ecotone range, going from Willow Carr to early mature broadleaved/briar and Willow Carr to herbaceous glades. Table 5.15.3 lists the dominant species of the woodland structure.

Dominant cover species	White Willow (*Salix alba*) (predominantly ancient/veteran) Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*)
Dominant under storey species	Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*) Common Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*) English Oak (*Quercus robur*) Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*)
Dominant Ground flora species	Stinging Nettle (*Urtica dioica*) Bramble (*Rubus sp*) Himalayan Balsam **Schd 9** (*Impatiens glandulifera*) Ivy (*Hedera helix*) Great Willowherb (*Epilobium hirsutum*) Numerous Bryophytes sp Herb-Robert (*Geranium robertianum*) Common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) Primrose (*Primula sp*) Wood ferns (*Dryopteris sp*)

Table 5.15.3: Zone 6 dominant species 2025 [(9)].

Figure 7: The base of a phoenix tree, where 4 new tree trunks have re-grown from a fallen limb of a dead ancient White Willow

6 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF TREE AND WOODLAND MANAGEMENT

The aims listed below are to provide a good level of tree and woodland management and are in addition to any legal compliance for biodiversity as listed on the Biodiversity Legislation Register held within the Estates and Sustainability Directorate. Actions apply to all sites unless denoted by a campus identifier (KH=Kingston Hill, TCSG=Tolworth Court Sports Ground) to indicate site specificity.

6.1 To conserve, restore and enhance the wildlife habitat potential of Kingston University woodlands and trees in other habitats.

6.1.1 Favour native species of local provenance when afforesting. Favour species that have proven benefits to biodiversity (both native and non-native) when selecting species for landscaping, including food provision (leaves, fruit, seeds, pollen and nectar) for multiple taxa including birds, insects and mammals.

6.1.2 Introduce a programme of halo thinning around existing and potential future veteran trees both in and outside of woodlands to reduce competition.

6.1.3 At KH, favour native and high-grade species of tree (e.g. Beech (*Fagus spp*.), Hornbeam (*Caprinus betulus*) and English Oak (*Quercus robur*)) when afforesting in the areas of closed canopy woodland. No non-native species should be replanted in our woodland and as older non-native trees come to the end of their life or need to be removed for safety reasons, replacement trees will all be native species.

6.1.4 At TCSG favour replanting with a range of Willow species to restore the Willow Carr throughout the woodland. Due to the structures of the deadwood in this woodland, ensure that no pathways are added for access. This reduces the health and safety risks to anyone accessing the site without permission. Access under ecological guidance for habitat work only.

- Prioritise the clearance/pollarding and thinning of species such as Sycamores (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Maples (*Acer sp)* and Horse Chestnuts (*Aesculus hippoocastanum*), which are drying out the woodland.
- Undertake rotational coppicing of the Blackthorn (*Sambucus nigra*) briar for Brown Hairstreak butterflies,
- Replant the woodland with Willow species whips; predominantly White Willow (*Salix alba*) throughout to bring back successional growth for the veteran Willow species, and using a mixture of other Willow species in different zones (*S.triandra* and *S.caprea* in zone 4; *S. fragilis, S.viminalis, S.pentandra* and *S.caprea* in zone 5, with the last three concentrated around the glade edges; and *S.viminalis, S.pentandra* and *S.caprea* in zone 6).
- Introduce whip planting of Hazels (*Corylus avellana*) as the sub-canopy in zone 4.
- Plant Alder (*Alnus glutinonsa*) at the top of the ditch banks in the woodland parcels.

6.1.5 Use a mixture of tree ages if affordable when afforesting, to create mixed height structures.

6.1.6 Ensure that a diverse range of tree age is maintained throughout the woodland to ensure the existence of veteran trees into the future.

6.1.7 Diversify habitat and light levels in the woodland by implementing a coppice cycle to those trees which are suitable and would benefit where funding and time permits the required work to obtain the TPO permits for this work (KH).

- Continue the 2012 hazel coppicing in zone 3b on a 7-year rotation.

- Identify other suitable species and appropriately located stands in the woodland which may benefit from coppicing and begin additional rotations.

6.1.8 Enhance the diversity and cover of undergrowth in the woodland through partial clearance of Bramble (*Rubus fruiticosus*) in some areas, while still maintaining this vital scrub resource (food and shelter) for species such as birds and mammals (KH).

