

Ascerta

Landscape, Arboricultural & Ecological Solutions
for the Built Environment

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Newall Green Farm, off
Whitecarr Lane, Newall
Road, Wythenshawe,
M23 2TX

Ref: P.1650.22

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Rev	Date	Details

This document contains sensitive information regarding the location of a badger sett. The report is issued in confidence and on the basis that the material will not enter the public domain

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P.1650.22

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Of

Newall Green Farm, off Whitecarr Lane, Newall Road, Wythenshawe, M23 2TX

For

Abbeyway Commercial Ltd

12 May 2022

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal has been carried out at the land at Newall Green Farm, off Whitecarr Lane, Newall Road, Wythenshawe, M23 2TX on 25th April 2022 by Lizzie Atkinson. The assessment comprised a desk study and biological records search, as well as a site walkover survey in order to map habitat types. The survey was extended to assess the potential for protected species to use the site. The assessment provides baseline data as to current site conditions and where appropriate allows recommendations to be made in respect of further potential work in order to satisfy current wildlife legislation.

Assessed against the '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' 2nd edition (2018), the habitats range in ecological value from negligible to within the zone of influence of the site. Habitats are likely to be lost to the proposals. As the habitats to be lost to the proposals are small in area and not of high ecological value it is considered that their loss can be mitigated for and the proposals will not adversely affect the ecological value of the wider area, provided the recommendations detailed below are followed.

Bat surveys are conducted in accordance with the Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists - Good Practice Guidelines, published 2016 (the Guidelines). Strict adherence to these is not necessary, but where practice deviates from them, clear reasons and rationale are required.

The site comprises areas of semi-improved grassland within the east and north that have become encroached with tall ruderal species. A hardstanding access road leads off from Whitecarr Lane. Scattered trees line the northern and a part of the western site boundaries and are also present within the semi-improved grassland habitat within the east of the site.

If the recommendations below are followed these species will not be adversely affected by the proposals.

- If works have not begun by April 2023, an updated site visit to assess the habitats and an updated preliminary bat roost assessment of trees to be removed or pruned to accommodate proposals;
- Implementation of badger and hedgehog RAMS (section 5.2) to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works;
- Implementation of an amphibian RAMS (section 5.2) to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works;
- If works are to occur within the vicinity to the bluebell (TN1) a pre-commencement check of the site in May will be required for bluebell prior to ground clearance. If works are to occur before May, any bulbs found during soil removal should be retained and grown on to confirm the species. English bluebell should be replanted at an appropriate time once the ground works in that area have been completed;
- Vegetation clearance or pruning should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (1st March to 31st August Inclusive) to avoid any impact on breeding birds. Or a nesting bird check undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist should be undertaken immediately prior to works commencing;

- Retain and enhance northern and western site boundaries through appropriate landscape planting that includes native, species rich hedgerows, trees and areas of wildflowers plus provision of integrated bat and bird features within newly constructed buildings;
- Production of the Defra Metric Biodiversity Small Sites Net Gain Calculations to minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity; and
- Production of a Management Plan to ensure the long-term commitments to manage the planting, protection and enhancement of biodiversity in and around a new development site.

The site provides habitat for nesting birds, badger, hedgehog, amphibians and bats. Habitats on site will be lost to the proposals. There is likely to be low impacts on the local ecology due to the proposals if the recommendations within section 6 are implemented.

1.0 Introduction

Ascerta has been instructed by Abbeyway Commercial Ltd to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of land at Newall Green Farm, off Whitecarr Lane, Newall Road, Wythenshawe, M23 2TX (hereafter referred to as the site). The site OS grid reference is SJ 807 872 and the What3Words reference is palace.stow.cloth. The extent of the site is displayed in photograph 1.1 below.



Photograph 1.1: Extent of site

The site was visited on 25th April 2022 by Lizzie Atkinson when a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, which includes an assessment of the potential for protected species to be using the site or surroundings, was carried out in accordance with the *Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: a Technique for Environmental Audit* (JNCC, 2010). The report was prepared following methods detailed in the CIEEM 'Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland' (2018) and 'Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing' (2017). This report presents the results of the survey including evaluation of habitats on site and potential for protected species to be using the site. The report includes recommendations for further actions where applicable in order to satisfy current wildlife legislation and to achieve our client's objectives. Relevant legislation is detailed within Appendix 4.

The site comprises areas of semi-improved grassland within the east and north that have become encroached with tall ruderal species. A hardstanding access road leads off from Whitecarr Lane. Scattered trees line the northern and a part of the western site boundaries and are also present within the semi-improved grassland habitat within the east of the site.

Our client seeks planning consent to redevelop the site for a residential apartment block with associated access road, parking and amenity area.

2.0 Objectives

Our client's objectives are to assess the potential ecological constraints of the proposed development site.

Our objectives are as follows:

- Identify and evaluate any features of ecological value and the potential of the site to support protected species based on the walkover survey and biological records search;
- Identify designated sites within 2km of the site;
- Review protected species records within 2km of the site;
- Map the habitats within the site using JNCC (2010) methods;
- Provide recommendations for further species-specific surveys and mitigation measures where current legislation requires;
- Provide recommendations that seek to enhance the ecological value of the site;
- Provide recommendations to assist our clients in achieving their objectives whilst satisfying current wildlife legislation.

3.0 Survey Methods

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal involved the collection and review of data from a desk study and field survey along with assessment of the value of the habitats following CIEEM guidelines.

3.1 Desk Study

A review of the designated sites and habitats within 2km of the site has been undertaken in April 2022 using the Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) and the Natural England websites.

A review of UK and Local priority species and habitats known to occur within 2km of the site has been undertaken in April 2022; using the Joint Nature Conservation Committee website, Multi-Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC) and local records from Greater Manchester Local Record Centre (GMLRC) (Appendix 5).

3.2 Field Survey

A walkover survey of the site was conducted on 25th April 2022 by Lizzie Atkinson when the habitat types and features of ecological interest were identified and mapped in compliance with the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A Technique for Environmental Audit (*JNCC, 2010*). The survey methods involve the recording and mapping of all habitat types and ecological features present on site, including the identification of the main species present and examination of the potential for any protected species. Habitats were mapped and target notes made for any interesting features.

The surveys particularly focused on the following species and habitat features:

- Mammals (badgers, bats, otter and water vole);
- Birds;
- Amphibians and reptiles;
- Invertebrates;
- Hedgerows and boundaries;
- Invasive plant species; and
- Plant communities and trees.

Weather conditions during the survey were mild (10°C), dry and overcast (8/8 cloud cover) with a F1 (Beaufort Scale) light air, therefore appropriate for this type of survey.

3.3 Bat Survey Methods

The survey methods followed the guidelines set out by the Bat Conservation Trust Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 3rd Edition (2016). Habitats, buildings and trees were assessed for suitability for use by bats and categorised independently using table 4.1 page 35 within the Bat Conservation Trust Guidelines (Collins, 2016).

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal for Bats

Habitats on site were assessed for their suitability for bats to use them for roosting, commuting and foraging both on the site and surrounding area. Commuting and foraging habitat suitability was categorised **low** to **high**. Commuting and foraging habitat valued as **moderate** or above may need further survey effort if lost to the proposals.

Preliminary Roost Assessment Trees

All trees were inspected for Potential Roost Features (PRFs). Features searched for included: Natural or woodpecker holes, cracks/splits in major limbs, loose bark, hollows/cavities, dense epicormic growth, bird and bat boxes. Where such features were found they were investigated for scratches or staining, bat droppings and smoothing of surfaces around entry points. Trees assigned a suitability of **moderate** or above may require further inspection if they are to be lost to the development.

Table 4.1: Guidelines for assessing Potential Roost Features (PRFs), commuting and foraging habitat within a proposed development site. Guidelines taken from table 4.1 page 35 of the Bat Conservation Trust Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 3rd Edition (2016).

Suitability	Roosting Habitats	Commuting and Foraging Habitats
Negligible	<i>Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by roosting bats.</i>	<i>Negligible habitat features on site likely to be used by commuting or foraging bats.</i>
Low	<i>A structure with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by individual bats opportunistically. However, these potential roost sites do not provide enough space, shelter, protection, appropriate conditions ^a and/or suitable surrounding habitat to be used on a regular basis or by larger numbers of bats (i.e. unlikely to be suitable for maternity or hibernation ^b).</i> <i>A tree of sufficient size and age to contain PRFs but with none seen from the ground or features seen with only very limited roosting potential. ^c</i>	<i>Habitat that could be used by small numbers of commuting bats such as a gappy hedgerow or unvegetated stream, but isolated, i.e. not very well connected to the surrounding landscape by other habitat.</i> <i>Suitable, but isolated habitat that could be used by small numbers of foraging bats such as a lone tree (not in a parkland situation) or a patch of scrub.</i>
Moderate	<i>A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that could be used by bats due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions^a and surrounding habitat but unlikely to support a roost of high conservation status (with respect to roost type only – the assessments in this table are made irrespective of species conservation status, which is established after presence is confirmed).</i>	<i>Continuous habitat connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for commuting such as lines of trees and scrub or linked back gardens.</i> <i>Habitat that is connected to the wider landscape that could be used by bats for foraging such as trees, scrub, grassland or water.</i>
High	<i>A structure or tree with one or more potential roost sites that are obviously suitable for use by larger numbers of bats on a more regular basis and potentially for longer periods of time due to their size, shelter, protection, conditions ^a and surrounding habitat.</i>	<i>Continuous, high-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by commuting bats such as river valleys, streams, hedgerows, lines of trees and woodland edge.</i> <i>High-quality habitat that is well connected to the wider landscape that is likely to be used regularly by foraging bats such as broadleaved woodland, tree-lined watercourses and grazed parkland.</i> <i>Site is close to and connected to known roosts.</i>

^a For example, in terms of temperature, humidity, height above ground level, light levels or levels of disturbance.

^b Evidence from the Netherlands shows mass swarming events of common pipistrelle bats in the autumn followed by mass hibernation in a diverse range of building types in urban environments (Korsten et al., 2015). This phenomenon requires some research in the UK but ecologists should be aware of the potential for larger numbers of this species to be present during the autumn and winter in large buildings in highly urbanised environments.

^c This system of categorisation aligns with BS 8596:2015 Surveying for bats in trees and woodland (BSI,2015).

3.4 Badger Survey Methods

The site was searched for setts and badger field signs including foraging areas, latrines and tracks. Attention was paid to the presence of the following field signs:

- Setts: single holes or a series of holes likely to be interconnected underground;
- Latrines: badgers usually deposit faeces in excavated pits;
- Paths and footprints;
- Scratching posts: at the base of trees;
- Snuffle holes: areas where badgers have searched for insects;
- Day nest: bundles of vegetation where badgers may sleep above ground; and
- Traces of hair.

Any setts recorded were categorised into sett types using the following criteria (Thornton, 1988):

- Main sett: Usually appearing well-used, well established and having a large number of holes with big spoil heaps, often with piles of old bedding outside;
- Annexe sett: Annexe setts are always close to the main sett and are usually connected by one or more obvious well-worn paths. They consist of several holes but are not necessarily in use the whole time, even if the main sett is very active;
- Subsidiary sett: Often these have very few holes, are usually at least 50m from the main sett and do not have an obvious path connecting them with another sett;
- Outlying sett: Usually comprising one or two holes with very little spoil outside (thus indicating that the tunnel system underground is not extensive), outlying setts have no obvious path connecting them with another sett and are used only sporadically.

3.5 Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index (HSI)

Fairywell Brook (TN2) which lies approximately 150m west of the site assessed for suitability as great crested newt breeding habitat. The HSI assessment followed the method described by Oldham *et al.* (2000) as updated by ARG UK (2010), involving an assessment of each water body against ten suitability indices:

- Location of the pond within the context of Britain;
- Total surface area of the pond;
- Pond drying (based on both local knowledge and field evidence);
- Water quality;
- Percentage perimeter shaded;
- Presence or absence of waterfowl;
- Presence or absence of fish;
- Number of water bodies situated within 1km;
- Suitability of terrestrial habitat; and
- Percentage macrophyte cover.

The HSI is calculated using an equation producing a single number between 0 and 1. The value provides an indication of whether the water body is likely to support a population of great crested newts. The lower the Index the less likely the location is to support a breeding population. Ponds are classed as Poor, Below Average, Average, Good or Excellent habitat suitability based on this value.

3.6 Water vole and Otter

Fairywell Brook (TN2) lies approximately 150m west of the site was assessed for use by otters and water voles following methods outlined in *Chanin P (2003). Monitoring the Otter Lutra lutra. Conserving Natura 2000 Rivers Monitoring Series No. 10, English Nature, Peterborough* and Strachan, R., Moorhouse, T., Gelling, M. (2011). *Water Vole Conservation Handbook*, 3rd Edition. Wildlife Conservation Research Unit: Abingdon.

3.7 Evaluation

Habitats and species on the site were evaluated following the '*Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland*' 2018. A geographical frame of reference is assigned to each habitat and species, with International Value being most important, then National, Regional, County, District, Local and lastly, within the immediate Zone of Influence (Zoi) of the proposals only.

Value judgements are based on characteristics that can be used to identify ecological resources or features likely to be important in terms of biodiversity. These include site designations such as SSSIs. For undesignated features, the size, conservation status (locally, nationally or internationally), and the quality of the ecological resource are considered. Ecological resource quality can refer to habitats (for instance if they are particularly diverse, or a good example of a specific habitat type), other features (such as wildlife corridors or mosaics of habitats) or species populations or assemblages.

The recommendations detailed within this report aim to meet requirements of the Environment Act and Biodiversity Metric 3.1 as far as possible at this stage.

3.8 Limitations

The site visit was undertaken in late April. This is within the optimal time of year for phase 1 habitat surveys and sufficient vegetation was present to enable habitat identification. It is not considered a limit to the conclusions of the report based on the habitats found within the site and the works proposed.

The absence of biological records does not necessarily mean the absence of species. This has been taken into account within the report conclusions.

Two ponds (280m north-west and 480m south-west) could not be accessed due to land ownership. This limitation has been taken into account with the report conclusion.

The site was visited on only one occasion. This produces a snapshot of habitats and species on the site and others may be present at different times of the day or year. This limitation has been taken into account within this report.

4.0 Survey Results

4.1 Desk Study

No statutory sites and five non-statutory sites were identified within a 2km radius the proposed development site.

The following non-statutory sites were identified within the vicinity of the proposals (with distance and direction from the site):

- Princes Spinney Local Wildlife Site (LWS), 1.9km north-east;
- Blackcarr Wood and Baguley Bottoms LWS, 1.75km north-east;
- Painswick Park Meadow LWS, 1.2km south-east;
- Davenport Green Wood LWS, 1.1km south west; and
- Ponds at Davenport Green LWS, 570m west.

The site does lie within a Natural England SSSI Impact Risk Zone, however a consultation with Natural England will not be triggered as the proposals are for residential dwellings only.

Following a review of records held by the GMEU, several priority species that have the potential to occur within the vicinity of the proposed development have been identified. These include birds, bats, badger, hedgehog and amphibians. The species records are summarised below, and the detailed records held by GMEU within 2km of the site are displayed within Appendix 5.

Birds

Thirty-nine records were returned for bird species within 2km of the site. Species present include song thrush, starling, peregrine, house sparrow, barn owl, hobby, bullfinch, spotted flycatcher, ring ouzel, grasshopper warbler and dunnock. All species recorded within 2km are displayed within Appendix 5. The closest record was in for a spotted flycatcher located approximately 350m south-east of the site within a residential garden. The most recent record was in 2019 for a bullfinch located approximately 1.2km south-east of the site within Painswick Park Meadow LWS.

Bats

Thirty-six records of bats were returned within 2km of the site including nine roosts and twenty-seven bat roost signs. Species present include pipistrelle species, common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, noctule, myotis sp, whiskered bat and unidentified bat species. The closest record was in 2013 for a common pipistrelle roost located approximately 100m west of the site within Newhall Green. The most recent record of bat was in 2018 for a noctule approximately 1.2km north-east of the site within a residential area.

Amphibians

Thirty-two records of great crested newt (GCN) were returned within 2km of the site. The most recent record was in 2020 for a field sighting located approximately 900m south-west of the site within a residential garden. The closest record was in 2006 located approximately 550m west of the site within Ponds at Davenport Green SBI.

Reptiles

No records of reptiles were returned within 2km of the site.

Terrestrial mammals

One record of badger was returned within 2km of the site. This record was for a sett record was in 2007 located approximately 1.9km north of the site.

Six records for hedgehog were returned within 2km of the site. The most recent record was in October 2020 for a field sighting located approximately 1km south-east of the site within a residential area. The closest record was in 2019 for a field sighting located approximately 850m north of the site within a residential garden.

One European Protected Species Licence (EPSL) applications within 2km of the site since 2016 was identified using Magic Maps and are detailed below (distance and direction from site):

- 2019-38962-EPS-MIT-1 for the damage and destruction of a resting place for great crested newt. Licence start date: 11/06/2019, end date: 31/03/2021. (2km south-west).

A list of key habitats is shown in table 5.1 below and a summary description of key habitats within the site is provided in Section 5.2. Notes on the presence or potential presence of protected species are provided in Section 5.3. The Phase 1 Habitat map can be found in Appendix 1. The Target Notes (TN) and lists of species recorded during survey are presented in Appendix 2.

4.2 Habitat Survey

The site lies within Newall Green, approximately eight miles south of Manchester City Centre. The site is bound by playing fields to the north, Newhall Green Farm building to the east and Whitecarr Lane to the west and south. The surrounding land use is predominately residential dwellings to the east, agricultural land and areas of open space to the west. The site comprises areas of semi-improved grassland within the east and north that have become encroached will tall ruderal species. A hardstanding track leads in from the west and forms the access road and area of parking. Scattered trees line the northern and a part of the western site boundaries and are also present within the semi-improved grassland habitat within the east of the site. These habitats are presented on plan P.1650.22.03 (Appendix 1).

The habitat types identified within the site are detailed below and are displayed on drawing P.1650.22.03 *Phase One Habitat Survey* in Appendix 1 and on Photographs within Appendix 3. Species lists and target notes are displayed in Appendix 2.

Hard standing (J4)

Hardstanding (gravel) forms the existing access road that leads off Whitecarr Lane and area used for car parking. This habitat is displayed in photograph 1 within Appendix 3.

Semi-improved grassland (B6)

A belt of semi-improved grassland is adjacent to the northern site boundary and a section lies within the east of the site. The grassland is unmanaged and the sward height is approximately 10-15cm. The grassland is dominated by red fescue, poa sp., bent sp, Yorkshire fog and common knapweed. Tall ruderal vegetation has encroached this habitat in places. This habitat is displayed in photographs 2 and 5 within Appendix 3.

