







# Safeguarding hedgehogs through planning and development

Ali North – Ipswich Hedgehog Officer













#### Western European Hedgehog Erinaceus europaeus



- Ancient species
- Key, Umbrella, Indicator, Flagship
- Limited legal protection but are a priority species

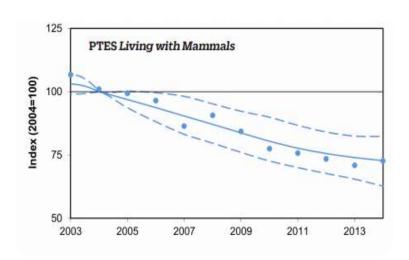












#### **Concerning declines**

Urban populations have declined by up to a third between 2000-2014

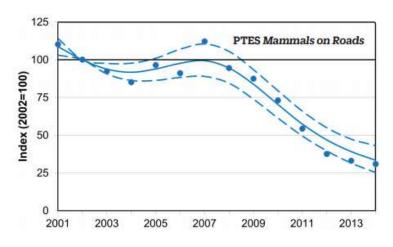


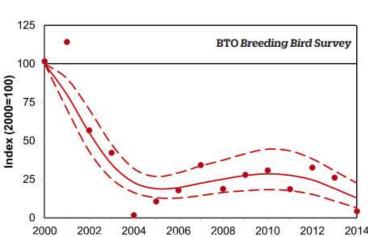












PTES & BHPS (2015) The State of Britain's Hedgehogs 2015

#### **Concerning declines**

Rural populations have declined by at least half between 2000 - 2014











#### Suburban

Smaller gardens
Tidy gardening
Impermeable fences

Strimming
Entanglement
Steep ponds

#### Widespread issues

Loss of habitat and fragmentation Pesticides Road traffic

#### Rural

Large fields, fewer features Increase in badgers

Climate change?
Disease?