6.1.9 Retain dead wood (both standing and log piles) where it is safe to do so. Where chipping may be needed, it needs to be concentrated in areas away from existing tree root protection areas. Ideally, chipped into a localised area under and partially on top of log piles to help provide a diverse habitat that can benefit reptiles, amphibians, small mammals and a variety of invertebrates. Chipping cannot be spread out too thickly over the ground as it can exclude some ground feeding birds.

6.1.10 If there are no negative impacts on existing site biodiversity, aim to support use of the woodland as an educational resource (KH only).

6.1.11 Engage with volunteers and conservation organisations to implement woodland and orchard management tasks where safe and feasible to do so, prioritising invasive species removal works.

6.1.12 Avoid tree works next to Badger setts from December to July with ground loading vibrating machinery which can cause tunnel collapse specific to contractors. Avoid tree works during bird nesting season in order to comply with wildlife legislation. If urgent works are required, the advice of a suitably qualified person should be sought, and all trees must be checked for nesting birds before works. Where nests are found, works need to wait until after fledging and the area cordoned off to minimise disturbance. Sometimes work may be unavoidable based on when licences are granted by the council, in those circumstances, works must use winches and ropes to lower any cut material down near Badger setts.

6.1.13 Where bat roosts are known to exist, the advice of a suitably qualified licenced person should be sought before undertaking any tree works at any time of year.

6.1.14 Continue species surveys in the woodland to ensure that records of protected and important species are kept up to date to allow for appropriate management.

6.1.15 For all developments on site, design development to retain existing established trees as a priority (regardless of their deemed amenity value under The British Standard "Trees in Relation to Design, Demolition and Construction to Construction - Recommendations" (BS 5837)). BS 5837 is an amenity measure and does not consider the biodiversity value/collective value of a tree. Replanting with new trees is not an acceptable easy mitigation, as new trees can take upwards of 10-50 years post establishment, before they offset the benefits of existing established trees on a site (dependent on the age and position of the existing tree).

6.1.16 Ensure that project managers properly brief design teams on the biodiversity priorities around trees at Kingston University to inform the design expectation and standard from the initial design through to the completed project.

6.1.17 To continue to manage the woodland and restore it for the benefits BNG value for our development work as a university. The restoration can count towards

Biodiversity Net Gain requirements for developments in the long-term Estates Vision.

6.2 To monitor and, where feasible, eradicate invasive species of flora and fauna in Kingston University woodlands.

6.2.1 Treat any Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*) in the woodland with annual herbicide application in line with obligations set out by the **WCA 1981**, avoid soil disturbance within the vicinity as the soil will be classified as contaminated (KH).

6.2.2 Damage to trees and impact on bird nests from the invasive Grey Squirrels (*Sciurus carolinensus*) has been noted both through site surveys and during bird census surveys on site. Continue to undertake passive monitoring of the extent of tree damage caused by Grey Squirrels in the woodland. Contact teams undertaking research on oral contraception as a humane non-kill method to investigate reducing the burden of Grey Squirrels on the woodland without impacting other species via non-target species being impacted by baits and traps.

6.2.3 Continue to undertake bird surveys to monitor the impacts of habitat work on our site and to establish the extent of the impact of Ring-necked Parakeets (*Psittacula krameri*) on native bird populations. If an impact is established, identify if habitat provisioning through habitat management or provision of different nest box types will aid the return of species such as breeding starlings (KH).

6.2.4 Remove invasive Balsam species from the wooded areas manually between May and July/August (TCSG).

6.2.5 Identify new locations and continue with phased removal of Variegated Yellow Archangel (*Lamiastrum galeobdolon subsp. argentatum*) from the woodland (KH).

6.2.6 Identify locations and start phased removal of Virginia Creeper (*Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) (KH).

6.2.7 Identify locations and start phased removal of invasive Cotoneasters from the woodland (KH).

6.2.8 Identify locations of Spanish Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*) and investigate the feasibility of removal. Prior to 2025, removal was deemed as unfeasible as hybrids are very hard to identify by volunteers and may cause removal of native stock, however as the marked ecotone has spread further into the woodland, impacting the remaining areas of native species; removal by volunteers is now deemed necessary to slow down the spread. These activities can only be undertaken under the direct supervision of a suitability qualified and experienced ecologist (KH).

