

Biodiversity Statement & Metric Assessment

Manley Park, Whalley Range, Manchester

A Report to: Labosport

Report number: RT-MME-181389-05

Date: 18/12/2024

Project Information & Site Context	
Site Name & Location	Manley Park, Whalley Range, Manchester
Site Area (ha)	0.07 ha
Grid Reference	SJ 82221 94618
Topography	Flat
Project Background	In November 2024, Labosport commissioned Middlemarch to undertake a Biodiversity Metric Assessment associated with a proposed development at site at Manley Park, Whalley Range, Manchester. The assessment is informed by ecological and arboricultural works carried out at the site in date by Middlemarch. These are: ● Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (RT-MME-181389-04) ● Preliminary Arboricultural Assessment (RT-MM1-181389-01)
Summary of Proposals	The proposed development will comprise associated with the replacement of an existing multi-use sports pitch with a new artificial multi-use play area. This assessment is based on the documentation provided by the client and detailed below: ● LSUK.24-0478-01D_PROPOSED LAYOUT_V2 – Labosport ● LSUK.24-0478-03D_MANLEY BNG PLAN - Labosport

Methods		
Biodiversity Metric	The biodiversity calculations used within this assessment were undertaken by Amy Carter MSc (Ecological Project Officer) using 'The Statutory Biodiversity Metric' ¹ and associated User Guide ² .	
Data Sources	The baseline habitat data and condition assessment for the site is detailed in Appendix 2. A Phase 1 Habitat Plan showing the extent and location of each habitat recorded on site pre-development is included in Appendix 1 (C181389-04). A post-development habitat map is included in Appendix 1 (181389-05-06).	
Habitat Attributes	<i>Distinctiveness</i>	An automated score based on the type of habitat present and its value to wildlife. Highly diverse habitats such as those listed as Habitats of Principal Importance under the NERC Act (2006) or Annex 1 habitats in the Habitats Directive (1992) score highly in this category, whilst highly modified and low diversity habitats such as arable crops will have low distinctiveness scores.
	<i>Condition</i>	A score based on the quality of the habitat parcel against published condition criteria (See Appendix 2).
	<i>Strategic Significance</i>	A score based on information set out in local plans or policies. In this instance, a strategic location was defined from policies and objectives noted within the Manchester Core Strategy (and Places for Everyone Policies) ³ in the absence of the Lancashire Nature Recovery Strategy which is due to be released in Spring of 2025.
Constraints & Assumptions	The assumptions regarding target habitat types, or condition, in this report are founded on professional opinion with reference to the likely achievable habitat outcomes at the site, based on the proposed planting plans and presumed management resources. All target habitats presume the implementation of a long-term Management Plan to achieve these ends and a recommendation to this effect is given. Where the baseline value for any area, linear or watercourse features is zero (i.e. no such feature exists at the site), and where new creation of these features is proposed, the percentage uplift cannot be mathematically calculated, and the metric outputs 'N/A' in the headline results tab. However, it is accepted that any new creation where there was previously no area, linear or watercourse habitat, constitutes meeting the statutory biodiversity requirement.	

¹ Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) (2024) Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation Tool.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-biodiversity-metric-tools-and-guides>

² Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) (2024) Statutory Biodiversity Metric Condition Assessments.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/statutory-biodiversity-metric-tools-and-guides>

³ Manchester Core Strategy (Places for Everyone) <https://www.greatermanchesterca.gov.uk/media/4839/places-for-everyone-accessible-version.pdf>

Headline Results				
On-Site Baseline	On-Site Baseline	Habitat units	0.06	
		Hedgerow units	0.00	
		Watercourse Units	0.00	
	On-Site Post Intervention	Habitat units	0.07	
		Hedgerow units	0.00	
		Watercourse Units	0.00	
	On-Site Net Unit Change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.01	12.86%
		Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
		Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%
Off-Site Baseline	Off-Site Baseline	Habitat units	0.00	
		Hedgerow units	0.00	
		Watercourse Units	0.00	
	Off-Site Post Intervention	Habitat units	0.00	
		Hedgerow units	0.00	
		Watercourse Units	0.00	
	Off-Site Net Unit Change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.00	0.00%
		Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
		Watercourse Units	0.00	0.00%
Combined Net Unit Change (including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)		Habitat units	0.01	
		Hedgerow units	0.00	
		Watercourse Units	0.00	
Spatial Risk Multiplier (SRM) Deductions		Habitat units	0.00	
		Hedgerow units	0.00	
		Watercourse Units	0.00	

