

Ecological Impact Assessment

Land at Kenyon Lane, Manchester, M40 5FH

Jigsaw Homes Group

Revision C – October 2023



ecology

SITE NAME			
Land at Kenyon Lane, Manchester, M40 5FH			
GRID REFERENCE		DOCUMENT REFERENCE	
SD8767201221		[LM0117]EclA[Land at Kenyon Lane] Rev C	
SITE DESIGNATION		LOCAL AUTHORITY	
None		Manchester City Council	
	NAME	QUALIFICATIONS	DATE
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REVISION HISTORY			
REVISION	DATE	AUTHOR	DESCRIPTION
A	July 2023	LM	Original based on Schedules and Site Plan – Drawing No. 105 Rev. 4
B	September 2023	LM	Update due to revised site layout shown on Schedules and Site Plan – Drawing No.105 Rev. 8
C	October 2023	LM	Update due to revised redline boundary shown on KL-BTP-00-LP-DR-A-3785_100 Rev. 1

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APPENDIX B

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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 level only. The site is not considered to be of importance to any species or species group at greater than site level.
- 4 Mitigation measures to protect badger, nesting birds and hedgehog in the site clearance, construction and operational phases of the development should be adopted to ensure the potential impacts on this species are reduced/removed. The mitigation measures can be secured through a planning condition requiring a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be produced.
- 5 There is limited scope to compensate for habitat losses on site. A Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment (BNGA) has been carried out to address these losses and has been provided in a separate report (LM Ecology, 2023).
- 6 Enhancement recommendations for roosting bats and nesting birds are included in Section F.4. 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 by a suitably worded planning condition.
- 7 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

8 LM Ecology was commissioned on 24th April 2023 by Jigsaw Homes Group to carry out a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal of Land at Kenyon Lane, Manchester, M40 5FH. A plan showing the broad location of the site is included in APPENDIX A as A.1.

9 The survey was commissioned in relation to proposals to develop the site for housing, which will comprise nine new dwellings with associated hard and soft landscaping.

10 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.

11 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

12 The site is a parcel of publicly accessible greenspace comprising amenity grassland and woodland, with an area of approximately 0.24ha situated on the south west edge of the suburb of Moston, Manchester. It is bounded by other grassland and woodland (known as Lightbowne Country Park) to the south and east, by Kenyon Lane to the north, and by housing to the west.

D METHODOLOGY

D.1 Desk Study

13 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

14 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: 20°C; Wind: 7mph 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

15 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

- 16 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).
- 17 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.
- 18 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

- 19 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

- 20 No limitations to a successful Preliminary Ecological Appraisal were present.

E RESULTS

E.1 Designated Sites

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

E.1.1 Non-statutory Sites

22 There are no non-statutory sites within or immediately adjacent to the site. There are four local Sites of Biological Importance (SBI) within a 1km radius of the site, and one Semi-Natural and Ancient Woodland within a 2km radius of the site.

23 The closest SBI is Broadhurst Clough, the closest edge of which is approximately 150m north/northeast of the site. This site has also recently been designated a statutory Local Nature Reserve. The remaining three SBIs are Moston Fairway and two sections of the Rochdale Canal located approximately 770m, 820m and 950m from the site, respectively. The ancient semi-natural woodland is Boggart Hole Clough, located approximately 1.4km north, which is also a Local Nature Reserve

E.1.2 Statutory Sites

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

25 The closest of these is the newest Local Nature Reserve (LNR) in Manchester, Broadhurst Clough. The closest edge is approximately 150m north/northeast of the site, and is separated from the site by housing and roads. There are a further two LNRs, Boggart Hole Clough and Clayton Vale, located approximately 1.6km and 1.7km from the site respectively.

26 The Failsworth end of the Rochdale Canal Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located approximately 1.6km to the south/southeast of the site.

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

27 The site falls within the Impact Risk Zone (IRZ) of the Rochdale Canal SSSI/SAC and the development category 'All Planning Applications' applies to the site. The main conservation objectives of the Rochdale Canal SAC are to achieve Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) of the floating water-plantain *Luronium natans*. The main potential impacts to the FCS of this plant from development are run-off causing nutrient enrichment, dust deposition causing both smothering effects on the plant and changes in the chemical composition of the water, and overshadowing from structures. Due to the distance of approximately 1.6km between the site and the closest end of canal, and the small scale and nature of the proposals, it is considered unlikely that there will be any adverse impacts from the proposed development on this nationally important site.