6.2.9 Remove all *Rhododendron ponticum* from the woodland where feasible to do so, locations overriding badger setts will be left to shield this protected species until secondary screenings are able to be planted and established (this may be upwards of 30 years into the management cycle based on the current level of biodiversity lead volunteer events (KH)).

6.2.10 Favour natural regeneration to occur in areas where removal of invasive species has taken place. Planting should only be considered where:

- significant amounts of vegetation are removed,
- it is required for health and safety,
- it is needed for habitat replacement,

- it safeguards the structural integrity of landscape features including soil stability,
- it increases competition with invasive species re-growth; and
- invasive species dominance has been reduced to extremely low levels of regrowth following 2-4 years of continued clearance works.

6.3 To manage tree health on our sites and for Oak Processionary Moths (OPM) implement Nature Based Solutions to help mitigate impacts within the Core Infected Zone while alternative strategies are being investigated.

6.3.1 Check trees with history of Oak Processionary Moth (OPM) (*Thaumetopoea processionea*) infestation and observe more widely other trees on campus for signs of OPM.

6.3.2 Record all cases identified in the annual surveys by grounds contactors and reference the locations as per the QTRA survey mapping.

6.3.3 Full eradication of OPM at any Kingston University site is unlikely, given the location of all sites within the core infected zone. Therefore, KU will undertake work to minimise impact on site users while minimising impacts on biodiversity by undertaking all OMP work as outlined in The Oak Processionary Moth Management Plan created in 2022 in conjunction with the forestry commission and adopted as appendix 3 of this plan. The OMP management plan was updated in 2025 in line with the update of the Tree and Woodland Management Plan.

6.3.4 Implement Nature Based Solutions as discussed in the OPM Alternative Control Working Group meetings under Forest Research. Solutions include increasing floristic diversity on our sites (ties in with projects such as FIT for Wildlife, where we seek to improve our habitats for all invertebrates and the species that rely on them) and increased nest box provision for appropriate OPM predatory bird species (which our long term breed bird survey work at KH can help inform).

6.3.5 On other sites, undertake spraying with insecticide if required during heavy infestations at the right time of year. This applies where OPM is found in:

- the national control zone,
- or on major transport routes out of the core and control zone into un-infected sites.

6.3.6 To keep abreast of and implement current recommended actions related to Ash dieback and other tree pests and diseases.

6.3.7 Dispose of arisings from invasive plant species clearance, to prevent the spread of contaminated material.

6.3.8 Source UK-grown specimens from disease-free stock when planting in the woodland.

6.4 To ensure that no risk is posed to people or buildings by the trees or woodland areas on campus or any of our sites

6.4.1 Ensure that KUSCO are conducting cyclical tree safety checks as outlined in the policy, by an independent arboriculture consultancy for health and safety issues as per the KU Tree Management Policy using the QTRA methodology.

6.4.2 Ensure that KUSCO are maintaining all trees subject to the Tree Management Policy.

6.4.3 Ensure that neighbours boundary fences are accessible via our maintenance track for continued monitoring of fly tipping, through regular clearance of Bramble and

other vigorous undergrowth. Maintenance of the maintenance track around the periphery of Kingston Hill has been incorporated into the Grounds Maintenance Contract.

6.4.4 Monitor for fly-tipping regularly using boundary patrols. Boundary patrols have been incorporated into all versions of the Grounds Maintenance Specification document from 2015 onwards (KH).

6.4.5 Continue installing and maintaining clear signage in higher-risk areas to warn visitors about the dangers of entering the woodland. While restoration requires improved access around mature trees (through volunteer work), the open nature of the campus means fencing off the woodland is the only way to fully prevent entry (KH).

- High-risk zones must be flagged appropriately, as injuries sustained by unauthorised visitors could lead to litigation against the university.
- Ceasing or reducing current plans would undermine biodiversity goals and encourage the return of invasive species.
- Without active management, the woodland would also lose its potential to contribute to development initiatives such as Biodiversity Net Gain.