Final Results

Total Net Unit Change <i>(including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</i>	Habitat units	0.01		
	Hedgerow units	0.00		
	Watercourse Units	0.00		
Total Net % Change <i>(including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)</i>	Habitat units	12.86%		
	Hedgerow units	0.00%		
	Watercourse Units	0.00%		
Trading Rules Satisfied*				Yes
*you must state if irreplaceable habitats are on-site at baseline: No irreplaceable habitats were identified on-site at baseline.				
Unit Type	Target**	Baseline Unit	Units Required	Unit Deficit
Habitat units	10.00%	0.06	0.06	0.00
Hedgerow units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse Units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00
**From January 2024, the UK Mandatory minimum is a 10% net gain in biodiversity for all development. Manchester City Council have set the minimum biodiversity net gain at 10%.				
Discussion				
The calculations used within the metric to quantify biodiversity units differ between habitat, hedgerow and watercourse features, consequently, the values generated are not comparable, and a net gain in one feature cannot compensate for a net loss within another feature. The increase in biodiversity will be achieved by creating an area of more species rich grassland in good condition to the south of the new sports pitch. This will have at least 6 to 8 species per m2 and be managed to maintain species diversity and a varied sward structure, with at least 20% of the grass being above 7 cm in height and 20% below 7 cm in height.				
How is the target net gain percentage being delivered?	Habitat units	Only on-site.		
	Hedgerow units	N/A		
	Watercourse Units	N/A		
How many Biodiversity Units are needed off-site to meet the required net gain percentage?	Habitat units	0.00		
	Hedgerow units	0.00		
	Watercourse Units	0.00		

Recommendations

The recommendations below are based on Middlemarch's current understanding of the project. If works are changed in any way these recommendations will need to be amended if appropriate.

R1	After planning permission has been approved a Biodiversity Gain Plan needs to be produced and submitted to the Local Planning Authority to provide evidence for all BNG decisions and show how BNG will be achieved.
R2	A 30-year Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) should be produced to set out the detailed habitat creation and enhancement specifications and long-term management prescriptions, that will be required to ensure the scheme will achieve its conservation objectives over the lifespan of the project. The HMMP should also be inclusive of a long-term monitoring strategy to measure progress against conservation objectives and inform an adaptive approach to long-term management.

Quality Assurance

Date	Version	Author	Checked & Approved By
18/12/2024	Draft	Amy Carter MSc (Ecological Project Officer)	Ellie Rickman MCIEEM (Principal Ecological Consultant)

Appendix 1

Drawings

Drawing C181389-04 – Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Drawing C181389-05 - Drawing Adaptation of Landscape Strategy Proposal for Purposes of the BMA



C181389-04-01

Legend

- Site Boundary
- Fence
- Amenity grassland
- Hardstanding
- Target note - habitat parcel
- Target note - feature
- F1. Notable offsite habitat: mature tree

Project

Manley Park, Manchester

Drawing

Phase 1 Habitat Map

Client

Labosports

Drawing Number

C181389-04-01

Revision

00

Scale @ A4

1:250

Date

November 2024

Approved By

AC

Drawn By

BD

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C181389-05-06

Legend

- - - Site boundary
- Proposed enhancement of wildflower planting area approx. 0.014 ha
- Proposed playzone (turf)
- Proposed hardstanding
- Retained habitat

Project	Manley Park, Manchester	
Drawing	Proposed Enhancement/ Post Development Map	
Client	Labosports	
Drawing Number	C181389-05-06	Revision 00
Scale @ A4	1:250	Date December 2024
Approved By	AC	Drawn By KB