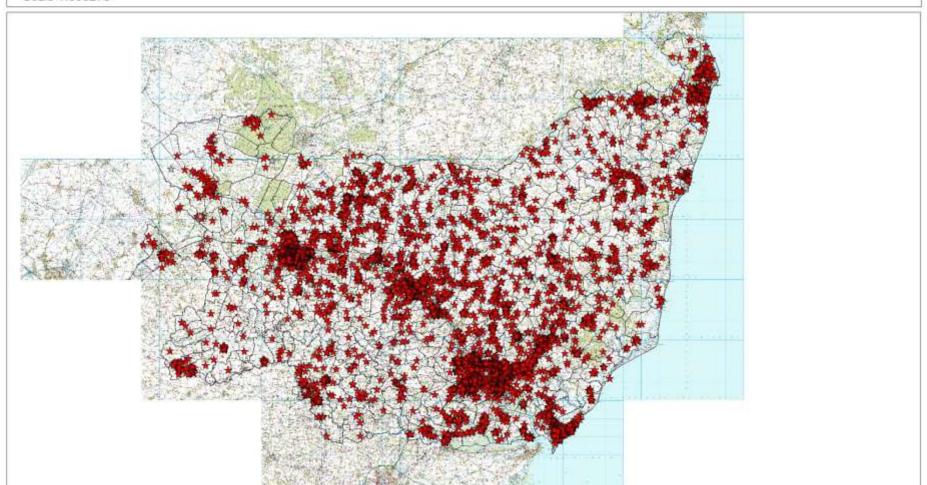
#### Suffolk hedgehogs

2014

Scale 1:536278

Suffolk Wildlife Trust Brooke House The Green Ashbocking, IP6 9JY















- 1) Nesting opportunities
- 2) Feeding opportunities
- 3) Connected network









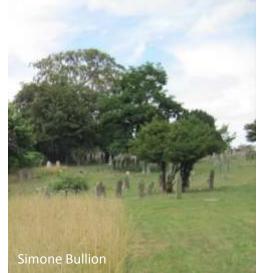


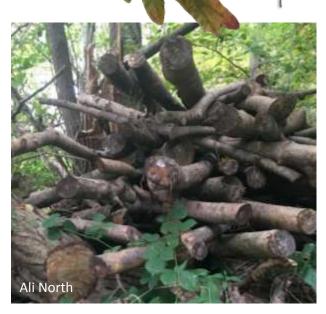


1) Nesting opportunities

- Daytime nests
- Breeding nests
- Hibernation nests















## 2) Feeding opportunities











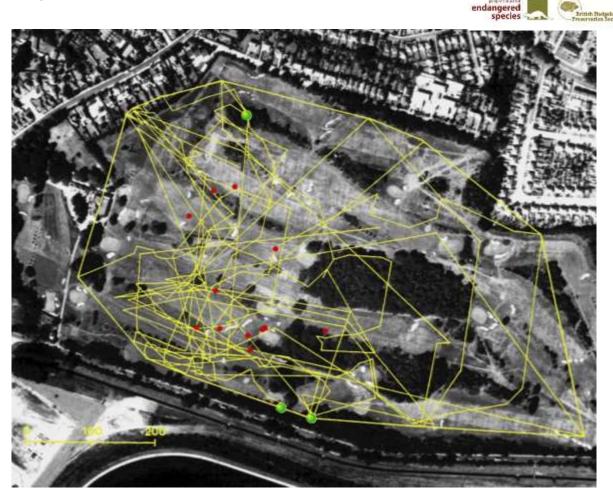








### 3) Connected Network



Male average

1.8km, female
average 1.1km

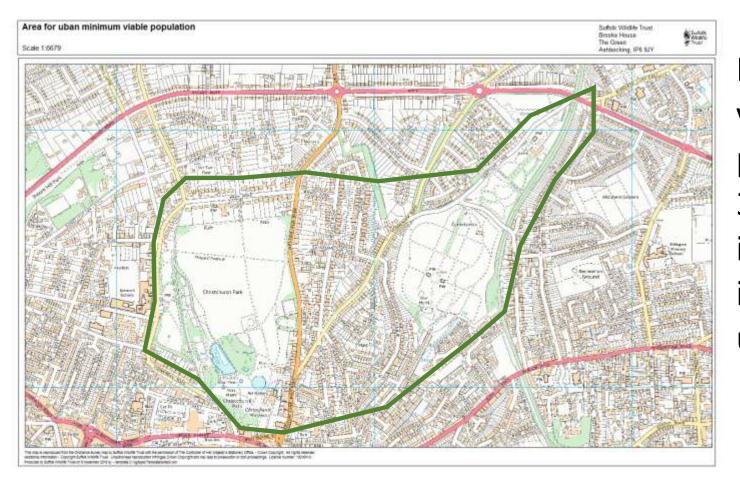








### 3) Connected Network



Minimum viable population: 32 individuals in ~1km² in urban areas













# Mitigating the impacts of development

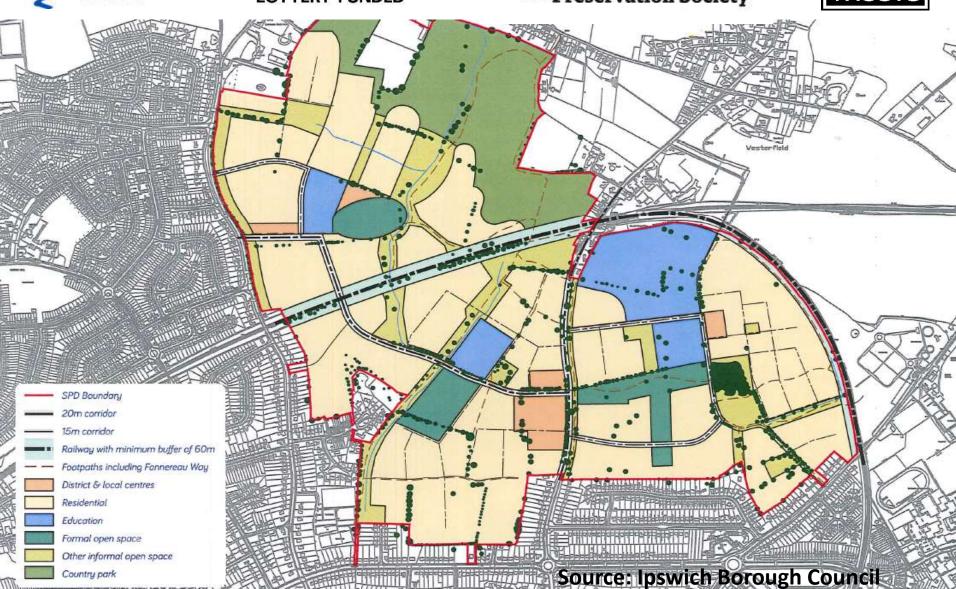
- Impact of construction
- Method & timing of clearance
- Impact of habitat change
- Habitat retention
- Development design