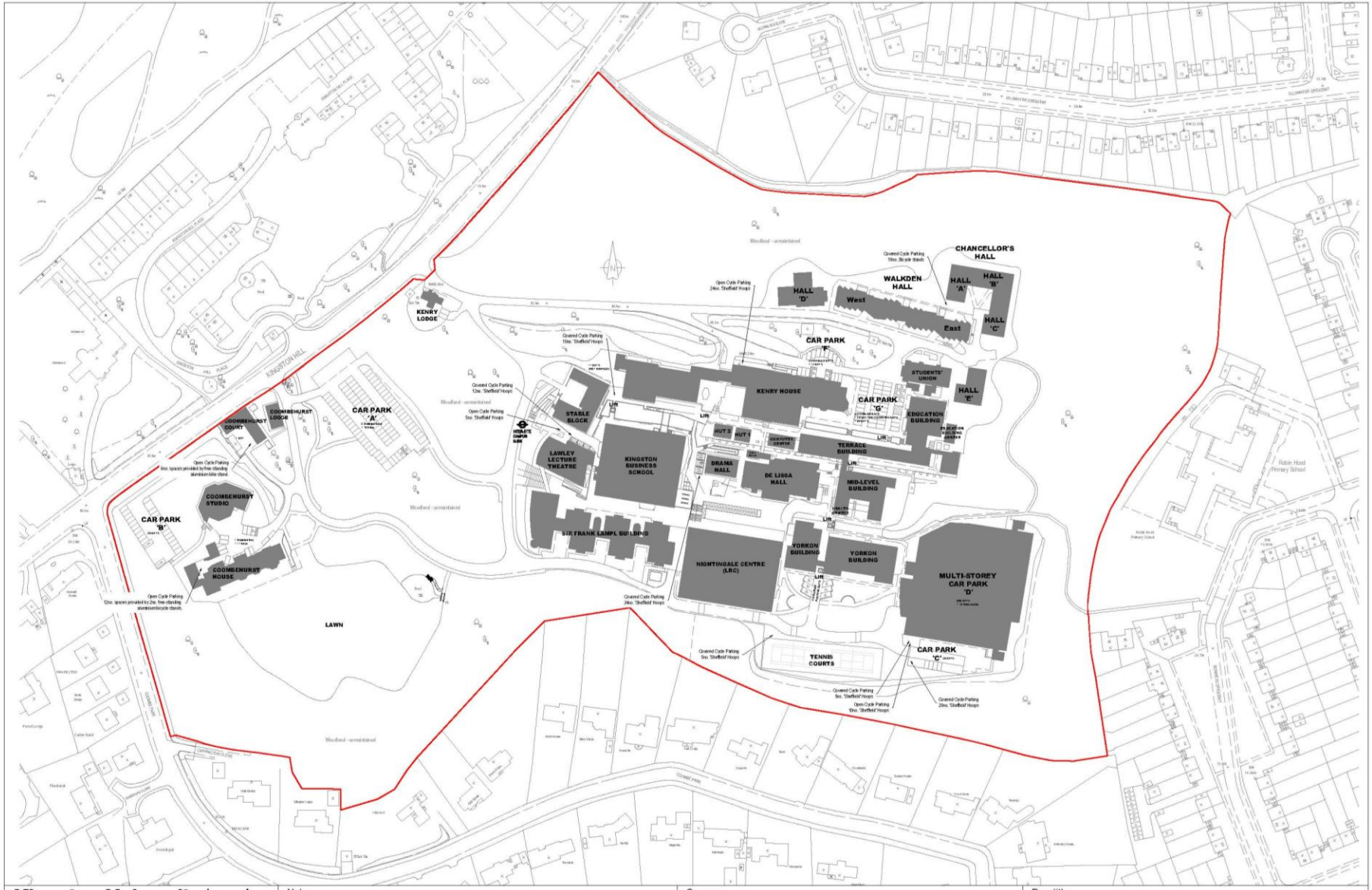
7 REFERENCES

1. AAIS (2003) *Trees at Kingston University – Safety Survey and Woodland Management*. Surrey: AAIS.
2. AAIS (2004) *Kingston Hill Campus Trees and Woodland Management Plan 2004 – 2008*. Surrey: AAIS.
3. AAIS (2006) *Trees at Kingston University – Tree Safety Survey*. *Resurvey 2006.* Surrey: AAIS.
4. AAIS (2006) *Kingston University Wildlife Survey and Wildlife Management Plan: Kingston Hill Campus*. Surrey: AAIS.
5. AAIS (2009) *Trees at Kingston University Kingston Hill Campus - Tree Safety Survey*. *Resurvey 2009.* Surrey: AAIS.
6. Bat Conservation Trust (2007) *Bats and Trees in England.* London: BCT.
7. Beirfrund, Olaf (2008) *New Rennie Building: Drainage Statement.* Solihull: Scott Wilson.
8. Büntgen, U., Krusic, P.J., Piermattei, A., Coomes, D.A., Esper, J., Myglan, V.S., Kirdyanov, A.V., Camarero, J.J., Crivellaro, A. & Körner, C. (2019) *Limited capacity of tree growth to mitigate the global greenhouse effect under predicted warming*. Nature Communications. DOI: 10.1038/s41467-019-10174-4 [accessed online] https://www.nature.com/articles/s41467-019-10174-4.
9. Clews, M. (2025) *Woodland Survey at Tolworth Court Sports Ground: Zonation and recommendations*. London, Arborhelp.
10. DEFRA (2015) *AIR QUALITY EXPERT GROUP: Impacts of Vegetation on Urban Air Pollution*. [Accessed online] https://uk-air.defra.gov.uk/assets/documents/reports/cat09/1807251306_180509_Effects_of_vegetation_on_urban_air_pollution_v12_final.pdf.
11. Dwyer, J.F., McPherson, E.G., Schroeder, H.W. and Rowntree R.A (1992) *Assessing the benefits and costs of the urban forest*. Journal of Arboriculture 18 (5) Pp227-234.

12. Estates and Sustainability (2016) *Landscaping and Urban Design for Bats and biodiversity: August 2016*.
13. Estates and Sustainability (2020) Biodiversity Management Plan: Tolworth Court 2020. London. Kingston University.
14. Estates and Sustainability (2023) *231110 Kingston University Desktop Lighting Guidance v2*. London. Kingston University.
15. Estates and Sustainability (2024) *KU Biodiversity Policy*. London. Kingston University.
