



WE KNOW SERVICES

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

Site

Aspinal Street, Prescott

Client

Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council

Report Date

November 2021

Version

First Issue

We Know Services
Court Hey Park, Roby Road, Huyton L16 3NA
E: info@weknowservices.co.uk
www.weknowservices.co.uk

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Aspinall Street, Prescot



A photograph showing the entrance to the shopping centre.

Quality Assurance

The information which the author has prepared and provided is true and has been prepared and provided in accordance with the CIEEM's Code of Professional Conduct. We confirm that the opinions expressed are our true and professional bona fide opinions.

Disclaimer

The report has been prepared for the sole use of the client, showing reasonable skill and care, for the intended purposes as stated in the agreement under which this work was completed. The report may not be relied upon by any other party without the express agreement of the client and the author. No other warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the professional advice included in this report. Where any data supplied by the client or from other sources have been used, it has been assumed that the information is correct. No responsibility can be accepted by the author for inaccuracies in the data supplied by any other party. The conclusions and recommendations in this report assume that all relevant information has been supplied by those bodies from whom it was requested. No part of this report may be copied or duplicated without the express permission of the author and the party for whom it was prepared. Where field investigations have been carried out, these have been restricted to a level of detail required to achieve the stated objectives of the work.

Summary

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was commissioned by Knowsley Metropolitan Council of the Prescott Shopping Centre and associated area of Aspinall Street, Prescott, Knowsley. The survey was commissioned to support potential future re-development / refurbishment of the site.

The purpose of the survey and the report is to provide an ecological baseline and an initial assessment of the potential impacts of any potential development proposals upon the nature conservation of the site.

Due to the scale of the proposed development and distance / disconnect from any statutory or non-statutory designated sites, no impacts upon such sites are anticipated because of the proposed development.

The buildings and grounds are of limited ecological value, except for the potential to support nesting birds (buildings and ornamental shrubs/amenity trees) and 'Low Potential' for supporting bat roosts.

Where works are proposed to affect either of the buildings or ornamental planting, consideration should be given to the potential presence of nesting birds. Consideration should also be given to the potential presence of bat roosts associated with buildings, though the potential for this is low.

In view of the above, further survey of the buildings for bats, in the form of emergence and re-entry surveys following current professional bat survey guidelines (Collin, J (ed) 2016), are recommended. Usually only a single survey of buildings of 'Low Potential' are required however as internal inspection of the buildings was restricted, additional survey effort is recommended to ensure confidence in the results of the survey. As such, 3 surveys (2 x dusk and 1 x pre-dawn) are recommended of the buildings on site.

Where possible, works which may affect nests (if present) should be programmed for outside of the nesting bird season (March – August inclusive) or where this is not possible, should be subject to a check for nesting birds by a suitably experienced ecologist prior to works commencing.

Recommendations are provided for habitat creation using locally native species as part of proposed soft landscaping plans. In addition, recommendations are made for inclusion of bat and bird boxes alongside a wildlife friendly lighting scheme, where artificial lighting is to be incorporated into the plans.

For the development to proceed in line with UK and EU legislation and Planning Policy relating to biodiversity, the recommendations contained within this report should be considered and adopted as necessary.

Where appropriate measures as recommended in the report are adopted, the development will be able to proceed having considered and addressed the necessary legislation and both local and national policy relating to biodiversity conservation.

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Site Description	1
1.2	Proposed Development	2
2	Methodology.....	3
2.1	Personnel & Quality Assurance.....	3
2.2	Scope of the Assessment	3
2.3	Desk Study	4
2.4	Field Survey	4
2.5	Assessment and Evaluation	5
2.6	Zone of Influence.....	5
3	Constraints	6
4	baseline ecological conditions	7
4.1	Designated Sites	7
4.2	Habitats	8
5	PLANNING POLICY AND LEGISLATION	16
5.1	National Planning Policy	16
5.2	Local Planning Policy.....	16
5.3	Relevant Legislation	19
6	Ecological Evaluation, and recommendations for mitigation, and further survey....	21
6.1	Designated Sites	21
6.2	Habitats	21
6.3	Species and Species Groups.....	22
7	Conclusions.....	25

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Aspinall Street, Prescott

8	References	26
	Appendix 1 Site Location Plans	1
	Appendix 2: Phase 1 Habitat Plan.....	2
	Appendix 3: Site Photos	4
	Appendix 4: Frame of Reference for Geographical Value.....	6
	Appendix 5: Local record centre data (summary report).	7

1 Introduction

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was commissioned by Knowsley Metropolitan Council of the Prescott Shopping Centre and associated area of Aspinall Street, Prescott, Knowsley. The survey was commissioned to support potential future re-development/refurbishment of the site.

The purpose of the survey and the report is to provide an ecological baseline and an initial assessment of the potential impacts of any potential development proposals upon the nature conservation of the site.

1.1 Site Description

The site is located in Prescott town centre, Knowsley, Merseyside (Grid Reference: SJ466927) and currently consists of an active shopping arcade, large carparking and loading areas, associated disused building (Stephenson's Print) and associated soft landscaping which is limited to ornamental shrubs and amenity street trees. The site is situated in an urban area comprised of a mix of residential and commercial properties with the nearest open green space being the grounds and cemetery associated with St Marys/Prescot Parish Church to the west.



1.2 Proposed Development

No detailed development plans were available at the time of assessment and writing this report but it is assumed that the shopping centre and associated grounds would be retained and re-developed but that there is potential for the demolition of the Stephenson's Print building.

2 Methodology

2.1 Personnel & Quality Assurance

Rob Nicholson BSc (Hons) MCIEEM is a Class 2 Bat licence holder and Great Crested Newt Licence holder (Natural England), has over 10 years' relevant experience as an ecologist and is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). Rob has also been 'named ecologist' on numerous European Protected Species Licences (EPSL) for bats for a range of species and roost types in both England and Wales.

All field work and assessment was undertaken in accordance with current best practice guidelines (CIEEM, 2016). The field survey was undertaken on the 20th July 2021 and the desk-based assessment was conducted on the 20th July 2021 (following receipt of data requested from Merseyside Biobank, the Local Records Centre for Merseyside).

The report has been prepared in accordance with guidance produced by the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM 2017) and the British Standard 42020:2013.

2.2 Scope of the Assessment

The following ecological features / resources were considered during the assessment:

- Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated sites.
- Habitats of principal importance for conservation of biodiversity.
- Protected species.
- Species of principal importance for conservation of biodiversity.
- Other notable species.

No consultations have taken place in relation to determining the scope of the assessment.

2.3 Desk Study

To inform the survey, a desk study was conducted using available ecological information relating to ecology for the area surrounding the site. Online resources, including Multi-Agency Geographic Information Centre (MAGIC), were consulted in relation to the presence of sites and habitats of importance in the wider context.

A data request to the Local Records Centre (LRC) for the area (Merseyside) was made for full species records and list of non-statutory designated sites (e.g., local wildlife sites) within 2 km of the site (full details available upon request).

Other organisations in the county that may hold relevant ecological data were not consulted (the full extent of data can be provided upon request).

It is important to note that most species are greatly under-recorded and therefore a lack of records for a location should not be taken as an absence of the species concerned.

Furthermore, a historical record for a habitat or species does not necessarily confirm its current presence.

2.4 Field Survey

Phase 1 habitat survey

A Phase 1 Habitat survey was conducted based on the techniques and methodologies described in the Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey (JNCC 2010) and using standard nomenclature (Stace 2010).

The habitats present were recorded on to a field map (Appendix 2) along with digital photographs (Appendix 3), providing supplementary information on, for example, species composition structure and management where relevant.

This was extended to include notes on fauna and habitats which could potentially support protected species, an approach commonly referred to as an Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey. The presence of, or potential for, protected species was assessed during the survey.

Any trees on or near the site, with potential suitability for supporting bat roosts and likely to be affected by proposals, were assessed from ground level.

2.5 Assessment and Evaluation

The importance of the habitat features on site were assessed and defined in a geographical context (see Appendix 4). The frame of reference for the habitat features in terms of their geographical importance is in line with guidance set out in CIEEM, 2018.

Species are assessed, where appropriate, against best practice guidelines. As part of the evaluation, further surveys may be recommended based on the suitability of habitats to support protected species, the habitats themselves and potential impacts posed by the proposed development, and the legal protection afforded to both habitats and species.

2.6 Zone of Influence

The assessment conducted for this report has considered the area in which ecological features could be subject to significant effects from the proposed development. The area of the potential effects is often wider than the actual perimeter of the development site and is known as the Zone of Influence.

The Zone of Influence varies for different ecological features and each designated site, habitat and species has been considered in relation to their sensitivity to the proposed development.

- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), National Nature Reserves (NNR) – site level only
- Local Nature Reserves (LNR), Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) - site level only
- Great Crested Newt (GCN) ponds - 500m
- Badger – 50m
- Other notable species/habitats – site level only

3 Constraints

The protected species assessment provides a preliminary view of the likelihood of protected species occurring on the site. It should not be taken as providing a full and definitive survey of any protected species group.

Even where data for a particular species groups are provided in the desk study, a lack of records of a defined geographical area does not necessarily mean that there is a lack of ecological interest; the area may simply be under recorded.

The Phase 1 Habitat Survey does not constitute a full botanical survey or provide accurate mapping of invasive plant species and the survey was undertaken outside of the optimal period for botanical survey, with many species not evident or in flower.

Despite these limitations, it is considered that this report reflects accurately the habitats present, their biodiversity importance, and the potential for the site to support protected and notable species.

4 **Baseline Ecological Conditions**

4.1 **Designated Sites**

Statutory Designated Sites

According to the Natural England online mapping resource MAGIC there are no statutory designated sites within 2 km of the site.

Non-statutory sites

According to data supplied by Merseyside Biobank, the following non-statutory designated sites are located within 2 km of the site:

Table 1. Non-Statutory Designated Sites within 2km of the site.

Name	Type
Carr Lane Lake, Prescott	Nature Improvement Area
Copse off A58, Prescott	Nature Improvement Area
Stadt Moers Q4	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Q2 and visitor centre	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Huyton and Prescott Golf Club	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Q3	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Knowsley Park	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Sales Wood / Gorse Plantation	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Gillars Green Wood	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Prescot Reservoirs No 3 & 4	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Park	Knowsley Local Geological Site
Grey Squirrel Control Zone	LWT Squirrel Alert Maps

None of the above sites intersect, or are near, the proposed development site.

4.2 Habitats

The habitats identified during the Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey are listed and described below. All habitats are marked on the Phase 1 Habitat map in Appendix 2 and each habitat type is illustrated with a photograph in Appendix 3.

Desk Study

According to data supplied by Merseyside Biobank there is an area of Lowland Mixed Broad-leaf Woodland located ~125m west of the site, associated with Prescott Parish Church and Cemetery.

All other mapped priority habitats are remote from the site boundary.

Field Survey

Buildings & Hardstanding

The site is comprised primarily of buildings (Prescot Shopping Centre and Stephenson Print building) and associated hardstanding areas (car parks and loading areas).

The Prescot Shopping Centre is a large (in-use), modern, three-story complex of brick construction with a central lobby area with glazed dome roof which forms the nucleus of the building around which discreet units are based with access to these leading from the central lobby.

The ground floor and first floor are shopping areas, with the upper (3rd floor) areas only present in parts of the building (not a whole level) and these house office spaces and equipment/utility areas.

The roof of the shopping centre is a combination of flat roof, pitched with tiles and several glazed roofing sections.

There is a single building on site, to the west of the shopping centre, which is disused (former Stephenson Print building). This building is of brick construction with fully boarded up windows and doors. The roof of this building is flat and tar-sealed with parapet wall. There is one access door upon the roof.

Ornamental Planting (Shrubs)

The areas associated with the car park to the south of the main shopping centre are comprised largely of hardstanding and brick. However, ornamental planting is present to the boundaries as Kemble St to the south and the southern section of Aspinall St. to the east.

Most of the ornamental planting is represented climbing plants such as Honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*), Ivy (*Hedera spp.*) but with occasional Cherry Laurel (*Prunus laurocerasus*), with occasional self-seeding scrub species including Butterfly bush (*Buddleia davidii*) and Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*) saplings and occasional tall ruderal species.

Scattered Trees (Amenity)

There are a small number of London Plane (*Platanus x hispanica*), Birch (*Betula sp.*) and Oak (*Quercus sp.*) trees associated with the southern site boundary.

Species

Species likely to occur near the site according to information provided by the local records centre (Merseyside Biobank – records within last 10 years) or with relevance to habitats present within or adjacent to the site are covered below:

Amphibians

There are records of the following amphibian species within 2km of the site as follows:

- Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)
- Common Frog (*Rana temporaria*)
- Common Toad (*Bufo bufo*)
- Smooth Newt (*Lissotriton vulgaris*)

The nearest record of Great Crested Newt is >1km north of the site (associated with a United Utilities reservoir site and adjacent to Knowsley Safari Park) and terrestrial connectivity to the site is disrupted by the A58 St.Helens Road dual carriage way and other minor roads.

The nearest record for common amphibians is 856m north-west of the site, beyond the A57 Warrington Road.

According to MAGIC website, there are no records of granted European Protected Species Licences for Great Crested Newt within 500m of the site.

In addition, there are no Great Crested Newt Class Survey Licence Returns or Great Crested Newt Pond Surveys 2017 – 2019 (for District Level Licencing) records within 500m of the site.

There are no waterbodies within the site boundary or within 250m of the site. There are no other known waterbodies with terrestrial connectivity to the site.