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 w1g Other woodland; broadleaved

29 A copse of woodland is present to the east of the site and approximately 350m² of the copse is within the boundary of the site. Species composition and tree age would suggest that it was potentially planted as part of a regenerative landscape scheme c. 30-40 years ago, possibly around new housing. The woodland does not appear to be in any active management. It has a scrubby edge on the side facing into the site grassland. The canopy is composed mostly of young crack willow *Salix fragilis*, aspen *Populus tremula* and alder *Alnus glutinosa*, with edges composed of mainly young aspen. The shrub and understorey layers lack diversity and structure, probably due to the density of trees creating heavy shade. As a result only bramble *Rubus fruticosus*, scattered hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna* and rose *Rosa sp.* are present, with cleavers *Galium aparine* dominant in the understorey.

E.2.2 g4 Modified grassland

30 The site supports species poor regularly mown amenity grassland. Perennial rye-grass *Lolium perenne*, yorkshire fog *Holcus lanatus* and white clover *Trifolium repens* are abundant throughout the sward, with occasional common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, common sorrel *Rumex acetosa*, curled dock *Rumex crispus*, creeping buttercup *Ranunculus repens* and common daisy *Bellis perennis* also present.

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, any GCN class licence returns, or any GCN Pond Survey 2017-2019 dataset results, within a 2km radius of the site.

32 There are no waterbodies within the site. One waterbody was identified within a 1km search radius of the site, the Rochdale Canal. The canal is separated from the site by a distance of over 700m and several barriers to amphibian dispersal i.e. main roads and residential housing estates. The site woodland offers some suitable terrestrial habitat for GCN and other amphibians. However, taking into account the lack of records, the distance between the closest waterbody and the site, and the barriers to amphibian dispersal between the site and the identified waterbody, it is considered highly unlikely that GCN (or other amphibian species) will be impacted by the proposed scheme.

E.3.2 Badger

- 33 GMLRC provided two records of badgers, one of a sett from 2014 and one of a sighting from 2021. Both records are from Broadhurst Clough, which at its closest edge is approximately 150m north/northeast of the site.
- 34 No evidence of badger activity was observed within the site during the survey. Although, much of the woodland was inaccessible, no obvious mammal paths going into the woodland were present in the edge vegetation. However, it is acknowledged that the dense woodland offers suitable habitat for badger setts to be present, and given the proximity of a badger sett to the site, it is considered highly likely that badgers will make use of the grassland as part of their foraging area.

E.3.3 Bats

E.3.3.1 Ground-based Risk Assessment of Trees

- 35 There are no trees within the site that are of an age and/or display features with potential to support roosting bats.

E.3.3.2 Biological Records

- 36 A total of 36 bat records from within a 1km radius of the site were returned by GMLRC. Species positively identified in the records include common pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, soprano pipistrelle *P. pygmaeus*, and Daubenton's bat *Myotis daubentonii*.
- 37 None of the records are from the site, with the closest being a record of an injured male common pipistrelle from 2007, c. 30m from the southern site boundary. Three of the 36 records are of roosts, the closest of which are two records of a common pipistrelle roost of five bats located approximately 230m east of the site, with the third being a record of a common pipistrelle roost exclusion from 380m west from 2002.
- 38 The MAGIC database holds one record of a granted EPS mitigation licence from within a 2km radius of the site, which is for the destruction of a common pipistrelle resting place from 2014, located approximately 1.6km east of the site.

E.3.3.3 Habitat Assessment

- 39 The site sits on the edge of a wooded urban country park, which is well connected via woodland and grassland to optimal bat foraging habitats to the north, east and south/southwest. It is likely that the woodland within the site is utilised as a foraging and commuting resource for local bats.

E.3.4 Birds

- 40 The woodland within the site will undoubtedly support nesting birds within the main bird nesting season. There is the potential for this to include priority species associated with woodland, scrub and urban greenspace such as bullfinch *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, dunnock *Prunella*

modularis and song thrush *Turdus philomelos*, records of which were provided by GMLRC within 250m of the site, as well as a number other more common and widespread species.

