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Preliminary Ecological Appraisal

At

Temple Park, South Shields



For

Tolent Living Ltd

September 2017



Document Verification

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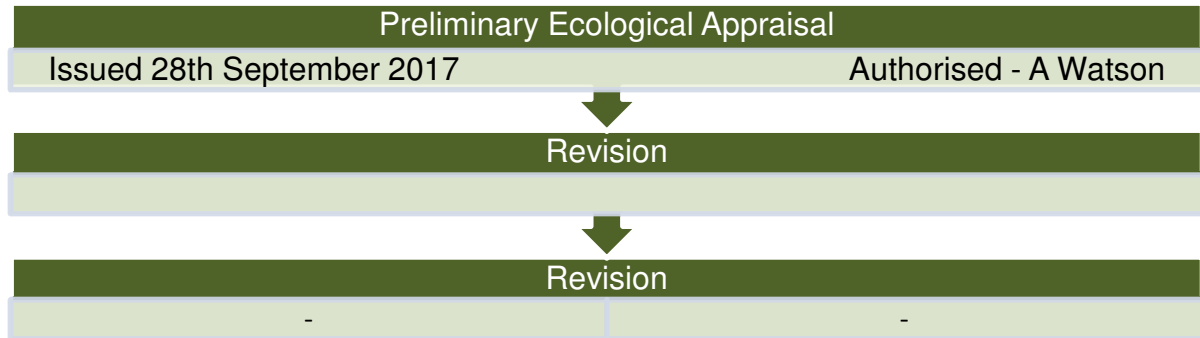


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Executive Summary

We are requested by Tolent Living Ltd to provide a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (Phase 1 habitat survey) on a parcel of land at Temple Park, South Shields.

It is proposed to create new sports pitches – cricket, rugby and tennis. Also erect a new club house with associated parking spaces, new stands and grounds keeper stores. A new fence will be constructed around the site.

1.1 We were provided with the proposed plans of development.

1.2 The surveys were carried out on Tuesday 12th September 2017.

1.3 Desk top data searches identified the presence of –

- Cleadon Hills – Local Nature Reserve
- Tilesheds – Local Nature Reserve
- Marsden Old Quarry – Local Nature Reserve
- West Farm Meadow, Boldon – SSSIs
- Cleadon Hill – SSSIs
- Temple Park East – Local Wildlife site
- Temple Park West – Local Wildlife Site

1.4 Fields surveys identify an area of predominantly amenity grassland with poor semi improved neutral grassland and scattered scrub within the LWS in the north-west corner and a parcel of semi improved neutral grassland and scattered scrub to the north of the site.

1.5 No evidence of any protected species was present on site.

1.6 Protective fencing is to be installed on the southern boundary prior to any work commencing.

1.7 Rough grassland and shrubs have the potential to support nesting birds and provide habitat for a range of insectivores.

1.8 It is considered unlikely that the proposed structures and use of the area will detrimentally affect any potential wildlife present within the area. The inclusion of bat and bird boxes should be included into the development.

1.9 Any work on the northern banksides (scrub and rough grassland) should occur outside the bird breeding season of March to August inclusive. Any removal planned during the season will require a nesting bird survey conducted a maximum of two days prior to the planned removal.

1.10 If work has not commenced on the development within two years of the date of this survey, further surveys will be necessary.

1.11 If any BAP species are found during construction the project ecologist is to be informed so that further advice can be provided.

2. Introduction

2.1 Background

We are requested by Tolent Living Ltd to provide a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal to assess the habitat at Temple Park, South Shields.

It is proposed to create new cricket, rugby, and tennis sports pitches, including a new club house, 100 seat terrace and grounds keeper store. Also a nets store and car parking for 100+ cars is to be provided.

It is planned to fence the area using palisade fencing whilst keeping the present footpaths outside of the proposed fence line.

The surveys will:

- Identify existing sites designated for their nature conservation interest in the survey area, including a data search from relevant local wildlife groups,
- Evaluate the nature conservation importance of recorded habitats and of the site as a whole
- Identify possible ecological constraints on development and management of the survey area
- Record incidental records of animals

A written report will be provided presenting the above information. If any protected species are found during the inspection the incorporation of outline mitigation and compensation measures will be incorporated into the final report.

We were provided with the following documents:

- Proposed layout

2.2 Surveyors & Timing

Surveys were undertaken on Tuesday September 12th 2017 during daylight hours by Tricia Snaith.

Tricia Snaith holds

WML-A34-Level 2 (Class Licence) – to survey bats using artificial light, endoscopes, hand and hand-held static nets registered number 2015-14858-CLS-CLS

WML-CL08- To survey great crested newts for scientific(including research) or educational purposes – Level 1 (Class Licence), which covers surveying by hand, nets, torches and aquatic funnel traps (including bottle traps) registered number 2015-13610-CLS-CLS

Constraints Or Limitations To The Survey Or Report

The survey was conducted towards the end of the flowering season, plants were identifiable by their vegetative characteristics and seed heads present.

2.3 Site Location

Temple Park, South Shields
NE34 8NE
Grid Ref: NZ372636



Figure 2 – Position of the survey area using GIS & Google
The yellow circle indicates an approximate 2km zone

Temple Memorial Park, South Shields is an area of open land, holding both wild areas and sports facilities.

The site consists of long-infilled clay pits with substantial areas of made ground (mostly domestic waste), which has since been landscaped. The site was gifted to the borough in 1961.

The surrounding area is predominantly urban, with green belt land to the south.

The survey area sits between the two local wildlife sites. It is an area of well mown grassland with a number sports pitches. A number of well-used footpaths run through the site which appear to be popular with dog walkers.

The Durham coast is approximately 3km east and the River Tyne is 3km north.

3. Legal Status Of Protected Species

It is an offence for anyone to deliberately capture, injure or kill any such animal or to deliberately take or destroy their eggs. It is an offence to damage or destroy a breeding or resting place of such an animal. It is also an offence to have in one's possession or control, any live or dead European protected species.

A person will commit an offence if they deliberately disturb such animals in a way as to be likely significantly to affect

- (a) the ability of any significant groups of animals of that species to survive, breed, or rear or nurture their young, or
- (b) the local distribution of abundance of that species.

It is an offence to deliberately pick, collect, cut, uproot or destroy a wild plant of a European protected species. It is also an offence for any purpose to possess, sell or exchange such a plant.

3.1 UK & Local Biodiversity Action Plan

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) was published in 1994 in response to Article 6 of the Biodiversity Convention, to develop national strategies for the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of biological resources. The current list of UKBAP priority species and habitats was published in August 2007 and now contains 1150 species and 65 habitats.

This has led to Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) which identify local priorities for biodiversity conservation.

The potential impact of planning decisions on biodiversity and geological conservation need to be fully considered.

Note: This information is a guide only. Please refer to the full relevant texts for more information.

4. Survey Methodology

4.1 Pre-survey Data Search (Desk Top Survey)

Consultation of pre-existing information on Local Wildlife sites, biodiversity of the area and protected species at and around the survey site was obtained through the following:

- Google or Bing maps to study aerial photography and satellite imagery.
- Multi Agency Geographic Information Centre (MAGIC) a variety of searches are done to deduce the general character of the area and the presence of any relevant wildlife areas
- Local wildlife groups or the Local records centre for information on relevant protected species and / or bats within a 1km radius (5km for Barn Owls) of the survey area.
- Any previous reports containing relevant information.

These are used to determine if the development is within the geographical range and suitable habitat for the considered species.

