

Grinshill Hedgehog Survey – May 2021

Shropshire
Wildlife Trust

Summary of Findings



23 households in the village took part in the survey.

Approx. 175 questionnaires were issued on 17th May, and 23 in total were received back.

43% of households who responded had seen a live hedgehog or had seen evidence of hedgehogs visiting their gardens. 9% of households had seen a deceased or roadkill hedgehog.

10 households in the area had seen live hedgehogs mostly in their gardens. Whilst just 2 households had seen a deceased hedgehog, with 4 road sightings altogether. The sightings both live and deceased were mainly reported from main cottages through the village that connect onto the main road, as well as some Lanes like Sandy and Grove Lane. This shows that connectivity doesn't appear to be too much of an issue, but it is clear that hedgehogs are using the roads to travel, especially with lack of pedestrian pavement.

Sightings were not from one or two roads in particular.

The 10 sightings received were for the majority from cottages that didn't have road names, but all branched from the main road through the village. This does indicate good connectivity between properties, but also indicates that hedgehogs must be relying on roads to cross between them, which can be a worry especially with the lack of pedestrian pavements. This could indicate that we really need to focus on road awareness, as the population does seem healthy in itself.

Most of the hedgehog sightings locations show to have a good amount of active hedgehog encouragements such as fresh water and hedgehog houses. The areas lacking sightings, appear to have less of these as a whole.

Identifying trends in results, shows that wild areas and habitats in Grinshill gardens are abundant and great examples of attractive nest and food sites for hedgehogs. And where sightings have been seen, correlates to that location more likely providing extra encouragements for hedgehogs such as housing and water/food. This suggests that the key to increasing sightings and improving the local population is by potentially encouraging them more actively.

74% of households said they had taken some steps to support hedgehogs and other wildlife in their gardens.

12 households had left a wild area, a great 15 households had left fresh water out, and 11 also have highway holes/connectivity. 5 households put out hedgehog food, and a further 7 households have or are getting a hedgehog house. A brilliant 87% of households in the survey said that they do not use pesticides in their garden, and those that do try to make it seasonal, occasional, or strictly to specific areas.

