Ecological Impact Assessment

Land at Audrey Street, Manchester, M9 4DF

One Manchester

Revision B – November 2023

SITE NAME			
Land at Audrey Street, Manchester M9 4DF			
GRID REFERENCE		**DOCUMENT REFERENCE**	
SD8699401489		[LM0118]EcIA[Land at Audrey Street] Rev B	
SITE DESIGNATION		**LOCAL AUTHORITY**	
None		Manchester City Council	
	NAME	**QUALIFICATIONS**	**DATE**
PRINCIPAL AUTHOR	Louisa Molloy	Consultant Ecologist; BSc (Hons)	21/07/2023
REVIEWED BY	Elizabeth McBride	Consultant Ecologist; BSc (Hons); MCIEEM	25/07/2023

REVISION HISTORY			
REVISION	**DATE**	**AUTHOR**	**DESCRIPTION**
A	July 2023	LM	Original based on Schedules and Site – Drawing No. 105 Rev 1 dated 11/11/20.
B	November 2023	LM	Update due to revised layout shown in Schedules and Site Plan – Drawing No. 105 Rev 11 dated 15/06/21

LM Ecology

387 Walkley Bank Road
Sheffield
S6 5AQ

Tel: 07923 334190

louisa@lm-ecology.co.uk

https://lm-ecology.co.uk

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A SUMMARY

1 The purpose of this report is to identify and describe the presence of any protected or notable habitats or species within and in the immediate vicinity of the site and to set out the avoidance, mitigation, and compensation measures to ensure compliance with nature conservation legislation, where appropriate.

2 This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland, published in September 2018 by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM, 2018).

3 The site habitats are considered to be of importance to nature conservation at the site and local level. The site is not considered to be of importance to any species or species group at greater than local level.

4 In line with Greater Manchester's Tree and Woodland Strategy (Greater Manchester Forests Partnership, 2023) it is recommended that consideration is given to revising the layout of the proposals to retain a significant number of the existing mature trees and therefore avoid and reduce the most significant impacts.

5 Mitigation measures to protect nesting birds in the site clearance phase of the development, and hedgehog in the construction and operational phases of the development, should be adopted to ensure the potential impacts on these species/species groups are reduced/removed. The mitigation measures can be secured through a planning condition requiring a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be produced.

6 There is limited scope to compensate for habitat losses on site. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (BNGA) has been carried out to quantify the losses, the results of which are provided in a separate report (LM Ecology, 2023).

7 Enhancement recommendations for roosting bats and nesting birds are included. These should be included by the developer on submitted plans. If this is not supplied, the inclusion of the enhancements in the proposed scheme can be secured through a planning condition requiring an Ecological Enhancement Plan (EEP) to be produced.

8 The results and measures contained in this report are valid for up to two years from the date of publication of Revision A: July 2023.

B INTRODUCTION

9 LM Ecology was commissioned on 15th May 2023 by One Manchester to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of Land at Audrey Street, Manchester M9 4DF. A plan showing the broad location of the site is included in APPENDIX A as A.1.

10 The survey was commissioned in relation to proposals to develop the site for housing, which will comprise five bungalows with associated hard and soft landscaping.

11 The purpose of this report is:

- To identify and describe all potentially significant ecological effects associated with the proposals.
- To set out avoidance and/or mitigation measures required to ensure compliance with nature conservation legislation and to address any potentially significant ecological effects, where appropriate.
- To provide an assessment of the significance of any residual effects; and
- To identify appropriate compensation and enhancement measures, where appropriate.

12 Legislation relating to designated sites, protected species and habitats is detailed in APPENDIX B. Any legislation relevant to the site is detailed within the body of the report where necessary.

C SITE DESCRIPTION

13 The site is a parcel of publicly accessible greenspace with an area of approximately 0.13ha comprising amenity grassland and twenty-three individual trees, situated in the suburb of Moston, Manchester. It is bounded to the north by Lily Lane, to the west by Audrey Street and to the south and east by housing.

D METHODOLOGY

D.1 Desk Study

14 Species and site information was requested from the organisations listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1 Consulted Records Organisations

DATE CONSULTED	ORGANISATION	RECORDS REQUESTED
06/07/2023	Greater Manchester Local Records Centre (GMLRC)	All Sites of Biological Importance and protected and notable species records from within a 1km radius of the site.
07/07/2023	Multi-agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)	Local Nature Reserves, National Nature Reserves, Ancient Woodland, Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Important Bird Areas, National Parks and Ramsar sites, from within a 2km radius of the site.
		Granted EPSM licences for bats and GCN from within a 2km radius of the site.
		Great Crested Newt Class Survey Licence Returns from within a 2km radius of the site
		Great Crested Newt Pond Surveys results 2017 – 2019 from within a 2km radius of the site.

