

Sheffield Parks and Open Spaces Survey 2015-16

Methodology

Number of visits

A minimum of four, with at least one in each season:

December to February (Winter)

March to April (Spring)

May to July (Summer)

August to November (Autumn)

Each visit should last at least one hour, though for larger sites longer may be required.

What to record

Record details of all species seen and make as accurate a count as possible of every species.

During the breeding season, record details of breeding activity, ideally on each of two separate visits, under the following categories:

- possible (present in suitable habitat);
- probable (singing male/ display, courtship/ territorial behaviour, nest building);
- confirmed (adult carrying food, nest with eggs/ young, recently fledged juvs).

For all records - breeding and non-breeding - try to record the habitat with which the birds are associated, using the habitat categories on the 'Habitat questionnaire' available on the website. Details of how to include this information are included on the habitat questionnaire. This information will enable comparisons with the previous surveys, evaluate the impact of land management, and suggest species-specific conservation measures.

How to record

Submit your records to the Group's website as usual, adding 'Park Survey' in the comments box together with any details about breeding behaviour and habitat.