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Appendix 2

Habitat Condition Assessment

Area Habitat				Condition Criteria Score																
Target Note	Phase 1 Habitat Type	UK Hab Habitat Equivalent	Habitat Description	Condition Sheet Used	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	Total Score	Condition Assessment	
TN1	Amenity Grassland	Modified grassland	Small area of amenity grassland surrounding a fenced off astro turf sports pitch. Was short mown to approximately 2cm with signs of bare ground from footfall. Species composition present was perennial rye grass <i>Lolium perenne</i> , daisy <i>Bellis perrennis</i> , dandelion <i>Taraxacum sp</i> with occasional ribwort plantain <i>Plantago lanceolata</i> .	Grassland Low	*F	F	P	F	P	P	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	Poor	
TN2	Artificial Turf	urban	The pitch itself comprised of artificial astro-turf, with no encroaching vegetation. The area was fenced off around the perimeter.	n/a	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Key: P – Criteria passed F – Criteria failed * - Essential Criteria for good Condition																				

Table 3.1: Habitat Descriptions and Condition Assessments

Appendix 3

Statutory Biodiversity Metric Calculation

PDF output of the Statutory Metric is attached below with the Excel Spreadsheet included separately as a read-only document.

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric

Start page

Project details			
Planning authority:	Manchester City Council		
Project name:	Manley Park, Manchester		
Applicant:	Labosport		
Application type:	Planning Permission		
Planning application reference:			
Completed by:	Amy Carter		
Date of metric completion:	20 December 2024		
Reviewer:			
Calculation iteration:			
Planning authority reviewer:			
Date of planning authority review:			
Target % net gain:	10%		
Irreplaceable habitat present at baseline:	No ✓		
Total site area - including irreplaceable habitat area (hectares):	0.06	Irreplaceable habitat site area (hectares):	0.00
Total off-site area - including irreplaceable habitat area (hectares):	N/A	Irreplaceable habitat area off-site (hectares):	N/A

Cell style conventions	
⚠	Attention required
▲	Input error/rules and principles not met
	Use of this cell is not appropriate
	Enter data
	Automatic lookup
	Result

On-site baseline map

Insert

On-site post intervention map

Insert

On-site baseline map reference number

On-site post-intervention map reference number

Off-site baseline map

Insert

Off-site post intervention map

Insert

Off-site baseline map reference number

Off-site post-intervention reference number

Main menu

Results

View all

Reset view

Area habitats

Hedgerows and lines of trees

Watercourses

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric

Main menu

Tree helper						
Tree size	Number of trees and area (ha) for each condition state					
	Poor	Area	Moderate	Area	Good	Area
Small		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Medium		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Large		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Very large		0.0000		0.0000		0.0000
Total	0	0.0000	0	0.0000	0	0.0000

Start here

1



2



3



4

On-site baseline

A-1 On-site Area Habitat Baseline

B-1 On-site Hedge Baseline

C-1 On-site Watercourse Baseline

On-site post development

A-2 On-site Area Habitat Creation

A-3 On-site Area Habitat Enhancement

B-2 On-site Hedge Creation

B-3 On-site Hedge Enhancement

C-2 On-site Watercourse Creation

C-3 On-site Watercourse Enhancement

Off-site baseline

D-1 Off-site Area Habitat Baseline

E-1 Off-site Hedge Baseline

F-1 Off-site Watercourse Baseline

Off-site post development

D-2 Off-site Area Habitat Creation

D-3 Off-site Area Habitat Enhancement

E-2 Off-site Hedge Creation

E-3 Off-site Hedge Enhancement

F-2 Off-site Watercourse Creation

F-3 Off-site Watercourse Enhancement

The Statutory Biodiversity Metric Results

Return to start
page

Headline results

Detailed results

Habitat trading
summaries

Off-site
summary

Irreplaceable
habitats summary

Unit shortfall
summary

Manley Park, Manchester
Headline Results
Scroll down for final results ▲

Return to results menu

On-site baseline	Habitat units	0.06	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
On-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.07	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
On-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.01	12.86%
	Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%

Off-site baseline	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Off-site post-intervention (Including habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Off-site net change (units & percentage)	Habitat units	0.00	0.00%
	Hedgerow units	0.00	0.00%
	Watercourse units	0.00	0.00%