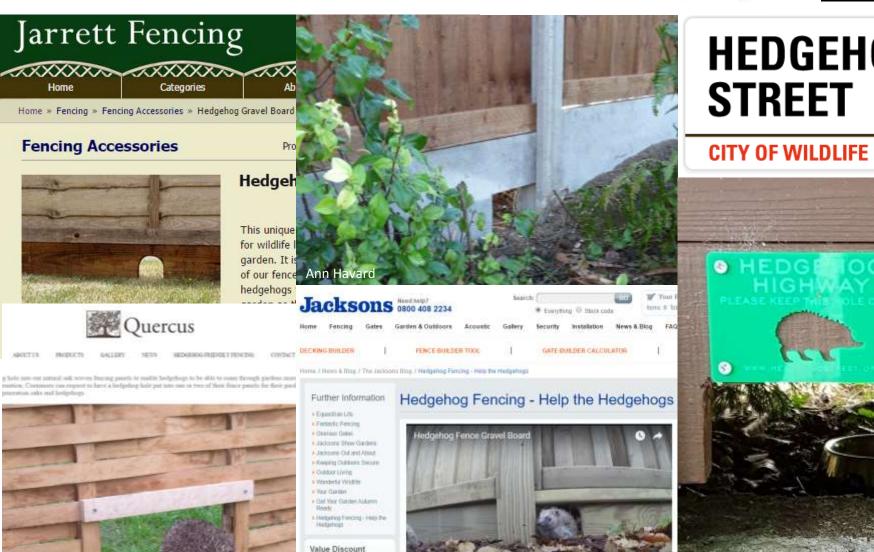




intervatives of \$1000 or more







Welcome to our dedicated hedgehog page

# **HEDGEHOG** STREET 🧢











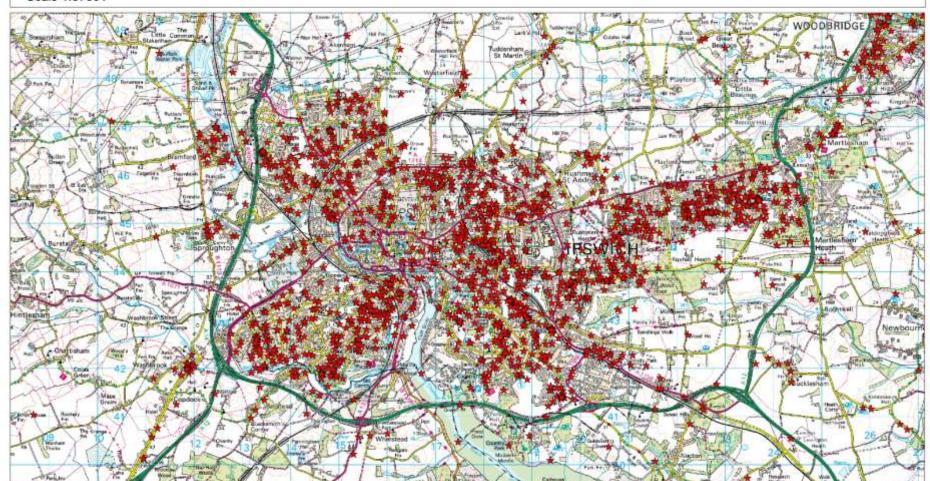
#### **Ipswich hedgehogs**

2014

Scale 1:67001

Suffolk Wildlife Trust Brooke House The Green Ashbocking, IP6 9JY













#### Russell Armer Homes builds hedgehog-friendly houses

3 February 2016

The first developer to proactively engage with Hedgehog Street has ensured that all 56 homes it is building this year will have hedgehog highways through their gardens.



Barratt Developments and RSPB breathe (wild)life into new build housing

Last modified: 16 February 2015



The RSPB is working with Barratt Homes to Give Nature a Home

Image: Eleanor Bentall

#### **Bovis Homes building hedgehog habitats**

Five-star UK housebuilder, Bovis Homes, is expanding its portfolio and working with Willows Hedgehog Rescue, going the extra mile to help local hedgehogs.









Awareness amongst existing garden owners



Awareness amongst architects and planners



Consultants and planning officers recommending hedgehog mitigation



**Improved** garden connectivity



Easily available hedgehog friendly fencing options



Porous boundaries as standard in newbuilds



Fencing contractors & landscapers promoting porous fencing



















## References

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