- 41 It is also likely that the woodland and grassland provide a foraging resource for species nesting in the woodland, as well as priority species nesting in adjacent houses such as starling *Sturnus vulgaris* and house sparrow *Passer domesticus*, records of which were also supplied by GMLRC from within a 1km radius of the site.

E.3.5 Controlled Invasive Species

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

E.3.6 Hedgehog

- 43 Seven hedgehog *Erinaceus 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 within 350m of the site, one of which is a record of a dead hedgehog on Kenyon Lane, approximately 330m north west of the site. The scrubby areas of the woodland have potential to support nesting hedgehogs, and it is considered highly likely that the woodland and grassland form part of the foraging habitats for local hedgehogs.

E.3.7 Invertebrates

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

E.3.8 Reptiles

- 45 No reptile records were provided by GMLRC from within a 1km radius of the site. The site habitats offer some minor suitability for reptiles, however, due to the high levels of disturbance from public access (including dog walkers), the likely presence of domestic cats in the adjacent housing estates, and the existing intensive mowing regime of the grassland within and adjacent to the site, it is unlikely that reptiles will be present within the site and impacted by the proposed scheme.

F IMPACT ASSESSMENT

F.1 Proposals

The proposals for the site are to develop it for housing, which will comprise nine dwellings with associated hard and soft landscaping. The proposals will result in the loss of all the existing grassland and woodland, although the part of this woodland outside of the redline boundary will be retained. This assessment is based on the plan *Schedules and Site Plan KL-BTP-00-SP-DR-A-3785_105.8 Revision 8* by BTP Architects dated 15th June 2021 and issued to LM Ecology on 30th August 2023.

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

47 The site habitats are common and widespread both locally and nationally. The full loss of the grassland, and the loss of the woodland habitat within the site boundary poses a negligible insignificant impact at site level.

F.2.3 Species

F.2.3.1 Amphibians

48 Survey and assessment has 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

49 Badgers and their setts are protected under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 which makes it illegal to kill, injure or take badgers or to interfere with a badger sett. Interference with a sett includes blocking tunnels or damaging the sett in any way. The act specifically defines a sett as “*any structure or place which displays signs indicating current use by a badger*”. Further guidance on the interpretation of this is given by Natural England (Natural England, 2009a).

50 Natural England has also provided clarification on interpretation on what would constitute a disturbance offence (Natural England, 2009). This clarifies that in the view of Natural England, the Act, and therefore the licensing system, is not concerned with ‘trivial’ levels of apparent disturbance at setts which would be unlikely to adversely affect any badgers present. There is no specified distance over which a disturbance offence would or would not apply. However, historically it has generally been accepted, except in exceptional circumstances involving activities likely to be disturbing at a greater distance, that a 30m stand-off is usually sufficient

to mitigate for a potential disturbance offence. Works within 30m may therefore require a licence, depending on the magnitude and duration of the relevant impact.

F.2.3.2.1 Predicated Impacts

Disturbance/Interference

- 51 There is no evidence of badger sett activity within the site or immediate adjacent areas. The known sett, which is approximately 150m from the site boundary, is considered a sufficient distance from the site to be unaffected by the proposed development.
- 52 However, as badgers are a highly mobile species able to excavate new setts overnight, there is a very minor risk of badgers excavating a sett in the woodland within and immediately adjacent to the site. Without mitigation there is the potential for interference and disturbance offences to be committed under the Badger Protection Act 1992.
- 53 Additionally, it is likely that badgers from local setts regularly enter the site overnight for foraging purposes, and to commute to other foraging habitats in the locality. As a result, there is a risk of individual badgers becoming trapped in site excavations during the construction phase of the development.

Habitat Loss

- 54 The proposals will result in the loss of grassland habitat that is likely to form part of local badgers foraging habitat. However, as there are several other large areas of grasslands suitable for badger foraging adjacent to the site, it is unlikely that the loss of this grassland will cause a serious disruption to the foraging resource of local badgers. As a result, the loss poses a negligible insignificant impact at site level.

