## Narrow leaf helleborine (Cephalanthera longifolia)

**Areas and status:** A nationally scarce, vulnerable plant found in scattered locations in north Wales, west Scotland and Hampshire. Section 41 species, Ancient Woodland Indicator (AWI).

Woodland type: Broadleaved woodland

**Preferred habitat niches:** Mature woodland on well drained, alkaline soils, in permanent, small, sheltered glades where light levels are high and competing vegetation is removed frequently. The plant takes many years to flower.

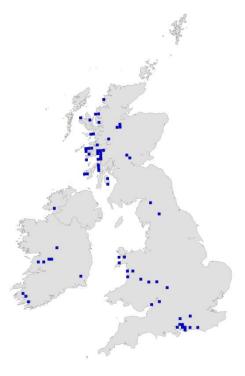
## Potential habitat management issues associated with decline

- Woodland succession shading out open canopied woodland
- Plant collectors, although incidences now rare

| Potential habitat management solutions:  |   |
|--|---|
| Prescription                             | Comment   |
| Glade creation/retention                 | Promote open canopy over small, permanent glades.   |
| Reduce competition from other vegetation | Strimming after summer or light grazing with cattle in winter   |
| Bee populations are encouraged           | To ensure flowers are pollinated it is important to maintain good nectar source for bees to produce pollen at the same time the flowers are open. |
| Woodland management                      | Woody growth (scrub) cut in winter and other vegetation cut/grazed early spring   |
| Deer                                     | The plant is vulnerable to deer browsing protection/fencing may be needed.  |



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■ Distribution 1987-2016 (BSBI)