

A27 East of Lewes Scheme

Update - May 2022

Environment Special

We've been asked about how our scheme and the improvements that we're making will impact the special local environment. We'd like to provide more information.

We have worked with Natural England, local councils and the South Downs National Park to design the best route for our new path. We carried out ecology surveys of the flora and fauna as part of the process. Protected by legislation, there are several European Protected Species locally. These include; bats, dormice and great crested newts and so we need licences from Natural England to carry out construction near them. The licences agree the mitigation measures needed for their protection.

Dormice

The life cycle of these creatures follows an annual pattern dictating that we plan activities to ensure that we match the pattern of the animals. Ecologists carries out desktop surveys to determine if there are any suitable habitats locally. Once this has been established, licensed ecologists carry out fingertip searches whenever work is taking place.



Great Crested Newts



Working with Natural England and South Downs National Park (SDNP) we will replant and provide suitable habitat where it was removed. This includes the re-instatement of hedgerows. There are several areas such as Berwick where planting will provide broadleaved woodland. The scheme is also building and improving of several ponds to enhance habits for all protected species and other animals in the area.

