

Site Name: Former Rainhill Hospital

Site Area: 2.61 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ495924

Date of Designation: December 2003 **District:** St. Helens

Date of Last Revision: N/A **Local Site Number:** 106

CITATION: Diverse range of habitats present including woodlands, wetlands, grasslands and a rock exposure.

APPRAISAL: This site has been evaluated against the guidelines approved by the Council in for selection of Local Sites. The site's evaluation against the guidelines is set out below.

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1;	Rarity	2 regionally important habitats; 1 locally uncommon habitat. 16 habitats recorded.
H2;	Diversity	
H3;	Nearness	
H4.	Isolation	
PLANTS		
SP1;	Rarity	1 WCA_SC8 plant species; 1 species of conservation concern; 1 regionally important; 3 locally rare species. Total of 172 plant species. One of 58 sites with 100 or more species. 71.5% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP2;	Diversity	
SP3;	Naturalness	
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	--

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

Habitats

**2 Regionally important habitats
(North West Biodiversity Audit)**

Standing water
Acid rock exposure

1 Locally uncommon habitat

Non-ruderal herb or fern

Plants

**1 Wildlife and Countryside Act – Schedule 8
species**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

**1 Species of conservation concern
UK Biodiversity Action Plan Species)**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

**1 Regionally important species
(North West Biodiversity Audit)**

English bluebell (*Hyacinthoides non-scripta*)

3 Locally rare species

Thale cress (*Arabidopsis thaliana*)
Hoary Willowherb (*Epilobium parviflorum*)
Long-headed poppy (*Papaver dubium*)



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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Former Rainhill Hospital

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 22 January 2008

Scale 1:2000

Grid Ref: 349563,392418

Drawn: