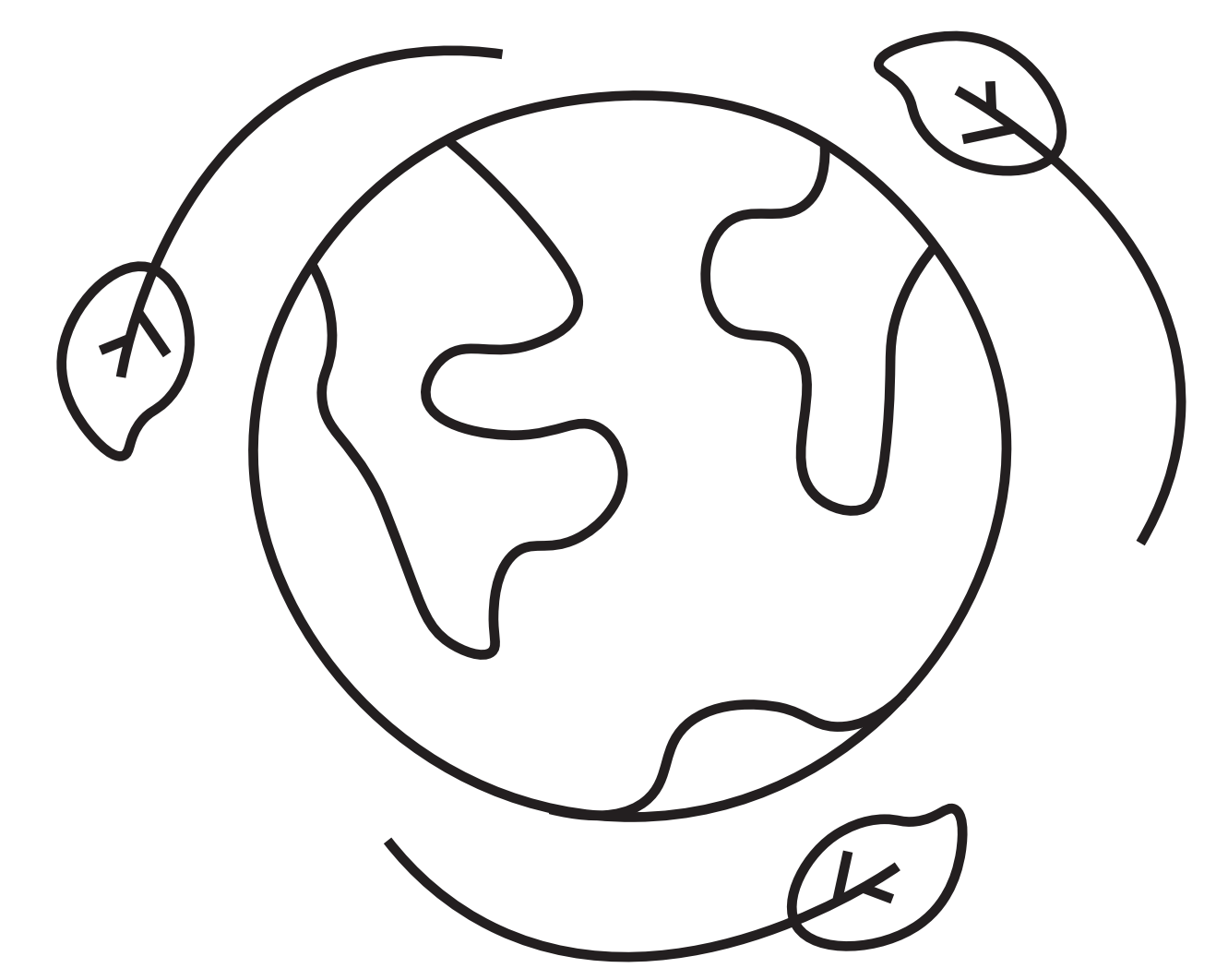


Ecology

A range of ecology surveys and studies have been carried out across the site area. These studies were also subject to consultation with stakeholders such as NatureScot. Surveys for habitat, mammals and other protected species have been undertaken. These included, but are not limited to:

- National Vegetation Classification (NVC) Study;
- Ground Water Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE);
- Otter;
- Badger;
- Water Vole; and
- Bats.



Ecological assessments are still underway; however, it is not anticipated any significant effects are likely to arise as a result of the Proposed Development.

Ornithology

A range of ornithological surveys were carried out over a 24-month period, between April 2020 and April 2022. Ornithological assessments are currently underway to identify potential ways in which the birds, and their habitats, may be impacted by the Proposed Development.

Once target species were identified, the following range of ornithological field studies were carried out:

- Summer & Winter Vantage Point Survey Work;
- Black Grouse Surveys;
- Breeding Bird Surveys;
- Scarce Breeding Bird Survey Methodology;
- and
- Nightjar Surveys.