F.2.3.2.2 Mitigation

Disturbance/Interference

- 55 Within seven days of the felling work required to remove the woodland within the site a badger walkover survey of the woodland will be carried out by a suitably qualified Ecologist to determine whether or not badgers have excavated setts in the woodland.
- 56 Should there be badger setts present and a risk of a disturbance or interference impact is deemed likely, either from the woodland felling and/or clearance and construction operations, then a licence to close the sett prior to works commencing will be sought from Natural England.
- 57 Additionally, the following reasonable avoidance measures (RAMS) will be in place throughout all phases of the proposed development:
- Any excavations to be left overnight will be covered and/or provided with a means of escape for badgers and other animals.
 - Any open pipework over 150mm outside diameter will be blanked overnight.

- If a badger (or other animal) is encountered at any point during the works, a suitably qualified Ecologist will be contact immediately for advice.
- No attempt will be made to capture badgers as doing so may result in unnecessary risk of injury to the badger and of the contractor being bitten.

Habitat Loss

58 There is no mitigation for habitat loss.

F.2.3.2.3 Residual Effects

Disturbance/Interference

59 With the recommended mitigation measures in place the risk of any disturbance or interference offences under the Protection of Badgers Act 1992, and any negative impacts on individual badgers, are removed.

Habitat Loss

60 Residual effects in relation to habitat loss remain negligible insignificant.

F.2.3.3 Bats

F.2.3.3.1 Predicted Impacts

Roost Loss

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

Habitat Loss

62 The proposed scheme will result in the loss of approximately 350m² of woodland, which is likely used by foraging and commuting bats. This loss will occur as a section of the woodland along the northwest facing edge. Although reduced in area, the length of the woodland along this edge will remain more or less the same, and will continue to function as a habitat suitable for foraging and commuting bats. As a result, the loss of a section of this woodland is considered to pose a negligible insignificant impact at site level on foraging and commuting bats.

Habitat Fragmentation

63 There is the potential for site lighting, both in the construction and operational phases of the development, to affect the suitability of the retained woodland edge for foraging and commuting bats. Without mitigation this poses a moderate negative significant impact at site level to local bats.

F.2.3.3.2 Mitigation

Habitat Loss

64 There is no mitigation for habitat loss.

Habitat Fragmentation

65 During the construction phase of the proposed development, any site security lighting that is required will avoid directly lighting the retained woodland.

66 Ideally, post-development, external building and street lighting will be avoided completely. If this is not possible a lighting design plan will need to be prepared to show how site lighting is specified, located and orientated so that it can be clearly demonstrated that it will not disturb or adversely affect the use of the retained woodland by bats or other nocturnal wildlife species (ILP, 2018). The requirement for a lighting design plan can be secured by a suitably worded planning condition imposed on any consent.

F.2.3.3.3 Residual Effects

Habitat Loss

67 Residual effects relating to habitat loss remain negligible insignificant.

Habitat Fragmentation

68 With this mitigation measure in place, there will be a significant reduction in the potential negative impacts on foraging and commuting bats associated with an increase in lighting of the retained woodland.

F.2.3.4 Birds

F.2.3.4.1 Predicted Impacts

Habitat Loss

69 The loss of approximately 350m² of woodland reflects a minor loss of suitable habitat for nesting birds. The total loss of the site grassland will result in the loss of suitable foraging habitat for local birds. However, as most of the woodland will be retained, and as there is an abundance of similar habitats in the immediate and wider areas, and because vegetated gardens of the proposed scheme will eventually provide an alternative foraging resource for local birds, the predicted impacts from these losses are considered to be negligible insignificant at site level.

Killing/Injury/Damage/Destruction

70 There is potential for the site woodland 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 the section proposed for removal is felled within this period (i.e. between March and August inclusive).

F.2.3.4.2 Mitigation

Habitat Loss

71 There is no suitable mitigation for habitat loss.

Killing/Injury/Damage/Destruction

72 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.

73 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, felling work in the site woodland must take place outside of the main bird nesting season (the bird nesting season is classed as March to August inclusive).
- Due to the density of the woodland vegetation, it will not be appropriate to carry out a pre-works check of the woodland within the main bird nesting season, as it will be impossible to rule out active nests.

F.2.3.4.3 Residual Effects

Habitat Loss

74 Residual effects in relation to habitat loss remain negligible/insignificant.

Killing/Injury/Damage/Destruction

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

F.2.3.5 Controlled Invasive Species

76 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

77 Hedgehogs are present in the locality and it is considered likely that the site grassland forms part of local hedgehogs' foraging habitat. There is also the potential for nesting hedgehogs to be present in the site woodland.

