Site Name: Sankey Brook

Site Area: 6.42 hectares National Grid Reference: SJ553952

Date of Designation: December 2003 District: St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: n/a Local Site Number: 75

CITATION: A stretch of Sankey Brook which provides habitat for Water voles.

APPRAISAL: This site has been evaluated against the guidelines approved by the Council for selection of

Local Sites. The site's evaluation against the guidelines is set out below.

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1;	Rarity	2 priority BAP habitats; 2 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 2
		regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	6 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	98 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 25 plant species.
SP3;	Naturalness	96% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has
		been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	
ANIMALS		
General		
SP5;	Rare/priority	
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding	
	population	
B2;	Breeding population	
B3;	Regional rare/scare	
B4;	Breeding assemblage	
B5.	Assemblage, breeding,	
	wintering, passage.	
Dragonflies		
Od1.	Breeding	
Od2.	Regional rare/scarce	
Butterflies		
Bf1;	Region rare breeding	
Bf2.	Breeding assemblage	
Amphibians		
A1;	Rarity	
A2.	Exceptional populations	
Reptiles		
R1;	Population of native	
	species.	
R2;	Exceptional population	
Bats		
Bat1;	Roost	
Bat2.	Assemblage	
Mammals		
Mam1.	Breeding	Guideline met – Water voles.

SUMMARY: The combination of these factors has led to this site being identified as a Local Site.

NOTE: Validated data from 1981 to December 2003 have been used in this assessment. Other data may become available to support this designation.

Status of features of nature conservation importance

<u>Animals</u>

Mammals

1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 5 species Water voles (Arvicola aquaticus)