4.2 Field Surveys

4.2.1 Phase 1 Habitat Survey

The field survey of the site was carried out in accordance with the methodology outlined in the JNCC handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey. Each parcel of land was assessed and classified. A walkover survey was conducted; habitat and features were target noted where appropriate.

Plant species were identified and compared to county axiophytes lists. Habitats which were identified as being of particular interest would be studied in more detail. Plant species lists with abundance were recorded for such areas, if necessary.

Until April 2010, there were only two non-native invasive plant species that developers really had to worry about finding - Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed. A further 38 species have been added to schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, for which it is a criminal offence to cause to grow in the wild. There are now over 20 non-aquatic species several of which lie dormant in the winter months. Identification of any of these plants will be noted during the survey.

The quality of field data will be affected by the season of the survey, with some plant species only being evident or identifiable in certain seasons.

4.2.2 Protected Species

Additional to the habitat survey, a scoping survey for the potential for the presence of any other European protected species and local Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species, (more details can be found on the UK Biodiversity Action Plan website) will be undertaken within the survey area.

The potential of these BAP species being present will be assessed from the desktop surveys, consultation responses, field signs and local knowledge. In particular:

- Trees or buildings present will be viewed for their potential for bat usage.
- If present any track ways, regularly used by badger, deer or relevant species, will be mapped.
- Any badger sett evidence will be recorded and assessed as to usage.
- Wetlands and waterways will be reviewed for their potential use by great crested newt, otter, water voles and white clawed crayfish.
- Bird presence and activity will be noted

4.3 Site Assessment

On the basis of the survey information the site will be categorised using a three point scale as follows:-

- 1= site of high conservation priority
- 2= site of lower priority for conservation
- 3 =site of limited wildlife interest.

Any sites rated 1 or 2 will also be categorised using the Institute of Ecological and Environmental Management - Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment (as detailed in appendix 7.3).

5. Survey Results

The raw data where appropriate can be found in the appendix.

5.1 Pre-survey Data Search (Desk Top Surveys)

5.1.1 Designated Sites

A search was made using MAGIC (Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside) to look for sites of wildlife interest with a 2km zone of the survey site.

Designations

Land-Based designations

Statutory

- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- Local Nature Reserves
- Moorland line
- National Nature Reserves
- National Parks
- Ramsar Sites
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Special Protection Areas
- Biosphere Reserves

Non-Statutory

- Community Forests
- Green Belt
- Heritage Coasts
- National Forest
- RSPB reserves (GB)

Habitat and Species

All habitats chosen

Land based schemes – none

Landscape

Landscape Classifications

- National Character Areas
- Natural Areas

MAGIC SSSI Impact Risk Zones – was used to assess the likely impacts of the development on any SSSIs/SACs/SPAs & Ramsar sites (England).

MAGIC identified the following:-

Designations

Statutory

Local Nature Reserves	3 parcels identified – Cleadon Hills, Marsden Old Quarry & Tiledsheds
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	2 parcels identified – West Farm Meadow & Cleadon Hill

Historic Statutory

	No Features found
--	-------------------

Non-statutory

	No Features found
--	-------------------

Habitats

MAGIC was used to identify the presence of the following BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) habitats within 2km of the survey site

Habitat type	
Lowland Calcareous Grassland	3 parcels identified
Lowland Meadows	1 parcel identified
Upland Hay Meadows	1 parcel identified
Lowland Fens	3 parcels identified

Other habitats – Priority Habitat Inventory	
Priority Habitat- No main habitat but additional habitats exist	2 parcels identified

Woodland habitats	
Deciduous Woodland	121 parcels identified totalling 35.45 ha
National Inventory of Woodland and Trees	28 parcels totalling 45.37 ha Broadleaved - 23 Coniferous – 2 Other - 3

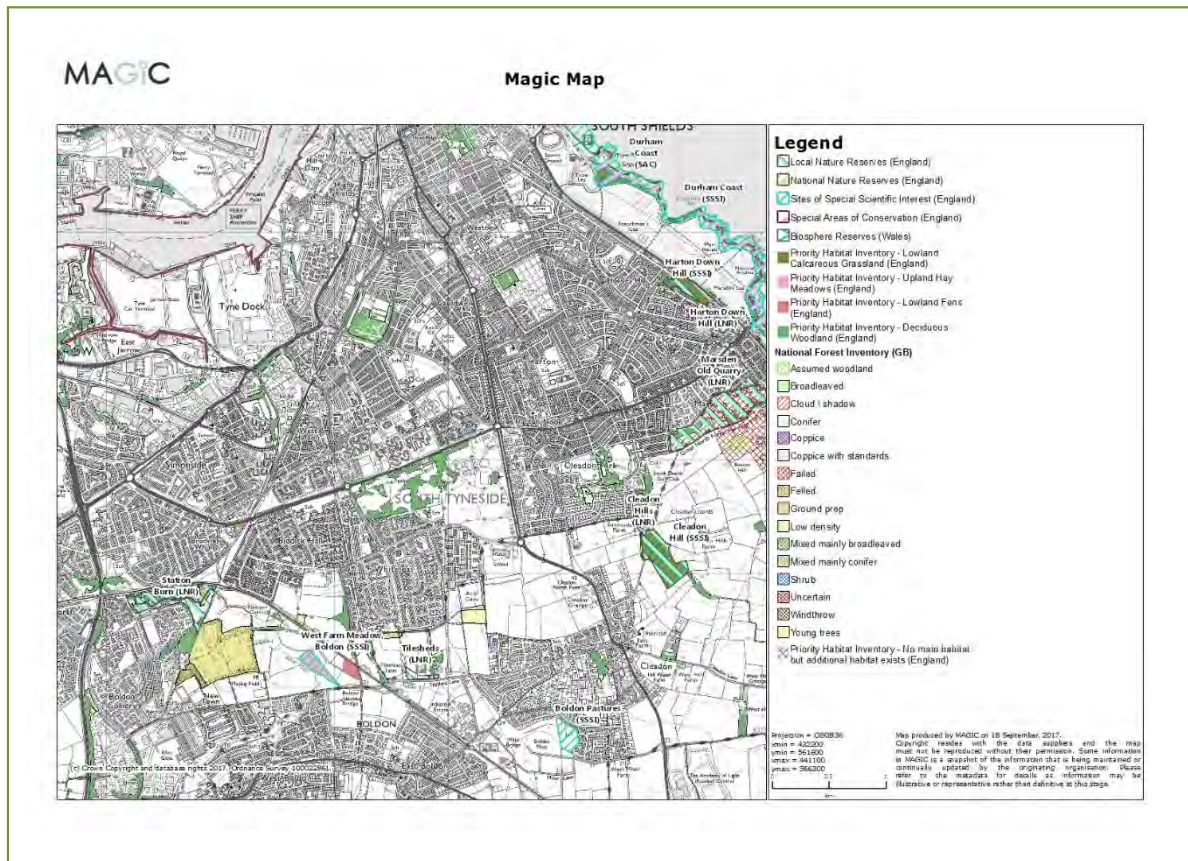


Figure 3 – Designated Areas & Habitat Inventories 2km around the survey site using magic maps.

SSSI IRZ Impact Zone Assessment

The proposed development sits within one SSSI IRZ – the nature of the proposals do not match any criteria necessary to inform Natural England.