F.2.3.6.1 Predicted Impacts

Disturbance/Injury/Killing

78 There is a risk of negative impacts to individual hedgehogs which may be present in the woodland understorey vegetation at the time that works to fell part of the woodland are proposed. There are additional risks during the construction phase of the development if hedgehogs enter the site and become trapped in open pipework and/or excavations. Without

mitigation, these activities pose a moderate negative significant impact to local hedgehog populations.

Habitat Loss

- 79 The loss of the site grassland and part of the woodland, which are likely to be utilised by local hedgehogs, pose a negligible insignificant impact particularly as a large proportion of the woodland is to be retained, and eventually the vegetated gardens of the new dwellings will provide an alternative foraging resource for hedgehog.

Habitat Fragmentation

- 80 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

Disturbance/Injury/Killing

- 81 The following RAMs will be put in place to ensure the protection of hedgehogs throughout woodland felling, site clearance and construction activities:
- The felling of the woodland will be overseen by a suitably qualified Ecologist who will conduct a search of any vegetation that has potential to support nesting hedgehogs, prior to its removal.
 - In the event that hedgehogs are encountered within the site they will, in the first instance, be allowed to move out of the work area of their own accord. If they are reluctant to move, they will be captured with gloved hands and placed carefully in suitable undisturbed cover away from the work area.
 - 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.

Habitat Loss

- 82 There is no mitigation for habitat loss.

Habitat Fragmentation

- 83 Where installed, internal and external boundary fencing will include hedgehog highways to allow free movement of hedgehogs across the site. This can be achieved by cutting a hole at the base of a fence 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 fence line.

F.2.3.6.3 Residual Effects

Disturbance/Injury/Killing

- 84 With the recommended mitigation measures in place, potential negative impacts on hedgehogs from the proposed development are removed.

Habitat Loss

- 85 Residual effects in relation to habitat loss remain negligible insignificant.

Habitat Fragmentation

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

F.2.3.7 Invertebrates

- 87 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

Survey and assessment has 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

- 88 Residual effects in relation to the loss of the site habitats, the loss of foraging habitats for birds, badger and hedgehog, and the loss of bird nesting habitat, are negligible insignificant at site level.
- 89 There is limited opportunity to compensate for habitat loss on-site, and these losses have been dealt with by a Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment, the results of which are a separate (LM Ecology, 2023). However, the creation of lawned gardens will likely provide a replacement foraging resource for local birds and hedgehogs.

F.4 Enhancement

- 90 In accordance with the aims of the National Planning Policy Framework it is suggested that the developer implements the enhancement recommendations below:
- The proposed scheme should include one wall integrated bat box per dwelling (total of ten across the proposed development). Boxes will be positioned on different elevations each dwelling to provide a range of suitable roosting conditions for bats throughout the year. Boxes should be situated as close to the eaves/top of walls as possible, away from artificial light spill, and not above doors or windows.
 - The proposed scheme should include one wall integrated swift *Apus apus* box per dwelling (total of ten across the proposed development) to be installed on the northwest and/or northeast elevations of the new dwellings. The boxes should be at least 5m from the ground, and not above doors or windows. 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, so are considered a potential enhancement for more than one bird species.