In view of the absence of any waterbodies within the site, absence of suitable waterbodies with connectivity to the site and absence of records near the site, the site is assessed as being unsuitable for supporting Great Crested Newt or common amphibian species.

Badgers

There are no records of Badgers (*Meles meles*) within 2 km the site.

Habitats within the site are unsuitable for supporting Badgers and no evidence of the presence of Badger setts within the site (or within 30m of the area proposed for development) was recorded during the field survey or is considered likely to occur in future.

In view of the existing ecological information and field survey, it is considered that Badgers are not present within this site or in the vicinity of the site.

Bats

There are 265 records (various types of record) of bats within 2 km of the site within the last 10 years. Species include:

- Common Pipistrelle (*Common Pipistrelle*)
- Soprano Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus pygmaeus*)
- Brown Long-eared Bat (*Plecotus auritus*)
- Nathusius Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus nathusii*)
- Daubenton's Bat (*Myotis daubentonii*)
- Whiskered Bat (*Myotis mystacinus*)
- Noctule Bat (*Nyctalus noctula*)

The vast majority of these are associated with Knowsley Park Estate and Knowsley Safari Park. The nearest record

The nearest of these records is for a Common Pipistrelle bat roost (count not specified) located within a residential property ~480m north-west of the site.

According to MAGIC website, there is one record of granted European Protected Species Licences for bats within 2 km of the site. This is for a Common Pipistrelle resting place (non-breeding), dated 2017-2018, located 450m west of the site, associated with a residential property.

The main Prescott Shopping Centre building is of modern construction but includes soffits, pitched tiled/slate roofing with some gaps at eaves. The building possesses

potential roost features (PRFs) for bats, though limited in number and diversity given the size of the building. No evidence (field signs) of the presence of bats was recorded at the time of survey.

There is one separate building on site (Stephenson's Print Building) which is disused. The building is of brick construction and all doors and windows are boarded and sealed shut. The brick work appears to be intact and there are no features associated with the roof which is flat with parapet wall. There is very limited potential associated with plywood boarding/fascia to the upper edge of the building, but damage to this appeared to be superficial.

In addition, it was evident that there is significant artificial lighting associated with these buildings and the surrounding car parks and loading areas.

Based upon the PRFs present, extent of artificial lighting present and urban location of these buildings they were both assessed as being of 'low potential' for supporting bat roosts.

There are a small number of trees associated with the southern site boundary. These trees do not possess features potentially suitable for supporting bat roosts (negligible potential).

The site is overall of low suitability for supporting foraging bats due to the limited habitat present for foraging and presence of artificial lighting across the site.

Note: Internal access to Stephenson's print building and parts of the Prescott Shopping Centre were not possible, as such this has been accepted as a limitation to the roost assessment and addressed in the recommendations section.

Birds

There are numerous records of notable bird species within 2km of the site. The following species listed as Priority Species under Section 41 of the NERC Act have been recorded within 2km of the site:

Table 2. Priority Bird Species recorded within 2km of the site.

Species	Latin Name	Records	Dates
Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	6	1997-1999
Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	5	1997-1999
Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	6	1997-1999

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Aspinall Street, Prescott

Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	7	1997-1998
Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	6	1997-1999
Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	8	1997-1999
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	12	1997-2001
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	10	1974-2002
Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	5	1997-2000
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	3	1997-1998
Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	7	1997-1998
Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	7	1997-1999
Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	12	1997-2007
Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	9	1997-1999
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	6	1997-1999
Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	8	1997-1998
Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	4	1998-1999
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	4	1997-1999
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montana</i>	6	1997-2000
Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	5	1997-1998
Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	5	1997-1999
Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	4	1997-1999
Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montana</i>	6	1997-2000

All the above records are a minimum of 10 years old and many of the species listed are not of relevance to the species present within the site, or in close proximity.

Ornamental planting and scattered trees within the site have the potential to support nesting birds during the breeding season (March – August inclusive). The buildings also have potential to support nesting birds, though this is likely to be limited to Feral Pigeon (*Columba livia domestica*) and potentially 'Gull' species using the flat roof tops. No evidence of nesting was recorded at the time of survey.

The remainder of the site is hardstanding frequented by vehicular traffic on a regular basis, as such these areas are of negligible value to nesting birds.

Invertebrates

There are over 300 records of notable invertebrate species within 2 km of the site including butterfly, moths, dragonfly, damselfly, beetles, bees, flies and others.

Ornamental shrub habitat to the boundaries of the site may support invertebrate species including moths and butterfly but this habitat is limited in area within the site and comprised common and widespread species, so while providing a local resource, is not considered likely to be of any note for this group.

Otter

There are no records of Otter (*Lutra lutra*) within 2 km of the site.

There are no watercourses near the site and other habitats within the site are of no value to Otter.

Given the lack of records, lack of connectivity to habitat in the wider context and urban location of the site, the likelihood of Otter to use the site is negligible.

Red Squirrel

There are 8 records of Red Squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*) within 2 km the site within the last 10 years. The nearest of these is a record of an individual located 430m north-east of the site from 2015.

Habitats within the site are of low suitability for supporting Red Squirrel (low number of trees, none suitable for nesting, absence of coniferous woodland typically preferred by this species) and no evidence of the presence of this species was recorded during the field survey.

In view of the existing ecological information and field survey, it is considered that Red Squirrel are unlikely to be present within the site and that the site is not of importance for this species.

Reptiles

There are no records of reptiles within 2 km of the site within the last 10 years.

Habitat within the site is of negligible suitability for reptiles and there is no terrestrial connectivity to habitats likely to support these species.

Given the urban location of the site and absence of records for reptiles in the locality, the site will not support common reptiles.

Water Vole

There are seven records of Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius*) within 2 km of the site. These are all remote from the site with the nearest being >1.4km south-west of the site.

There are no watercourses or waterbodies within the site or in the vicinity of the site. As such there is no possibility of Water Vole using the site.

Other Notable Species

There are records of the following species within 2 km of the site:

- Brown Hare (*Lepus europaeus*)
- Hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*)

Habitats within the site are unsuitable for supporting Brown Hare. The site has very limited suitability for supporting Hedgehog, with ornamental planting providing cover and foraging opportunities.

Non-native Invasive Species

There are numerous records of non-native invasive weeds (notifiable under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) within 2km of the site.

These include the following species:

- Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*)
- Himalayan Balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
- Rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*)
- Himalayan Cotoneaster (*Cotoneaster simonsii*)

No non-native invasive species were recorded in association with the site at the time of survey.

Notable Flora

There are small number of records of notable flora provided by Record within 2 km of the site.

Species include English Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*) which was not recorded within the site at the time of survey and is considered unlikely to be present in view of the habitats present.

No rare or particularly notable plant species were recorded during the field survey. The survey was undertaken during the optimum period for flowering plants but does not constitute a full botanical survey.

Note: Full Local Records Centre Data provided by Record is available upon request.

5 PLANNING POLICY AND LEGISLATION

5.1 National Planning Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) July 2021, is an update to the previous version issued in February 2019, and is a policy framework document which provide a range of important principles. Paragraph 174 of the NPPF states that decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural local environment by:

‘Minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.’

Paragraph 175 goes on to state:

‘... take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure; and plan for the enhancement of natural capital at a catchment or landscape scale across local authority boundaries.’

With respect to protection of habitats and biodiversity, paragraph 179 states development plans should:

- a) Identify, map and safeguard components of local wildlife-rich habitats and wider ecological networks, including the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites of importance for biodiversity⁶¹; wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them; and areas identified by national and local partnerships for habitat management, enhancement, restoration or creation⁶²; and
- b) promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species; and identify and pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity.

When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by applying the following principles (paragraph 180):

‘Development proposals where the primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be supported.’

‘opportunities to improve biodiversity in and around developments should be integrated as part of their design, especially where this can secure measurable net gains for biodiversity or enhance public access to nature where this is appropriate.’

5.2 Local Planning Policy

Table 2 details the policies within Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy (Adopted January 2016) which are relevant to the ecological features present on site.

Table 3: Summary of relevant local planning policy

Policy	Description
Policy CS8	Maintenance and Enhancement of Knowsley's Existing Green Infrastructure: 1) Knowsley's existing Green Infrastructure and its beneficial functions will be protected, managed and/or enhanced, primarily to: a) Ensure more attractive and cleaner residential neighbourhoods; b) Sustain and promote biodiversity (including designated sites, priority habitats and protected and endangered species) in accordance with importance and contribution to ecological networks; c) Preserve the character and function of historic environments and valued landscapes; d) Mitigate the effects of climate change and flood risk; e) Mitigate air, water and noise pollution; f) Provide local opportunities for sport, recreation and allotments; and g) Provide sustainable transport linkages between residential neighbourhoods and easy access to employment and services.
Green Infrastructure	2) To achieve the above, planning powers and other interventions will be used to: a) Protect and enhance strategically important areas of greenspace; b) Ensure an appropriate quantity and improved quality of locally important open spaces, including outdoor sports provision (and ancillary facilities of appropriate scale); c) Promote effective movement of wildlife through a network of strategic green links, by protecting, maintaining and improving existing and new open spaces, water courses (including water quality) and biodiversity assets; d) Protect, enhance and/or introduce biodiversity into existing areas of Green Infrastructure, through integration into the design of new development and public realm projects; e) Improve accessibility for communities to greenspace offering leisure and recreation opportunities; f) Protect and where possible improve green paths and cycleways linking residential areas, existing strategic areas of greenspace, employment locations, local community services and leisure facilities;

	g) Work in partnership with other districts and relevant bodies at a landscape scale to minimise the impact of development upon Knowsley's existing biodiversity and geological assets, and sustain the protection afforded to internationally important sites, including supporting habitat, for biodiversity outside of the borough; and h) Deliver new integrated and functional Green Infrastructure that helps to mitigate and adapt to climate change, such as sustainable drainage systems, carbon capture and storage, soft landscaping and green roofs. Strategic Green Links 4) Knowsley's strategically important green links are: a) Alt Corridor (Huyton) – stretching from Huyton Village through South Alt Park, Alt Park, Alt Meadows and into Stockbridge Village; b) Valley Corridor (Kirkby) – stretching through Valley Meadow, St. Chad's Park, Millbrook Park, Millennium Green and Mill Dam; c) Whiston to Cronton Corridor – stretching through Cronton, Stadt Moers Park and Whiston Greenway; d) Halewood Triangle – Halewood Park linkage with the Trans-Pennine Trail and to the national cycle network; e) M57 Green Belt Corridor; and f) Knowsley Hall Estate – including Knowsley Safari Park and Local Wildlife Sites. Approach to Green Infrastructure and New Development 6) New development must be served by Green Infrastructure to meet the needs of residents and the local environment, in a manner which will: a) Contribute to the creation of a high-quality residential environment; b) Provide access to high quality open space for leisure and recreational purposes; c) Seek to protect, maintain and where possible enhance biodiversity within and around new developments according to their designation and significance to provide space for nature; and d) Provide adequate mitigation and/or, as a last resort, compensation for Green Infrastructure or biodiversity loss, in circumstances where harm resulting from the development is otherwise unavoidable.
--	--

Policy CS2 Development Principles	Principle 4: Recognise environmental limits, protect and enhance environmental assets, enhance local character and promote quality of place by: (h) Maintaining or enhancing the quantity and quality of biodiversity and habitats, including potential impacts on nationally and internationally important sites for biodiversity;

5.3 Relevant Legislation

National Legislation

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention) and Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds (Birds Directive) in Great Britain.

Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006

Section 40 of the NERC Act 2006 places a duty upon all local authorities in England to promote and enhance biodiversity in all of their functions. Section 41 lists habitats and species of principal importance to the conservation of biodiversity. Fifty-six habitats and 943 species of Principal Importance for Conservation are included on the Section 41 list and draws upon the UK BAP List of Priority Species and Habitats.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2017

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 transpose Council Directive 92/43/EEC, on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (EC Habitats Directive), into national law and transpose elements of the EU Wild Birds Directive in England and Wales. The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites' (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs)), the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European sites.

Species Legislation

Bats

In England, all British bats and their roosts are protected under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 and the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).

These pieces of legislation combine to give substantial protection to bats and their roost sites, making it an offence to:

- Deliberately or intentionally kill, injure or take a bat;
- Damage, destroy or intentionally or recklessly obstruct access to any place that a bat uses for shelter or protection (this is taken to mean all bat roosts whether bats are present or not);
- Intentionally or recklessly disturb a bat while it is occupying a structure or place that it uses for shelter or protection.

Birds

Breeding wild birds are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, a wild bird is defined as any bird of a species that is resident in or is a visitor to the European Territory of any member state in a wild state. Game birds however are not included in this definition (except for limited parts of the Act). They are covered by the Game Acts, which fully protect them during the close season. All birds, their nests and eggs are protected and it is thus an offence, with certain exceptions to:

- *intentionally kill, injure or take any wild bird;*
- *intentionally take, damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird whilst it is in use or being built;*
- *intentionally take or destroy the egg of any wild bird;*
- *have in one's possession or control any wild bird, dead or alive, or any part of a wild bird, which has been taken in contravention of the Act or the Protection of Birds Act 1954;*
- *have in one's possession or control any egg or part of an egg which has been taken in contravention of the Act or the Protection of Birds Act 1954;*
- *use traps or similar items to kill, injure or take wild birds; and*
- *have in one's possession or control any bird of a species occurring on Schedule 4 of the Act unless registered, and in most cases ringed, in accordance with the Secretary of State's regulations.*

Additionally, for some species listed in Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb the adults while they are in and around their nest or intentionally or recklessly disturb their dependent young.

6 Ecological Evaluation, and recommendations for mitigation, and further survey

6.1 Designated Sites

Due to the scale of the proposed development and distance/disconnect from any statutory or non-statutory designated sites, no impacts upon such sites are anticipated because of the proposed development.