D.2 Field Survey

15 Table 2 lists the surveys carried out by LM Ecology. Summary methodologies are also provided below.

Table 2 Survey Dates, Types, Personnel, and Environmental Conditions

DATE(S)	SURVEY TYPE	PERSONNEL	TIMINGS AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS
22/06/2023	UK Habitat Classification Survey	**Louisa Molloy** (Consultant Ecologist, BSc (Hons), NE Bat Licence 2016-22694-CLS-CLS) and **Elizabeth McBride** (Consultant Ecologist, BSc (Hons), MCIEEM, NE Bat Licence 2017-29301-CLS-CLS)	**Temp:** 20ºC; **Wind: 7**mph SW; **Precipitation:** none; **Cloud Cover:** 40%
	Bats Ground-based Risk Assessment of Trees		
	Other Protected and Notable Species Risk Assessment		

D.2.1 UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) Survey

16 The survey was carried out in accordance with the UK Habitat Classification (UKHab) methodology (Butcher, et al., 2020). The habitats within the boundary of the survey site were broadly mapped, with the principal habitat types and the dominant plant species identified within each habitat type. A digital habitat map and botanical species lists were produced for the site.

D.2.2 Bats – Ground-based Risk Assessment of Trees

17 Trees within the curtailment of the site, where appropriate, were visually assessed from the ground for potential bat roosting features in accordance with the methods outlined in current survey guidance (Collins, J (ed.), 2016).

18 Each tree was inspected for features which may be used by roosting bats including natural holes, woodpecker holes, cracks/splits in major limbs, loose bark, dense thick-stemmed ivy, hollows, cavities and bird or bat boxes.

19 When a roost is positively identified during the assessment, the tree within which the roost is identified is classed as roost present. Other trees are classed as having high, moderate, low, or negligible potential to contain bats roosts based upon the number and quality of features present, and the trees position in relation to surrounding environs.

D.2.3 Other Protected and Notable Species Risk Assessment

20 The site and adjacent habitats were assessed for the suitability to support and/or searched for field signs indicating the presence of other protected and notable species.

D.2.4 Limitations

21 No limitations to a successful Preliminary Ecological Appraisal were present.

E RESULTS

E.1 Designated Sites

22 A tabulated summary of the identified designated sites is included in APPENDIX A as A.2.

E.1.1 Non-statutory Sites

23 There are no non-statutory sites within or immediately adjacent to the site. There are two locally designated Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) within a 1km radius of the site, one of which is also Ancient and Semi-natural Woodland (ASNW), with a second area of ASNW within a 2km radius.

24 The closest SBI is Broadhurst Clough, which is approximately 800m east of the site. Boggart Hole Clough, which is both an SBI and ASNW is located approximately 850m north/northwest. Bailey's Wood ASNW is located 1.75km north/northwest.

E.1.2 Statutory Sites

25 There are no statutory sites within or immediately adjacent to the site. There are two statutory sites within a 2km radius of the site.

26 Both statutory sites are Local Nature Reserves (LNR) and are the sites already identified in section E.1.1 above (Broadhurst Clough and Boggle Hole Clough). Broadhurst Clough is Manchester's newest LNR and Boggle Hole Clough is the largest woodland clough in Manchester.

E.1.3 Impact Risk Zone for SSSI/SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site

27 The site falls within the Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) of at least one nationally important site. However, the scale and nature of the proposal does not match any of the development categories for this IRZ. As a result, the proposal is considered unlikely to pose a risk to the site(s).

E.2 Habitats

28 A UKHab Survey plan, site images and a species list are included in APPENDIX A as A.3 to A.5.

E.2.1 g4 Modified grassland

29 The site comprises a roughly rectangular parcel of species poor regularly mown amenity grassland with twenty-three individual mature trees. The grassland is clearly a well-used recreational space for adjacent housing evidenced by patches of bare earth beneath, and rope swings within, the trees. Tall ruderals and Norway maple *Acer platanoides* saplings are present against the fence to the south of the site where mowing is less regular. Species present include abundant perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne* and Yorkshire fog *Holcus*

lanatus, with frequent broadleaved dock *Rumex obtusifolius*, and occasional white clover *Trifolium repens*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata* and cock's-foot *Dactylis glomerata*.

E.2.2 11 Scattered Trees

30 There are a total of twenty-three individual mature scattered trees within the site composed of twelve Norway maple, four horse chestnut, and seven Swedish whitebeam. The trees have clearly been planted in the grassland as they are for the most part in rows and evenly spaced. The accompanying tree report (LM Ecology, 2023) estimates that the trees are likely to be at least 50 years old. There are few other habitats of this size with the density of mature trees in the locality.

E.3 Species

E.3.1 Amphibians

31 No great crested newt (GCN) *Triturus cristatus* records were provided by Greater Manchester Local Records Centre (GMLRC) from within a 1km radius of the site. The search of the MAGIC database did not show the presence of any granted European Protected Species (EPS) mitigation licences for GCN, and GCN class licence returns, or any GCN Pond Survey 2017 to 2019 dataset results, from within a 2km radius of the site.

32 One waterbody was identified within a 1km search radius of the site. This waterbody (located within the Boggle Hole Clough LNR/SBI/ASNW) is separated from the site by over 900m and several barriers to amphibian dispersal i.e., main roads and housing estates. There are no waterbodies within the site, and the site habitats offer negligible suitability for terrestrial GCN or other amphibian species.

33 Taking into account the lack of records, the distance between the closest waterbody and the site, the barriers to amphibian dispersal between the site and the closest waterbody, and the lack of suitable terrestrial habitat on-site for amphibians, GCN (and other amphibians) are highly unlikely to be impacted by the proposed scheme.

E.3.2 Badger

34 GMLRC provided three badger records from within a 2km radius of the site. Two of these are records of setts from 2014 and 2015, both of which are located over 750m from the site. The third is a record of a live badger sighting from 2021 located approximately 850m from the site.

35 No evidence of badger activity was observed within or immediately adjacent to the site during the survey. Badgers are a highly mobile species able to commute large distances for foraging purposes, and it is possible that badgers in the locality may make incidental use of the site as part of wider foraging activity. However, it is unlikely that they will be impacted by the proposed scheme.

E.3.3 Bats

E.3.3.1 Ground-based Risk Assessment of Trees

36 None of the trees within the site have any potential roost features (PRFs). As a result, all trees within the site have been assessed as having negligible suitability to support roosting bats.

E.3.3.2 Biological Records

37 A total of thirty-eight bat records from within a 1km radius of the sites were returned by GMLRC. Species positively identified in the records include common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus,* soprano pipistrelle *P. pygmaeus,* Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*, and noctule *Nyctalus noctula.* None of the records are from the site, with the closest being a record of an injured common pipistrelle bat located approximately 200m northwest of the site. Six of the records are for roosts, with the two closest being between 360m and 380m from the site. One is of a common pipistrelle maternity roost and the other of a common pipistrelle day roost, both from 2017.

38 The MAGIC database does not hold any records of granted EPS mitigation licences for bats from within a 2km radius of the site.

E.3.3.3 Habitat Assessment

39 The site sits at the southern edge of Moston in an area of moderate density housing, interspersed with a network of greenspaces of differing sizes, of which this site is a part of. The tree canopy on this site provides a connective route between the pockets of greenspace and treelines to the north of Lily Lane, and to the much larger area of greenspace with trees at Moston Vale to the south of the site. For highly mobile species such as bats, particularly those adapted to urban environments such as common pipistrelles, the site has suitability to act as a steppingstone between more built-up areas and provides a foraging resource for bats in the locality.

E.3.4 Birds

40 The trees within the site have the potential to support tree nesting species within the main bird nesting season, and the trees and grassland likely provide a foraging resource for local birds.

E.3.5 Controlled Invasive Species

41 No controlled invasive species are present within or immediately adjacent to the site.

E.3.6 Hedgehog

42 Seven hedgehog *Erinaceous europaeus* records were provided by GMLRC from within a 1km radius of the site. None of the records are for the site; however, two of the records are located approximately 150m east/southeast of the site and are of live hedgehog sightings from 2020. There are no suitable nesting habitats for hedgehog within the site; however, there is the

potential that hedgehogs present in the locality may make incidental use of the site as part of a wider foraging area.

E.4 Invertebrates

43 Considering the ubiquitous nature of the site habitats, it is considered unlikely that notable invertebrate assemblages would be present.

E.4.1 Reptiles

44 No reptile records were provided by GMLRC from within a 1km radius of the site and the site habitats have negligible suitability to support reptiles. As a result, reptiles are considered highly unlikely to be impacted by the proposed scheme.

F IMPACT ASSESSMENT

F.1 Proposals

45 The proposals are to develop the site for housing, which will comprise five bungalows with associated hard and soft landscaping. None of the existing habitats can be retained in the proposals. This assessment is based on the *Schedules and Site Plan AS-BTP-00-SP-DR-A-3814_105.11 Revision 11* by BTP Architects dated 15th June 2021.

F.2 Impact Assessment and Mitigation

F.2.1 Designated Sites

46 The scale and nature of the development proposals are highly unlikely to have any negative impacts on any of the identified designated sites. As a result, no further consideration is required at this stage.

F.2.2 Habitats

F.2.2.1 Predicted Impacts

F.2.2.1.1 Loss

47 Twenty-three mature urban trees are to be lost to facilitate the proposed scheme. Small greenspaces supporting this number of mature trees are uncommon in the locality, and it is considered highly likely that the site acts as a green steppingstone across the urban landscape for highly mobile species such as bats. The loss of these trees poses a moderate negative significant impact at site level, but a minor negative significant impact at local level and above.

48 The grassland within the site is species poor and common and widespread locally and nationally. The loss of grassland alone poses a negligible insignificant impact at site level.

F.2.2.2 Mitigation

49 Greater Manchester's Tree and Woodland Strategy (Greater Manchester Forests Partnership, 2023) has been produced to recognise the importance of Manchester's urban forest for a number of reasons, including biodiversity. One of the aims of the strategy is to protect existing trees by having fewer trees removed by developers, including integrating existing trees into new developments. Although it would not mitigate the impacts of the tree loss completely, significantly revising the layout of the proposals to retain a significant number of the existing trees has the potential to reduce the scale and magnitude of the impacts.

F.2.2.3 Residual Effects

50 Unless the scheme is revised to retain a significant number of the existing trees, residual effects in relation to tree loss remain moderate negative significant at site level, and minor negative significant at local level and above.

51 The residual effects in relation to grassland loss remain negligible insignificant.

F.2.3 Species

F.2.3.1 Amphibians

52 Survey and assessment have determined that GCN and other amphibian species are highly unlikely to be impacted by the proposed scheme. As a result, no further consideration of GCN or other amphibians is required at this stage.

F.2.3.2 Badger

53 Survey and assessment have determined that badger is highly unlikely to be impacted by the proposed scheme. As a result, no further consideration of badger is required at this stage.

F.2.3.3 Bats

F.2.3.3.1 Predicted Impacts

Roost Loss

54 All trees within the site have negligible suitability to support roosting bats. As a result, it is considered highly unlikely that bat roosts will be directly impacted by the proposed scheme. As a result, no further consideration of roosting bats is required at this stage.

Habitat Loss

55 Desk study and assessment has determined that bat roosts (including a maternity roost) are present within 500m of the site. The proposed loss of twenty-three mature trees, which are considered likely to provide an important steppingstone in the urban landscape for foraging and commuting bats present in the locality, poses a moderate negative impact significant at the local level.

F.2.3.3.2 Mitigation

56 There is no mitigation for habitat loss, but the potential impacts on local bats could be significantly reduced by revising the layout of the proposals to retain a significant number of the existing trees.

F.2.3.3.3 Residual Effects

57 Unless the scheme is revised to retain a significant number of the existing trees, residual effects in relation to tree loss remain moderate negative significant at the local level.

F.2.3.4 Birds

F.2.3.4.1 Predicted Impacts

Habitat Loss

58 The proposed tree and grassland loss will result in the loss of potential nesting and foraging habitat for local birds. It is unlikely that the site supports significant numbers of nesting and

foraging birds due to its small size and limited structural diversity. As a result, the loss is considered to pose a minor negative impact significant at site level only.

Killing/Injury/Damage/Destruction

59 There is potential for the site trees to support nesting birds during the main bird nesting season. As a result, there is the potential for moderate negative significant impacts at site level on nesting birds if these features are removed within the main bird nesting season (i.e., between March and August inclusive).

F.2.3.4.2 Mitigation

Habitat Loss

60 There is no mitigation for habitat loss but the potential impacts on local nesting and foraging birds could be reduced by revising the layout of the proposals to retain a significant number of the existing trees.

Killing/Injury/Damage/Destruction

61 The nests of all wild bird species are fully protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), which makes it an offence to intentionally take, damage, or destroy the eggs, young or nest whilst it is being built or in use.

62 Therefore, the following Reasonable Avoidance Measures (RAMs) will be put in place for the duration of the proposed development works to protect nesting birds:

- In order to minimise the risks to nesting birds, tree felling must take place outside of the main bird nesting season (the bird nesting season is classed as March to August inclusive).
- It may be possible to carry out tree felling within the main bird nesting season if a pre-works survey carried out by a suitably qualified Ecologist determines that no active nests are present.

F.2.3.4.3 Residual Effects

Habitat Loss

63 Unless the scheme is revised to retain a significant number of the existing trees, residual effects in relation to bird nesting and foraging habitat loss remain minor negative significant at the site level.

Killing/Injury/Damage/Destruction

64 With the recommended mitigation measures in place there will be no significant or insignificant residual effects.

F.2.3.5 Controlled Invasive Species

65 There are no controlled invasive species within or immediately adjacent to the site. As a result, no further consideration is required at this stage.

F.2.3.6 Hedgehog

66 Hedgehogs are present in the locality, and it is considered possible that they may incidentally utilise the site habitats as part of a wider foraging area.

F.2.3.6.1 Predicted Impacts

67 There is the potential for hedgehogs to become trapped in excavations during the construction phase of the development. During the operational phase of the development there is the potential for the boundary fences of the proposed new dwellings to impede the free movement of hedgehogs through the site. Without mitigation these activities pose a moderate negative significant impact at site level.

F.2.3.6.2 Mitigation

68 The following RAMs will be put in place to ensure the protection of hedgehogs throughout the construction phase of the development:

- Any excavations will be covered overnight and/or left with a suitable ramped escape.
- Any open pipework over 150mm outside diameter will be blanked overnight.

69 Where proposed, internal and external boundary fencing and walls will include hedgehog highways to allow free movement of hedgehogs across the site. This can be achieved by creating a hole at the base of a fence or wall c. 13cm x 13cm and/or by installing custom gravel boards with pre-cast holes for hedgehogs in them. There should be at least one hole per internal and external boundary.

F.2.3.6.3 Residual Effects

70 With these measures in place, any potential negative impacts on hedgehogs from the proposed development are removed.

F.2.3.7 Invertebrates

71 It is considered highly unlikely that the site habitats support important invertebrate assemblages. As a result, no further consideration of invertebrates is required at this stage.

F.2.3.8 Reptiles

72 Survey and assessment have determined that reptiles are highly unlikely to be impacted by the proposed scheme. As a result, no further consideration of reptiles is required at this stage.

F.3 Compensation

73 There is very limited opportunity to compensate for habitat loss on-site. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (BNGA) has been carried out to quantify the losses, the results of which are provided in a separate report (LM Ecology, 2023).

F.4 Enhancement

74 In accordance with the aims of the National Planning Policy Framework it is suggested that the developer implements the recommendations below:

- The proposed scheme should include one wall integrated bat boxes per new dwelling (to provide a range of suitable roosting conditions for bats throughout the year. Boxes should be situated as close to the gable apex as possible, away from artificial light spill, and not above doors or windows.
- The proposed scheme should include one wall integrated swift *Apus apus* boxes per new dwelling, installed as close to the gable apex as possible.. Swift boxes have been shown to act as a universal nest box, with usage demonstrated by all four of the UK's red listed building nesting birds i.e., swift, starling, house martin *Delichon urbicum*, and house sparrow *Passer domesticus*, so are considered a potential enhancement for more than one bird species.

G CONCLUSIONS

75 The site habitats are considered to be of importance to nature conservation at the site and local level. The site is not considered to be of importance to any species or species group at greater than local level.

76 In line with Greater Manchester's Tree and Woodland Strategy (Greater Manchester Forests Partnership, 2023) it is recommended that consideration is given to revising the layout of the proposals to retain a significant number of the existing mature trees and therefore avoid and reduce the most significant impacts.

77 Mitigation measures to protect nesting birds in the site clearance phase of the development, and hedgehog in the construction and operational phases of the development, should be adopted to ensure the potential impacts on these species/species groups are reduced/removed. The mitigation measures can be secured through a planning condition requiring a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be produced.

78 There is limited scope to compensate for habitat losses on site. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (BNGA) has been carried out to quantify the losses, the results of which are provided in a separate report (LM Ecology, 2023).

79 Enhancement recommendations for roosting bats and nesting birds are included. These should be included by the developer on submitted plans. If this is not supplied, the inclusion of the enhancements in the proposed scheme can be secured through a planning condition requiring an Ecological Enhancement Plan (EEP) to be produced.

80 The results and measures contained in this report are valid for up to two years from the date of publication of Revision A: July 2023.

H REFERENCES

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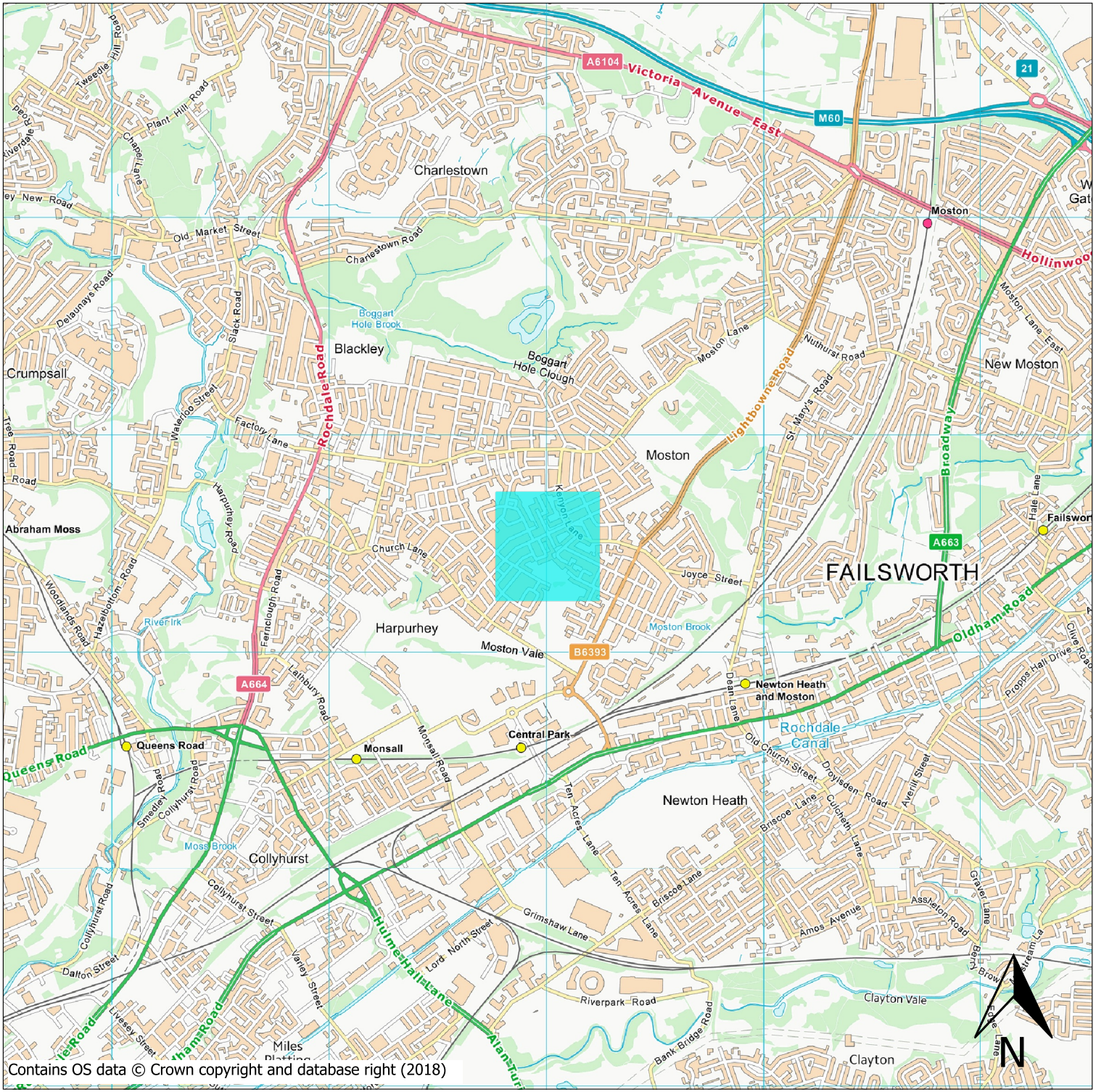
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APPENDIX A





