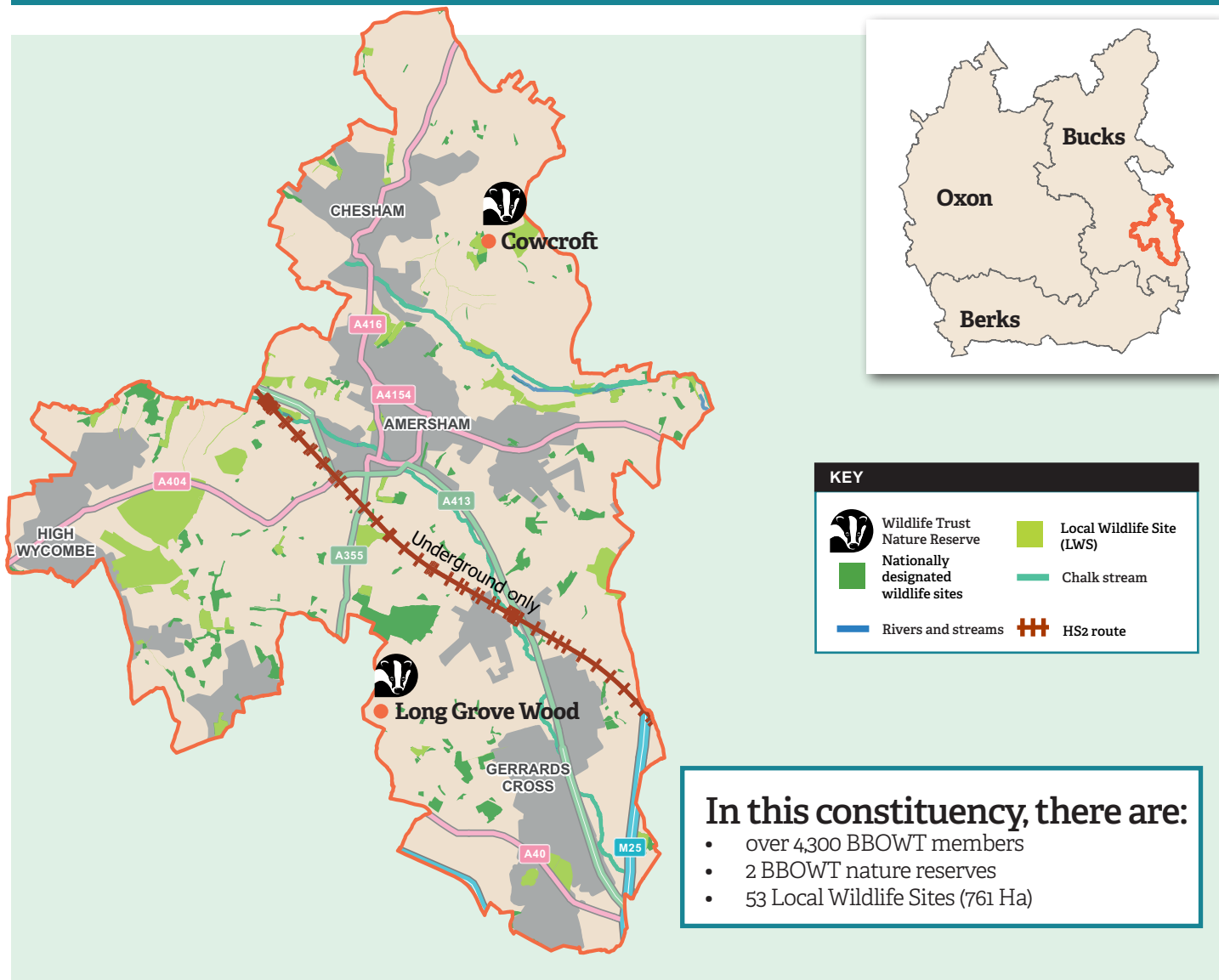


Chesham and Amersham Constituency



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire
Wildlife Trust**



In this constituency, there are:

- over 4,300 BBOWT members
- 2 BBOWT nature reserves
- 53 Local Wildlife Sites (761 Ha)

Nature in the constituency

The Chesham and Amersham constituency lies at the heart of the Chilterns Natural Landscape. The AONB includes an immense range of important wildlife habitats, in particular ancient woodlands and associated grasslands that support a wide range of UK wildlife. However, as the recent State of Nature reports consistently highlight, wildlife across England, including in this constituency, is in severe decline.