6.2 Habitats

Habitats present on site include the following:

- Buildings & Hardstanding
- Ornamental Planting
- Scattered Trees (Amenity)

Building & Hardstanding

The Prescott Shopping Centre building is in use and currently serves as multi-unit shopping centre. The building is of limited ecological value, with the exception of the potential to support nesting birds and 'Low Potential' for supporting bat roosts. Similarly, the disused Stephenson's print building is of limited ecological value but does have potential to support nesting birds and 'Low Potential' for supporting bat roosts.

The areas of hardstanding are of negligible ecological value.

Where works are proposed to affect either of the buildings, consideration should be given to the potential presence of nesting birds. Consideration should also be given to the potential presence of bat roosts, though the potential for this is considered to be low (see section relating to bats below for further recommendations).

Where possible, works should be programmed for outside of the nesting bird season (March – August inclusive) or where this is not possible, should be subject to a check for nesting birds by a suitably experienced ecologist prior to works commencing.

Ornamental Planting

These areas are small in size and comprises of a small number of common and widespread ornamental species. As such, there are currently considered to be of limited ecological value, though they may offer cover and nesting habitat for birds and Hedgehogs and site level value for invertebrates.

It is recommended that any future soft landscaping plans consider inclusion of green walls, green or brown roofing and planters that contain locally native / wildlife friendly species with a focus on incorporating native species over ornamental cultivars where possible.

Scattered Trees

There are only a small number (few species) of mature trees present to the southern site boundary.

Where trees are to be removed, and to enhance the biodiversity value of the site, further inclusion of scattered trees within any future soft landscaping plans for the site would be beneficial but should aim to use native species appropriate location within the site. Species for consideration would include English Oak (*Quercus robur*), Alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and Silver Birch (*Betula pendula*).

6.3 Species and Species Groups

Results of the desk study and field survey are used to determine protected species that may be of relevance to the site and the proposed development.

Those that are not considered relevant to the site following the above assessment are not discussed specifically any further.

Bats

The buildings on site possess a limited number and diversity of potential roost features (PRFs) for supporting bat roosts. Given the urban location and the extent of artificial lighting associated with the site and adjacent streets, the buildings are assessed as being of 'Low potential' for supporting bat roosts as per current professional survey guidelines (Collins, J (ed) 2016).

The site has only limited potential to support foraging bats at night as a result of the likely high levels of artificial lighting, and it is considered likely that few bats will commute through or in close proximity to the site.

In view of the above further survey for bats, in the form of emergence and re-entry surveys following current professional bat survey guidelines (Collin, J (ed) 2016), are recommended. Usually only a single survey of buildings of 'Low Potential' are required however as internal inspection of the buildings was restricted, additional survey effort is recommended to ensure confidence in the results of the survey. As such, 3 surveys (2 x dusk and 1 x pre-dawn) are recommended of the buildings on site.

In order to enhance the site for bats in the long-term, it is recommended that consideration is given to the use of bat bricks or bat boxes upon existing buildings or trees. Bat bricks/boxes would need to be installed at a height of >4m, with a southerly aspect, and be unobstructed by lighting, windows or other features. This is to enhance the site by providing potential roost features for bats in the long term. Chillon Woodstone Bat boxes (or similar) (<https://www.wildcare.co.uk/vivara-pro-chillon-woodstone-11245.html>) are hardwearing and can be mounted in trees.

Where possible any the lighting scheme associated with the site should be revised to ensure that it is sensitive to the presence of wildlife, including bats foraging and commuting through the site. This would include low-level lighting or similar solutions to prevent artificial light levels from deterring bats from the site (please see *'Bats and artificial lighting guidance note (2018)* for further information).

Birds

The site contains limited habitat that is likely to support nesting birds (ornamental planting, trees and buildings). The site is not of any value to ground nesting species.

The above habitats are highly likely to support nesting birds during the breeding season (March – August). It is recommended that any works likely to affect the ornamental shrubs, scattered trees and buildings are scheduled for outside of the breeding period (ideally September – February) to avoid any potential conflicts with nesting birds (which are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981). Where this is not possible, these features should be subject to a check for nesting birds by a suitably experienced ecologist prior to works commencing.

Where possible, Bird Boxes should be considered to be incorporated into the site. In particular, nest boxes / bricks designed to accommodate House Sparrow, House Martin (*Delichon urbica*) and Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*) would be particularly beneficial.

Other Species

Though the site is not considered to be of value for any other protected species, though the site contains habitat suitable for supporting Hedgehogs (primarily ornamental shrub planting).

In view of this, care should be taken when vegetation clearance is undertaken to ensure hedgehogs are not harmed and nests are not disturbed. Installation of Hedgehog boxes should be considered within the site, specifically in proximity to areas of shrub habitat.

Biodiversity Enhancement Recommendations

Together with the aforementioned recommendations, it may be possible to make other enhancements to the site where consideration can be given to such as the addition of wildlife friendly ornamental planting (nectar/pollen sources).

Consideration should be given to the requirement for Biodiversity Net Gain (minimum 10%) for development in England, which can be calculated using the Natural England Biodiversity Metric 3.0. This should be considered at the design stage of any development to ensure achievable measures are put in place to ensure that a minimum of 10% biodiversity net-gain is achieved as a result of any proposed development.

7 Conclusions

In view of the results of the desk and field-based assessment of the site, the site is of relatively low ecological value in the local context and loss of biodiversity as a result of the proposed development is limited and can be mitigated for as part of the proposed development.

The site is likely to support nesting birds and the presence of bat roosts has not been ruled out at this stage, as such these elements will require further consideration as part of the planning application (see above recommendations) and during the works to comply with planning policy and legislative requirements.

For the development to proceed in line with UK and EU legislation and Planning Policy relating to biodiversity, the recommendations contained within this report should be considered and adopted as necessary.

Appropriate and proportionate mitigation and enhancement (achieving 10% biodiversity net-gain) should be considered at the design stage to ensure the LPA can fully assess any planning application for the site, and are aware of measures being taken to avoid an overall adverse impact and aims put in place to maintain and enhance the biodiversity value of the site in the long-term as part of future development proposals

Where appropriate measures as recommended in the report are adopted, the development will be able to proceed having considered and addressed the necessary legislation and both local and national policy relating to biodiversity conservation.

8 **References**

BS 42020:2013 Biodiversity - Code of Practice for Planning and Development.

Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2017). Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. Technical Guidance Series. www.cieem.net.

Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (2015). Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing. Technical Guidance Series. www.cieem.net.

Collins, J (Ed). (2016). *Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists - Good Practice Guidelines*, 3rd edition. Bat Conservation Trust.

JNCC (2010). Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey. A technique for environmental audit.

Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough.

Merseyside Biobank (2021) Biodiversity Information Report

Mitchell-Jones, A.J. (2004). *Bat Mitigation Guidelines*. English Nature

Multi-Agency Geographic Information Centre: <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

<https://localplanmaps.knowsley.gov.uk/documents/knowsley-local-plan-adopted-core-strategy.pdf>

Stace. C. (2010). *New British Flora of the British Isles*. 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press.

Appendix I Site Location Plans

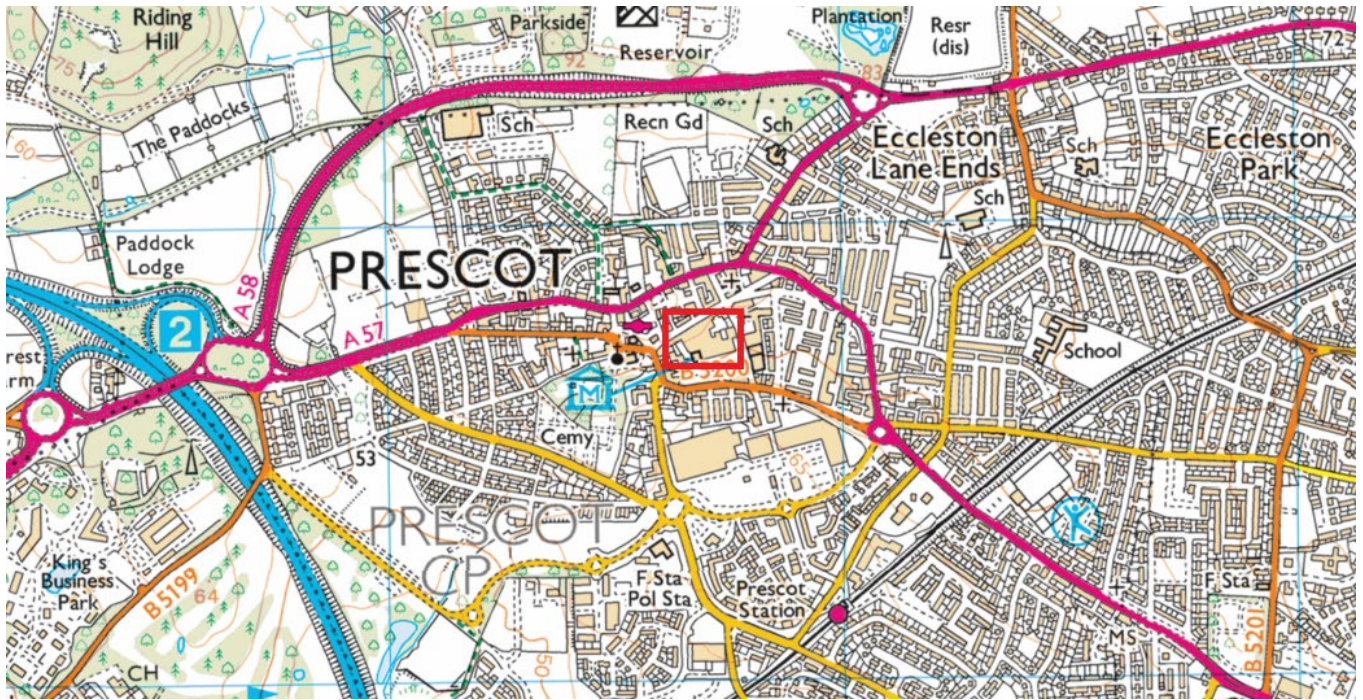
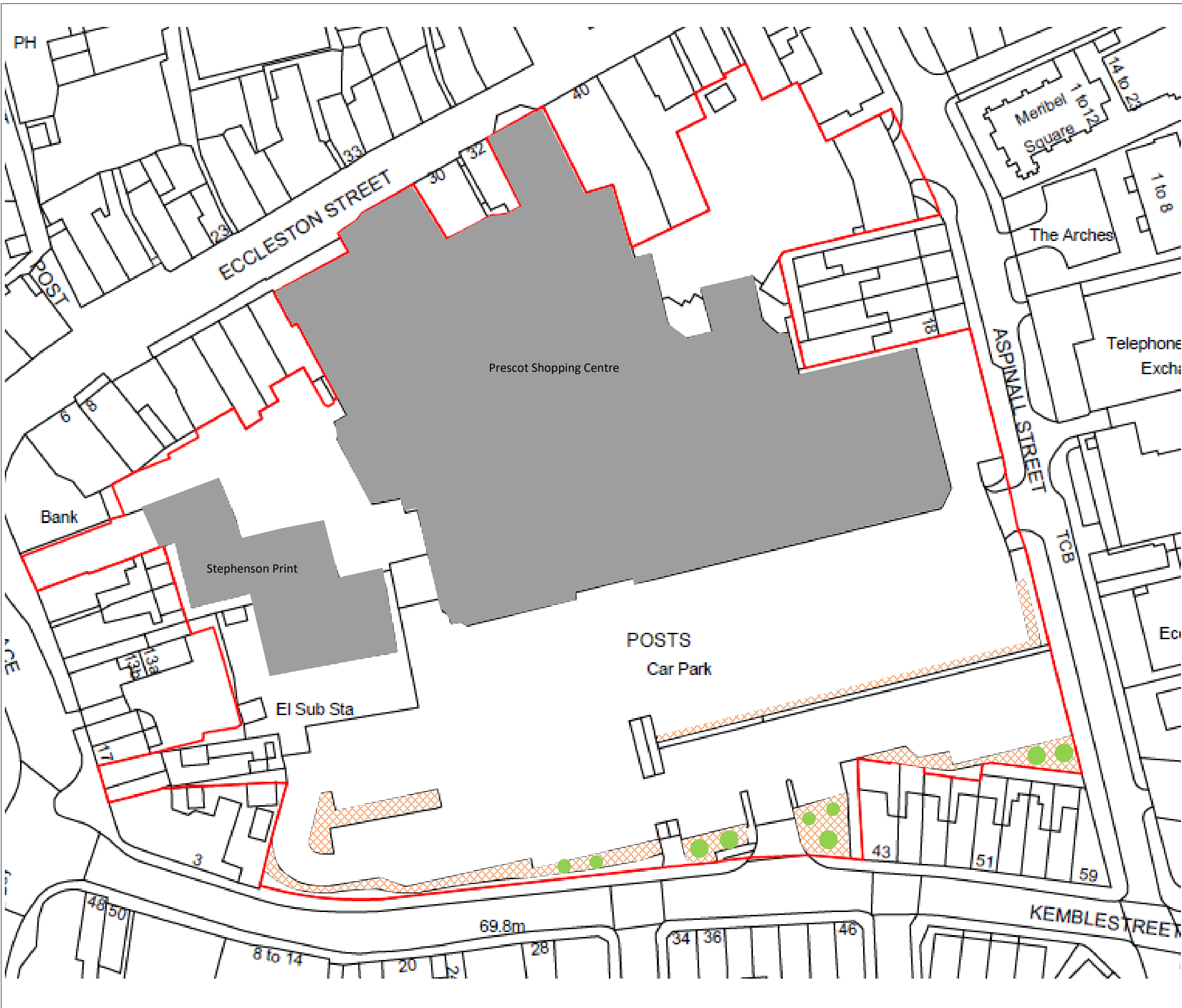


Image courtesy of Ordnance Survey accessed via Bing Maps ©Microsoft 2021

Appendix 2: Phase I Habitat Plan



Phase 1 Habitat Plan

Aspinall St., Prescott, Knowsley

November 2021

Client: Knowsley MBC

Key:

-  Hardstanding
-  Ornamental Planting
-  Scattered Trees
-  Building
-  Redline Boundary

Appendix 3: Site Photos



Southern aspect of Prescott Shopping Centre



South Western aspect of Prescott Shopping Centre



Main upper car park to the south of shopping centre
(note lighting columns)



Disused Stephenson Print building to the west of
the main shopping centre.