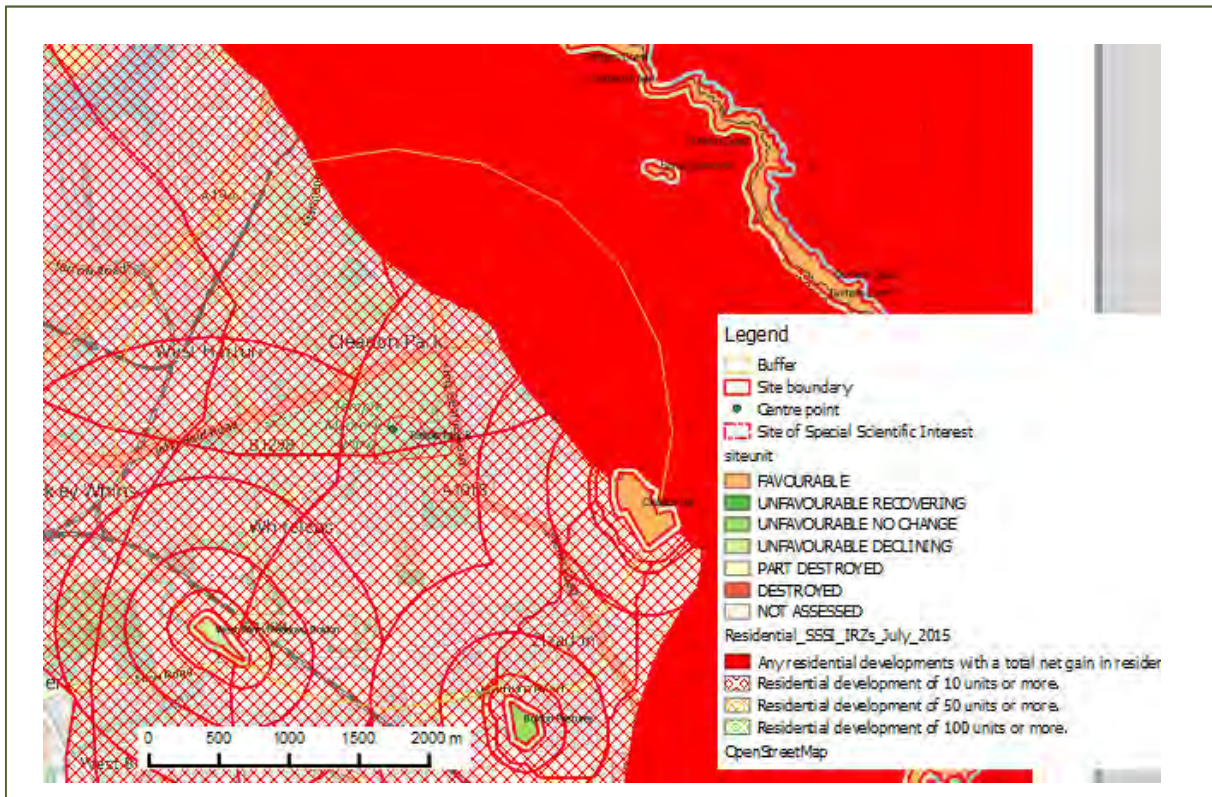


Figure 4 - Indicating the SSSI's and their - IRZ 2km around survey area data supplied by natural England <http://www.gis.naturalengland.org.uk/> © Natural England copyright [2016]

5.1.1 Local Wildlife Data

European Protected Species Licensing

MAGIC was used to identify the presence of Granted Protective Species Applications 2km of the survey site.

European Protected Species	
Bats	Two identified

ERIC North East supplied a site and species data search.

Site Search

The survey area shares a boundary to the south of the site with Temple Park East. Temple Park West sits to the west of the site with around 2.2ha sitting within the survey area.



Figure 5 – Position of LWS & species in relation to the survey area

Species Search

Using the data provided by ERIC NE the following species were identified as present within the Temple Park LWS:-

Scientific Name	Common Name	Taxonomic	Location	Grid Reference	
<i>Fallopia japonica</i>	Japanese Knotweed	flowering plant	Temple Park East	NZ373633	29/09/2005
<i>Onobrychis viciifolia</i>	Sainfoin	flowering plant	Temple Park East	NZ373633	29/09/2005
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i> subsp. <i>flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	flowering plant	Temple Park. Typha swamp	NZ370638	09/09/2007
<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	West European Hedgehog	terrestrial mammal	Temple Park Leisure Centre/Memorial Park	NZ372634	11/05/2011
<i>Erinaceus europaeus</i>	West European Hedgehog	terrestrial mammal	Temple Park Leisure Centre	NZ372634	11/05/2011

5.2 Field Surveys

5.2.1 Phase I Habitat Survey

A parcel of around 15ha of land, approximately 600m by 300m. Sitting to the west of King George Road and north of Nevison Avenue.

The survey was carried out using Phase 1 methodology and the area was broadly categorised using Phase 1 habitats, the data was used to complete an Ecological Constraints & Opportunities Plan

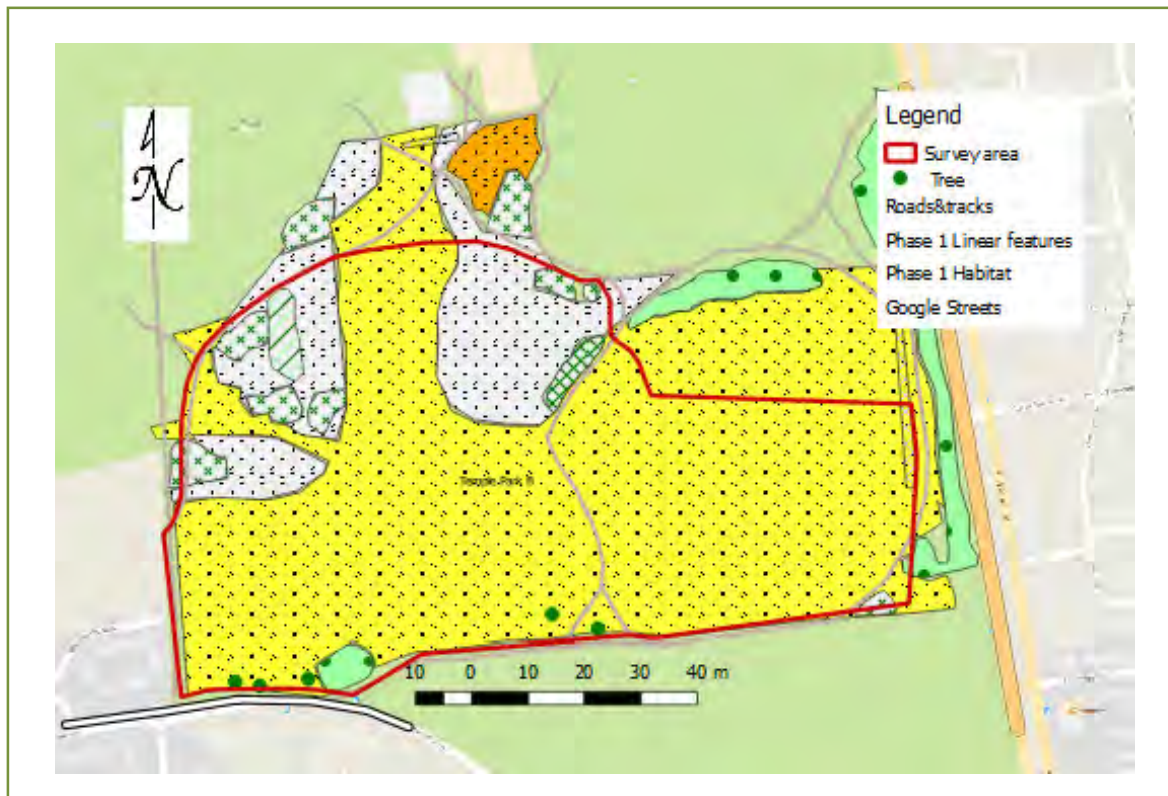


Figure 6 – Identification of features within the survey area.

The site is situated in the central area of Temple Memorial Park in the open access land to the south of Temple Park Leisure Centre. Well-lit public footpaths encircle and bisect the site

Local wildlife sites are present to the west and south of the area. The central area is predominantly well mown grassland with marked football and rugby pitches.

No physical barriers demarcate the site at present. Footpaths have been used as boundary features.

The predominant vegetation within the site is amenity grassland, with rugby pitches present on the eastern end and football pitches on the western side within the level southern area. Swathes of mown grassland follow the raised banks along the northern portion of the site, creating mown grass linkage with the leisure centre to the north.

Wild flower beds have been planted in a strip along the eastern footpath, these are also present to the north of the survey area 'behind' the sports centre.

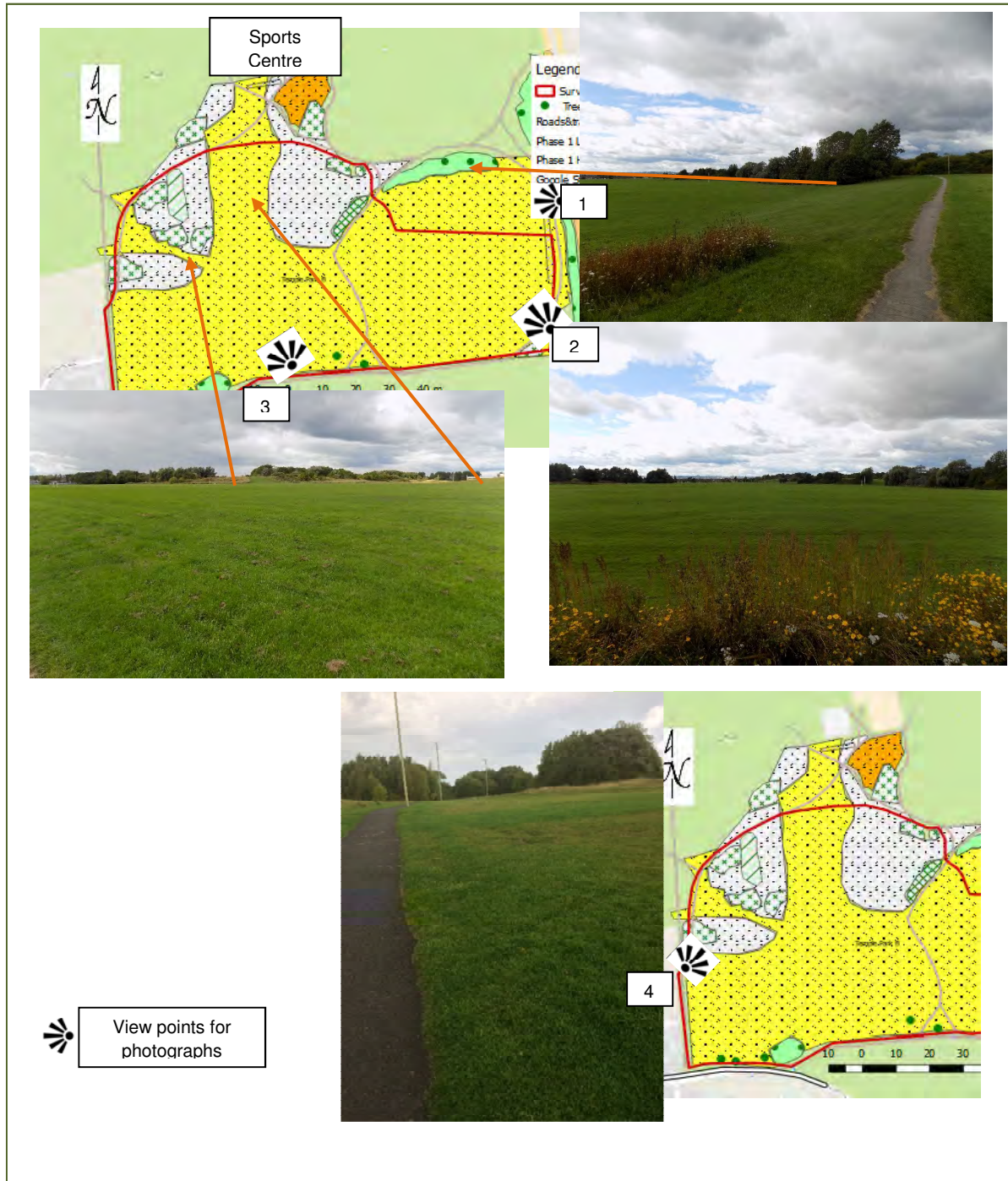


Figure 7 – Views across the amenity grassland

The northern portion of the site has parcels of poor quality semi-improved neutral grassland and scattered scrub. Vegetation includes cocksfoot, Yorkshire fog and sheep's fescue with tall ruderal vegetation in places – rosebay willow herb, meadow cranesbill, cow parsley with daisy, dandelion and birds-foot trefoil in the shorter grass.

The scrub is a mixture of both native and non-native species. See woodland descriptions.

The north eastern corner of the site is within the boundaries of Temple Park West Local Wildlife Site.