Scattered trees (A3.1)

Scattered trees line the northern site boundary, a part of the western site boundary and within the semi-improved grassland habitat. Species present are predominantly oak, ash and poplar. English bluebells (TN1) were noted offsite adjacent to an oak tree. This habitat is displayed in photographs 3 and 4 within Appendix 3.

Tall ruderal (C3.1)

Tall ruderal vegetation has encroached the semi-improved grassland habitats within the north and east of the site. Species present include broadleaved dock, cleavers, common nettle, dandelion with strands of bramble. This habitat is displayed in photograph 5 and 7 within Appendix 3.

4.3 Great Crested Newt Suitability

Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index (GCN HSI)

Table 4.1: Standing Water Description and GCN HSI with full details in Appendix 6.

Standing water description	Photograph
Fairywell Brook (TN2): lies approximately 150m west of the site and is slow flowing from south to north. The brook was <50cm in width, holding approximately <10cm deep and the banks were shallow (<45°). The brook was surrounded by scattered trees, scrub and tall ruderal. The HSI score was 0.68 meaning it has Average suitability for use by great crested newt for breeding.	

4.4 Protected and Notable Species

Birds

The habitats within the site provide suitable foraging and nesting opportunities for bird species. These habitats include scattered trees, semi-improved grassland, and tall ruderal. During the survey jackdaw, chiffchaff, blackbird, great tit, starlings, wood pigeon and magpie were identified within the site.

The data search returned records for peregrine and barn owl; however, the site provides limited foraging habitat for these species as the semi-improved grassland habitats are small in size and prone to regular human disturbance. There are areas of open foraging habitat north and west of the site. The trees within the site are largely to be retained and will continue to provide areas of rest or perching for these species.

Bats

No buildings are present within the site. Onsite trees T1 (oak), T2 (oak) and offsite T3 (poplar) that lies adjacent to the site (P.1650.22.01 Tree Survey, Appendix 1) were noted to have broken branches, stem wounds with areas colonised by ivy. Tree T2 was assessed to provide **moderate** bat roost potential and T1 and T3 was assessed to provide **low** bat roost potential.

The semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal and scattered trees within the site provide limited suitability for commuting and foraging bats, with good connectivity to the surrounding land use.

Badger and other small mammals

The semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal and scattered trees within the site provide limited foraging and shelter habitat for badger and other small mammal species such as hedgehog. No evidence of badger or hedgehog was identified within the site during the survey.

Amphibians

No ponds are present within the site. Two ponds (280m north-west and 480m south-west) and a drain network are present within 500m of the site as mapped on Magic Maps and Fairywell Brook (TN2), the closest water body, lies 150m west of the site. The HSI assessment of Fairy Brook confirmed the water body to provide average suitability for GCN. Whitecarr Lane lies between Fairywell Brook (TN2) and the site, limiting connectivity to the site. The two ponds that lie within 500m of the site could not be accessed due to land ownership. GCN records were returned within the pond that lies 280m north of the site and no GCN records were returned for the pond that lies 480m south-west of the site. The habitats within the site (semi-improved grassland and tall ruderal) provide limited terrestrial habitats for amphibians and the surrounding water bodies will provide aquatic habitat for amphibians. Amphibians may use water bodies that score an average or below HSI assessment.

Otter and Water vole

Fairywell Brook (TN2) provides some limited habitat for water vole and otter however, the section inspected that lies closest to the site was holding <10cm of water and the banks were shallow (approximately <45°) limiting its suitability for both water vole and otter. The onsite habitats do not provide much suitable terrestrial habitat for either species as they are prone to regular human disturbance and connectivity to the site is poor as Whitecarr Lane lies between the site and brook. It is considered that otter and water vole are unlikely to be adversely impacted by the proposals and do not require further consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further within this report.

Reptiles

The habitats within the site do not offer suitability to support reptiles. Ecotones are not present within the site and the habitats are scattered across the site with no suitable connectivity. The habitats within the site are prone to high human disturbance. Additionally, no records were returned for reptiles within 2km of the site. Reptiles do not require further consideration within this planning application and will not be discussed further within this report.

Invasive species

No non-native invasive species were identified within the site during the walkover survey.

5.0 Evaluation and Recommendations

5.1 Designated Sites and Habitats

There are no statutory or non-statutory protected sites within the vicinity of the proposals that are likely to be directly influenced by the proposals during the construction phase as they all lie over 500m from the site. Non statutory site ponds at Davenport Green Local Wildlife Site (LWS) lies 570m west of the site and it is likely that there will be an increase in recreational pressure due to the proposals, however this increase is considered small as the proposals are for a residential block comprising four apartments. All other non-statutory sites lie over 1km from the site. It is considered that there will be no adverse impact on any statutory or non-statutory sites in the vicinity as a result of the proposals.

The site lies within a Natural England SSSI Impact Risk Zone; however, Natural England will not need to be consulted for this type of planning proposal within the residential area as the proposed development does not fall under the likely impacts for the SSSI as detailed on MAGIC Maps. It is considered that there will be no impact on any SSSIs in the vicinity as a result of the proposals.

The habitats on site comprise hardstanding, tall ruderal, scattered trees and semi-improved grassland. These habitats are considered to have an ecological value of **within the zone of influence** of the site or lower. The site contains no designated or priority habitats. It is recommended that habitats along the northern and western site boundaries are retained and enhanced within suitable landscaping that provides area of refuge and foraging for wildlife as well as improving connectivity to the surrounding habitats include Fairywell Brook (TN2) and the Ponds at Davenport Green LWS. Overall, the proposals are unlikely to adversely affect the ecological value of the area.

The production of the Defra Metric Biodiversity Net Gain Calculations is recommended to minimise impacts of biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity and the production of a Management Plan to ensure the long-term commitments to manage the planting, protection and enhancement of biodiversity in and around the new development site.

5.2 Protected and Notable Species

Birds

The semi-improved grassland, scattered trees and tall ruderal provide suitable habitat for nesting and foraging bird species. It is recommended that vegetation clearance and pruning should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (1st March to 31st August Inclusive) to avoid any impact on breeding birds. If vegetation clearance and pruning cannot be undertaken outside of the breeding bird season, a nesting bird check undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist should be undertaken immediately prior to works commencing. If an active birds' nest is identified a suitable buffer zone should be implemented where no works are to occur within until the young have fledged the nest.

Bats

Bat records were returned within 2km of the site. The closest record was recorded 100m west of the site.

The habitats on site provide **low** suitability for commuting and foraging bats, and the site is well connected to the surrounding landscape.

Tree T2 (oak) had broken branches and the trunk is ivy clad and was assessed to provide **moderate** bat roost potential. Tree T1 (oak) had broken branches and the stem colonised by ivy and was assessed to provide **low** bat roost potential. Offsite tree T3 (poplar), which lies adjacent to the site, had a large stem wound from the base to approximately 1m and was assessed to provide **low** bat roost potential. All trees are currently to be retained within current proposals (See drawing P.1650.22.01 Tree Survey, Appendix 1) therefore, require no further survey effort. If trees T1, T2 and T3 are to be pruned or removed at a later date to accommodate proposals, trees T1 and T3 may require further inspection and the soft felling in the presence of licensed ecologist and T2 will require a minimum of two nocturnal surveys (between May and August in appropriate weather conditions).

Badger and other small mammals

The site provides limited habitat for badger and hedgehog within the semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal and scattered trees. The surrounding landscape also provides suitable habitat for these species. These onsite habitats are likely to be impacted by the proposals and therefore, it is recommended that a Badger and Hedgehog Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) Method Statement is implemented during the works to avoid harm to this species. The RAMS should include:

- Vegetation clearance applies to all habitats cleared in daytime air temperatures above 5°C. Works must be avoided in cold temperatures or if prior overnight temperatures have been less than 1°C;
- The cut material is to be chipped and placed in discrete piles outside the working areas or removed from the site;
- Existing tracks should be utilised for vehicle movements where possible;
- Throughout the works all trenches must be covered at night or ramps provided to prevent badger and hedgehog from getting stuck. Large pipes must also be covered to prevent badger access and risk of these species getting stuck; and
- Construction material will be stored on pallets to avoid creating habitat for hedgehog and badger.

To enable hedgehog continued use of the site it is advised that gaps of at least 13cm by 13cm are left under any new garden fences to enable hedgehog to roam freely within the area following development.

Invasive species

No non-native invasive species were identified during the walkover survey.

Amphibians

Following a Habitat Suitability Index (HSI) assessment during the site walkover survey, Fairywell Brook (TN2) that lies 150m west of the site provides some suitable habitats for great crested newts, however, connectivity to the brook is limited due to Whitecarr Lane that lies between the site and the brook. The terrestrial habitats (semi-improved grassland and tall ruderal habitats), whilst small in size, do provide refuge areas and connectivity corridors for amphibians and GCN records have been returned with 500m of the site. These habitats are likely to be impacted by the proposals and therefore, it is recommended as the areas to be lost and small in size that an Amphibian Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMS) Method Statement is implemented during the works to avoid harm to this species. The RAMS should include:

- Vegetation clearance applies to all habitats cleared in daytime air temperatures above 5°C. Works must be avoided in cold temperatures or if prior overnight temperatures have been less than 1°C;
- The works should start from the middle of an area and work outwards to allow animals to leave;
- The cut material is to be chipped and placed in discrete piles outside the working areas or removed from the site;
- Existing tracks should be utilised for vehicle movements where possible;
- Throughout the works, all trenches must be covered at night or ramps provided to prevent amphibians from getting stuck; and
- Construction material will be stored on pallets to avoid creating habitat for and amphibians.