View looking south down Aspinall St. from the east
of the shopping centre.



Lower car park and ornamental planting over
retaining wall to south.

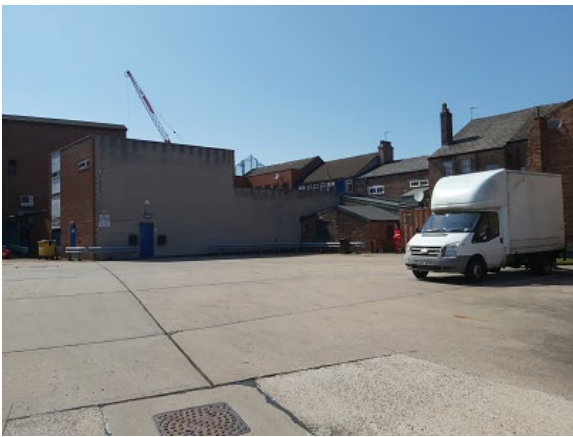
Preliminary Ecological Appraisal – Aspinall Street, Prescott



Ornamental planting (top of retaining wall to lower car park) to the south of the car park south of the shopping centre.



Ornamental planting to Kembles St. to the south of the lower car park, south of the shopping centre.



Loading area to the north east of the shopping centre.



Loading area to the west of the shopping centre.



Shopping centre frontage to north (Eccleston St.)



Shopping centre frontage to north (Eccleston St.)

Appendix 4: Frame of Reference for Geographical Value

International and European value	Ramsar Sites, Special Protection Areas, Biosphere Reserves, Special Areas of Conservation. Sites supporting populations of internationally important species. Any regularly occurring population of an internationally important species, which is threatened or rare in the UK. i.e. it is a UK Red Data Book species or listed as occurring in 15 or fewer 10km squares in the UK (categories 1 and 2 in the UK BAP) or of uncertain conservation status or of global conservation concern in the UK BAP. A regularly occurring, nationally significant population/number of any internationally important species.
National value	SSSIs or non-designated Sites meeting SSSI selection criteria, NNRs, Marine Nature Reserves, NCR Grade 1 Sites. Sites containing viable areas of key habitats identified in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan. Any regularly occurring population of a nationally important species which is threatened or rare in the region or county (see local BAP). A regularly occurring, regionally or county significant population/number of any nationally important species.
Regional value	Sites containing viable areas of threatened habitats listed in a Regional BAP (or some Natural Areas), comfortably exceeding SINC criteria, but not exceeding SSSI criteria. Any regularly occurring, locally significant population of a species listed as being nationally scarce which occurs in 16-100 10km squares in the UK or in a Regional BAP or relevant Natural Area on account of its regional rarity or localisation; A regularly occurring, locally significant number of a regionally important species.
County / Metropolitan	Sites meeting the criteria for county or metropolitan designation (SINC, CWS, etc.). Ancient semi-natural woodland, LNRs or viable areas of key habitat types listed in county BAPs/Natural Areas. Any regularly occurring, locally significant population of a species which is listed in a County/Metropolitan “red data book” or BAP on account of its regional rarity or localisation; A regularly occurring, locally significant number of a County/Metropolitan important species.
Local	Undesignated Sites or features considered to appreciably enrich the habitat resource in the District or Borough or within a zone of influence. A population of a species that is listed in a District/Borough BAP because of its rarity in the locality or in the relevant Natural Area profile because of its regional rarity or localisation; A regularly occurring, locally significant number of a District / Borough important species during a critical phase of its life cycle.

Appendix 5: Local record centre data (summary report).



Biodiversity Information Report 14/07/2021

**MBB reference: 3418-SRN
Site: Sewell St & Aspinall St Prescott**

Your Ref: None supplied
Your contact: Rob Nicholson

MBB Ref: 3418-SRN
MBB Contact: Ben Deed

Date: 14/07/2021

Merseyside BioBank biodiversity information report

These are the results of your data request relating to **an area at Sewell St & Aspinall St Prescot defined by a buffer of 2000 metres around the centre of grid reference SJ46679267**.

You have been supplied with the following:

- records of **protected** taxa that intersect the search area
- records of **BAP** taxa that intersect the search area
- records of **Red Listed** taxa that intersect the search area
- records of other '**notable**' taxa that intersect the search area
- records of WCA schedule 9 taxa (including '**invasive plants**') that intersect the search area
- a map showing the location of monad and tetrad references that overlap the search area
- a list of all **designated sites** that intersect your search area
- citations, where available, for intersecting Local Wildlife Sites
- a list of **other sites of interest** (e.g. Ancient Woodlands) that intersect your search area
- a map showing such sites
- a list of all **BAP habitats** which intersect the search area
- a map showing BAP habitats
- a summary of the area for all available mapped **Phase 1 and/or NVC habitats** found within 500m of your site
- a map showing such habitats

Merseyside BioBank (MBB) is the Local Environmental Records Centre (LERC) for North Merseyside. We collect and collate biological and environmental information and make it available to people and organisations that have need to access such information in North Merseyside. We promote the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan and wider participation in biological recording and conservation through education, community involvement and by supporting the biological recording community of North Merseyside.

Merseyside BioBank is an information node of the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) and integrate records from our own databases with those of the NBN Atlas.

The product charge for this data request is not a charge for the data themselves, but rather a fixed rate that enables us to cover a portion of our running costs. Our annual income from data requests is something less than 20% of our total running costs.

Species records

The biological records held by Merseyside BioBank come from a variety of sources; from large organisations to individual amateur naturalists. Merseyside BioBank operates as managers or custodians of these records but the individuals and groups, who provide their records free of charge, retain copyright on their data. Without their contribution, we would not be able to provide the records included in this report. Their efforts, expertise and goodwill make a substantial contribution to the protection of North Merseyside's biodiversity.

You may only use the records in this document subject to our access terms and conditions which can be found in Appendix 1. Non-adherence to these terms and conditions will be viewed as a breach of contract, which may result in legal redress being sought.

This report also integrates records from the NBN Atlas. Some NBN data providers give us permission to download and integrate their records at a higher resolution than available through public access in order to contribute to the protection of North Merseyside's biodiversity.

Details of the biological records summarised in the following tables, and the sources from which they are derived, have been provided separately. Note that the date ranges in the summary tables (headed 'Dates') show the earliest and latest years for which records have been summarised for each taxon.

UK Protected Species

'UK Protected species' are those taxa specifically identified by UK legislation including: Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); Protection of Badgers Act 1992; Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017. The latter regulations enact the European Union's (EU) Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) in the UK and supercede The Conservation Regulations 1994 and 2010. In our list of protected species, you may see designations that refer to schedules in the 1994 and 2010 regulations, but these remain unchanged under the 2017 regulations.

Some protected species may not be legally disturbed unless you are in possession of an appropriate license. If you are in any doubt as to whether or not a license is required, you should contact Natural England.

The following tables detail the protected species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
amphibian	Common Frog	<i>Rana temporaria</i>	54	1998-2019	WCA5/9.5a
	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	25	1990-2019	WCA5/9.5a
	Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	9	1938-2016	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Smooth Newt	<i>Lissotriton vulgaris</i>	34	1990-2019	WCA5/9.5a
bird	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	4	1997-2008	WCA1i
	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>	1	1998	WCA1i
	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1	1998	WCA1i
	Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	3	1997-2006	WCA1ii
	Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1	1997	WCA1i
	Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	2	1998-1999	WCA1i
	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	4	1997-2001	WCA1i
	Mediterranean Gull	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	1	1998	WCA1i
	Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	1	1997	WCA1i
flowering plant	Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	55	1981-2021	WCA8
	Meadow Clary	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	1	2015	WCA8
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>	2	1912	WCA5/9.5a
mollusc	Little Whirlpool Ram's-	<i>Anisus (Disculifer) vorticulus</i>	5	2015	HabRegs2

	horn Snail				
reptile	Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	3	1997	WCA5/9.1k/l, WCA5/9.5a
	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix helvetica</i>	2	1998	WCA5/9.1k/l, WCA5/9.5a
terrestrial mammal	Bats	<i>Chiroptera</i>	10	1983-2012	HabRegs2
	Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	18	1984-2016	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	141	1991-2020	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	34	2011-2017	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Eurasian Badger	<i>Meles meles</i>	3	1982-2021	PBA
	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	12	1970-2015	WCA5/9.1k/l, WCA5/9.1t, WCA5/9.2, WCA5/9.4.a, WCA5/9.4b
	European Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	15	1998-2010	WCA5/9.4.a, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.4c
	Nathusius's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	5	2014-2016	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Natterer's Bat	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>	5	2015	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Noctule Bat	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	63	1902-2016	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Nyctalus Bat species	<i>Nyctalus</i>	1	2014	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Pipistrelle Bat species	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	31	1902-2019	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	41	2011-2017	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Unidentified Bat	<i>Myotis</i>	12	2014-2016	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	2	2014-2015	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c
	Whiskered/Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus/brandtii</i>	2	2014-2016	HabRegs2, WCA5/9.4b, WCA5/9.5a, WCA5/9.4c

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
WCA5/9.5a	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.5a)	Section 9.5 Animals which are protected from being sold, offered for sale or being held or transported for sale either live or dead, whole or part.
HabRegs2	The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2017 (Schedule 2)	Schedule 2- European protected species of animals.
WCA5/9.4b	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.4b)	Section 9.4 Animals which are protected from intentional disturbance while occupying a structure or place used for shelter or protection.
WCA5/9.4c	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5)	Animals which are protected from their access to any structure or place which they use for shelter or protection being obstructed.
WCA1i	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 1 Part 1)	Birds and their young, for which it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly disturb at, on or near an active nest. They are protected by special penalties at all times.
WCA1ii	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 1 Part 2)	Birds afforded special protection during the close season but which may be killed or taken outside this period. They are protected by special penalties during the close season.
WCA8	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 8)	Plants which are protected from intentional picking, uprooting or destruction (Section 13 1a); selling, offering for sale, possessing or transporting for the purpose of sale (live or dead, part or derivative) (Section 13 2a); advertising (any of these) for buying or selling (Section 13 2b).
WCA5/9.1k/l	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.1 (killing/injuring))	Section 9.1. Animals which are protected from intentional killing or injuring.
PBA	Protection of Badgers Act (1992)	The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 protects badgers from taking, injuring, killing, cruel treatment, selling, possessing, marking and having their setts interfered with, subject to exceptions.
WCA5/9.1t	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.1 (taking))	Section 9.1 Animals which are protected from taking.
WCA5/9.2	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.2)	Section 9.2 Animals which are protected from being possessed or controlled (live or dead).

WCA5/9.4.a	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Schedule 5 Section 9.4, subdivision a)	Section 9.4 subdivision a - Animals which are protected from intentional damage or destruction to any structure or place used for shelter or protection.
------------	---	--

North Merseyside BAP Species

The North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan (NM BAP) was published in September 2001 and last reviewed in 2008. Like other Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) its purpose is to focus local conservation on national priority species and habitats. However, LBAPs also embrace the idea of 'local distinctiveness' and species which are not considered UK conservation priorities can be catered for by LBAPs if they are of particular local significance. Such is the case with the NM BAP which currently names 74 species of which 57 are not conservation priority species but are included because their conservation is considered to be a priority in North Merseyside.