Indicative only
Do not scale from plan

0 1 2 3 km

Legend

Approximate site location

Project	Land at Audrey Street, Manchester, M9 4PF
Title	A.1 Location Plan
Client	One Manchester
Date	July 2023
Ref	[LM0118]A.1[REV A]LOC[AS]

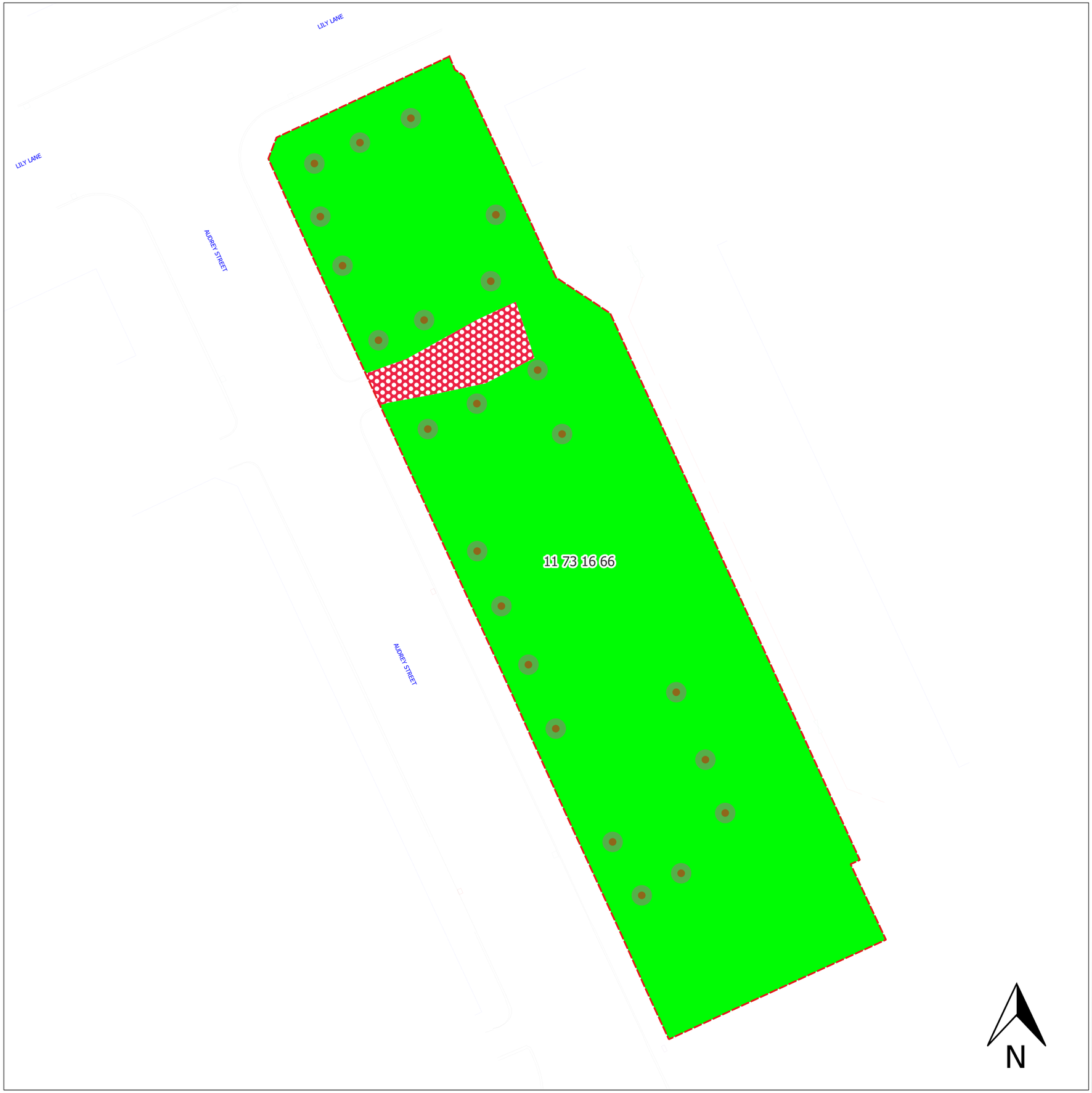
0 0.5 1 km

Indicative only
Do not scale from plan

lm ecology
E: louisa@lm-ecology.co.uk
T: 07923 334190
W: https://lm-ecology.co.uk