16. Estates and Sustainability (2024) *KUBAP 2025-2029*. London. Kingston University.
17. Forestry Commission (1995) *Forestry Practice Guide 9: Forest Operations and Badger Setts*. Edinburgh: The Forestry Commission.
18. Fure. A (2020) *Mycorrhizzal fungi report, Kingston University, Kingston Hill*. Surrey: Furesfen.
19. Hooper K (2021) *Estates observations*. Kingston University.
20. HSE (2022): *HSE Education ebulletin: Safety of trees on school premises and playing fields.* [Accessed online 2025] https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKHSE/bulletins/345bc8a.
21. JNCC (2004) *National Vegetation Classification: Field Guide to Woodland*. Peterborough: JNCC.
22. Kingston University. (2022). *Town House Strategy Toolkit*. [Accessed online 2025] https://assets.kingston.ac.uk/m/23907557bedaed1/original/20220410_Town-House-Strategy-Toolkit_V1.pdf.
23. LUC (2021) *Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames Review of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation Kingston upon Thames*. [Accessed online 2021] https://www.kingston.gov.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/11119_Kingston_SINC_Review_Report_compressed.pdf.
24. Met Office (2014) *Wisley 1981 – 2010 averages.* [Online] http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/climate/uk/averages/19812010/sites/wisley.html.
25. Mullett M (2008) *Opportunities and Recommendations for Enhancement*. London: Kingston University.
26. RBK (2005) *Conservation Area 23: Kingston Hill. Planning Information and Summary Character Appraisal*. London: RBK Directorate of Environmental Services.
27. Swales, S., Yarham, I. and Britton, B. (1992) *Nature Conservation in Kingston Upon Thames. Ecology Handbook 18*. London. London Ecology Unit.
28. The Orchard Project. *Why are orchards priority habitats?* [Accessed online 2024] https://www.theorchardproject.org.uk/guides_and_advice/why-are-orchards-priority-habitats/
29. Trees for life (2021) Mycorrhizas [Accessed online] https://treesforlife.org.uk/into-the-forest/habitats-and-ecology/ecology/mycorrhizas/.

Photographs courtesy of Sivi Sivanesan unless otherwise stated.

APPENDIX 1 – WOODLAND SITE CAMPUS PLANS



Kingston University London
Estates

River House
53-57 High Street
Kingston upon Thames
Surrey KT1 1LQ

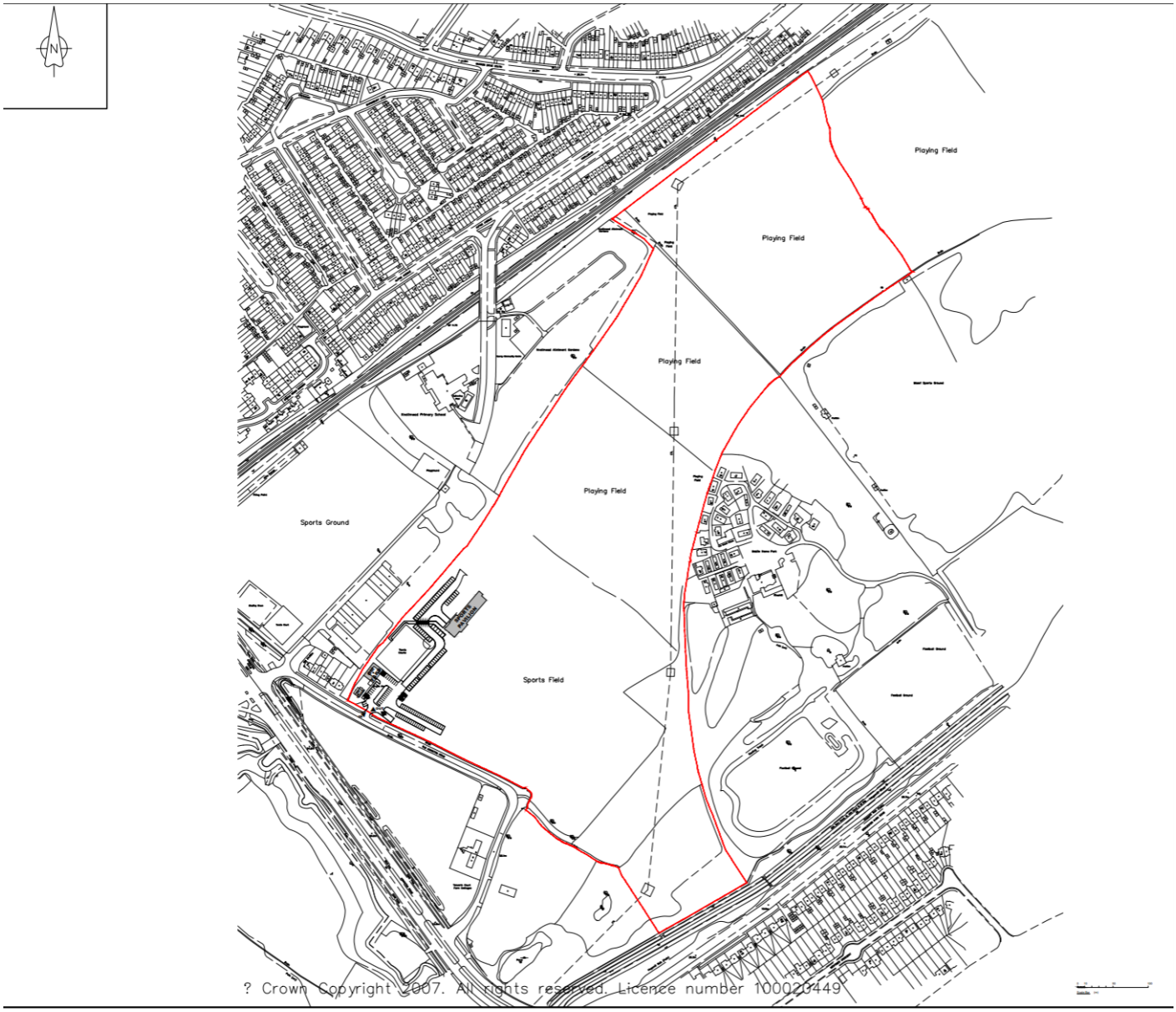
T: 020 8417 3129
F: 020 8417 3144
E: estates@kingston.ac.uk

Notes:
Do not scale from this drawing. Only use CAD generated dimensions. All dimensions read from this plan shall be checked and verified on site prior to design or construction works being carried out.