The following tables detail the North Merseyside BAP species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
amphibian	Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	9	1938-2016	LBAP
bird	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	5	1997-1998	LBAP
	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	8	1997-1998	LBAP
	House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	9	1997-1999	LBAP
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	14	1997-2001	LBAP
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	11	1991-2006	LBAP
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	9	1997-1998	LBAP
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	11	1997-2008	LBAP
	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	9	1997-1999	LBAP
	Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	6	1997-1998	LBAP
flowering plant	Bluebell	<i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i>	55	1981-2021	LBAP
insect - dragonfly (Odonata)	Azure Damselfly	<i>Coenagrion puella</i>	59	1998-2015	LBAP
	Banded Demoiselle	<i>Calopteryx splendens</i>	5	2006	LBAP
	Black-tailed Skimmer	<i>Orthetrum cancellatum</i>	59	2006-2009	LBAP
	Blue-tailed Damselfly	<i>Ischnura elegans</i>	99	1984-2020	LBAP
	Broad-bodied Chaser	<i>Libellula depressa</i>	103	2006-2010	LBAP
	Brown Hawker	<i>Aeshna grandis</i>	59	1984-2019	LBAP
	Common Blue Damselfly	<i>Enallagma cyathigerum</i>	142	1987-2016	LBAP
	Common Darter	<i>Sympetrum striolatum</i>	99	1992-2015	LBAP
	Common Hawker	<i>Aeshna juncea</i>	2	2002	LBAP
	Emerald Damselfly	<i>Lestes sponsa</i>	11	2006-2009	LBAP
	Emperor Dragonfly	<i>Anax imperator</i>	73	2006-2010	LBAP
	Four-spotted Chaser	<i>Libellula quadrimaculata</i>	3	2009	LBAP
	Large Red Damselfly	<i>Pyrrhosoma nymphula</i>	5	1998-2008	LBAP
	Migrant Hawker	<i>Aeshna mixta</i>	12	2008-2015	LBAP
	Red-veined Darter	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	28	2006-2009	LBAP
	Ruddy Darter	<i>Sympetrum sanguineum</i>	6	2008	LBAP
	Southern Hawker	<i>Aeshna cyanea</i>	37	1984-2010	LBAP
reptile	Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	3	1997	LBAP
terrestrial mammal	Bats	<i>Chiroptera</i>	10	1983-2012	LBAP
	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	15	1972-2021	LBAP

Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	18	1984-2016	LBAP
Common Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>	141	1991-2020	LBAP
Daubenton's Bat	<i>Myotis daubentonii</i>	34	2011-2017	LBAP
Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	12	1970-2015	LBAP
European Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	15	1998-2010	LBAP
Nathusius's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	5	2014-2016	LBAP
Natterer's Bat	<i>Myotis nattereri</i>	5	2015	LBAP
Noctule Bat	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	63	1902-2016	LBAP
Nyctalus Bat species	<i>Nyctalus</i>	1	2014	LBAP
Pipistrelle Bat species	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	31	1902-2019	LBAP
Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	41	2011-2017	LBAP
Unidentified Bat	<i>Myotis</i>	12	2014-2016	LBAP
Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	2	2014-2015	LBAP
Whiskered/Brandt's Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus/brandtii</i>	2	2014-2016	LBAP

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
LBAP	North Merseyside BAP	Species that are incorporated within the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan. These species may or may not also be UK BAP species. Some species have their own action plans within the NM BAP, others are members of group species action plans.

NM BAP species: Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

Great Crested Newt is thought to have been in decline since the 1940s. Over a period of five years in the 1980s 2% of all UK colonies were lost, and although Britain remains a stronghold for this species, it is now considered to be dependant on conservation and is afforded international protection.

There is no current North Merseyside population estimate, though recent surveys suggest that in the general North West area around 25% of ponds have Great Crested Newts. A study of the parts of the Sefton Coast showed that a number of populations were present.

This species is highly dependant on the quality of ponds and also the habitat in the surrounding area (where they forage and hibernate away from the water). Habitat loss is the greatest cause of decline with many ponds being drained or drying up as a result of natural succession. Removal of scrub and woodland in addition to over-grazing and intensive management of surrounding grassland is also detrimental. Other factors which may affect population levels include predation by fish and waterfowl, habitat fragmentation and pollution.

NM BAP species: Corn Bunting (*Emberiza calandra*)

Nationally this species has significantly declined with a loss of 90% of the UK population between 1970 and 2005 and large contractions in the species range.

Locally Corn Bunting is thought to have undergone severe declines with only an estimated 200 pairs remaining in 1997-99. Corn Buntings are sparsely distributed across much of North Merseyside's arable farmland.

Declines are thought to be caused by changes in agricultural practices. Sowing cereals later in the year, increasing use of herbicide and the removal of fallow fields have all greatly reduced winter seed sources. Increasing use of pesticides has reduced the availability of invertebrate food sources. Earlier crop harvesting may also result in the destruction of some nests, especially where there are limited uncropped areas.

NM BAP species: Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*)

The UK population of Grey Partridge declined by 88% between 1970 and 2005 and though still widespread shows distinct variation according to agricultural practices. In North Merseyside there were an estimated 300 pairs in 1997-99 and they are present in all suitable habitat.

Loss of suitable habitat is the main cause of decline in this species, with changes in agricultural practices being particularly detrimental. The amalgamation of small fields into a larger ones and the removal of hedgerows, ditches and other field margins have destroyed potential nesting sites. Changes in sowing, harvesting and crop type have removed essential winter food sources.

NM BAP species: Urban Birds (*Delichon urbicum*; *Passer domesticus*; *Sturnus vulgaris*; *Apus apus*)

The four species covered by the NM BAP Urban Birds Species Action Plan (House Martin, Swift, House Sparrow and Starling) are considered to be in significant decline across the UK. In North Merseyside House Sparrows and Starlings currently breed in all urban areas, while House Martins are restricted to areas nearer sources of mud for nest-building. Swifts occurred in only 55 tetrads during 1997-2000.

Urban bird numbers are thought to relate strongly to the availability of prey species, and nesting opportunities.

Declines are most likely caused by the reduction in the diversity and abundance of invertebrate prey species resulting from increased 'tidiness' in our parks and gardens, the use of pesticides and other changes in farm practices. The exclusion of urban birds from breeding in or around modern buildings reduces nesting opportunities for urban birds.

NM BAP species: Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

Between 1987 and 1998 Lapwing declined by 48% in England and Wales with Wales and the SW of England showing greatest loss. Two thirds of the population is now resident in the N and NW of England.

Locally this species continues to breed in all suitable habitats and the 2002-03 surveys indicated a population of around 1,500 pairs with arable farmland and pockets of grassland being particularly favoured.

Local threats are thought to include development in nesting areas, increasing recreation and disturbance, scrub encroachments on coastal grassland and changes in farm practice towards silage production, livestock and agricultural intensification.

NM BAP species: Skylark (*Alauda arvensis*)

Although Skylark is widespread throughout Europe and large numbers are thought to breed in the UK, it is in significant decline with a fall in the population of 75% between 1972 and 1996 on lowland farms and an overall fall in the UK population of 53% between 1970 and 2005.

Locally Skylark breeds in all remaining suitable habitat and in 1997-2000 there were 750 breeding pairs but declines are thought to reflect the national trend.

This species relies heavily on traditional arable farming and so declines have largely been due to changes in farming practices in recent decades. Conversion to silage production, changes in sowing times and general agricultural intensification have all been particularly detrimental by reducing nesting habitat and sources of food.

Other causes of decline include overgrazing, disturbance during the breeding season and loss of grassland to development and tree planting.

NM BAP species: Song Thrush (*Turdus philomelos*)

Although still widespread, Song Thrush declined sharply by around 73% in farmland (mid 1970s) and 49% in woodland (1968-1993), while overall UK numbers fell by 50% between 1970 and 2005. The North of the UK is thought to have been hit hardest.

In North Merseyside, though thinly distributed, Song Thrush still breed in most areas with an estimated 500 pairs during 1997-2000. Highest breeding concentrations were found to occur in suburban areas where abundant garden and parkland habitats were present.

Song Thrush are reliant on a variety of habitats to meet their needs at different times of the year and loss of these habitats is causes a reduction in numbers.

Local factors in the decline of the species include changes in farm practices that remove nesting habitat (hedgerows and dense scrub), limit the abundance of winter food (changes in sowing, cropping and use of herbicides/molluscicides) or cause the loss of feeding habitat (use of pesticides/herbicides and monocropping).

NM BAP species: Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

British Bluebells make up about 20% of the global population of *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* and are often found in humid woodland habitat, along hedgerows and on occasion along the coast. Locally there are a number of good colonies.

Local threats to the species include possible over-shading in un-managed woodlands, localised trampling by the public in popular areas and hybridisation with the Spanish Bluebell. On a national scale declines are caused by the loss of woodland habitat, grazing by introduced Muntjac, collection of plants and hybridisation with Spanish Bluebell.

NM BAP species: Dragonflies (*Coenagrion puella*; *Calopteryx splendens*; *Orthetrum cancellatum*; *Ischnura elegans*; *Libellula depressa*; *Aeshna grandis*; *Enallagma cyathigerum*; *Sympetrum striolatum*; *Aeshna juncea*; *Lestes sponsa*; *Anax imperator*; *Libellula quadrimaculata*; *Pyrrhosoma nymphula*; *Aeshna mixta*; *Sympetrum fonscolombii*; *Sympetrum sanguineum*; *Aeshna cyanea*)

Twentyone species of dragonfly and damselfly are included in the NM BAP Dragonflies Species Action Plan. These include vagrant species and some which are thought to be undergoing range expansions in the UK. Eighteen of these species are known to breed in our local area, with significant breeding sites in St Helens and Sefton.

Local causes of decline in this include the destruction or damage of essential wetland habitat through development, waste-tipping and agricultural run-off. Removal of nearby feeding habitats such as woodlands, hedgerows and tall vegetation is also detrimental.

NM BAP species: Common Lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*)

Populations of the Common Lizard are highly localised in Britain. In North Merseyside this species remains relatively common on the Sefton Coast dune and heath, where it is thought to be stable. Inland it is much less common. There are occasional records from Knowsley where the species is thought to be extremely vulnerable.

Declines are primarily due to the loss and fragmentation of suitable habitat, usually caused by changes in land use, urban expansion and increased forestry and scrub encroachment. Predation by cats and the gassing of rabbit burrows may also be having a detrimental effect.

NM BAP species: Brown Hare (*Lepus europaeus*)

Whilst still well distributed in North Merseyside it is thought that the local population of Brown Hare declined in-line with National trends which have shown severe declines in the western pastoral parts of the country to around 20% of the numbers present in Victorian times.

Reasons for local declines are thought to include loss and fragmentation of suitable habitat to development, illegal hunting and changes in farming practices and land use that cause increased disturbance (changes in cropping/sowing times, livestock trampling and recreation).

NM BAP species: Bats (*Plecotus auritus*; *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*; *Myotis daubentonii*; *Myotis nattereri*; *Nyctalus noctula*; *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*; *Myotis mystacinus*)

The NM BAP Bats Species Action Plan covers all species found in North Merseyside since all are considered to be locally threatened.

Bat Species are found throughout North Merseyside, with Pipistrelles (Common/Soprano) most often encountered and Brown Long-eared and Noctules less common. Daubenton's are also frequently encountered in suitable wetland habitat. Whiskered, Brandt's and Natterers are considered rare locally.

Bat species will roost in many locations that are warm, dark, sheltered and little undisturbed. Such places can include derelict buildings, barns, roof spaces and tree hollows.

Factors causing declines in these species include the loss of prey insects due to the increased use of pesticides and general park/garden 'tidiness', loss and fragmentation of habitat mosaics, loss of winter roosts in old trees and buildings and intentional exclusion from buildings by people.

NM BAP species: Red Squirrel (*Sciurus vulgaris*)

Over the last 100 years the UK range Red Squirrel has contracted massively. In most areas of Britain it has vanished and most populations are now restricted to areas of Scotland and North England. North Merseyside has a relatively stable population on the Sefton Coast with small numbers across Knowsley and St Helens.

Threats include the Grey Squirrel which carries the squirrel pox virus that appears to have been the main cause of the red squirrel decline in Britain. In addition the fragmentation of woodland has reduced suitable habitat and increased road mortality as individuals try to move between pockets of habitats. Locally, over-maturation of trees will soon greatly reduce the Red Squirrels food source.

NM BAP species: Water Vole (*Arvicola amphibius*)

This species is found throughout Britain but localised to areas of suitable habitat near water. Previously

common this species has undergone severe range and population reductions, with a national survey showing a decline of around 89% since 1939, estimated to increased to a loss of 94% by 2000. Merseyside appears to be a stronghold for the species with 75% of sites surveyed having Water Voles present in 1989-90. Though they may still be in decline locally, it is thought to be at a lower level than nationally.

Local declines in the species are caused by inappropriate management of bank-side habitats and waterside developments as well as predation by invasive species such as mink. The use of rodenticides and loss of habitat connectivity may also be factors in population declines.

NERC Act Section 41 Species

Known also as 'Species of Principle Importance in England' and the 'England Biodiversity List' this list was developed to meet the requirements of Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006). The list is derived, almost wholly, from the 2012 revised list of 'UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework' priority species. (So called 'research only' moth species have been excluded from the report.). The section 41 list is used to guide decision-makers such as public bodies, including local and regional authorities, in implementing their duty under section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 'to have regard' to the conservation of biodiversity in England, when carrying out their normal functions. In particular:

- Regional Planning Bodies and Local Planning Authorities must use it to identify the species that should be afforded priority when applying the requirements of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to maintain, restore and enhance species and habitats.
- Local Planning Authorities must use it to identify the species that require specific consideration in dealing with planning and development control, recognising that under NPPF the aim of planning decisions should be to minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity.
- All Public Bodies must use it to identify species that should be given priority when implementing the NERC Section 40 duty.

The following tables detail the NERC Section 41 species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
amphibian	Common Toad	<i>Bufo bufo</i>	25	1990-2019	Sect.41
	Great Crested Newt	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>	9	1938-2016	Sect.41
bird	Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula pyrrhula</i>	4	1997-1998	Sect.41.suppl
	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra</i>	5	1997-1998	Sect.41.suppl
	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>	1	1998	Sect.41
	Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	5	1997-1998	Sect.41
	Dunnock	<i>Prunella modularis</i>	9	1997-1999	Sect.41.suppl
	Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia</i>	5	1997-2001	Sect.41
	Grey Partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	8	1997-1998	Sect.41
	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	14	1997-2001	Sect.41
	Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	11	1991-2006	Sect.41
	Lesser Redpoll	<i>Acanthis cabaret</i>	5	1997-1998	Sect.41
	Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>	3	1998-1999	Sect.41.suppl

	Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina</i>	11	1997-2002	Sect.41.suppl
	Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	9	1997-2001	Sect.41
	Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>	9	1997-1998	Sect.41,Sect.41.suppl
	Song Thrush	<i>Turdus philomelos</i>	11	1997-2008	Sect.41.suppl
	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	5	1997-1998	Sect.41
	Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	9	1997-1999	Sect.41.suppl
	Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	1	1998	Sect.41
	Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia turtur</i>	4	1997-1998	Sect.41
	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montana</i>	3	1998	Sect.41.suppl
	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	6	1997-1999	Sect.41.suppl
	Yellowhammer	<i>Emberiza citrinella</i>	3	1998	Sect.41
bony fish (Actinopterygii)	European Eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	7	1987-2005	Sect.41
flowering plant	Cornflower	<i>Centaurea cyanus</i>	1	1987	Sect.41
	Greater Water-parsnip	<i>Sium latifolium</i>	1	1993	Sect.41
fungus	Earth Tongue	<i>Microglossum olivaceum</i>	1	2000	Sect.41
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>	2	1912	Sect.41
insect - butterfly	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	3	1995-2015	Sect.41
	Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	20	1905-2019	Sect.41
insect - moth	Broom Moth	<i>Ceramica pisi</i>	1	2001	Sect.41
	Buff Ermine	<i>Spilosoma lutea</i>	157	2001-2015	Sect.41
	Crescent	<i>Helotropha leucostigma</i>	2	1908-2001	Sect.41
	Crescent	<i>Helotropha leucostigma leucostigma</i>	1	2001	Sect.41
	Dark Brocade	<i>Mniotype adusta</i>	2	1900	Sect.41
	Rosy Minor	<i>Litoligia literosa</i>	4	2002-2005	Sect.41
	Sallow	<i>Cirrhia icteritia</i>	67	1887-2004	Sect.41
	Shoulder-striped Wainscot	<i>Leucania comma</i>	65	2001-2014	Sect.41
mollusc	Little Whirlpool Ram's-horn Snail	<i>Anisus (Disculifer) vorticulus</i>	5	2015	Sect.41
reptile	Common Lizard	<i>Zootoca vivipara</i>	3	1997	Sect.41
	Grass Snake	<i>Natrix helvetica</i>	2	1998	Sect.41
terrestrial mammal	Bats	<i>Chiroptera</i>	10	1983-2012	Sect.41
	Brown Hare	<i>Lepus europaeus</i>	15	1972-2021	Sect.41
	Brown Long-eared Bat	<i>Plecotus auritus</i>	18	1984-2016	Sect.41
	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	12	1970-2015	Sect.41
	European Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	15	1998-2010	Sect.41
	Harvest Mouse	<i>Micromys minutus</i>	6	2014	Sect.41
	Noctule Bat	<i>Nyctalus noctula</i>	63	1902-2016	Sect.41
	Nyctalus Bat species	<i>Nyctalus</i>	1	2014	Sect.41
	Pipistrelle Bat species	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	31	1902-2019	Sect.41
	Soprano Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus pygmaeus</i>	41	2011-2017	Sect.41
	Unidentified Bat	<i>Myotis</i>	12	2014-2016	Sect.41
	West European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	42	1996-2020	Sect.41

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
Sect.41	Natural Env. and Rural Communities Act 2006. Species of Principal Importance in England (section 41)	Species "of principal importance for the purpose of conserving biodiversity" covered under section 41 (England) of the NERC Act (2006) and therefore need to be taken into consideration by a public body when performing any of its functions with a view to conserving biodiversity.
Sect.41.suppl	Supplementary list to deal with S41 bird sub-sp problems	Bird species corresponding to British sub-species listed in section 41 (England) of the NERC Act (2006).

IUCN Red-listed Species

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (sometimes called 'Red Data Book' species) indicates the conservation status of plants and animals that have been globally evaluated using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria. The system is designed to determine the relative risk of extinction, and the main purpose of the IUCN Red List is to catalogue and highlight those plants and animals that are facing a higher risk of global extinction (i.e. those listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable). The IUCN Red List also includes information on plants and animals that are categorized as 'Extinct' or 'Extinct in the Wild'; on taxa that cannot be evaluated because of insufficient information ('Data Deficient'); and on plants and animals that are either close to meeting the threatened thresholds or that would be threatened were it not for an ongoing taxon-specific conservation programme ('Near Threatened').

The following tables detail the IUCN Red-listed species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
flowering plant	Box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	1	2020	RLGB.DD
	Corn Chamomile	<i>Anthemis arvensis</i>	5	1987-1994	RLGB.EN
	Corn Marigold	<i>Glebionis segetum</i>	5	1987-2002	RLGB.VU
	Corn Spurrey	<i>Spergula arvensis</i>	1	1987	RLGB.VU
	Greater Water-parsnip	<i>Sium latifolium</i>	1	1993	RLGB.EN
	Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium aggregatum</i>	2	1981-1987	RLGB.DD
	Heath Dog-violet	<i>Viola canina</i>	1	2007	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Meadow Clary	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	1	2015	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Oxlip	<i>Primula elatior</i>	2	1996-1999	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Water-soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	8	1984-2012	RLGB.Lr(NT)
fungus	Brown Birch-Bolete	<i>Leccinum scabrum</i>	2	2014	RLGB.DD
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Alder Leaf Beetle	<i>Agelastica alni</i>	13	2014-2021	RLGB.DD
insect - butterfly	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	3	1995-2015	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Wall	<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	20	1905-2019	RLGB.Lr(NT)
insect - caddis fly (Trichoptera)	Potamophylax rotundipennis	<i>Potamophylax rotundipennis</i>	3	2014-2015	RLGB.DD
mollusc	Large Black Slug	<i>Arion (Arion) ater</i>	4	1986-2019	RLGB.DD
	Little Whirlpool Ram's-horn Snail	<i>Anisus (Disculifer) vorticulus</i>	5	2015	RLGB.VU
terrestrial mammal	Bats	<i>Chiroptera</i>	10	1983-2012	RLGB.CR,RLGB.DD,RLGB.EN,RLGB.Lr(NT),RLGB.VU
	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>	12	1970-2015	RLGB.EN
	European Water Vole	<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>	15	1998-2010	RLGB.EN
	Harvest Mouse	<i>Micromys minutus</i>	6	2014	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Nathusius's Pipistrelle	<i>Pipistrellus nathusii</i>	5	2014-2016	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Nyctalus Bat species	<i>Nyctalus</i>	1	2014	RLGB.Lr(NT)
	Pipistrelle Bat species	<i>Pipistrellus</i>	31	1902-2019	RLGB.Lr(NT)

Unidentified Bat	<i>Myotis</i>	12	2014-2016	RLGB.CR,RLGB.DD
West European Hedgehog	<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	42	1996-2020	RLGB.VU
Whiskered Bat	<i>Myotis mystacinus</i>	2	2014-2015	RLGB.DD

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
RLGB.DD	IUCN (2001) - Data Deficient	A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat or Lower Risk. Listing of taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that a threatened category is appropriate.
RLGB.EN	IUCN (2001) - Endangered	A taxon is Endangered when it is not Critically endangered but is facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future.
RLGB.VU	IUCN (2001) - Vulnerable	A taxon is Vulnerable when it is not Critically Endangered or Endangered but is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild in the medium term future.
RLGB.Lr(NT)	IUCN (2001) - Lower risk - near threatened	Taxa which do not qualify for Lower Risk (conservation dependent), but which are close to qualifying for Vulnerable. In Britain, this category includes species which occur in 15 or fewer hectads but do not qualify as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable.
RLGB.CR	IUCN (2001) - Critically endangered	A taxon is Critically Endangered when it is facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild in the immediate future, as defined by any of the criteria A to E.

Nationally Notable Species

These are plants and animals which do not fall within red-list categories but which are none-the-less uncommon in Great Britain.

The following tables detail the Nationally Notable species that were recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
flowering plant	Box	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i>	1	2020	NR-excludes
	Bramble	<i>Rubus rotundifolius</i>	1	1994	NR-excludes
	Greater Water-parsnip	<i>Sium latifolium</i>	1	1993	NS-excludes
	Hairy Bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>	3	2015	NS-excludes
	Hawkweed	<i>Hieracium aggregatum</i>	2	1981-1987	NR-excludes
	Large-leaved Lime	<i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	6	1987-2011	NS-excludes
	Meadow Clary	<i>Salvia pratensis</i>	1	2015	NS-excludes
	Oxlip	<i>Primula elatior</i>	2	1996-1999	NS-excludes
	Rock Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus rupicola</i>	1	2007	NS-excludes
	Water-soldier	<i>Stratiotes aloides</i>	8	1984-2012	NR-excludes
	Welsh Poppy	<i>Meconopsis cambrica</i>	4	2016-2020	NS-excludes
insect - beetle (Coleoptera)	Acrotona obfuscata	<i>Acrotona obfuscata</i>	1	1989	N
	Horsetail Weevil	<i>Grypus equiseti</i>	1	1989	Nb
	Notaris scirpi	<i>Notaris scirpi</i>	2	1989	Nb
	Philhygra hygrobica	<i>Philhygra hygrobica</i>	1	1990	N
	Polydrusus formosus	<i>Polydrusus formosus</i>	1	2020	Na
	Pterostichus oblongopunctatus	<i>Pterostichus oblongopunctatus</i>	1	1990	Nb
	Stag Beetle	<i>Lucanus cervus</i>	2	1912	Nb
insect - moth	Scarce Grass-veneer	<i>Crambus pratella</i>	3	2011-2014	Nb

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
NS-excludes	Nationally Scarce. Excludes Red Listed taxa	Nationally Scarce - Occurring in 16-100 hectads in Great Britain. Excludes rare species qualifying under the main IUCN criteria

NR-excludes	Nationally Rare. Excludes Red Listed taxa	Nationally Rare - Occurring in 15 or fewer hectads in Great Britain. Excludes rare species qualifying under the main IUCN criteria.
N	Nationally Notable	Species which are estimated to occur within the range of 16 to 100 10km squares. (subdivision into Notable A and Notable B is not always possible because there may be insufficient information available). Superseded by Nationally Scarce, and therefore no longer in use.
Nb	Nationally Notable B	Taxa which do not fall within RDB categories but which are none-the-less uncommon in Great Britain and thought to occur in between 31 and 100 10km squares of the National Grid or, for less-well recorded groups between eight and twenty vice-counties. Superseded by Nationally Scarce, and therefore no longer in use.
Na	Nationally Notable A	Taxa which do not fall within RDB categories but which are none-the-less uncommon in Great Britain and thought to occur in 30 or fewer 10km squares of the National Grid or, for less well-recorded groups, within seven or fewer vice-counties. Superseded by Nationally Scarce, and therefore no longer in use.

WCA schedule 9 species (including non-native invasive plants)

Schedule 9 of the Wildlife & Countryside Act (amended 2010) lists species of plants and animals for which it is a specific offence to plant or otherwise cause to grow in the wild (plants) or release or allow to escape into the wild (animals). Many of these are invasive non-native plants and animals, but there are also a number of native animals on the list (e.g. Barn Owl) which cannot be released into the wild in England without a license from Natural England.

The following tables detail the WCA Schedule 9 species recorded in the search area.

Group	Common Name	Scientific Name	Records	Dates	Designations
bird	Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	4	1997-2008	MBB-WCA-S9
	Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	3	1998-2000	MBB-WCA-S9
	Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	10	1997-2016	MBB-WCA-S9
	Corncrake	<i>Crex crex</i>	1	1998	MBB-WCA-S9
	Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1	1998	MBB-WCA-S9
	Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	7	1997-2007	MBB-WCA-S9
crustacean	Turkish Crayfish	<i>Astacus leptodactylus</i>	1	2015	MBB-WCA-S9
fern	Water Fern	<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	2	1992-1998	MBB-WCA-S9
flowering plant	Canadian Waterweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	13	1983-2012	MBB-WCA-S9
	Floating Pennywort	<i>Hydrocotyle ranunculoides</i>	1	2016	MBB-WCA-S9
	Himalayan Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster simonsii</i>	1	2014	MBB-WCA-S9
	Indian Balsam	<i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	19	1992-2020	MBB-WCA-S9
	Japanese Knotweed	<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	51	1981-2021	MBB-WCA-S9
	Montbretia	<i>Crocsmia pottsii</i> x <i>aurea</i> = <i>C. x crocosmiiflora</i>	2	2014-2020	MBB-WCA-S9
	Rhododendron ponticum	<i>Rhododendron ponticum</i>	58	1981-2021	MBB-WCA-S9
	Virginia-creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	1	2020	MBB-WCA-S9
terrestrial mammal	American Mink	<i>Neovison vison</i>	3	2000-2017	MBB-WCA-S9
	Eastern Grey Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	141	1997-2019	MBB-WCA-S9

Desig. Code	Desig. Name	Designation Description
MBB-WCA-S9	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (Variation of Schedule 9) (England and Wales) Order 2010	Species on Schedule 9 (part 2) as revised 2010. Under section 14 of the Act it is illegal to release into the wild any animal or allow to grow in the wild any plant which is not ordinarily resident in GB or which is a known threat and is listed on Schedule 9 of the Act.

BAP priority habitats

In 2007 the Local Biodiversity Manager (responsible for the North Merseyside Biodiversity Action Plan) undertook a review of the extent of UK BAP priority habitats in North Merseyside and produced GIS layers to show their extents. In most cases these inventories were derived

from two main sources: the latest Phase 1 habitat surveys which were conducted for the four North Merseyside local authorities between 1996 and 2007; and an NVC survey of the Sefton Coast carried out between 2003 and 2004. A separate NVC survey of the Ribble estuary carried out in 2002 (which also included saltmarsh at the Alt) was also useful as were one or two other sources. Because of the diverse nature of habitat classifications, it was not always possible to produce inventories with a one-to-one correspondence with UK BAP priority habitats. The table below shows the BAP habitat inventories for North Merseyside and their correspondence with UK BAP priority habitats.

North Merseyside habitat inventory	Correspondence with UK BAP priority habitats
Lowland Acid Grassland	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland
Lowland Heathland	Lowland Heathland
Lowland Raised Bog	Lowland Raised Bog
Neutral Grassland	Incorporates the UK BAP habitat Lowland Meadows but also, in North Merseyside, includes a lot of amenity grassland, road verges etc.
Calcareous Grassland	Calcareous Grassland
Ponds	Ponds
Lakes	Eutrophic lakes
Reedbeds	Reedbeds
Hedgerows	Hedgerows
Saltmarsh	Coast Saltmarsh
Sand Dune	Coastal Sand Dune
All Woodland	It was not possible, from the available data, to produce separate inventories for different woodland types in North Merseyside, so this inventory incorporates elements of several UK BAP priority habitats such as Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland, Wet Woodland and Wood Pasture & Parkland.

Note that the 'Ponds' BAP inventory was derived locally using water bodies less than two hectares in extent from Ordnance Survey data. The 'Lakes' BAP inventory is a nationally supplied inventory, but the lakes are only represented in this as points. Therefore any water body over two hectares in extent will only be represented on our habitat maps by a point and will not show the extent of the lake. However, ponds will be indicated by polygons showing their extent. Occasionally a large pond – though still less than two hectares in extent – will be represented in both the 'Lake' and 'Pond' inventories.

Habitat	Amount	Units
Lakes	3	count
Hedgerows	8.11	kilometres
Lowland Acid Grassland	3.11	hectares
All Woodland	132.2	hectares
Neutral Grassland	43.8	hectares
Ponds	3.24	hectares
Ponds	46	count

The table above indicates the extent of each of the BAP habitat inventories (see previous table) occurring within your search area (see appendix 2 for maps).

Detailed habitat mapping

Merseyside BioBank collates and maintains detailed habitat mapping – normally Phase 1 or NVC – for the North Merseyside area. This includes both historic data and the most up-to-date

habitat survey data available. Here we report on the detailed habitat mapping we hold for your search area.

Ref: EN-CBA-Geological		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Geological Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA Geological		
Ge1	Inland rock outcrops and scree habitats	0.02 ha
Ge2	Local Geological Site	0.45 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Grassland		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Grassland Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA Grassland		
Gr1	Grasslands	47.69 ha
Gr5	Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	3.22 ha
Gr6	Lowland Meadow	16.51 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Mosaic		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Mosaic Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA General features		
Gen3	Local Wildlife Site	355.19 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Wetland		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Wetland Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA General features		
Gen3	Local Wildlife Site	44.85 ha
Gen4	Reedbeds	0.49 ha
CBA Wetland		
We4	Lowland Fens	6.71 ha
We7	Purple Moor Grass & Rush Pastures	4.09 ha

Ref: EN-CBA-Woodland		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Woodland Core Biodiversity Areas. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
CBA General features		
Gen3	Local Wildlife Site	10.34 ha
CBA Woodland		
Wo10	Wood-Pasture and Parkland	2.7 ha

Wo3	Lowland Mixed Broad-leaf Woodland	392.4 ha
Wo4	Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland	377.72 ha
Wo6	Lowland Wood-pasture and Parkland	38.33 ha
Wo9	Wet Woodland	5.09 ha

Ref: EN-LinearFeatures		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Linear features. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
Linear feature		
Lin1	Active railway corridor	26.06 km
Lin5	Hedgerow	8.11 km
Lin6	Major road corridor	15.93 km
Lin7	River	4.32 km

Ref: EN-SteppingStones		
Source: Composite layer generated by Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service on behalf of the Liverpool City Region		
Survey date: 01/01/2016		
Notes: LCR Ecological Network Stepping Stone habitats. See http://www.lcreconet.uk/ for further information.		
Stepping stone habitat		
SS1	Ponds	3.65 ha

Ref: Composite		
Woodland and scrub		
A1.1.1	Broadleaved woodland - semi-natural	4.4 ha
A1.1.2	Broadleaved woodland - plantation	0.3 ha
A2.2	Scrub - scattered	0.04 ha 61 (count)
A3.1	Broadleaved Parkland/scattered trees	1 ha 51 (count)
A3.2	Coniferous Parkland/scattered trees	2 (count)
Grassland and marsh		
B2.2	Neutral grassland - semi-improved	0.57 ha
B6	Poor semi-improved grassland	1.96 ha
Tall herb and fern		
C1.2	Bracken - scattered	0.1 ha
C3.1	Other tall herb and fern - ruderal	0.46 ha
Open water		
G1	Standing water	0.02 ha
Miscellaneous		
J1.2	Cultivated/disturbed land - amenity grassland	7.08 ha
J1.3	Cultivated/disturbed land - ephemeral/short perennial	15.57 ha
J1.4	Introduced shrub	0.08 ha
J2.4	Fence	0.95 km
J2.5	Wall	0.99 ha

		0.24 km
J3	Built-up areas	2.03 ha
J5	Other habitat	0 ha

Habitat maps themselves are produced at the end of the report. You can cross-reference the figures in the tables below to the maps by means of the reference which appears on each map. A map with the reference 'Composite' is a special map made on-the-fly at the time of this report production by merging data from all available sources and using the most up-to-date mapping available at any given point in your search area.

Designated Areas

There are a number of types of 'designated areas' in North Merseyside. These types are shown in the table below together with the total number of North Merseyside sites for each.

Type of area	No. of sites
Site of Special Scientific Interest	6
Special Protection Area (Natura 2000)	3
Marine Special Protection Area	1
Special Area of Conservation (Natura 2000)	1
RAMSAR (wetland of international importance)	3
National Nature Reserve	3
Local Nature Reserve	57
Knowsley Local Wildlife Site	65
Sefton Local Wildlife Site	55
St Helens Local Wildlife Site	117
Liverpool Local Wildlife Site	29
Merseyside Ancient Woodland Inventory	11
RSPB/LWT Windfarm Alert Map	1
Red Squirrel Protection Area	1

The following table indicates the results of the intersection between the search area and designated areas detailed above (see appendix 2 for maps).

Name	Type
Carr Lane Lake, Prescott	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Copse, s of A58, Prescott	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Q4	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Q2 and visitor centre	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Huyton and Prescott Golf Club	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Q3	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Knowsley Park	Knowsley Local Wildlife Site
Sales Wood / Gorse Plantation	St Helens Local Wildlife Site
Gillars Green Wood	St Helens Local Wildlife Site
Prescot Reservoirs No 3 & 4	St Helens Local Wildlife Site
Stadt Moers Park	Knowsley Local Geological Site
Grey Squirrel Control Zone	LWT Squirrel Alert Maps

Interpretation and caveats

Merseyside BioBank records included

All relevant non-confidential records managed by Merseyside BioBank which intersect the search area are included in this report, except where excluded by one or more of the conditions described in the rest of this section.

NBN Atlas records included

All relevant records available to Merseyside BioBank from the NBN Atlas are included in this report, except where excluded by one or more of the conditions described in the rest of this section. NBN Atlas records are accessed live *via* web-services at the time of report generation.

Merseyside BioBank often has access to NBN records at higher resolution than the standard 'public' access. These records have been downloaded and used with the permission of the data providers, but are subject to normal NBN Atlas terms and conditions. You must not use them beyond the specific purposes for which this report was provided to you and you must adhere, at all times, to the NBN Atlas terms and conditions.

Record location and dates

If a record can only be located to a relatively low precision (e.g. 1 km or 2 km square), then it is possible that the unrecorded precise location of the animal or plant might have been outside of the search area. Sometimes the location name column can be useful in deciding whether or not this was likely to have been the case. In records from our own database, we have replaced all digits with the '#' character in the location field to people's privacy where addresses have been used as location names.

Records which are only available to us at less than 2 km square (tetrad) precision are excluded from the report. We report dates at the highest precision available to us. Records for which no date is available are excluded from the report.

Absence of records and 'negative records'

The absence of biological records for an area, or the presence of 'negative records', is not proof that taxa are not present.

Duplicate records

Although we do our very best to avoid reporting the same record more than once ('duplicate records') this is sometimes unavoidable for records that have entered the biological records network *via* more than one route. In particular, there may be some record duplication between records from Merseyside BioBank's database and records from the NBN Atlas datasets (though, of course, we do not report on NBN Atlas records which originate from Merseyside BioBank).

Validity of records

Whilst Merseyside BioBank continually strives to verify the records that we manage, we accept no responsibility for any errors subsequently discovered. Merseyside BioBank accepts no responsibility for errors in data derived from the NBN Atlas.

Verification status of records

Records used in this report include those considered verified and those as yet unchecked. This approach is taken on balance to ensure that all potential risks that we are aware of have been flagged.

Bird records

Only bird records with a recorded status of proven, probable and possible breeding have been included in this data search. Bird records with other statuses are not included. The most recent bird records for North Merseyside included, e.g. those generated for the ongoing breeding and wintering atlas projects, since these data have yet to undergo verification by the County Bird Recorder. It is possible for you to contact the County Bird Recorder independently for his interpretation of the most recent data with respect to your search area. The contact details are:

Steve White
stevewhite102@btinternet.com

Please note that if this is a commercial data request you will be invoiced by **Sefton Borough Council**, which is the hosting authority for Merseyside BioBank.

Appendix 1: Terms and conditions of use

Merseyside BioBank receives data from a variety of sources, from large organisations to amateur naturalists. With Merseyside BioBank operating as custodians, these individuals and groups, who provide their records free of charge, retain copyright on their data.

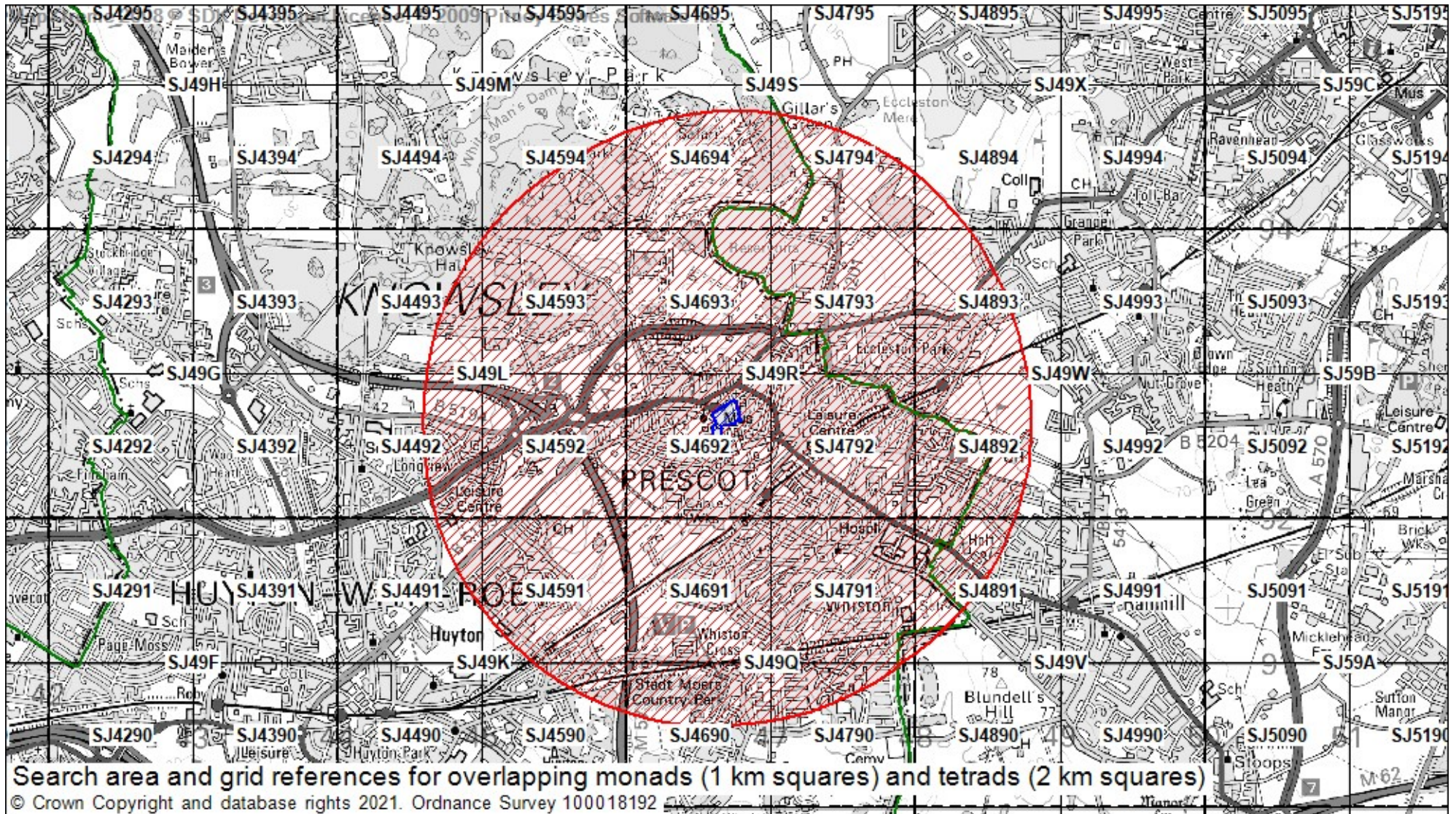
All data passed to a third party (users) by Merseyside BioBank are subject to these access terms and conditions. Non-adherence to these terms and conditions will be viewed as a breach of contract, which may result in legal redress being sought.

