

**Site Name:** Sutton Mill Dam

**Site Area:** 3.05 hectares

**National Grid Reference:** SJ523923

**Date of Designation:** December 2003

**District:** St. Helens

**Date of Last Revision:** N/A

**Local Site Number:** 107

**CITATION:** A water body created by the damming of Sutton Mill Brook. The site contains a number of nationally and regionally important habitats and plant species including the nationally scarce species Tasteless water-pepper (*Persicaria mitis*).

**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.

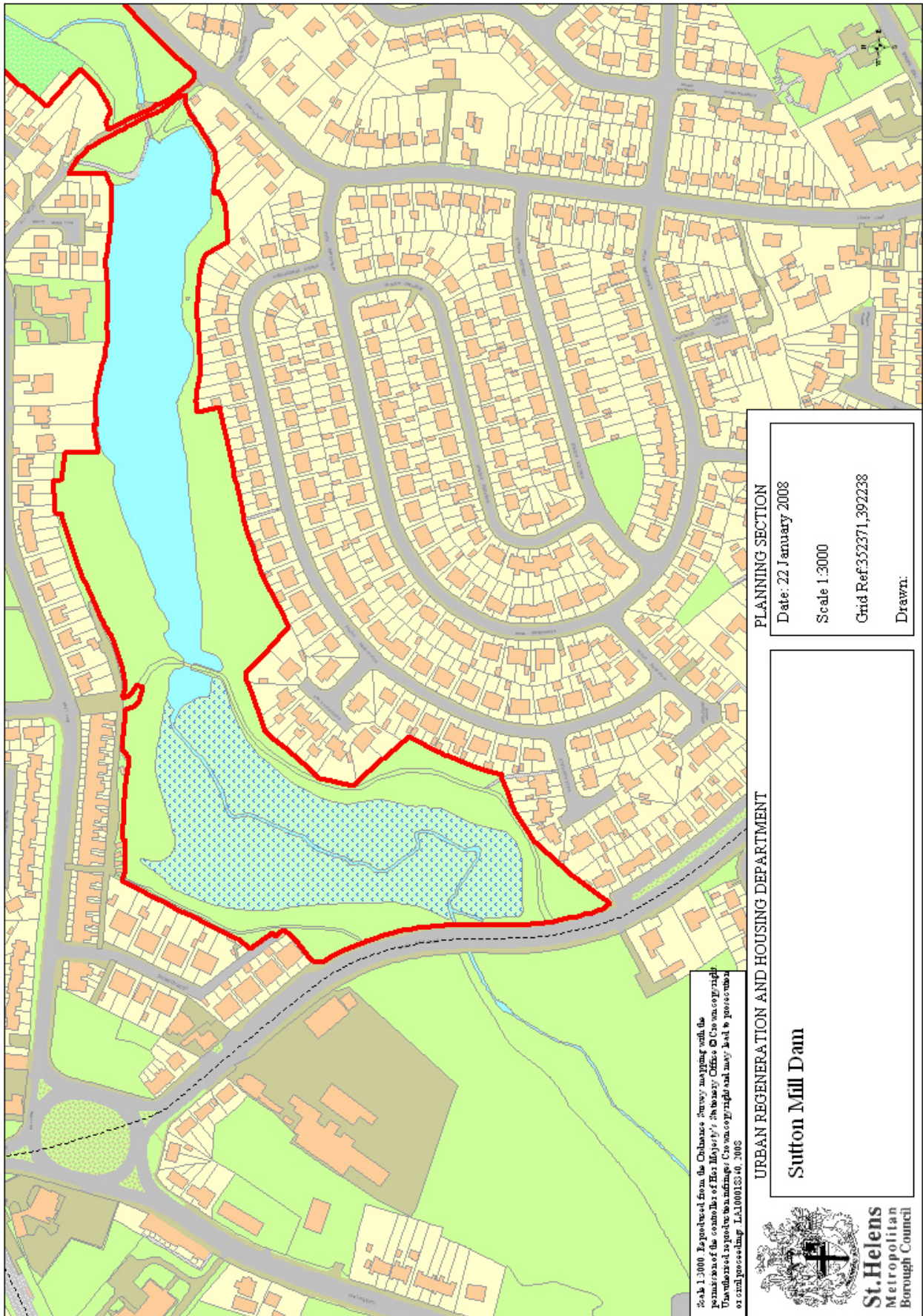
<b>Guideline</b>		<b>Comment</b>
<b>HABITATS</b>		
H1;	Rarity	4 priority BAP habitats; 4 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 4 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	18 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	22 sites within 1Km.
H4.	Isolation	--
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	1 nationally scarce species; 1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 1 species of conservation concern; 3 regionally important species; 6 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 136 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	83.82% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
<b>ANIMALS</b>		
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	--

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>Habitats</u>	
<b>4 Priority BAP habitats</b>	Unimproved neutral grassland Single species dominant swamp Swamp tall fen vegetation Eutrophic standing water
<b>4 Priority Habitat Directive habitats</b>	Unimproved neutral grassland Single species dominant swamp Swamp tall fen vegetation Eutrophic standing water
<b>4 Regionally Important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)</b>	Unimproved neutral grassland Marshy grassland Swamp tall fen vegetation Standing water
<u>Plants</u>	
<b>1 Nationally scarce species</b>	Tasteless Water-pepper ( <i>Persicaria mitis</i> )
<b>1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8 species</b>	English Bluebell ( <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> )
<b>1 Species of conservation concern</b>	English Bluebell ( <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> )
<b>3 Regionally important species</b>	English Bluebell ( <i>Hyacinthoides non-scripta</i> ) Burnet Rose ( <i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i> ) Smooth Tare ( <i>Vicia tetrasperma</i> )
<b>6 Locally rare species</b>	Fool's Parsley ( <i>Aethusa cynapium</i> ) Tasteless Water-pepper ( <i>Persicaria mitis</i> ) Burnet Rose ( <i>Rosa pimpinellifolia</i> ) Purple Willow ( <i>Salix purpurea</i> ) Heath Groundsel ( <i>Senecio sylvaticus</i> ) Smooth Tare ( <i>Vicia tetrasperma</i> )



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**PLANNING SECTION**  
 Date: 22 January 2008  
 Scale 1:3000  
 Grid Ref: 352371, 392238  
 Drawn:

**URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT**  
**Sutton Mill Dam**