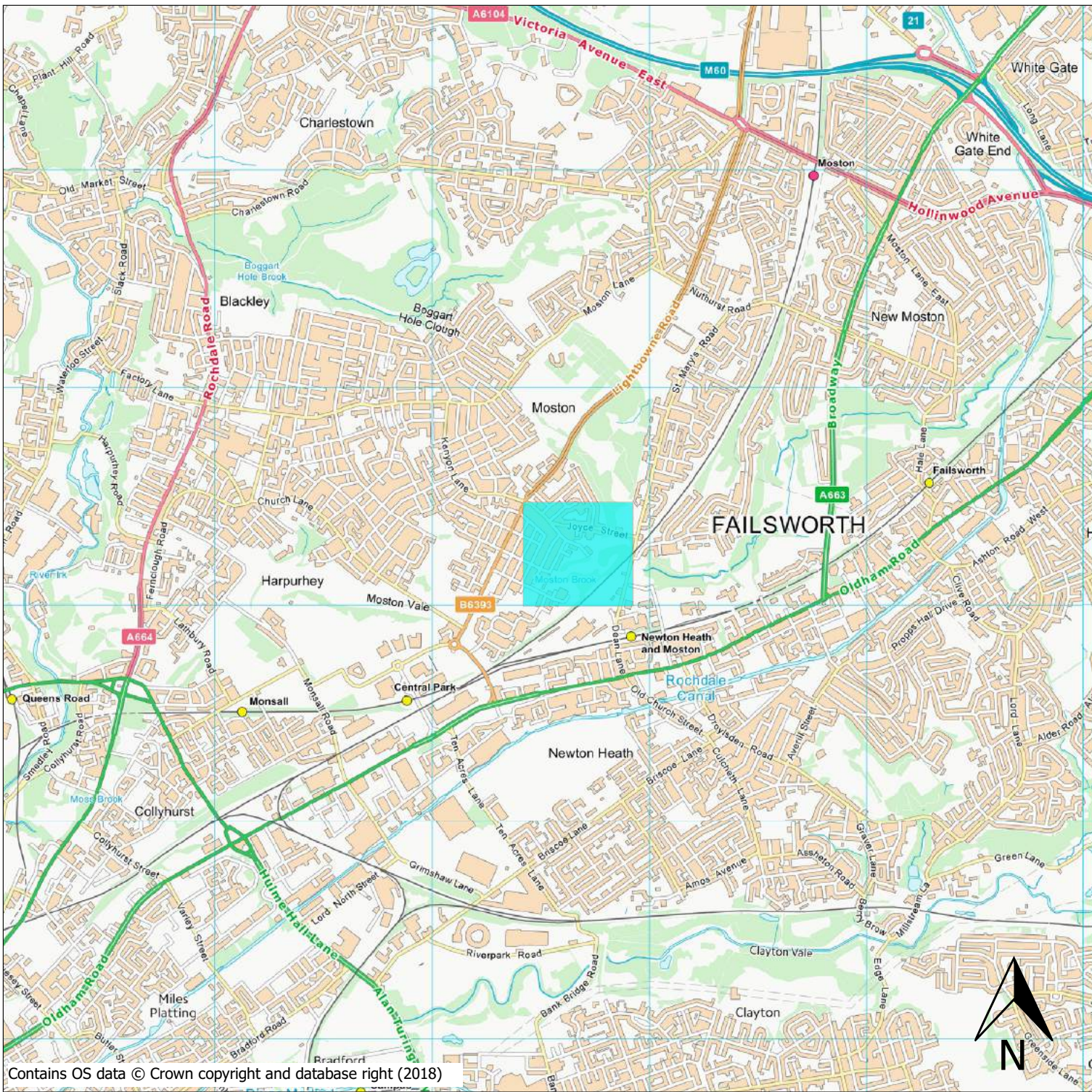
G CONCLUSIONS

- 91 The site habitats are considered to be of importance to nature conservation at the site level only. The site is not considered to be of importance to any species or species group at greater than site level.
- 92 Mitigation measures to protect badger, nesting birds and hedgehog in the site clearance, construction and operational phases of the development should be adopted to ensure the potential impacts on this species are reduced/removed. The mitigation measures can be secured through a planning condition requiring a Construction Environment Management Plan (CEMP) to be produced.
- 93 There is limited scope to compensate for habitat losses on site. A Biodiversity Gain Assessment (BNGA) has been carried out to address these losses and has been provided in a separate (LM Ecology, 2023).
- 94 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.
- 95 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.