Combined net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.01	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Spatial risk multiplier (SRM) deductions	Habitat units	0.00	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	

FINAL RESULTS			
Total net unit change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	0.01	
	Hedgerow units	0.00	
	Watercourse units	0.00	
Total net % change (Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention, creation & enhancement)	Habitat units	12.86%	
	Hedgerow units	0.00%	
	Watercourse units	0.00%	
Trading rules satisfied?	Yes ✓		

Unit Type	Target	Baseline Units	Units Required	Unit Deficit	
Habitat units	10.00%	0.06	0.06	0.00	No additional area habitat units required to meet target ✓ No additional hedgerow units required to meet target ✓ No additional watercourse units required to meet target ✓
Hedgerow units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Watercourse units	10.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00	

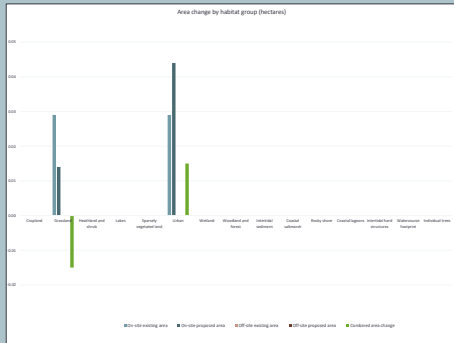
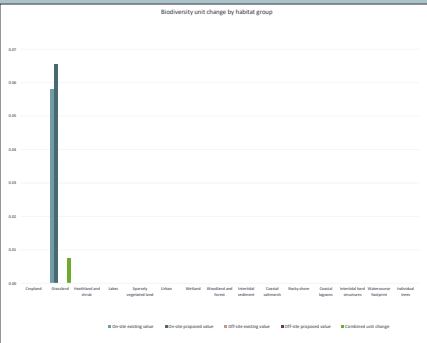
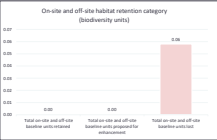
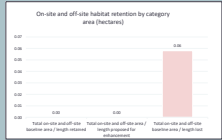
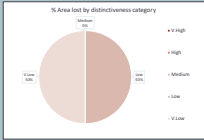
Summary Figures			
Net project biodiversity units		Off-site value	0.61
(Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention / creation)		On-site value	0.60
		Disturbance loss	0.00
Total project biodiversity % change		Off-site value	18.88%
(Including all on-site & off-site habitat retention / creation & retained habitat)		On-site value	0.00%
		Disturbance loss	0.00%
Combined habitat retention and enhancement			
Total on-site and off-site baseline area / length		Baseline	Habitat units
Total on-site and off-site baseline area		199	0.00
Total on-site and off-site baseline area / length retained		199	0.00
Total on-site and off-site baseline area retained		199	0.00
Total on-site and off-site area / length proposed for enhancement		199	0.00
Total on-site and off-site baseline area proposed for enhancement		199	0.00
Total on-site and off-site baseline area / length lost		0	0.00
Total on-site and off-site baseline area lost		0	0.00

On-site change by broad habitat type					
Habitat group	Baseline		Post-development on-site		On-site change
	On-site existing area	On-site existing value	On-site proposed area	On-site proposed value	On-site and change
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Off-site change by broad habitat type					
Habitat group	Baseline		Post-development off-site		Off-site change
	Off-site existing area	Off-site existing value	Off-site proposed area	Off-site proposed value	Off-site and change
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