A.2 Designated Sites Summary - Audrey Street

GRID REFERENCE	NAME	SIZE (Ha)	DISTANCE FROM SITE (KM)	BEARING (DEGREES)	DESIGNATION
SD87810141	Broadhurst Clough	14	0.82	96	**Local Nature Reserve** - Manchester's newest LNR, supporting some mature stands of poplar, with younger copses of developing birch and alder woodland which have been planted in partnership with Red Rose Forest. Extensive stands of flag iris can be found in the marshy areas, which provide ideal cover for common frogs and toads, as well as rest stops for dragonflies. The Dean Brook trickles through the lower level of the clough in a steep wooded ravine. The site is also a locally designated **Site of Biological Importance.**
SD86800234	Boggart Hole Clough	74.4	0.87	347	**Local Nature Reserve** - largest woodland clough in Manchester, part of which is **Ancient and Semi-natural Woodland.** The site is also a locally designated **Site of Biological Importance.**
SD86540318	Bailey's Wood	3.090911	1.75	345	**Ancient & Semi-Natural Woodland**



Legend

- Survey boundary
- g4 - modified grassland
- u1c - artificial unvegetated; unsealed surface
- 11 - individual urban trees

Secondary Codes*

11	scattered trees
16	tall herb
66	regular mowing
73	bare ground

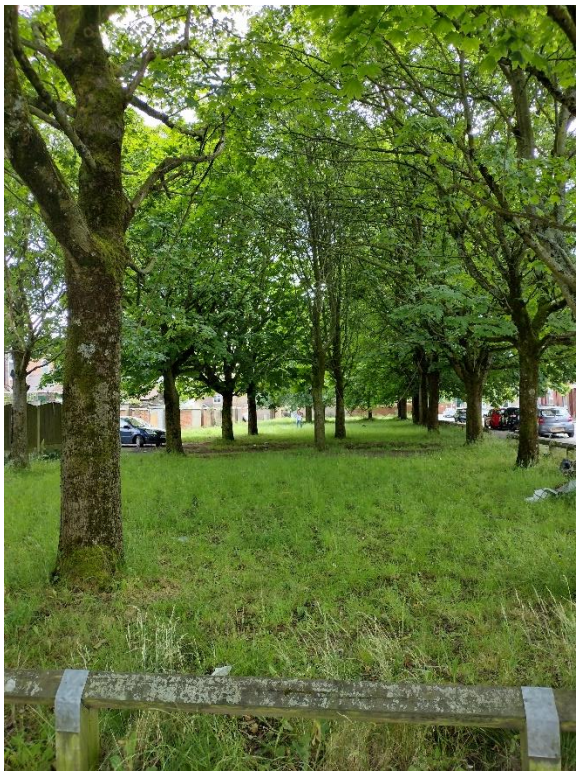
* apply to whole habitat parcel unless demarcated by black dashed line

Project	Land at Audrey Street, Manchester, M9 4PF
Title	A.3 UK Habitat Survey Plan
Client	One Manchester
Date	November 2023
Ref	[LM0118]A.3[REV B]UKHAB[AS]

0 10 20 m Indicative only.
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lm ecology
E: louisa@lm-ecology.co.uk
T: 07923 334190
W: https://lm-ecology.co.uk