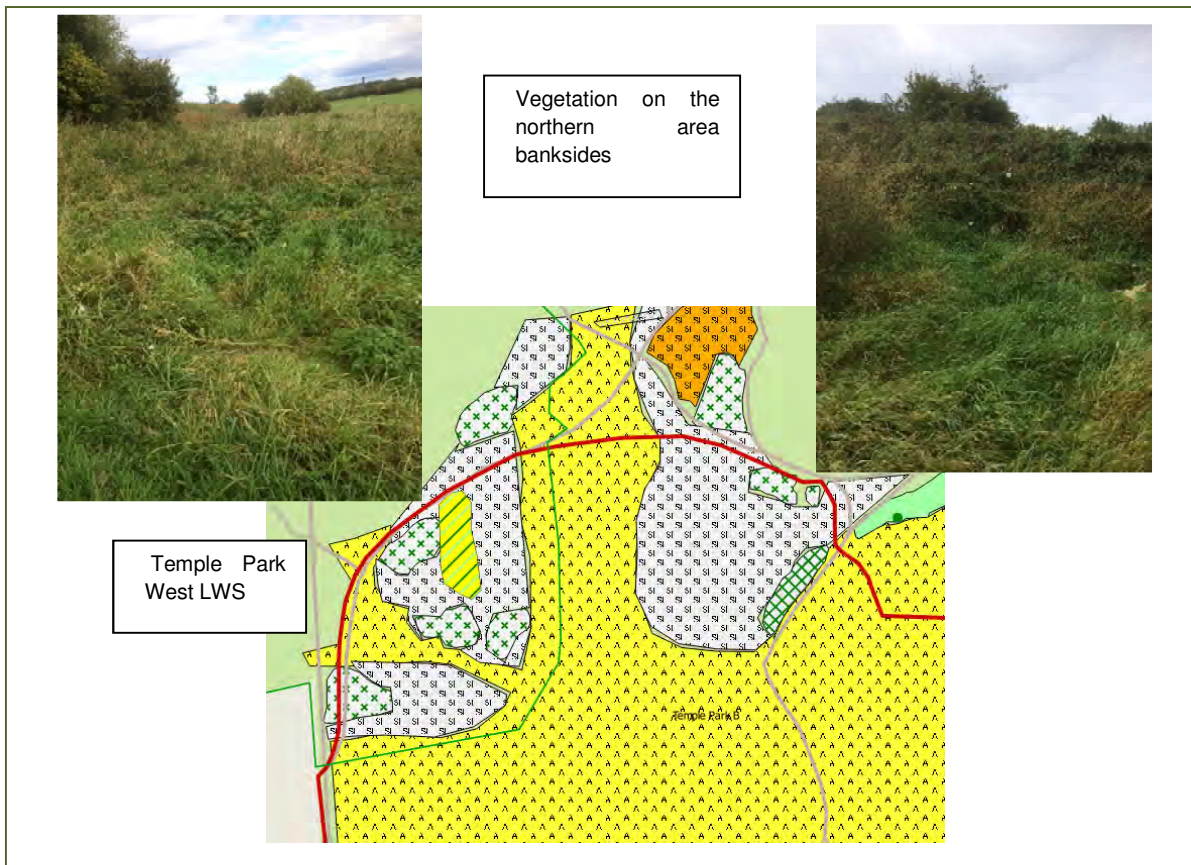


Figure 8 – Northern banksides

Woodland & Scrub – The trees and shrubs present within the survey area are predominantly planted up in groups with some individual trees, using both native and non-naïve species.

Species present on site are - alder, ash, Grey aspen, aspen, blackthorn, cherry plum, common alder, crack willow, elder, English oak, field maple, Goat willow, grey alder, hawthorn, hazel, large-leaved lime, Norway maple, osier, poplar, rowan, silver birch, Swedish whitebeam, sycamore, Turkish hazel, western balsam, white poplar, white willow, wild cherry.

The trees are described in detail within the Arboricultural Impact Assessment provided by AllAboutTrees.

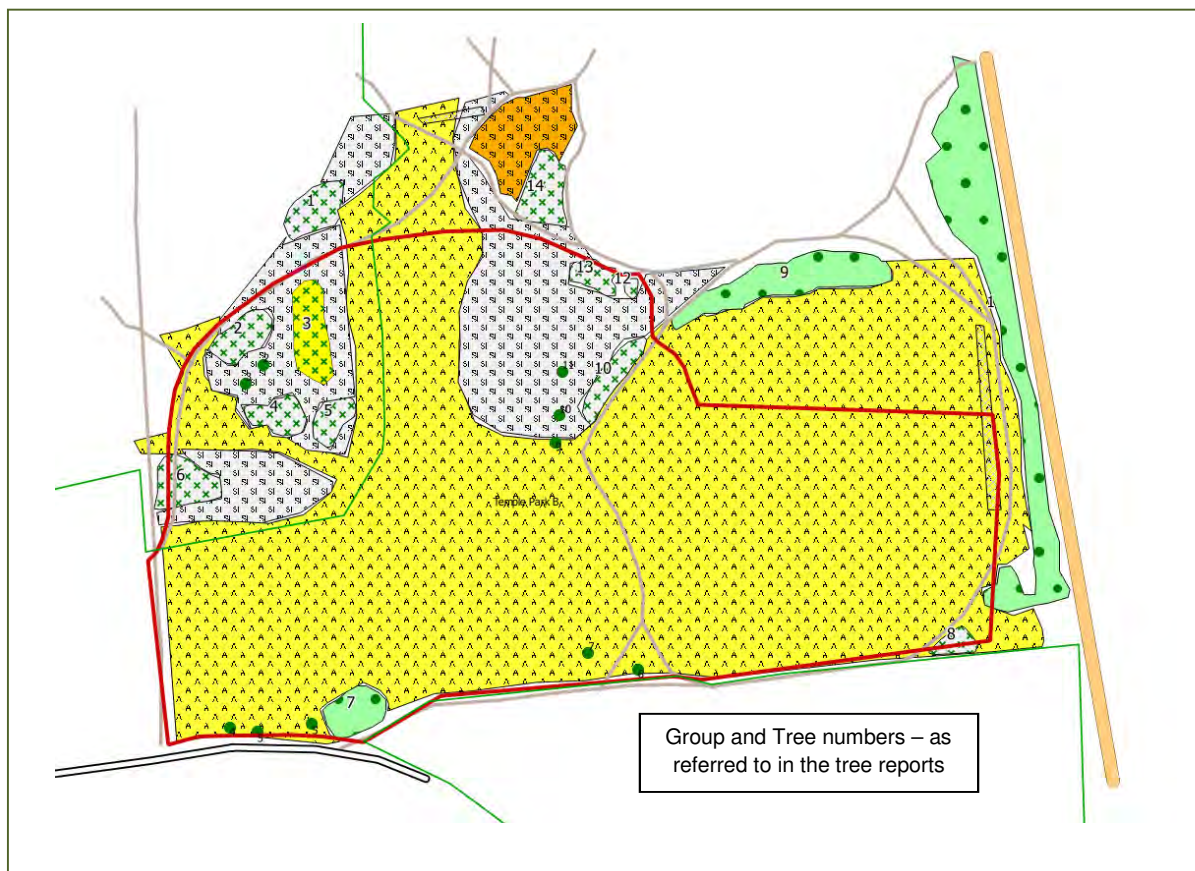


Figure 9 – Woodland and scrub

5.2.2 Protected Species Scoping Survey

No evidence of protected species were identified whilst on site.

The site has the potential to support –

Badgers – no setts were identified on site, the site has the potential for foraging and commuting.

Bats – there are no suitable buildings or trees present on site, the site has the potential to support foraging and commuting bats.

Great crested newts – there are no ponds present on site or within 250m of the survey boundaries.

Riparian species – there are no water courses present on site.

Invertebrates – the site has some potential to support invertebrates.

5.3 Site Assessment

The general assessment is that the land falls into category 3 - that of limited wildlife interest.

Parcels within the site have value at the Parish/Neighbourhood level which can be considered as area of habitat considered to appreciably enrich the habitat resource within the context of the Parish or neighbourhood.

Habitat Assessment

MAGIC identified the site as sitting within Impact Risk Zones for a site area of nationally important habitat. The following sites are within 2km of the survey

- Cleadon Hills – Local Nature Reserve
- Tiledsheds – Local Nature Reserve
- Marsden Old Quarry – Local Nature Reserve
- West Farm Meadow, Boldon – SSSI's
- Cleadon Hill – SSSI's

MAGIC identified that the site sits within a SSSI IRZ it is considered that the nature of the development will not require consultation with Natural England.

A portion of the site also lies within a Local Wildlife Site

Local Wildlife Site – The portion of Local Wildlife Site is included within the survey area, the DBAP habitat map identifies the presence of Lowland Heath and Scattered scrub Durham BAP habitats.

Inappropriately planted non-native species and amenity grassland.

We have been supplied with the BAP habitat map for the two LWS – Temple Park West and Temple Park East.

Habitat assessments were compared for the area within the survey area – The BAP habitats identified previously within the area were

- Scrub scattered
- Lowland meadow and pasture

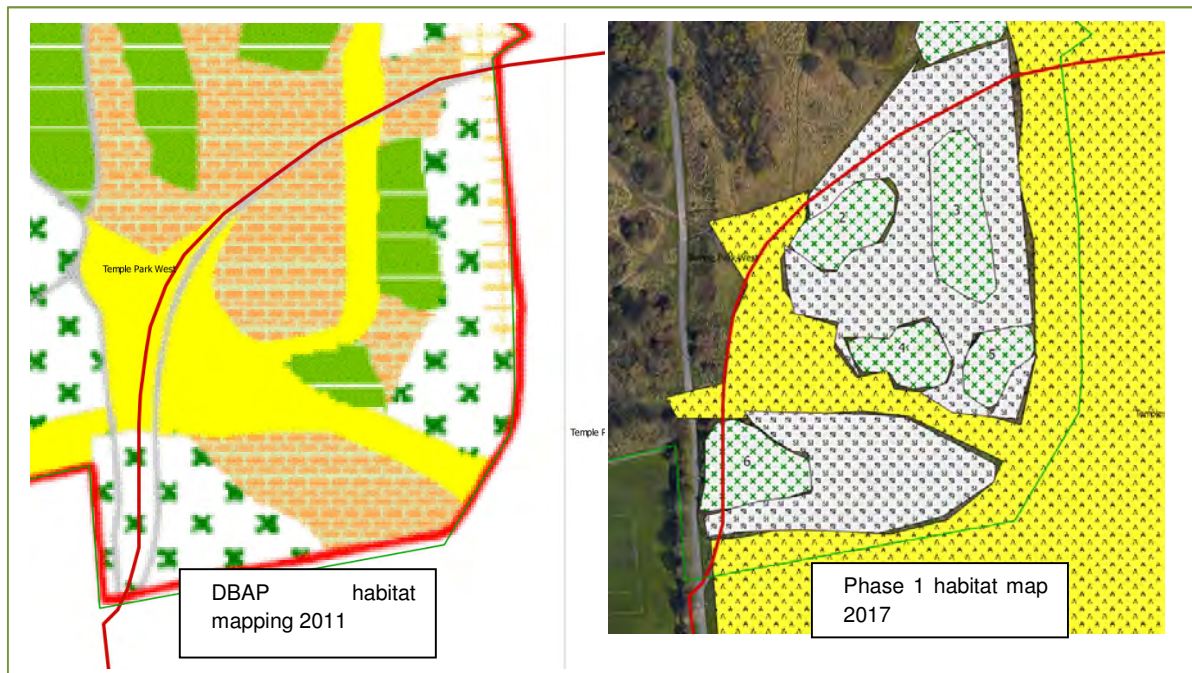


Figure 10 - Comparison of recorded habitats

Comparing the previous BAP habitat survey map and the Phase 1 conducted by ourselves.

Amenity grassland – the area covered by amenity grassland has remained constant, a grass pathway present was altered to semi-improved neutral grassland.

Scattered scrub – five parcels of vegetation have been identified as scrub:

- Parcels 3 & 4 have remained the same these were classified in the BAP habitat as inappropriately planted non-native species.
- Parcels 5 & 6 have reduced their area of coverage.
- Parcel 2 was not identified as present within the BAP survey.

Lowland Meadow & Pasture – The areas previously identified as lowland meadow had few herbs present within the vegetation at the time of the Phase 1 survey with both Yorkshire fog and cocksfoot as the dominant grasses present. The retention of Lowland Meadow vegetation requires grazing / mowing to mimic grazing. Lack of management is allowing more aggressive grasses to become dominant. These areas have been classified as poor quality semi-improved neutral grassland.

Species Assessment

Birds – the survey was conducted during the bird nesting season. Many of the trees, hedges and shrubs present had nesting birds present.

Bat & Barn owls – There are no buildings or suitable trees present on site to provide suitable roosting structures.

Great crested newts – There is no standing water present on site. Ponds were present within the adjacent LWS these have become infiltrated with vegetation. Great crested newts have not been reported within either of the adjacent LWS.

Badgers – there is potential for badgers in the adjacent LWS none have been recorded, the site has limited potential for use by badgers, there is no evidence of larger mammal tracks across the site and no evidence of badger setts on sit.

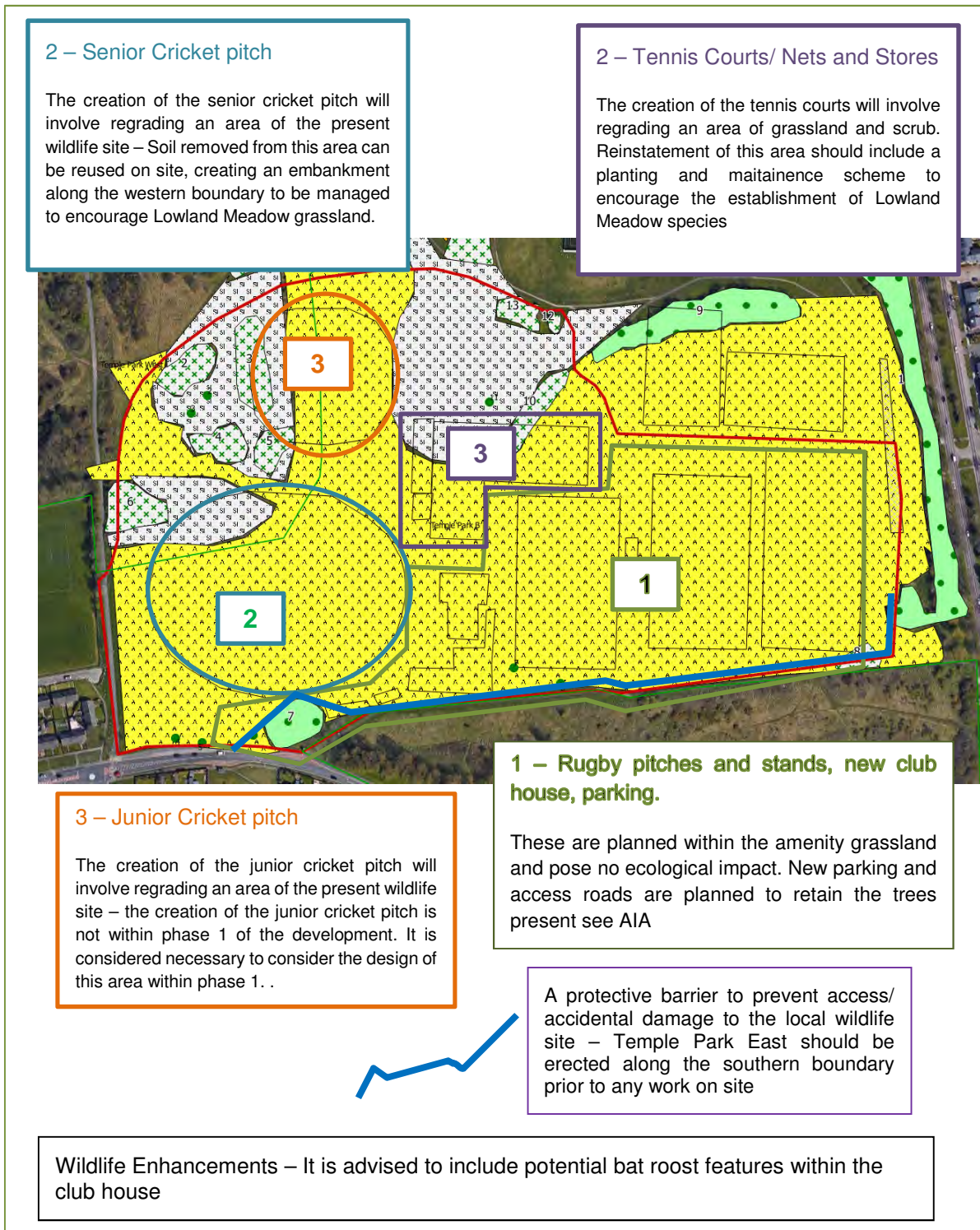
Riparian species – otters, water vole and White-clawed crayfish, - there are no suitable stretches of water on site or within the vicinity of the proposed development.

