

Birds and Leeds Local Plan Consultation

Birds are an important factor in assessing and maintaining biodiversity which is a criteria used in assessing site suitability. There are 2 factors that can be used in the response to LCC.

1. Is rare and endangered species
2. Diversity of birds

In responding to the proposed sites you can use both of these. However, birds in **red** and **amber** categories will likely have more impact. So please document and share all local sitings. If you are new to this you can use the info below and/or the merlin app. Photos and lists generated by the app can all be used as evidence. If you don't have evidence it is still worth mentioning sitings because it will support other peoples' claims.

The following birds have all been seen in the last 10 years from one garden at No 15 The Drive. They have been ranked in the table below by their category as per the [document](#), *Birds of Conservation Concern 5: The status of regularly occurring birds in Britain*. (December 2021). If you have sitings of other **red** and **amber** birds please include them and share them with Bardsey Action Group.

The UK's birds can be split into three categories of conservation importance - **red**, **amber** and **green**. **Red** is the highest conservation priority, with species needing urgent action. Of those listed below breeding birds on the red list are Greenfinch, House Sparrow, House Martin, Swift, Starling and Mistle Thrush. In addition, species on the red list have been observed feeding in the field adjacent to the drive in winter. These are: Curlew, Fieldfare, Skylark, Linnet, Redpoll and Yellowhammer.

Amber is the next most critical group. Of the 21 birds on the amber list the breeding birds are: Mallard, Woodpigeon, Tawny Owl, Sparrowhawk, Kestrel, Rook, Wren, Song Thrush, Grey Wagtail and Bullfinch, In addition there are two red listed birds that haven't been seen for at least five years but the habitat is suitable for recolonization. These are Willow Tit and Tree Sparrow.

The next list is the **green**, those birds of least concern. The list contains 75 species in total: 18 species from the red list and 21 species from the amber list.

Full list of birds seen from the house by category.

Birds in the red list (18 species)
Lapwing
Curlew
Willow tit
Skylark
Starling
Swift
Cuckoo
HouseMartin
Redwing
Fieldfare
Linnet
Redpoll
Mistle thrush
Greenfinch
House Sparrow
Tree Sparrow
Grey wagtail
Yellowhammer

Birds in the amber list (21 species)
Greylag goose
Pink footed Goose
Mallard
Black headed gull
Common gull
Lesser black backed gull
Oystercatcher
Moorhen
Wood pigeon
Tawny owl
Sparrowhawk
Kestrel
Rook
Dipper
Willow warbler
Wren
Dunnock
Meadow pipit
Grey Wagtail
Bullfinch
Reed Bunting
Birds in the green list (36species)
Cormorant, Little Egret, Goosander, Heron, Canada goose, Mandarin, Red kite, Buzzard,
Herring gull, Collared dove, Ring necked parakeet, Barn Owl,
Great spotted woodpecker, Swallow, Reed warbler, Garden Warbler, Pied wagtail, Waxwing, Robin,
Blackbird, Blackcap,
Chiffchaff, Blue tit, Coal tit, great tit, Long tailed tit, Nuthatch, Treecreeper, Jay, Magpie, Jackdaw, Crow
Chaffinch, Siskin, Brambling, Goldfinch.

Birds in the red and amber lists will be subject to at least one of the relevant factors listed below.

Red list criteria

- Globally threatened
- Historical population decline in UK during 1800–1995
- Severe (at least 50%) decline in UK breeding population over last 25 years, or longer-term period (the entire period used for assessments since the first BoCC review, starting in 1969).
- Severe (at least 50%) contraction of UK breeding range over last 25 years, or the longer-term period

Amber list criteria

- Species with unfavourable conservation status in Europe (SPEC = Species of European Conservation Concern)
- Historical population decline during 1800–1995, but recovering; population size has more than doubled over last 25 years
- Moderate (25-49%) decline in UK breeding population over last 25 years, or the longer-term period
- Moderate (25-49%) contraction of UK breeding range over last 25 years, or the longer-term period
- Moderate (25-49%) decline in UK non-breeding population over last 25 years, or the longer-term period
- Rare breeder; 1–300 breeding pairs in UK
- Rare non-breeders; less than 900 individuals

- Localised; at least 50% of UK breeding or non-breeding population in 10 or fewer sites, but not applied to rare breeders or non-breeders
- Internationally important; at least 20% of European breeding or non-breeding population in UK (NW European and East Atlantic Flyway populations used for non-breeding wildfowl and waders respectively)