



Natural England Visit

Natural England Site Visit

At the end of the summer, the team welcomed a group from Natural England to the Manydown site in Basingstoke. This gave us the chance to explain U&C's master developer approach and the opportunity this gives us to consider ecology and biodiversity at every stage of the planning and development process. With protected species including hazel dormice, bats and badgers on site, working alongside Natural England is an important part of the licensing process and taking the correct steps to protect and enhance these species .

The 250-acre countryside park planned for Manydown was central to the conversation with the potential this gives us to return the landscape to its pre-agriculture form with significant areas allocated as chalk grassland, a reserve for rare arable flora and a sizeable area of ancient woodland habitat. The scale of green space at Manydown gives it significance within the wider area and this visit allowed discussions on how we can support existing local projects and volunteer conservation groups alongside Natural England targets.

Our alignment in approach and ambition for a restorative landscape, community education and conservation communities has been recognised with an invitation to attend Natural England's Nature Recovery Network Delivery Partnership which will help us to work collaboratively within the wider Hampshire environmental community and beyond.