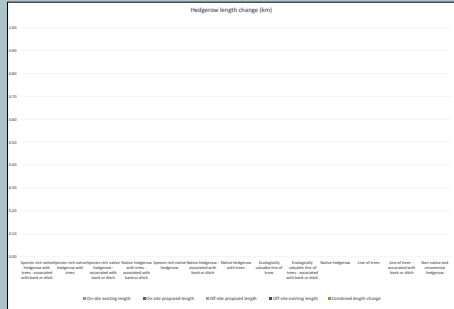
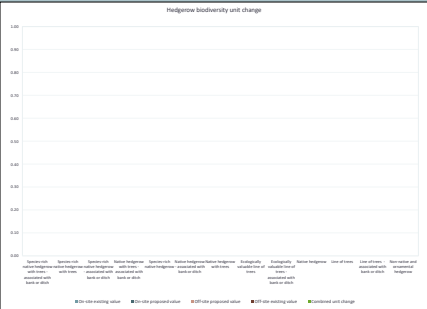
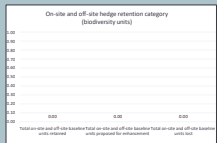
Combined on-site and off-site change by broad habitat type					
Habitat group	Baseline		Post-development combined		Combined change
	Combined existing area	Combined existing value	Combined proposed area	Combined proposed value	Combined and change
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Combined area lost from baseline(s) by disturbance level		
Category	Area lost (hectares)	Area lost (%)
Very High	0	0
High	0	0
Medium	0	0
Low	0.00	0
Very Low	0.00	0



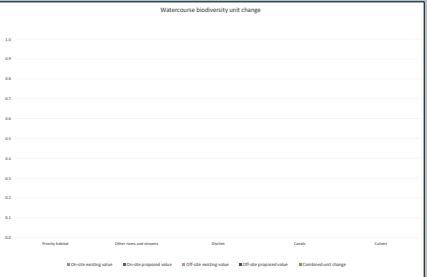
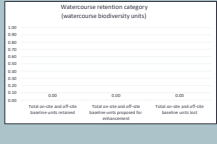
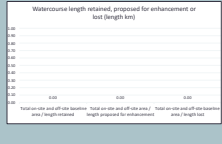
On-site change by hedgerow type					
Hedgerow type	Baseline		Post-development on-site		On-site change
	On-site existing length	On-site existing value	On-site proposed length	On-site proposed value	On-site and change
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Combined length lost from baseline(s) by disturbance level		
Category	Length lost (km)	Length lost (%)
Very High	0	0
High	0	0
Medium	0	0
Low	0	0
Very Low	0	0



On-site change by watercourse type					
Watercourse type	Baseline		Post-development on-site		On-site change
	On-site existing length	On-site existing value	On-site proposed length	On-site proposed value	On-site and change
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Grassland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Woodland	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Watercourse	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Combined length lost from baseline(s) by disturbance level		
Category	Length lost (km)	Length lost (%)
Very High	0	0
High	0	0
Medium	0	0
Low	0	0
Very Low	0	0



Project Name: Manley Park, Manchester Map Reference:

A-1 On-Site Habitat Baseline

Condense / Show Columns

Condense / Show Rows

Main Menu

Area habitat summary	
Total Net Unit Change	0.01
Total Net % Change	18.88%
Trading Rules Satisfied	Yes ✓

Ref	Existing area habitats				Distinctiveness		Condition		Strategic significance			Required Action to Meet Trading Rules	Ecological baseline
	Broad Habitat	Habitat Type	Irreplaceable habitat	Area (hectares)	Distinctiveness	Score	Condition	Score	Strategic significance	Strategic significance	Strategic significance multiplier		
1	Grassland	Modified grassland	No	0.029	Low	2	Poor	1	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Low Strategic Significance	1	Same distinctiveness or better habitat required ≥	0.06
2	Urban	Developed land; sealed surface	No	0.029	V.Low	0	N/A - Other	0	Area/compensation not in local strategy/ no local strategy	Low Strategic Significance	1	Compensation Not Required	0.00
3													
4													
5													
6													
7													
Total habitat area				0.06									
Site Area (Excluding area of individual trees, green walls, intertidal hard structures)				0.06									

						Beeples compensation agreed for losses of VHDH or Irreplaceable habitat	Comments		
Area retained	Area enhanced	Baseline units retained	Baseline units enhanced	Area habitat lost	Units lost		User comments	Planning authority comments	Habitat reference number
		0.00	0.00	0.03	0.06				
		0.00	0.00	0.03	0.00				
0.00	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.06				

Total area lost (excluding area of individual trees, green walls and intertidal hard structures)	0.06
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M² to hectares conversion tool:

Select a unit

Hectares

M²

