

To whom it may concern, (or insert name of individual or company)

I am writing to draw your attention to a location where native British orchids are growing within an area maintained by you, or your representatives. Can I please ask if it is possible to take management steps to allow these rare plants to grow successfully and flourish? Even a small change to routine can make a difference.

The survival of orchids and other wild species is at risk due to habitat loss or mismanagement, climate change, loss of biodiversity and pollinators. Orchids are particularly vulnerable because of their slow development, taking many years to reach mature flowering size, and their very precise ecosystem requirements to allow them to produce seed and grow successfully.

Correct verge management and timing of grass cutting can make a huge difference, and varies with orchid species. More information is available from the Hardy Orchid Society website here: <https://hardyorchidsociety.org/Conservation/Verge Maintenance and Orchids 2017.pdf>

The Hardy Orchid Society can also assist with small grants towards practical management for conservation.

Protecting the site might also be possible, for example:

- marking the site for reference by contractors and avoid mowing at specific times during the year
- use of signs/barriers to prevent trampling by people
- protection from grazing damage by wild animals or livestock

If you are willing to help, you can also contact the Scottish Orchid Society (email conservation@scottishorchidsociety.org), the Scottish Wildlife Trust or PlantLife for more advice and guidance.

I would be very grateful if you could give this matter consideration, and take positive steps to ensure these rare plants don't just survive but thrive.

Yours hopefully,

Name: Date:

Address:

Email: Telephone:

The following orchid species has been identified:

Latin name:	Common name:
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At location:

OS grid reference/What3Words/Google Maps pin:

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Problem identified (delete or add details as required):

Mowing inappropriately / Risk of trampling by people / Grazing inappropriately by animals

Other:

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I have attached some photos for your reference YES / NO