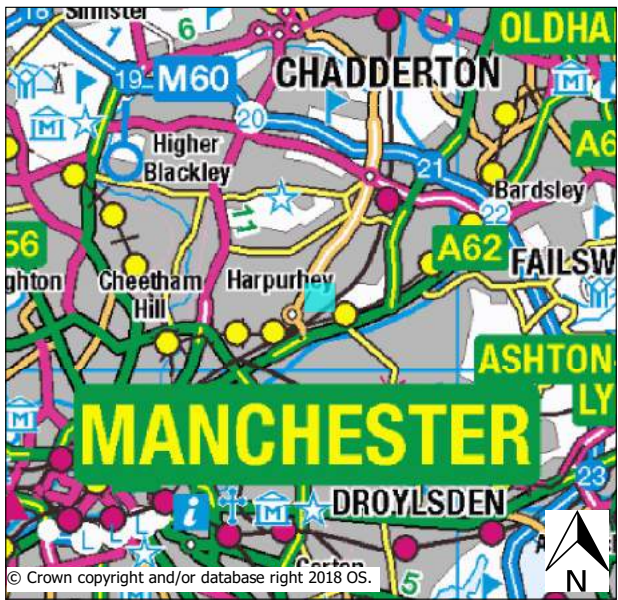
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APPENDIX A



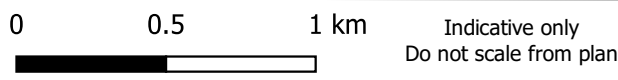
Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2018)



