

## Regeneration & Neighbourhoods

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Ref: LWS HP39  
Date: 13/06/2019  
To: Tees Valley Nature Partnership Natural Assets Working Group

### **Recommendation to delete a Local Wildlife Site (LWS)**

Hartlepool BC (HBC) proposes deletion of HP39 High Newton Hanzard Verges LWS. Deletion is covered by the Derfra Local Sites Guidance and this site falls into Category D2: *Where the habitat for which the site was designated has been reduced in area or quality such that it is clearly below the level required for designation and that there is no realistic prospect of it being restored to qualifying status within 5 years.*

The LWS was reduced in area on 26/09/2016, following the destruction of the meadow area. This left linear verges on either side of the access track to Low Newton Hanzard Farm, running for 0.8km. Since 2016 these verges have been destroyed through a succession of Wynyard Park housing developments and through the creation of a landscape bund running parallel to the A689.

Site visits were undertaken by Graham Megson on 25/04/2019 and 14/05/2019. A limited re-survey found only a few verge plants, including ruderal and common species and none of the Lowland meadow/ neutral grassland indicators.

The site is assessed as now failing to meet the relevant criteria and is recommended for deletion.

View looking south from A689 (24/04/2019)



View looking north from track, back towards the A689 (24/04/2019).



**Next steps:**

- Tees Valley Nature Partnership to review the recommendation.
- Site owner to be notified of the deletion if agreed.
- ERIC Northeast Local Record Centre to be notified of the deletion if agreed.
- The HBC Local Plan team to be notified so that the Proposals Map can be amended.

End