Hedgehog – have been recorded around the survey area and the site has suitable habitat present.

Insectivores – the areas around the periphery of the site, the un-mown areas of the site have the potential to provide food sources for a range of invertebrates

There was no evidence of any other animals present on site.

5.3.1 Ecological Constraints & Opportunities Plan



6. Conclusion & Recommendations

Conclusion

- 6.1 Desktop surveys identifies the survey area is within 2km of several statutory sites, the nature of the development is not of considered to impact on these areas.
- 6.2 The proposed development shares a boundary with Temple Park East and includes 2ha of Temple Park West.
- 6.3 The field survey identified an area of predominantly amenity grassland, with parcels of poor semi-improved neutral grassland and scrub.
- 6.4 A data search provide by ERIC NE did not identify the presence of any protected species within the site in question.
- 6.5 The area has the potential to support foraging and commuting for some protected species – bats & hedgehogs.
- 6.6 The scrub and trees present on site have the potential to support a range of nesting birds, including ground nesting birds.
- 6.7 Additional information has identified the presence of migrating birds within sites to the north east of the survey area.
- 6.8 Creation of some of the pitches will involve to regrading of the area, potentially exposing a previous domestic refuse landfill site.
- 6.9 Considerate restoration and management plans could reinstate lowland meadow grassland within the site.

Recommendations

- 6.10 Installation of protective fencing along the southern boundary prior to any work starting to prevent and damage occurring to the local wildlife site to the south.
- 6.11 Regrading the site to create the senior cricket pitch and the tennis courts should involve the reuse of soil within the site to rearrange the position of embankment.
- 6.12 Management plans for the site should be designed to enhance and increase the areas of previous identified as lowland meadow.
- 6.13 Consideration of the position and design of the junior cricket pitch should be included in phase 1.
- 6.14 The inclusion of bat and bird boxes is advised within the new development.

6.15 Nesting bird surveys, for both ground nesting birds and those using trees and shrubs, will be necessary for any vegetation removal carried out during the breeding bird season March 1st to August 31st inclusive.

For and on behalf of
AllAboutTrees Ltd

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Appendices

7.1 References

- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
- Government Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (PPS9)
- Chartered Institute for Ecology and Environmental Management - Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland Terrestrial, Freshwater and Coastal Second Edition January 2016
- Handbook for Phase 1 habitat survey – a technique for environmental audit – England Field Unit Nature Conservancy Council 1990 revised 2007
- Bat Conservation Trust – Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists – Good Practice Guidelines 3rd Edition 2016
- Great Crested Newt Suitability Index – Oldham R.S., Keeble J., Swan M.J.S. & Jeffcote M. (2000). Evaluating the suitability of habitat for the Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*). Herpetological Journal 10 (4), 143-155.

7.2 Legal Status Of Protected Species - Background

7.2.1 The Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 is the primary legislation which protects animals, plants, and certain habitats in the UK. This act was amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, which covers England and Wales but not Scotland. Wild birds and certain other wild animals are legally protected.

- Schedule 5 in the Wildlife and Countryside Act lists the animals other than birds that qualify for protection.

With certain exceptions and exemptions, it is an offence (without a licence):

- intentionally to take animals listed on Schedule 5 from the wild
- intentionally to kill or injure these wild animals
- to possess any of these wild animals (live or dead) or any part or derivative of them
- intentionally or (in England and Wales) recklessly to damage, destroy or obstruct the places these animals use for shelter and protection
- intentionally or (in England and Wales) recklessly to disturb these animals when they are using such places
- to trade in any of these wild animals (live or dead) or any part of them.

7.2.2 The Conservation Of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010

Paragraph 41.—(1) A person commits an offence if they deliberately capture, injure or kill any wild animal of a European protected species; or deliberately disturbs wild animals of any such species impairing the ability of any significant group of animals of that species to survive, breed, or rear or nurture their young; or in the case of animals of a hibernating or migratory species, to hibernate or migrate; or to affect significantly the local distribution or abundance of the species to which they belong.

Paragraph 40. The species of animals listed in Annex IV(a) to the Habitats Directive whose natural range includes any area in Great Britain are listed in Schedule 2.

7.2.3 European Protected Species Of Animals

Conservation (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1994 (as amended)

Common name	Scientific name
Bats, Horseshoe (all species)	<i>Rhinolophidae</i>
Bats, Typical (all species)	<i>Vespertilionidae</i>
Butterfly, Large Blue	<i>Maculinea arion</i>
Cat, Wild	<i>Felis silvestris</i>
Dolphins, porpoises and whales (all species)	<i>Cetacea</i>
Dormouse	<i>Muscardinus avellanarius</i>
Frog, Pool*	<i>Rana lessonae</i>
Lizard, Sand	<i>Lacerta agilis</i>
Moth, Fisher's Estuarine*	<i>Gortyna borelii lunata</i>
Newt, Great Crested (or Warty)	<i>Triturus cristatus</i>
Otter, Common	<i>Lutra lutra</i>
Snail, Lesser Whirlpool Ram's-horn*	<i>Anisus vorticulus</i>
Snake, Smooth	<i>Coronella austriaca</i>
Sturgeon	<i>Acipenser sturio</i>
Toad, Natterjack	<i>Bufo calamita</i>
Turtles, Marine	<i>Caretta caretta, Chelonia mydas, Lepidochelys kempii, Eretmochelys imbricate, Dermochelys coriacea</i>

*These species were added to Schedule 2 (European protected species of animals) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994 on 1st October 2008 via Statutory Instrument 2008 No.2172 The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2008

7.2.4 European Protected Species Of Plants

Schedule 5 Regulation 44(1)

Common name	Scientific name
Dock, Shore	<i>Rumex rupestris</i>
Fern, Killarney	<i>Trichomanes speciosum</i>
Gentian, Early	<i>Gentianella anglica</i>
Lady's-slipper	<i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>
Marshwort, Creeping	<i>Apium repens</i>
Naiad, slender	<i>Najas flexilis</i>
Orchid, Fen	<i>Liparis loeselii</i>
Plantain, Floating-leaved water	<i>Luronium natans</i>
Saxifrage, Yellow Marsh	<i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>

NOTE. The common name or names given in the first column of this Schedule are included by way of guidance only; in the event of any dispute or proceedings, the common name or names shall not be taken into account.

7.2.5 UK & Local Biodiversity Action Plan

At the first 'Earth Summit' held in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, governments acknowledged that the planet's biodiversity was being severely depleted. Over 150 world leaders signed the Convention on Biological Diversity. In doing so, they agreed to play a part in restoring the richness of the Earth's biodiversity.

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) was published in 1994 in response to Article 6 of the Biodiversity Convention, to develop national strategies for the conservation of biological diversity and the sustainable use of biological resources. The current list of UKBAP priority species (and habitats) was published in August 2007 and now contains 1150 species: Birds, Fish, Fungi (including lichens), Herptiles, Marine-only species, Non-vascular plants, Terrestrial Invertebrates, Terrestrial Mammals and Vascular plants and 65 habitats.

Now the four Country Groups (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales) take responsibility for overseeing implementation of the individual action plans, raising public awareness, encouraging implementation at the local level and promoting environmental education.