Legend

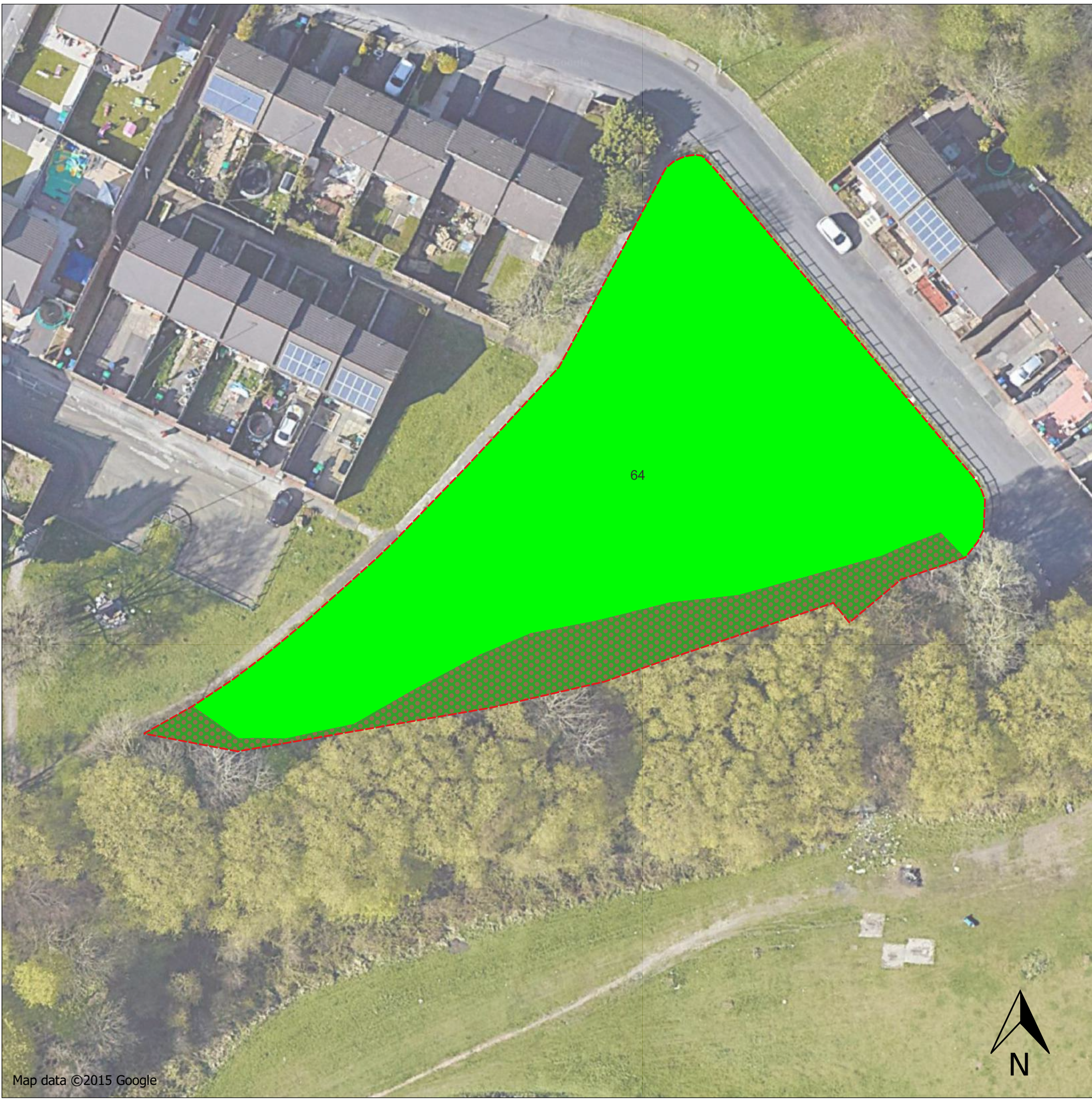
Approximate site location

Project	Land at Kenyon Lane, Manchester, M40 5FH
Title	A.1 Location Plan
Client	Jigsaw Homes Group
Date	July 2023
Ref	[LM0117]A.1[REV A]LOC[KL]



A.2 Designated Sites Summary - Kenyon Lane

GRID REFERENCE	NAME	SIZE (Ha)	DISTANCE FROM SITE (KM)	BEARING (DEGREES)	DESIGNATION
SD87810141	Broadhurst Clough	14.4	0.23	36	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. Also a local Site of Biological Importance .
SD88330163	Moston Fairway	Unknown	0.77	58	Site of Biological Importance
SD87490042	Rochdale Canal - Stotts Lane to Ducie Street Basin	Unknown	0.82	193	Site of Biological Importance
SD88450067	Rochdale Canal - Lock at Scowcroft Farm to Stotts Lane	Unknown	0.95	125	Site of Biological Importance
SD86800234	Boggart Hole Clough	74.4	1.42	322	Local Nature Reserve - largest woodland clough in Manchester, part of which is also Ancient and Semi-Natural Woodland .
SD89280115	Rochdale Canal	26.3678	1.61	93	Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Special Area of Conservation (SAC) - important habitat for submerged aquatic plants and emergent vegetation, including nationally scarce SAC species floating water plantain <i>Luronium natans</i> . Also supports diverse assemblage of aquatic flora, including nine species of pondweeds which reflects the quality of the water.
SJ88099949	Clayton Vale	52.57	1.78	166	Local Nature Reserve - landfill reclaimed in the 1980s, now forms a valley with River Medlock flowing through its base.



Map data ©2015 Google

Legend

-  Site boundary
-  g4 - modified grassland
-  w1g - other woodland; broadleaved

Secondary Codes*

64 mown

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

Project	Land at Kenyon Lane, Manchester, M40 5FH
Title	A.3 UK Habitat Survey Plan
Client	Jigsaw Homes Group
Date	October 2023
Ref	[LM0117]A.3[REV C]UKHAB[KL]





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A.4 – Site Images – Kenyon Lane



1. Northern end of woodland, taken from Kenyon Lane.



2. Woodland and grassland, taken from Kenyon lane.



3. Woodland and grassland, taken from Kenyon Lane.

A.5 Site Species List - Kenyon Lane

ukhab code	ukhab type	common name	scientific name	DAFOR
w1g	Other woodland; broadleaved	Dogwood	<i>Cornus sanguinea</i>	LA
		Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	O
		Alder	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	O
		Aspen	<i>Populus tremula</i>	F
		Field maple	<i>Acer campestre</i>	O
		Crack willow	<i>Salix fraxgilis</i>	F
		Cherry	<i>Prunus sp.</i>	O
		Lime	<i>Tilia sp.</i>	O
		Goat willow	<i>Salix caprea</i>	R
		Sessile oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>	R
		White poplar	<i>Populus alba</i>	R
		Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	R
		Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	O
		Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	O
		Rose	<i>Rosa sp.</i>	O
g4	Modified grassland	Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	A
		Perennial rye-grass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	A
		White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	A
		Curled dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	O
		Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	R
		Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale agg.</i>	F
		Common sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	O
		Common bent	<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	O
		Creeping buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	O
		Meadow buttercup	<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	F
		Common daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	O
		Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	R
		Broad-leaved dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>	R
		Red clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	R
		Bird's-foot trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>	R
		Willow spp. seedlings	<i>Salix spp.</i>	O
		Oxeye daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>	R
		Meadow foxtail	<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	R
		Common knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	R

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 than 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,

APPENDIX B – LEGISLATION

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.