5.3 Enhancements

In order to meet requirements for biodiversity protection and enhancement outlined within the NPPF, it is recommended that ecological enhancements are included. These could include:

1. Provision of two bird boxes (25mm and 32mm entrance hole box, house sparrow terrace, swift box), attached to or integrated within new building or retained tree on site;
2. Provision of two bat features (e.g. Vivara Pro WoodStone Bat box or similar) attached to a retained tree on site or provision of a bat box (e.g. Vivara bat bricks or '*bird brick houses*' bat boxes) integrated within new building; and
3. Retain and enhance northern and western site boundaries with suitable landscaping incorporating species that provide a food or shelter resource to wildlife to include hawthorn, hazel, holly, blackthorn, field maple, dog rose and honeysuckle as hedgerow species and oak, alder, field maple, silver birch, crab apple, rowan and bird cherry as tree species together with implementing a relaxed mowing regime and establishing wildflowers in these areas.

6.0 Conclusions

The site was subject to an extended phase one habitat survey. During the survey and following review of historical species records it is considered that an impact on birds, bats, amphibians, badger and hedgehog are likely to occur in relation to the proposals for the site. The following recommendations have been made to avoid an impact on these species:

- If works have not begun by April 2023, an updated site visit to assess the habitats and an updated preliminary bat roost assessment of trees to be removed or pruned to accommodate proposals;
- Implementation of badger and hedgehog RAMS (section 5.2) to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works;
- Implementation of an amphibian RAMS (section 5.2) to avoid any harm to this species during the proposed works;
- If works are to occur within the vicinity to the bluebell (TN1) a pre-commencement check of the site in May will be required for bluebell prior to ground clearance. If works are to occur before May, any bulbs found during soil removal should be retained and grown on to confirm the species. English bluebell should be replanted at an appropriate time once the ground works in that area have been completed;
- Vegetation clearance or pruning should be undertaken outside of the nesting bird season (1st March to 31st August Inclusive) to avoid any impact on breeding birds. Or a nesting bird check undertaken by a suitably experienced ecologist should be undertaken immediately prior to works commencing;
- Retain and enhance northern and western site boundaries through appropriate landscape planting that includes native, species rich hedgerows, trees and areas of wildflowers plus provision of integrated bat and bird features within newly constructed buildings;
- Production of the Defra Metric Biodiversity Net Gain Calculations to minimise impacts on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity; and
- Production of a Management Plan to ensure the long-term commitments to manage the planting, protection and enhancement of biodiversity in and around a new development site.

It is considered that there would be very limited impacts on the local ecology as a result of the proposals, provided the recommendations detailed within section 5.0 above are followed.

7.0 References

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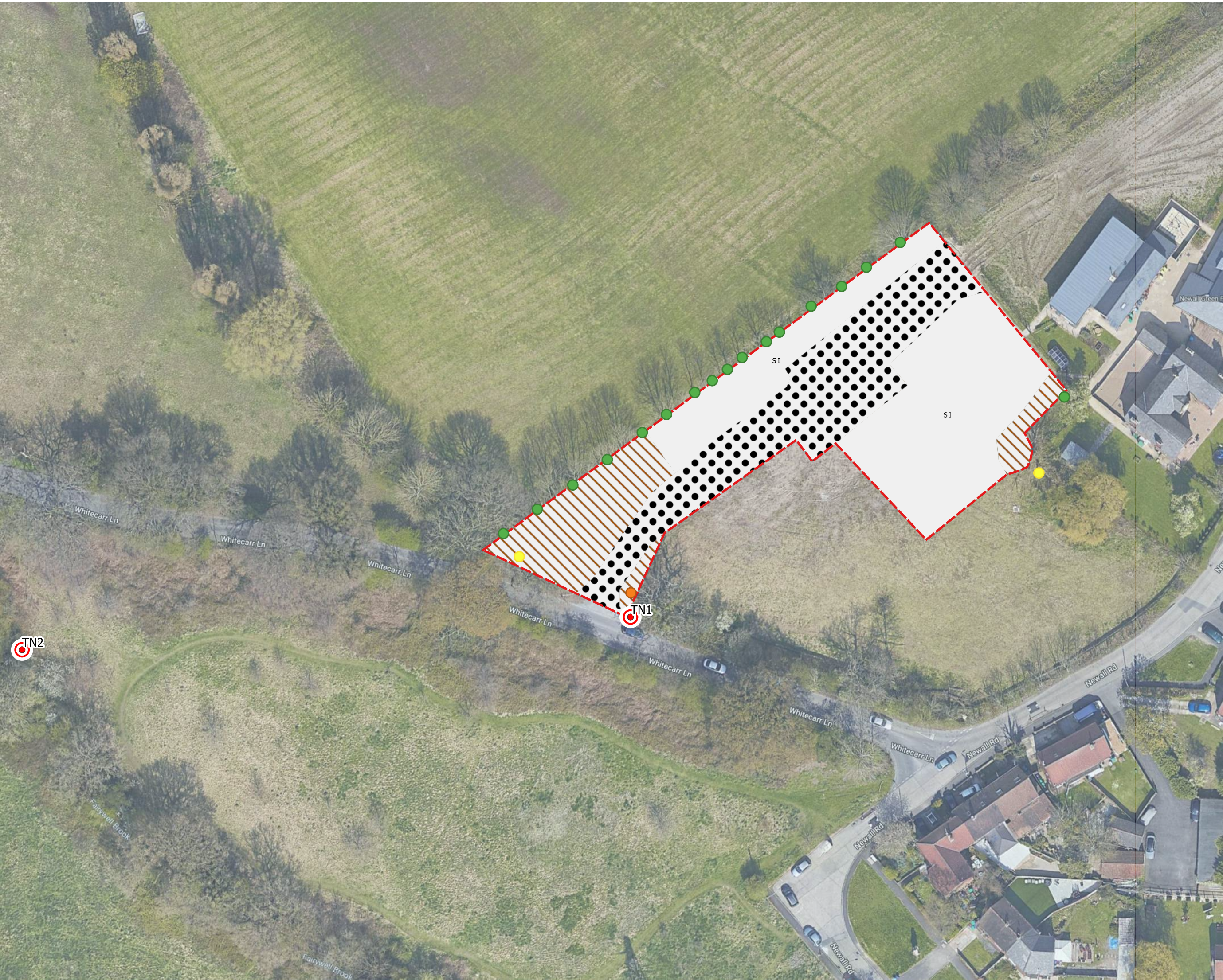
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Appendix 1



Key

- Site boundary
- J4 - Hardstanding
- B6 - Semi-improved grassland
- C3.1 - Tall ruderal
- Scattered trees
- Moderate BRP
- Low BRP
- Target notes
- TN1 - Egnlish bluebells
- TN2 - Fairrywell Brook

BRP - Bat roost potential

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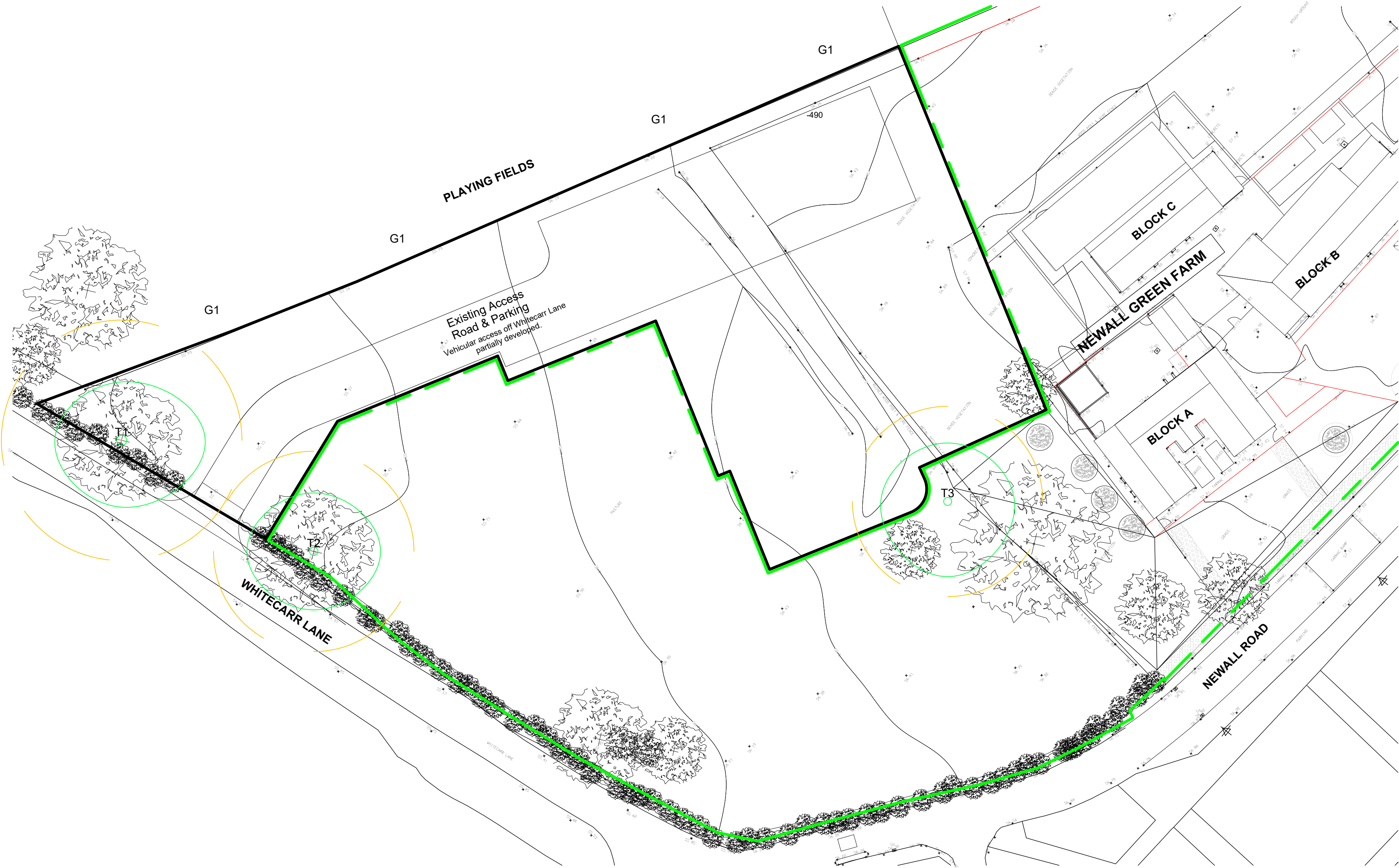
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CLIENT:
Abbeyway Commercial Ltd