Long Grove Wood

Woodland flowers were the unexpected beneficiaries when the storm of October

1987 brought trees crashing down here. New glades created the ideal conditions for beauties such as bluebell and yellow archangel. This pocket-sized woodland surrounded by housing is a popular place for people to walk.

Special Streams

Chalk streams are a precious habitat which supports a huge range of wildlife, including some of our rarest species. The Wildlife Trusts are a partner in the Chilterns Chalk Streams project. Many chalk streams are subject to dangerous levels of pollution,

which is why BBOWT is calling for them to receive special legal protection. The River Misbourne, which runs through this constituency, is classified as being in poor ecological condition.

Ancient Woodlands

The beech and yew woodlands of the Chilterns provide the perfect habitat for a range of wildlife. Alongside the more obvious bluebells and other woodland flora, fungi thrive in the trees and the woodland floor, and bats and dormice populations stay mostly out of sight.



There are 46 Wildlife Trusts across the UK working towards nature's recovery. The Wildlife Trusts are a grassroots movement of people from a wide range of backgrounds and all walks of life, who believe that we need nature and nature needs us.

Working for wildlife



Building a bird nest box © Evie and Tom photography

Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)
LNRS will set out and map priorities for nature's recovery in each of 48 areas in England. BBOWT is working with local authorities and other organisations on preparing LNRS across our three counties.

Community groups

Independent of BBOWT, there are several community groups in the constituency whose aims align with ours in terms of preserving the area's natural features. The Misbourne River Action group aims to rescue and preserve the river so it flows as regularly as possible from its source at Great Missenden to its confluence with the River Colne at Denham.

Sustainable Amersham is another local community group concerned about the impacts of climate change, pollution and biodiversity loss. Working with other organisations including local government

and businesses, its volunteers design and implement projects that address these.

#teamWILDER

Team Wilder is a rapidly growing movement of people who care about our environment and want to help wildlife thrive. Through Team Wilder we are empowering communities to act for a wilder future. If 1 in 4 people takes visible action for nature, we will create the social tipping point required to reverse nature's devastating decline. People are stepping forward from every sector of society to lead change in their fields and we welcome farmers, businesses, schools, politicians, and individuals as part of Team Wilder.

“Volunteering with BBOWT nourishes the soul and helps maintain a balance in my life”
BBOWT volunteer

About BBOWT

BBOWT has a vision of a wilder Berks, Bucks and Oxon, with more nature everywhere, for everyone. Our aim is to create bigger, wilder, connected landscapes, where wildlife can thrive. We want to put nature into recovery, with 30% of land in our three counties well managed for wildlife by 2030.

Our mission is to bring about nature's recovery through local action, empowering more people to connect with their local wildlife and take action to save it.

We work to manage habitats to tackle the nature and climate crisis locally. We also help give nature a voice in major planning or policy decisions that threaten nature's recovery.



Our five priorities for the next government

- 1. Bring back the UK's lost wildlife** – BBOWT's Water Vole Recovery Project has already helped to increase the local range of water voles by more than 50 per cent over the past 15 years.
- 2. End river pollution and water scarcity** – BBOWT has joined a Wildlife Trusts' campaign calling on Government to create new bespoke legal protections for these habitats.
- 3. Fund wildlife-friendly farming** – BBOWT works with farmers across the three counties who prove that wildlife-friendly farming is possible and profitable.
- 4. Enable healthy communities** – BBOWT works with urban communities in Bicester, Banbury, Slough and Reading to help people and nature thrive together.
- 5. Tackle the climate emergency** – BBOWT's Chimney Meadows nature reserve project will help store more carbon than other habitats.



**Berkshire
Buckinghamshire
& Oxfordshire**
Wildlife Trust

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All 46 Wildlife Trusts are members of the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts (Registered charity number 207238. BBOWT registered charity number 204330).