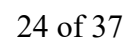
1. Users agree that data released by Merseyside BioBank, in any format and on any media, will only be used for the purpose for which it was originally requested and for any time period originally agreed upon (See note 3 below).
2. Users agree that data released by Merseyside BioBank will not be added to any permanent database system (electronic or paper based) unless by written agreement with Merseyside BioBank.
3. Users understand that following the end of the agreed time period, or 12 months from the enquiry date, the received data must be deleted from any electronic system (See note 2 above). Use of the data beyond this period must be preceded by a further request to Merseyside BioBank.
4. Users agree that data retrieved from Merseyside BioBank will not be passed on to or communicated with third parties except as aggregated data within reports, or as anonymised data in the form of maps etc., which constitute a part of the agreed reason for the original enquiry.
5. Merseyside BioBank disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy of the information within its reports and accepts no liability for any result of using these data.
6. Any biological record is specific to the date of the recording and does not necessarily imply the continuance of the species at that site.
7. The lack of species and/or habitat information for a geographically defined area does not necessarily imply a low biodiversity value for that area. It may simply be unrecorded.
8. While the information from Merseyside BioBank in itself will remain free, Merseyside BioBank reserves the right to charge a reasonable fee to cover administration and a proportion of overheads as detailed in our charging policy.
9. A copy of any report, or other product, produced using the data from Merseyside BioBank would be gratefully received if provided without cost.
10. Merseyside BioBank must be acknowledged within any report, or other product produced, using data provided by Merseyside BioBank.

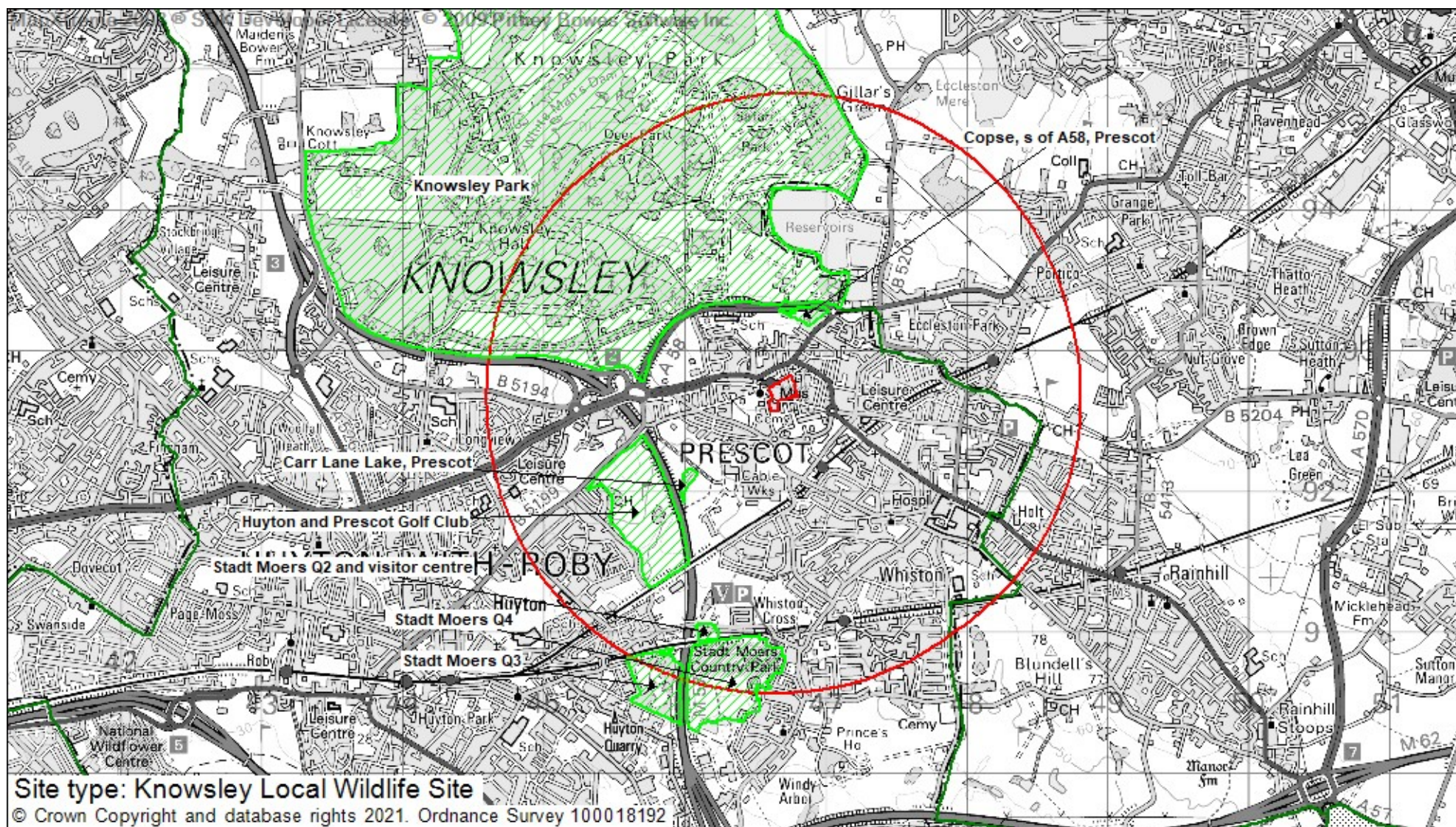
Appendix 2: Maps

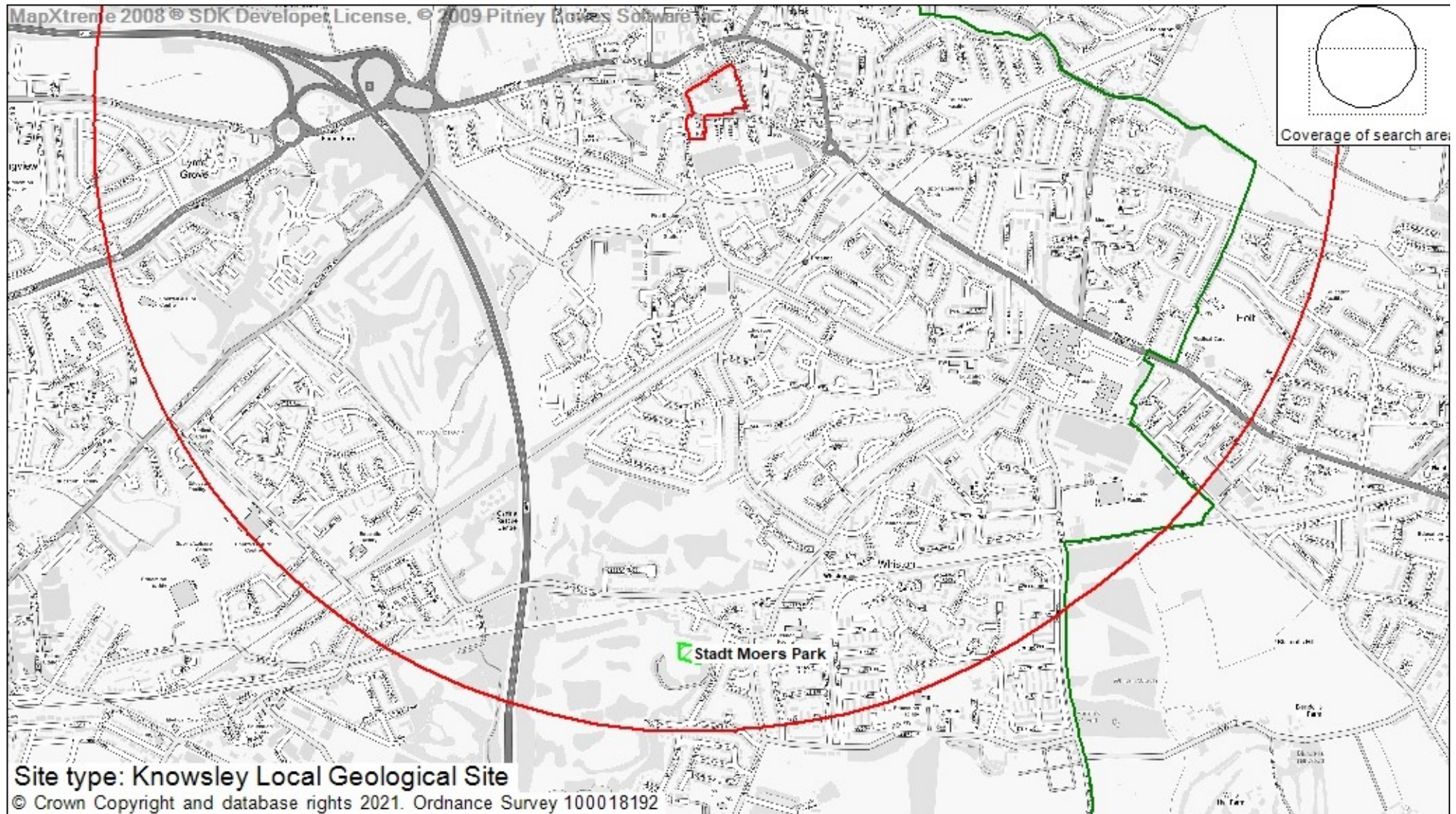
The following page(s) include maps to illustrate some of the results of your data request. They should be viewed in the context of the results supplied in the main body of the report.

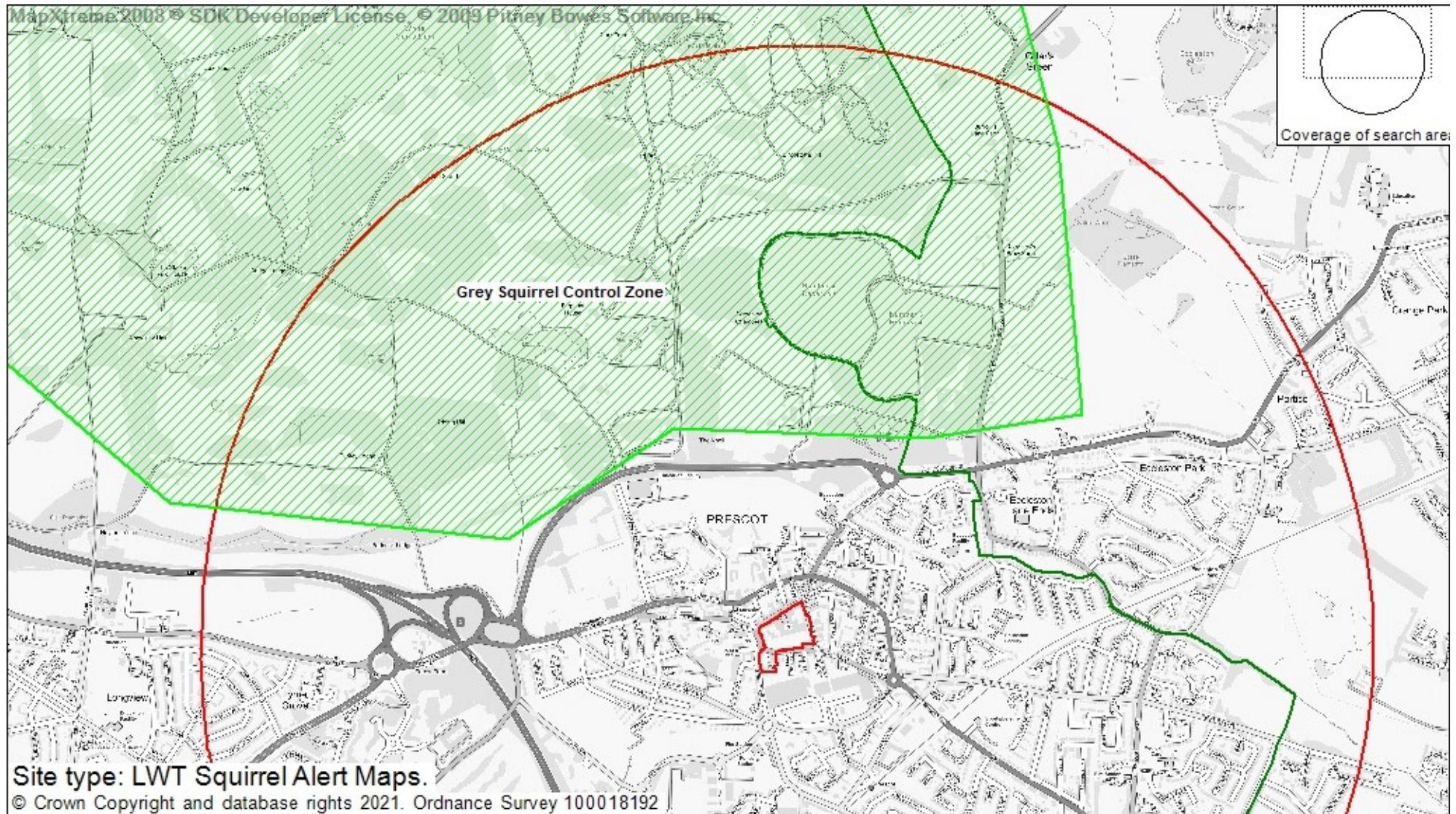
The Ordnance Survey mapping included in the maps provided by Merseyside BioBank under Sefton Council's licence from Ordnance Survey. These maps are provided to assist decision-makers in the effective and sustainable management of land, species and habitats. Ordnance Survey should be contacted directly if any of these maps are to be used in another document.











**The Local Biodiversity Records Centre
for North Merseyside**

Merseyside BioBank,
Estate Barn, Court Hey Park
Roby Road, Liverpool
L16 3NA
Tel: 0151 737 4150
Info@MerseysideBiobank.org.uk