PROJECT:
Newall Green Farm

DRAWING TITLE:
Phase One Habitat Survey

SCALE: NTS@A3	DRAWN BY: LA	DRAWING No: P.1650.22.03
DATE: 29/04/2022	CHKD BY: LK	REV: -



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KEY	
	Existing tree to be retained
	Existing tree to be removed

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CLIENT:
Q + A Planning Ltd

PROJECT:
Newall Green Farm, Wythenshawe, M23 2TX

DRAWING TITLE:
Tree Survey

SCALE: 1:200 @A1	DRAWN BY: HM	DRAWING No:	REV:
DATE: 21/04/2021	CHKD BY: CP	P.1650.22	-

Appendix 2

Species Lists and Target Notes

Table 1: Flora Species

English Name	Scientific Name
Ash	<i>Fraxinus sp.</i>
Bluebell sp.	<i>Hyacinthoides sp.</i>
Bracken	<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg</i>
Broadleaved dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
Buddleja	<i>Buddleja</i>
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>
Clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>
Common daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Creeping bent-grass	<i>Agrostis spp.</i>
Creeping bent-grass	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>
Creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Creeping thistle	<i>Cirsium arvense</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale</i>
Ivy	<i>Hedera helix</i>
Meadow grass	<i>Poa sp.</i>
Moss	<i>Bryophyta sp.</i>
Oak	<i>Quercus robur</i>
Perennial ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>
Poplar	<i>Populus sp.</i>
Red fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i>
Stinging nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Willowherb	<i>Epilobium sp.</i>
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>

Table 2: Target Notes

Target Note Number	Description
TN1	English bluebells
TN2	Fairywell Brook

Appendix 3

Photographs

Table 3: Photographs of the site

	
Photograph 1: Hardstanding area that forms the existing access road	Photograph 2: Semi-improved grassland
	
Photograph 3: Scattered tree (T2) within the south-western corner of the site	Photograph 4: Scattered trees along the northern site boundary
	

Photograph 5: Section of semi-improved grassland, with tall ruderal encroaching, within the north of the site



Photograph 6: English bluebells (TN1)



Photograph 7: Tall ruderal

Photograph 8: Fairywell Brook (TN2) that lies 150m west of the site

Appendix 4

Relevant Legislation

European Legislation

The following Directives have been adopted by the European Union and provide protection for fauna and flora species of European importance and the habitats which support them:

- Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive);
- Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive).

UK Legislation

The Habitats Directive has been transposed into national legislation through the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (The Habitats Regulations). This provides for the designation and protection of 'European Sites' (SPAs, SACs and Ramsar Sites, including proposed or potential European Sites) and the protection of 'European Protected Species'.

The key UK legislation relating to nature conservation is the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (W&C Act). This Act is supplemented, *inter alia*, by provision in the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000, and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (NERC Act). Additional species and habitat specific UK legislation includes the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 and the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

The Environment Act sets out how the UK will maintain environmental standards following leaving of the EU. The Bill builds on the vision of the 25 Year Environment Plan, with the ambition from the government to leave the environment in a better state than it was when inherited.

The Defra Biodiversity Metric is being implemented to work alongside the Environment Act. This tool calculates potential biodiversity impacts as a result of development and identifies mitigation and compensation requirements to ensure no net loss of biodiversity. In addition, it identifies measures that can be implemented in order to meet Biodiversity gain as a result of development. Defra released a beta version of the biodiversity metric in July 2019. This metric is likely to be the default metric used by councils.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2021 has been published to provide further planning guidance. Wildlife, biodiversity and ecological networks are referred to in Section 15 '*Conserving and enhancing the natural environment*'. The NPPF states that the planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services, minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures. Further guidance is provided within Government Circular 06/05: *Biodiversity and Geological Conservation - Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within the Planning System*.

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance

Species and Habitats of Principal Importance are listed under section 41 of the NERC Act and are a material consideration in planning decisions. Planners require relevant, up to date information from ecological surveys in order to assess the effects of a proposed development on biodiversity as Councils have a statutory obligation under section 40 of the NERC Act to consider biodiversity conservation in the determination of planning applications.

Background information about the lists of priority habitats and species (Species and Habitats of Principal Importance) can be found within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). Although this has been succeeded by the '*UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework*', many of UK BAP tools are still relevant. BAPs identify habitats and species of nature conservation priority on a UK (UK BAP) and Local (LBAP) scale. Most BAP priority habitats and species have Habitat Action Plans (HAP) and Species Action Plans (SAP) and there are also "grouped action plans" for groups of related species with similar conservation requirements. The LBAP relating to this Site is the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan.

Badgers

The legislation protecting badgers in England and Wales is the Protection of Badgers Act 1992.

Under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 it is an offence *inter alia* to:

- Wilfully kill, injure or take a badger, or to attempt to do so;
- Cruelly ill-treat a badger; or
- Intentionally or recklessly interfere with a badger sett by (a) damaging a sett or any part of one; (b) destroying a sett; (c) obstructing access to or any entrance of a sett; (d) causing a dog to enter a sett; or (e) disturbing a badger when it is occupying a sett.

The Badger Act 1992 defines a badger's sett as *"any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger"*

Natural England can issue licences to enable works to continue that may affect a protected species. In relation to disturbance of badgers, Natural England (2009) gives guidelines on disturbance which will require a licence. These includes: *"using very heavy machinery (generally tracked vehicles) within 30 metres of any entrance to an active sett; using lighter machinery (generally wheeled vehicles), particularly for any digging operation, within 20 metres; light work such as hand digging or scrub clearance within 10 metres. There are some activities which may cause disturbance at greater distances (such as using explosives or pile driving) and these should be given individual consideration."*

Bats

In England, all bats and their roosts are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Several species of bat are also highlighted as Priority Species under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan and within the Local BAP.

Under the current legislation as summarised on pages 8 and 9 of the Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists Good Practice Guidelines – 3rd Edition (2016) it is a criminal offence to:

"To kill, capture, injure or take a wild bat;

- *To damage or destroy a place used by a bat for breeding or resting. All offences of this nature are identified within the Habitats Regulations. This offence is unique in that it can be committed accidentally. No element of intentional, reckless or deliberate action needs to be evidenced;*
- *To disturb bats anywhere (roosts, flight lines or foraging areas) if levels of disturbance can be shown to impair their ability to survive, to breed or reproduce, to rear or nurture their young, to hibernate or migrate or to affect significantly local distribution or abundance;*
- *To intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat, whilst it is occupying a place of shelter or protection;*

- *To intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place used by a bat for shelter or protection; and*
- *To be in possession or control of a bat alive or dead (or any part of a bat or anything derived from a bat, although bat droppings are generally considered to be acceptable), or to transport a bat, to sell or exchange a bat or to offer to sell or exchange a bat taken from the wild.”*

Breeding Birds

Breeding Birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act which make it an offence to:

- *intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built;*
- *intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird;*
- *have in one's possession or control any wild bird, dead or alive, or any part of a wild bird (including eggs), which has been taken in contravention of the Act or the Protection of Birds Act 1954;*
- *intentionally or recklessly disturb any wild bird listed on Schedule 1 while it is nest building, or at a nest containing eggs or young, or disturb the dependent young of such a bird.*

Great Crested Newt

The great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) is fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) and the Habitats Regulations, 2017. It is also a Species of Principal Importance.