Rev.	Description:	Drwn:	Date:
	Pond Dipping Platform Added/ Carpark E removed	JSB	8/4/14

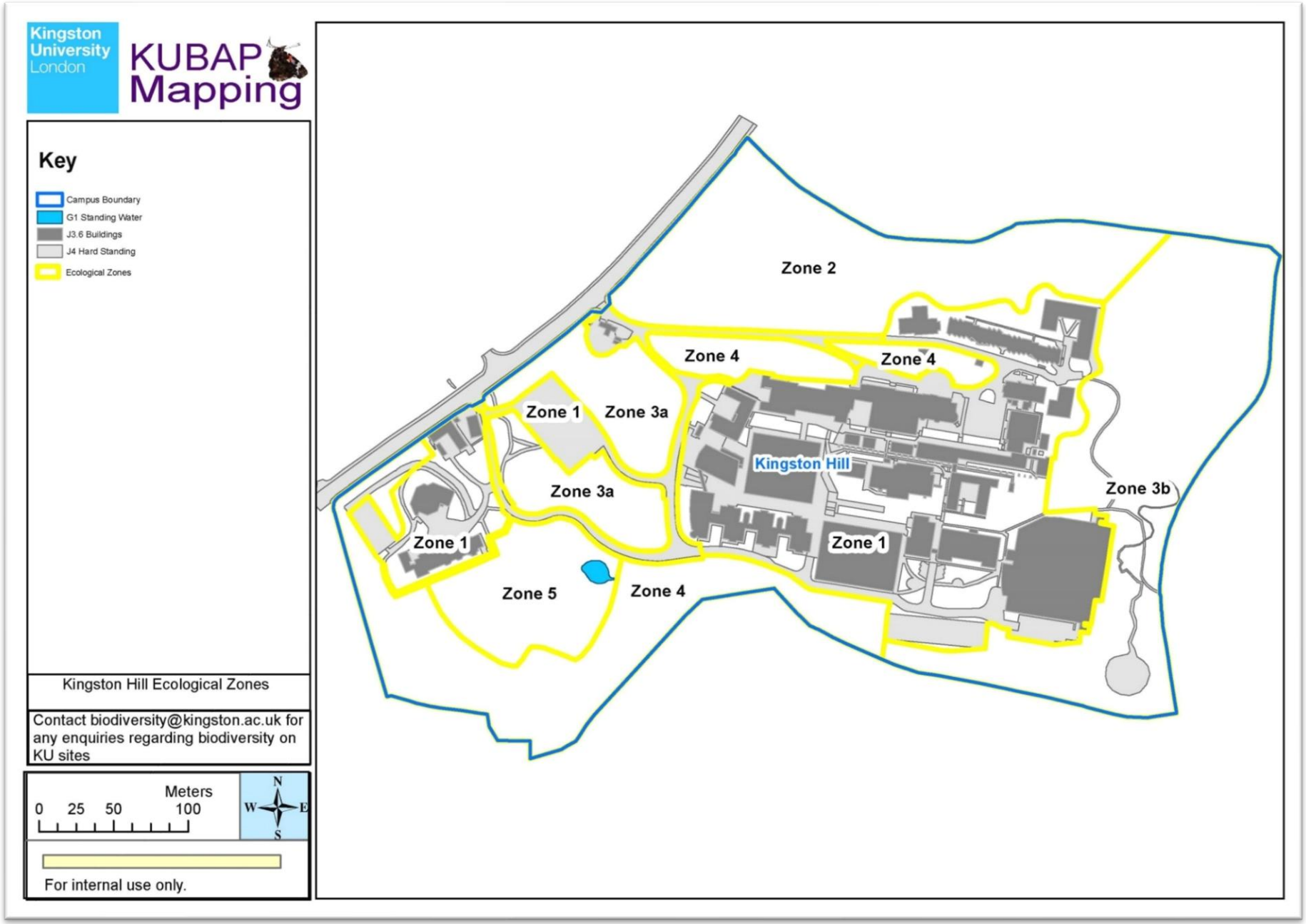
Campus: Kingston Hill
Building:
Level:
Drawn by: JFM

Dwg title: Master campus plan
Dwg no: KH_MCP
Rev:
Scale: 1:2000 @ A3
Date: 8/4/14



Tolworth Court plan

APPENDIX 2 – ECOLOGICAL ZONES



Kingston University London

KUBAP Mapping

Legend

- Campus Boundary
- Ecological Zones
- Buildings
- Hard Standing
- Broadleaved Woodland

Tolworth Court Sports Ground Ecological Zones

Contact biodiversity@kingston.ac.uk for any enquiries regarding biodiversity on KU sites

0 50 100 200
Meters

N W E S

APPENDIX 3 – OAK PROCESSIONARY MOTH (OPM) MANAGEMENT PLAN

Available as a separate Forestry Commission formatted document is available by clicking **here**.