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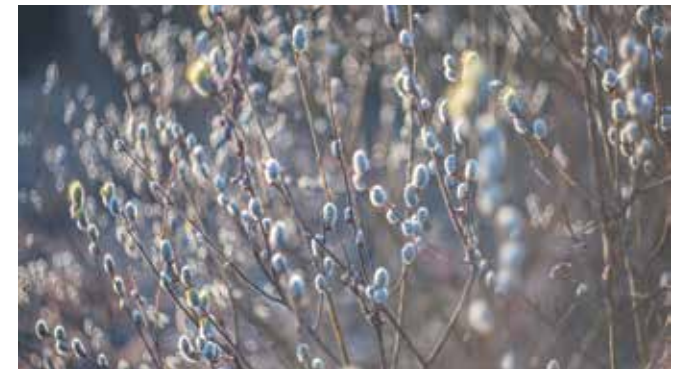
BIRDS AND MAMMALS

Retain areas of scrub



Careful management of scrub already present. Aim to rotationally cut areas to create a diverse habitat structure and carry out management in the autumn/winter, ideally early February, avoiding the bird nesting season.

Suitability	Low to medium density housing.
Management type	Maintaining important resources.
Supplier information	Not applicable.
Community engagement?	Limited scope: scrub clearance events. Important to engage residents with site management proposals and explain why managing areas of scrub will benefit wildlife.
Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides nectar, seeds, fruits, shelter and nest sites for invertebrates, birds and mammals.• Scrub provides a mosaic of habitats and greater structural diversity, which increases biodiversity.
Costs/Disbenefit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial cost: Low.• May be a perception of 'untidiness' by residents. Important to clearly communicate to residents the reasons and benefits to wildlife for leaving areas of scrub habitat.
Level of ongoing maintenance	Low to medium.



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		Notes
How achieved	Careful management of scrub already present.	
Timing of activity	September-January: Do not cut scrub during the bird nesting season (generally February to August).	
Long-term management	Management of scrub will be required to stop encroachment. Aim to rotationally cut areas to create a diverse habitat structure and carry out management in the autumn/winter, ideally early February, avoiding the bird nesting season (February to August inclusive). Work on fruit-bearing scrub is best delayed until after December, leaving valuable autumn and winter fruits and seeds as food for wildlife. Where scrub is almost entirely composed of bramble, undertake rotational cutting, where 1/5 or 1/6 of the entire scrub patch is cut each year. Over 5-6 years the whole patch will have been cut. This creates a mosaic of bramble at different stages of growth.	
Monitoring success	<p>General recording (see page 6).</p> <p>A butterfly transect or timed count could be set up as part of the UK Butterfly Monitoring Scheme http://www.ukbms.org.</p> <p>Simple butterfly timed counts can be conducted using the European Butterfly Monitoring app https://butterfly-monitoring.net/ebms-app.</p> <p>Flower-Insect Timed (FIT) counts can be conducted as part of the National Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (PoMS) https://www.ceh.ac.uk/pollinator-monitoring.</p> <p>Conduct Plantlife's 'Every Flower Counts' survey of lawns to survey the number of flowers present and contribute to calculating a National Nectar Score: http://www.plantlife.org.uk/everyflowercounts.</p> <p>Checking for the presence of bird nests, small mammals and reptiles, which can all use scrub habitat.</p>	