The legislation makes it an offence to:

- *Deliberately (or intentionally) kill, injure or capture (or take) a great crested newt, or great crested newt egg or eft;*
- *Deliberately (intentionally) damage or destroy any breeding site or resting place (i.e. pond, refuge, hibernaculum);*
- *Deliberately or recklessly obstruct access to any breeding site or resting place;*
- *Deliberately, intentionally or recklessly disturb a great crested newt, in particular disturbance which is likely to:*
 - *impair the ability of the great crested newt to survive, breed, reproduce, or to rear or nurture young;*
 - *impair the ability of the great crested newt to hibernate or migrate; or significantly affect the local distribution or abundance of great crested newts*

Invasive Species

It is an offence under Section 14(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to ‘plant or otherwise cause to grow’ in the wild any plant in Schedule 9 Part II.

Other Aquatic Species

Water vole (*Arvicola amphibious*) are a Species of Principal Importance and also fully protected under Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) which makes it an offence to:

- *intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct access to any structure or place used for shelter or protection;*
- *intentionally or recklessly disturb water voles whilst occupying a structure or place used for that purpose;*
- *intentionally kill, injure or take water voles;*
- *possess or control live or dead water voles or derivatives;*
- *sell water voles or offer or expose for sale or transport for sale; and*
- *publish or cause to be published any advertisement which conveys the buying or selling of water voles.*

Otter (*Lutra Lutra*) are similarly protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981 (as amended) and have additional protection as a European Species under The Habitats Regulations 2017.

Invertebrates

The site's suitability for supporting invertebrates was assessed during the site visit. This included making note of key plant species that could be used by notable invertebrates, together with incidental invertebrates recorded on the day.

It is a criminal offence to intentionally, wilfully kill, injure or take any of the aforementioned protected species or to destroy or disturb its habitat.

Local Policy

The site lies within Manchester and is covered by Manchester's Local Development Framework Core Strategy Development Plan Document (adopted 11 July 2012) and extant policies within the Unitary Development Plan. The policy of relevance is EN 15 within the Core Strategy document.

Appendix 5

SITES OF BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE IN GREATER MANCHESTER
Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
Council Offices, Wellington Road, Ashton-Under-Lyne OL6 6DL
(Private & Confidential)



SITE NAME: Ponds at Davenport Green		District : Tameside
LOCATION : Davenport Green	GRID REF : SJ799869	GRADE : B

SITE DESCRIPTION

A cluster of ponds and associated terrestrial habitat including marsh, grassland, hedgerows and streams. The ponds support the largest known population of great crested newts in Trafford together with other amphibians, aquatic invertebrates and a range of plant species. The site supports a range of pond habitats. These vary from small shallow ponds, to large open ponds and ponds with deep water all at different successional stages. Many of the ponds are UK Biodiversity Priority Habitats and marsh is a Greater Manchester Biodiversity Habitat.

The two ponds which appear to be the most botanically rich are known as Pond 1 and Pond 19. Pond 1 (SJ803870) supports species including cyperus sedge, marsh marigold, bulrush, great hairy willowherb, branched bur-reed, brooklime and common water-crowfoot. Other species recorded include intermediate water starwort, common duckweed, broadleaved pondweed, common water plantain, nodding bur-marigold, American willowherb, meadowsweet, flote-grass, plicate sweet-grass, soft rush, tufted forget-me-not, amphibious bistort, reed canary-grass, celery-leaved buttercup and watercress. Pond 19 (SJ794866) has a total of 36 species recorded including intermediate water starwort, various-leaved water starwort, common duckweed, ivy-leaved duckweed and small pondweed. Emergent plant species include flote-grass, yellow flag iris, branched bur-reed, nodding bur-marigold, lady's smock, cyperus sedge, remote sedge, great hairy willowherb, marsh willowherb, meadowsweet, jointed rush, soft rush, purple loosestrife, skullcap and celery-leaved buttercup. The invasive Canadian waterweed is also recorded. Other species of note recorded from the whole site include purple willow, water and tufted forget-me-not, greater pond sedge, blunt-fruited water starwort, *Riccia fluitans* and galingale. The latter may have been introduced. Some of the ponds are surrounded by scattered scrub and trees including oak, bramble, hawthorn, rose, elder and alder.

Great crested newts are recorded as breeding in 13 of the 15 ponds in the SBI. Smooth newts are recorded as breeding in 14 out of 15 ponds, frogs in 12 ponds and toads (UK Biodiversity Priority Species) in 2 ponds. Three-spined stickleback is also recorded from a number of the ponds. The invertebrate populations vary from pond to pond, but the nationally notable great diving beetle (*Dytiscus circumcinctus*) is recorded from one pond. Pond 19 appears to be the best pond for invertebrates within the site, with a total of 39 species being recorded. These include the local white ramshorn (*Gyraulus albus*), flat ramshorn (*Hippeutis complanatus*), noterus beetle (*Noterus clavicornis*) and the beetles *Laccophilus minutus*, *Enochrus coarctatus*, *Enochrus testaceus* and *Scirtes hemisphaericus*.

Grassland and hedges link the ponds and have mainly been included within the SBI as terrestrial habitat for amphibians. However, a number of species rich hedges occur on the site and there is a small area of species-rich marshy grassland present. The hedgerows vary in structure but the richest hedges have between 10 and 14 tree and shrub species found along their entire length. Species present include hawthorn, rose, sycamore, alder, hazel, ash, holly, blackthorn, pedunculate oak, elder, crab apple and guelder rose. A number of woodland species occur in the base of some of the hedges including dog's mercury, lesser celandine, broad buckler fern and foxglove.

SITES OF BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE IN GREATER MANCHESTER
Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
Council Offices, Wellington Road, Ashton-Under-Lyne OL6 6DL
(Private & Confidential)



SITE NAME : Ponds at Davenport Green		DISTRICT : Trafford
LOCATION : Davenport Green	GRID REF : SJ799869	GRADE : B

SITE DESCRIPTION CONTINUED

The area of marshy grassland (SJ801867) supports abundant sweet vernal grass, rough-stalked meadow-grass, Yorkshire fog and soft rush with frequent marsh foxtail, hard rush, compact rush and jointed rush. Associated species include water horsetail, ragged robin, greater bird's-foot trefoil, common spike-rush, marsh thistle, great hairy willowherb, cuckoo flower, square-stemmed St John's wort, devil's-bit scabious, bog stitchwort, wild angelica, marsh marigold and marsh arrow-grass. The latter is uncommon in Greater Manchester. Brooklime and beds of fool's watercress are found by the stream and there are stands of great hairy willowherb locally. Anthills, an indicator of old grasslands, are also present. Butterflies recorded from this area include wall, meadow brown, large skipper and small white. The marshy grassland is heavily grazed. Other grassland areas range from fields used for silage or hay to grazed semi-improved neutral grassland fields. Many of the fields are also aftermath grazed.

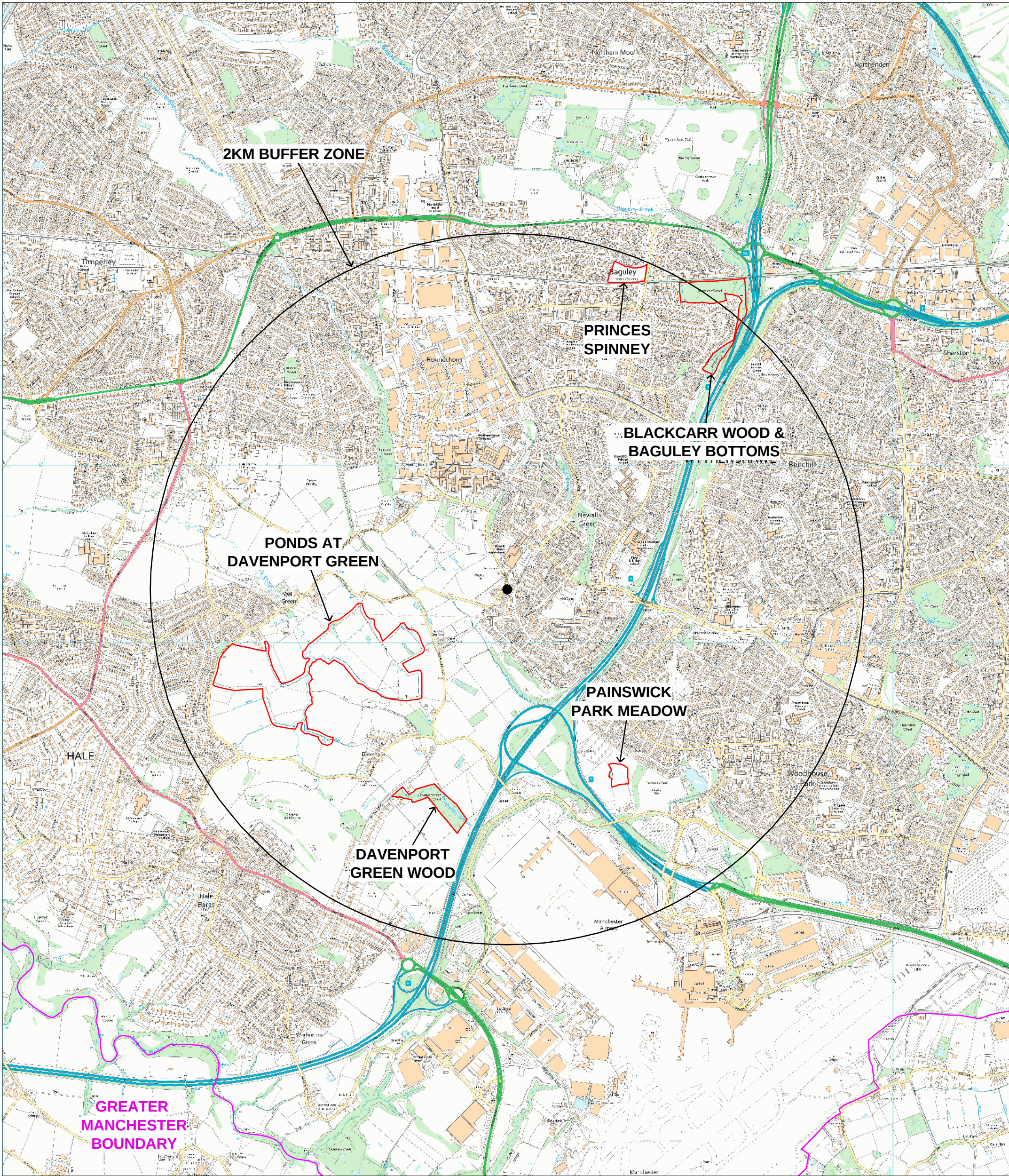
Birds observed from the site include seven grey herons, buzzard, magpie, crow, wood pigeon, blue tit, great tit, and goldfinch together with the UK Biodiversity Priority Species house sparrow and dunnock. Other birds recorded from the site include breeding moorhen together with mallard and the UK Biodiversity Priority Species reed bunting and lapwing. Swallows and martins feed over the site.