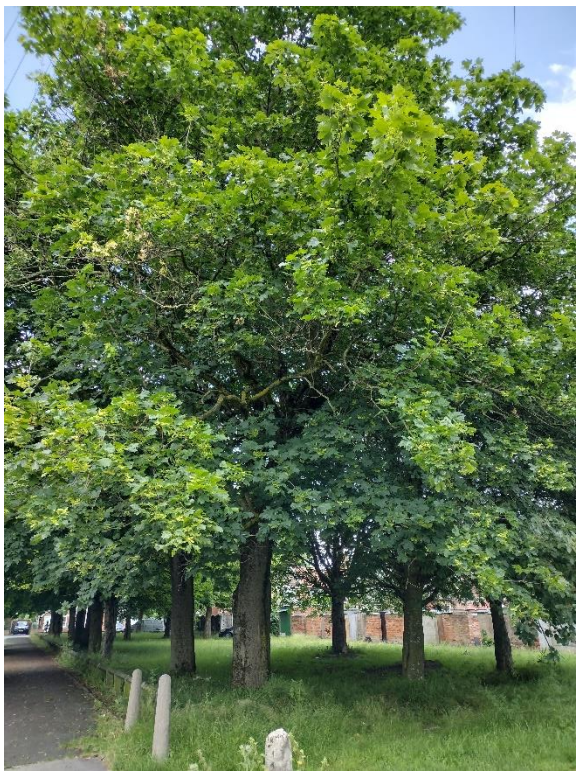
A.4 Site Images – Audrey Street



1. Tree and grassland looking south, taking from northern boundary.



2. Western boundary, looking south.



3. Western boundary, taken from southwest corner of site looking to northeast.



4. Eastern boundary, taken from south east corner of site looking to northwest.

A.4 Site Images – Audrey Street



5. Southern end of site, looking to east.

A.5 Species List - Audrey Street

Ukhab code	Ukhab type	Description	Common name	Scientific name	DAFOR
g4	Modified grassland	Frequently mown species poor amenity grassland with 23 individual trees. Clearly a well-used recreational space for adjacent housing evidenced by patches of bare earth and rope swings in trees. Some tall ruderals and norway maple saplings against fence to south of site where mowing is less regular.	Perennial rye-grass	*Lolium perenne*	A
			Yorkshire fog	*Holcus lanatus*	A
			White clover	*Trifolium repens*	O
			Ribwort plantain	*Plantago lanceolata*	O
			Broadleaved dock	*Rumex obtusifolius*	F
			Broadleaf plantain	*Plantago major*	O
			Cock's-foot	*Dactylis golmerata*	O
			Creeping buttercup	*Ranunculus repens*	R
			Groundsel	*Senecio vulgaris*	R
			Rosebay willowherb	*Chamaenerion angustifolium*	R
			Common nettle	*Urtica dioica*	LF
			Norway maple saplings	*Acer platanoides*	R
			Dandelion	*Taraxacum officinale agg.*	LF
			Geranium sp.	*Geranium sp.*	R
			Herb robert	*Geranium robertianum*	R
			Wood avens	*Geum urbanum*	R
			Common mouse-ear	*Cerastium fontanum*	R
11	Individual trees	23 individual mature planted trees	Horse chestnut	*Aesculus hippocastanum*	N/A
			Swedish whitebeam	*Sorbus intermedia*	N/A
			Norway maple	*Acer platanoides*	N/A

APPENDIX B

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna, and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds, into UK law. The regulations allow for the designation of Statutory Nature Conservation Sites (SACs and SPAs) and European Protected Species ('EPS' including all UK bat species, great crested newts, hazel dormouse and otter) which are assigned a greater level of protection that under national legislation. It is an offence to deliberately capture, kill or disturb wild animals listed under Schedule 2 of the Regulations. It is also an offence to damage or destroy a breeding site or resting place of such an animal (even if the animal is absent at the time).

Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended forms the primary piece of UK legislation relating to the protection of habitats and species (including nesting birds, reptiles and water vole).

Under the legislation it is an offence to:

- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird or their eggs or nests (with certain exceptions) and disturb any bird species listed under Schedule 1 to the Act, or its dependent young while it is nesting;
- Intentionally kill, injure or take any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly damage, destroy or obstruct any place used for shelter or protection by any wild animal listed under Schedule 5 to the Act; intentionally or recklessly disturb certain Schedule 5 animal species while they occupy a place used for shelter or protection;
- Pick or uproot any wild plant listed under Schedule 8 of the Act.
- Plant or otherwise cause any species listed in part 2 of Schedule 9 (which includes Japanese Knotweed) to grow in the wild.

Additionally, badgers are protected under the **Protection of Badgers Act, 1992.**

Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

Section 40(1) of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 states that each public authority "must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity". This legislation makes it clear that planning authorities should consider impacts to biodiversity when determining planning applications, with particular regard to the Section 41 list of 56 habitats and 943 species of principal importance, irrespective of whether they are covered by other legislation. The s41 list was taken forward for action under the UK BAP (first published in 1994). The UK BAP has now been superseded by the Biodiversity 2020 Strategy, which continues to prioritise the Section 41 list, setting national targets for the period to 2020, and the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework, which shows how these contribute to targets at the European level. Whilst BAPs are therefore no longer formally recognised,

many of the tools and resources originally developed for the BAP remain in use, such as the background information which still forms the basis of the work at national level.

Environment Act 2021

The Environment Act 2021 operates as the UK's new framework of environmental protection. It allows the UK to enshrine some environmental protection into law and offers new powers to set new binding targets, including for air quality, water, biodiversity, and waste reduction. Parts 6 and 7 are of particular relevance as they relate to Nature and Biodiversity, which includes provisions to strengthen and improve the duty on public bodies to conserve and enhance biodiversity, including mandating a net gain for biodiversity through the planning system.

National Planning Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2019) sets out the government planning policies for England and how they should be applied. Chapter 15: Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment is of particular relevance to this as it relates to ecology and biodiversity.

Local Planning Policy

A number of local planning policies relate to ecology, biodiversity and/or nature conservation. These policies have been addressed, where appropriate, in the production of this report.

Standing Advice

Natural England Standing Advice regarding protected species aims to support local authorities and forms a material consideration in determining planning applications in the same way as any individual response received from Natural England following consultation. Standing advice has therefore been given due consideration, alongside other detailed guidance documents, in the scoping of ecological surveys and production of this report.