Butterflies observed across the whole site include gatekeeper and meadow brown.

A number of public footpaths cross the site.

Information on the site is taken from GMEU site visits between 1991-2011 together with information contained in the Environmental Statement for Davenport Green produced by Derek Lovejoy Partnership. The habitat figures given are an approximation and are only intended to give an indication of the relative proportions of each habitat.

Note: Core areas of amphibian terrestrial habitat linking the ponds have been included within the SBI boundary. However it is known that great crested newts will utilise suitable habitat up to 500m away from their breeding ponds.



**GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT
ECOLOGICAL SEARCH - SJ 8083 8730
NEWALL GREEN FARM - MAP 1**

KEY

SITE OF BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

 **SBI BOUNDARY**

SCALE 1:20,000

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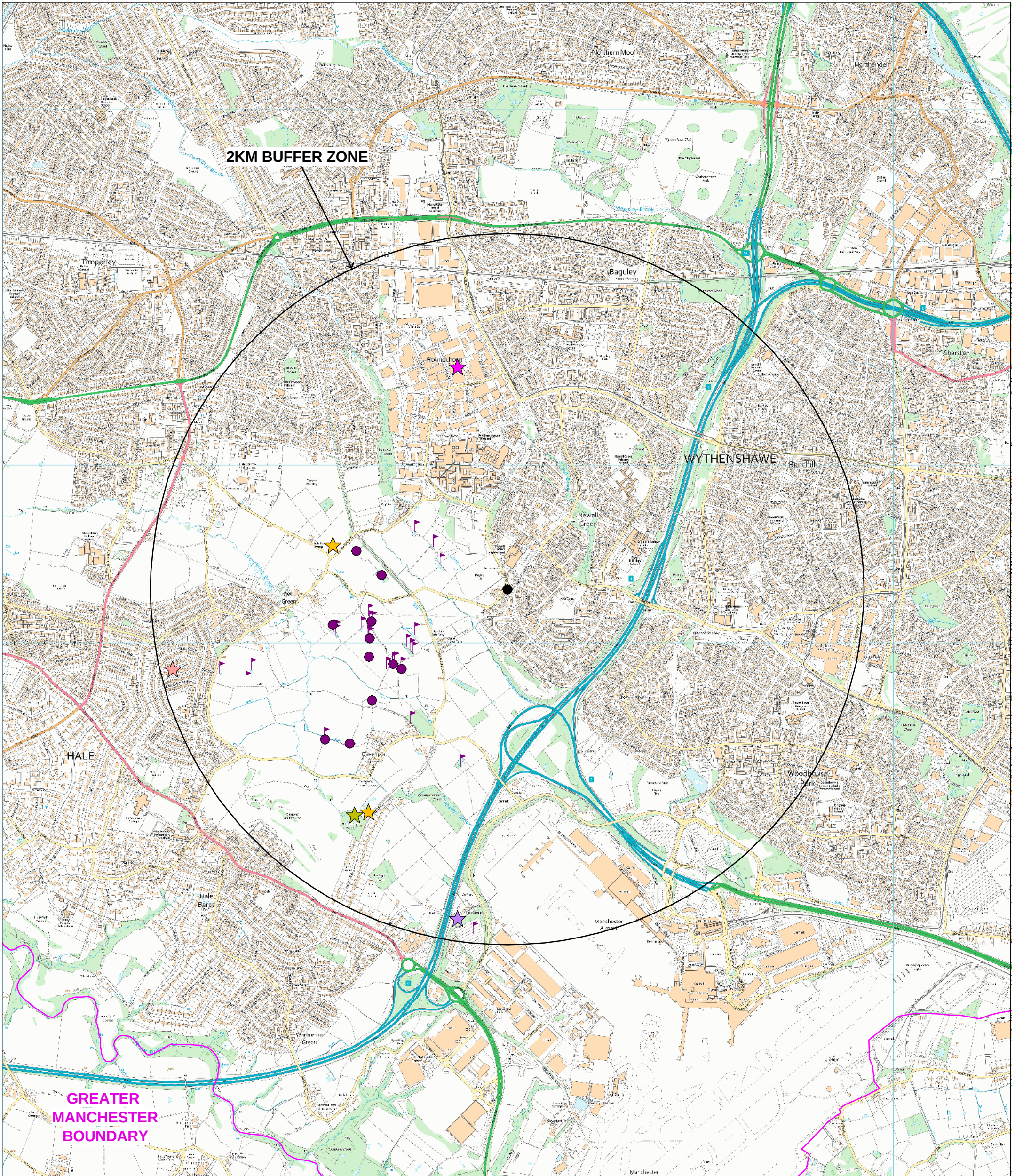
TAMESIDE MBC LICENCE NO LA100022697, 2022



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Date Produced: 15/04/2022



**GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT
ECOLOGICAL SEARCH - SJ 8083 8730
NEWALL GREEN FARM - MAP 2**

SCALE 1:20,000

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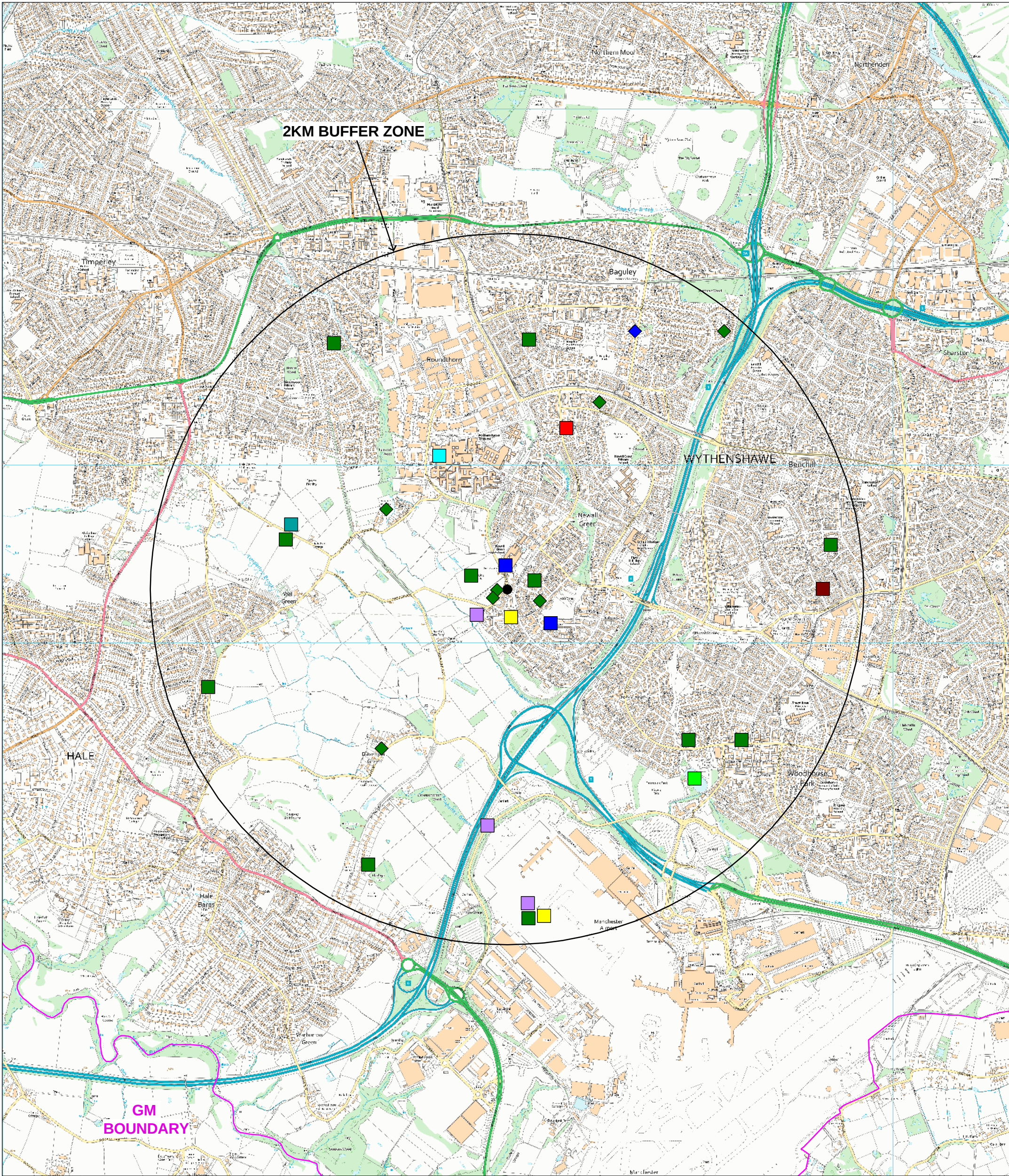
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Date Produced: 18/04/2022

**KEY
PROTECTED SPECIES**

- └ GREAT CRESTED NEWT
- GREAT CRESTED NEWT ABSENCE
- ★ BARN OWL
- ★ BEE ORCHID
- ★ HOBBY
- ★ PEREGRINE
- ★ POLECAT



KEY

BAT ROOSTS

- ◆ COMMON PIPISTRELLE
- ◆ PIPISTRELLE SP

BATS OTHER SIGNS

- BAT SP
- BROWN LONG-EARED BAT
- COMMON PIPISTRELLE
- MYOTIS SP
- NOCTULE BAT
- PIPISTRELLE SP
- SOPRANO PIPISTRELLE
- WHISKERED BAT
- WHISKERED/BRANDT'S BAT

GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT ECOLOGICAL SEARCH - SJ 8083 8730 NEWALL GREEN FARM - MAP 4

SCALE 1:20,000

BAT DATA COURTESY OF SOUTH LANCS BAT GROUP

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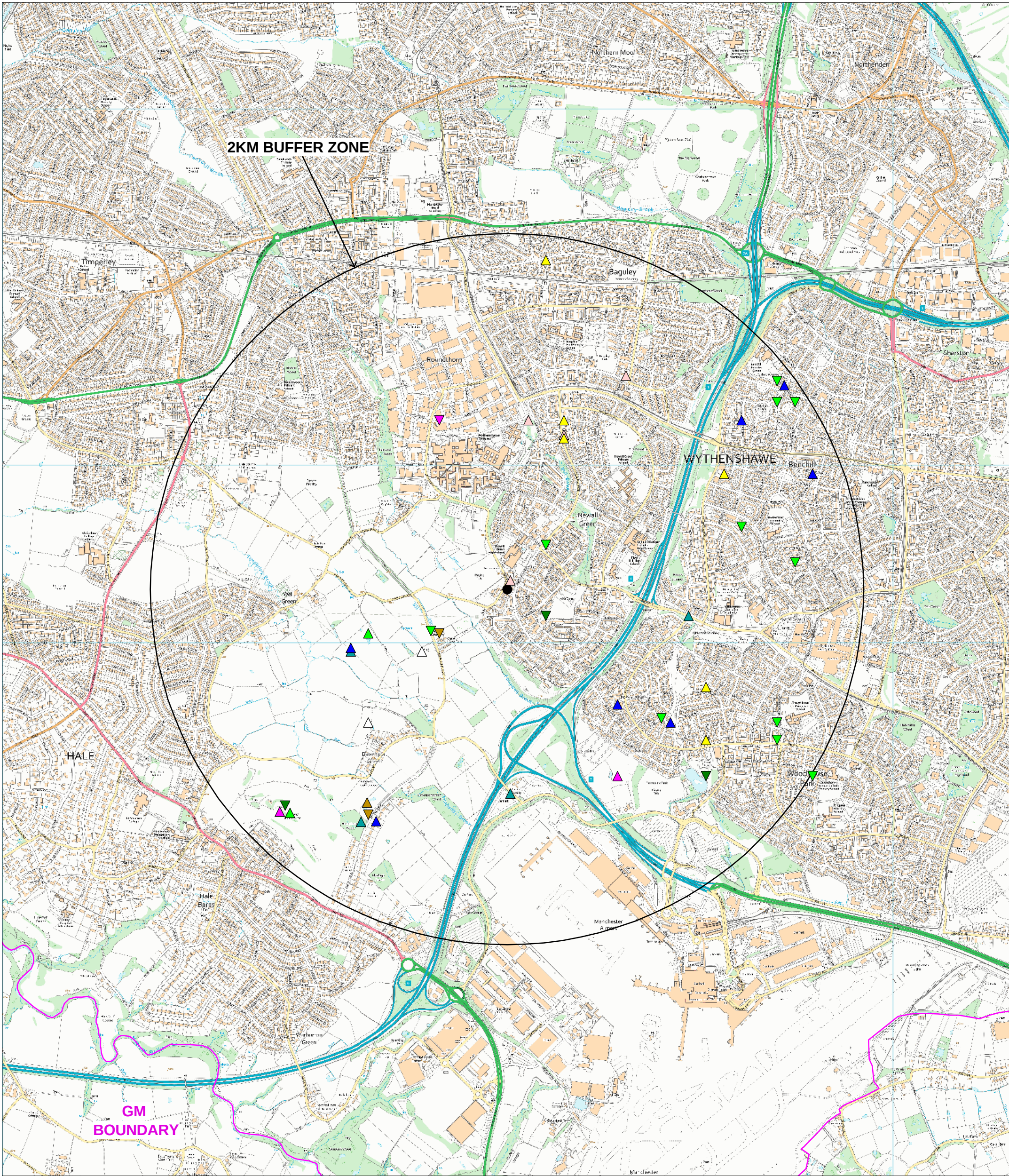
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KEY

SECTION 41 SPECIES

- ▲ BULLFINCH
- ▲ COMMON REDPOLL
- ▲ DUNNOCK
- ▲ GRASSHOPPER WARBLER
- ▲ HEDGEHOG
- ▲ HOUSE SPARROW
- △ RING OUZEL
- ▲ S41 MOTH
- ▲ SMALL HEATH
- ▲ SONG THRUSH
- ▲ SPOTTED FLYCATCHER
- ▲ STARLING

GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT
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NEWALL GREEN FARM - MAP 5

SCALE 1:20,000

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NOT TO BE PLACED ON THE PUBLIC RECORD

2KM BUFFER ZONE

Baguley

WYTHENSHAW

HALE

GM
BOUNDARY

GREATER MANCHESTER ECOLOGY UNIT
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NEWALL GREEN FARM - MAP 3
CONFIDENTIAL

SCALE 1:20,000

KEY
BADGERS
★ SETTS
● OTHER SIGNS

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SITES OF BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE IN GREATER MANCHESTER
Greater Manchester Ecology Unit
Council Offices, Wellington Road, Ashton-Under-Lyne OL6 6DL
(Private & Confidential)



SITE NAME : Ponds at Davenport Green			District : Trafford		
LOCATION : Davenport Green			GRID REF : SJ799869		
GRADE : B	AREA (HA) : 34.1	ALTITUDE (M) : 45-50	DATE : 3.8.11		
STATUS : BAP		SURVEYOR : S Waymont		INITIAL SURVEY DATE 18.6.11	
NO OF REVISIONS : 2		OWNER : Private		District REF : H51	
HABITATS PRESENT	Area (ha)	HABITATS PRESENT	Area (ha)		
Woodland broadleaved (semi-nat)		Woodland plantation			
Scrub		Acid grassland			
Neutral grassland – species rich		Neutral grassland – species poor	32.4		
Marshy grassland/flush	0.3	Calcareous grassland			
Tall ruderal		Ericaceous heath lowland/upland			
Bog		Swamp/Fen/Reedbed			
Pond/small lodge	0.6	Reservoir/large area of open water			
Canal		Running water - River/stream/ditch	0.1		
Other: Hedgerow (species-rich)	0.4	Other: Hedgerow (species-poor)	0.3		
Areas of habitat covering less than 0.1ha. recorded as 0.01					
Qualifying Features Code (taken from Part 2 or Part 3 of the Greater Manchester SBI Selection Guidelines 2008). Gr1 - Old Grassland Fw2 - Ponds & Small Lodges AI1 - Aquatic Invertebrates Am1 - Amphibians					
Supplementary Features Code - for other features that are not the primary reason for SBI selection, but are identified either as a supplementary attribute (taken from Part 1) and/or by almost reaching the Guideline threshold (Parts 2 & 3). Hd - Hedgerows Intrinsic Appeal – Accessibility & Usage					
COMPLETE FOR GAINS AND PARTIAL LOSSES ONLY					
Loss since Last Survey :			Loss since First Survey : 0.6		
Primary cause : Development			Secondary cause :		
Gain since Last Survey :			Gain since First Survey : 1.7		
Primary cause : Technical gain – more accurate mapping tools			Secondary cause :		
Net change since Last Survey : 0			Net change since First Survey : +1.1		

Appendix 6

Fairywell Brook – Habitat Suitability Index Assessment

SI ₁		SI ₂		SI ₃		SI ₄		SI ₅		SI ₆		SI ₇		SI ₈		SI ₉		SI ₁₀		Product	HSI	Suitability
Location		Pond Area		Pond Drying		Water Quality		Shade		Fowl		Fish		Ponds		Terrestrial Habitat		Macrophytes				
Zone A	1	>2000m ²	0.8	Sometimes Dries	0.5	Poor	0.33	0-60%	1	Absent	1	Absent	1	2	0.6	Moderate	0.67	6-10%	0.4	0.02123	0.6803	Average