The England Biodiversity Group, which involves stakeholders from public, private and the voluntary sector, advises the Government on the implementation of the UKBAP in England.

In particular, it oversees development and delivery of the Biodiversity Strategy for England as set out in 'Working with the grain of nature'.

The Group is chaired by Defra who provide its secretariat through the Biodiversity Policy Unit.

The North East Biodiversity Forum was founded in 2000 and is a partnership of over 25 different organisations covering Northumberland, County Durham, Tees Valley and Tyne and Wear. The Forum members share a common interest in conserving and improving the biodiversity of the region.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAPs) identify local priorities for biodiversity conservation and work to deliver agreed actions and targets for specific habitats and species. LBAPs are delivered through wide local partnerships that involve wildlife organisations, local authorities, businesses and other interested parties.

7.2.6 Key Principles Of Planning

On 28th March 2012 the UK government published the final version of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), this sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how they should be applied. (NPPF is available to download on line)

Planning should enhance the natural environment and where possible providing net gains for biodiversity, Local Plans should "*plan positively for development*" (Para 157), with a "*presumption in favour of sustainable development, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking*" (Para 14). "*decision-takers at every level should seek to approve applications for sustainable development where possible*" (Para 187) and "*in assessing and determining development proposals, local planning authorities should apply the presumption in favour of sustainable development*" (Para 197).

"*encourage the effective use of land by reusing land that has been previously developed (brownfield land), provided that it is not of high environmental value*" (Para 17).

"*development proposals where the primary objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity should be permitted*" and "*opportunities to incorporate biodiversity in and around developments should be encouraged*" (Para 118).

Also, the "*presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 14) does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment under the Birds or Habitats Directives is being considered, planned or determined*" (Para 119).

Economic, social and environmental roles of sustainable development being mutually dependent on each other and therefore should not be viewed in isolation (Para 8).

7.3 Site Assessment

See the Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment produced by the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) used in sites assessed as 1 or 2 in section 4.3.

Level of Value	Examples
International	An internationally designated site or candidate site. A viable area of a habitat type listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive, or smaller areas of such habitat, which are essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. Any regularly occurring population of an internationally important species, which is threatened or rare in the UK. Any regularly occurring, nationally significant population/number of any internationally important species.
National	A nationally designated site. A viable area of a priority habitat identified in the UK BAP, or smaller areas of such habitat, which are essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. Any regularly occurring population of a nationally important species, which is threatened or rare in the region or county. A regularly occurring regionally or county significant population/number of any nationally important species. A feature identified as of critical importance in the UK BAP.
Regional	Viable areas of key habitat identified in the Regional BAP or smaller areas of such habitat, which are essential to maintain the viability of a larger whole. A regularly occurring, locally significant number of a regionally important species.
County/ Metropolitan	County/Metropolitan designated sites. A viable area of a habitat type identified in the County BAP. 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 species important in a County/Metropolitan context.
District/ Borough	Areas of habitat identified in a District/Borough level BAP. Sites designated at a District/Borough level. Sites/features that are scarce within the District/Borough or which appreciably enrich the District/Borough habitat resource. A population of a species that is listed in a District/Borough BAP because of its rarity in the locality.
Parish/ Neighbourhood	Area of habitat considered to appreciably enrich the habitat resource within the context of the Parish or neighbourhood. Local Nature Reserves.
Low	Habitats of poor to moderate diversity such as established conifer plantations, species poor hedgerows and unintensively managed grassland that may support a range of Local BAP species but which are unexceptional, common to the local area and whose loss can generally be readily mitigated.

7.4 Raw Data

Only raw data not already used within the report will be presented here.

7.4.1 MAGIC – Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (including the Ancient Woodland Inventory)

Site Check Report generated on Wed Sep 01 2017

Centroid Grid Ref: NZ372636

The following features have been found in the search area:

Counties, Metropolitan Districts and Unitary Authorities (GB)	South Tyneside
Parishes (GB)	Non-civil parish

Designations

Land-Based Designations

Statutory

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	No Features found
Local Nature Reserves	3 parcels identified – Cleadon Hills, Marsden Old Quarry & Tiledsheds
Moorland Line	No Features found
National Nature Reserves	No Features found
National Parks	No Features found
National Parks: Lake District and Yorkshire Dales Variation Orders 2012 - subject to confirmation	No Features found
Ramsar Sites	No Features found
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	2 parcels identified – West farm Meadow & Cleadon Hill
Special Areas of Conservation	No Features found
Special Protection Areas	No Features found
Biosphere Reserves	No Features found

Historic Statutory

World Heritage Sites	No Features found
Registered Parks and Gardens	No Features found

Non-statutory

Community Forests	No Features found
Green Belt	No Features found
Heritage Coasts	No Features found
National Forest	No Features found
RSPB Reserves (GB)	No Features found

Habitats

MAGIC was used to identify the presence of the following BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) habitats within 2km of the survey site

Habitat type	
Coastal Saltmarsh	No Features found
Coastal Sand Dunes	No Features found
Coastal Vegetated Shingle	No Features found
Maritime Cliffs and Slopes	No Features found
Mudflats	No Features found
Saline Lagoons	No Features found
Calaminarian Grassland	No Features found
Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh	No Features found
Good quality semi-improved grassland	No Features found
Lowland Calcareous Grassland	3 parcels identified
Lowland Dry Acid Grassland	No Features found
Lowland Meadows	1 parcel identified
Purple Moor Grass and Rush Pasture	No Features found
Upland Calcareous Grassland	No Features found
Upland Hay Meadows	1 parcel identified
Lowland Heathland	No Features found
Mountain Heaths & Willow Scrub	No Features found
Upland Heathland	No Features found
Limestone Pavements	No Features found
Intertidal Substrate Foreshore	No Features found
Blanket Bog	No Features found
Lowland Fens	3 parcels identified
Lowland Raised Bog	No Features found
Reedbed	No Features found
Upland Flushes, Fens and Swamps	No Features found

Other habitats – Priority Habitat Inventory	
Fragmented heath (non-priority)	No Features found
Grass Moorland (non-priority)	No Features found
Priority Habitat- No main habitat but additional habitats exist	2 parcels identified

Woodland habitats	
Ancient Woodland	No Features found
Traditional Orchard	No Features found
Forestry Commission Legal Boundary	No Features found
Deciduous Woodland	121 parcels identified totalling 35.45 ha
National Inventory of Woodland and Trees	28 parcels totalling 45.37 ha Broadleaved - 23 Coniferous – 2

Woodland habitats	
	Other - 3
Woodpasture and Parkland	No Features found

European Protected Species Licensing

MAGIC was used to identify the presence of Granted Protective Species Applications 2km of the survey site.

European Protected Species	
Amphibian	None identified
Bats	Two identified
Cetacean	None identified
Invertebrate	None identified
Other mammal	None identified
Plant	None identified
Reptile	None identified

SSSI IRZ Impact Zone Assessment

– using Appendix 1 – Flow Chart from User Guidance – Natural England’s Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

	Yes	No
Does the development sit within an SSSI IRZ (if yes how many)	1	
Does the proposed development fall into one or more of the development categories listed on the left hand margin of the table	N/A	
Does the nature and scale of the proposed development match the corresponding development description listed in the right hand margin of the table		N/A

Identify the result from table either

- The proposed development is unlikely to pose a risk to SSSIs
- The proposed development has the potential to impact upon a SSSI – natural England should be consulted for advice on how impacts might be avoided or mitigated

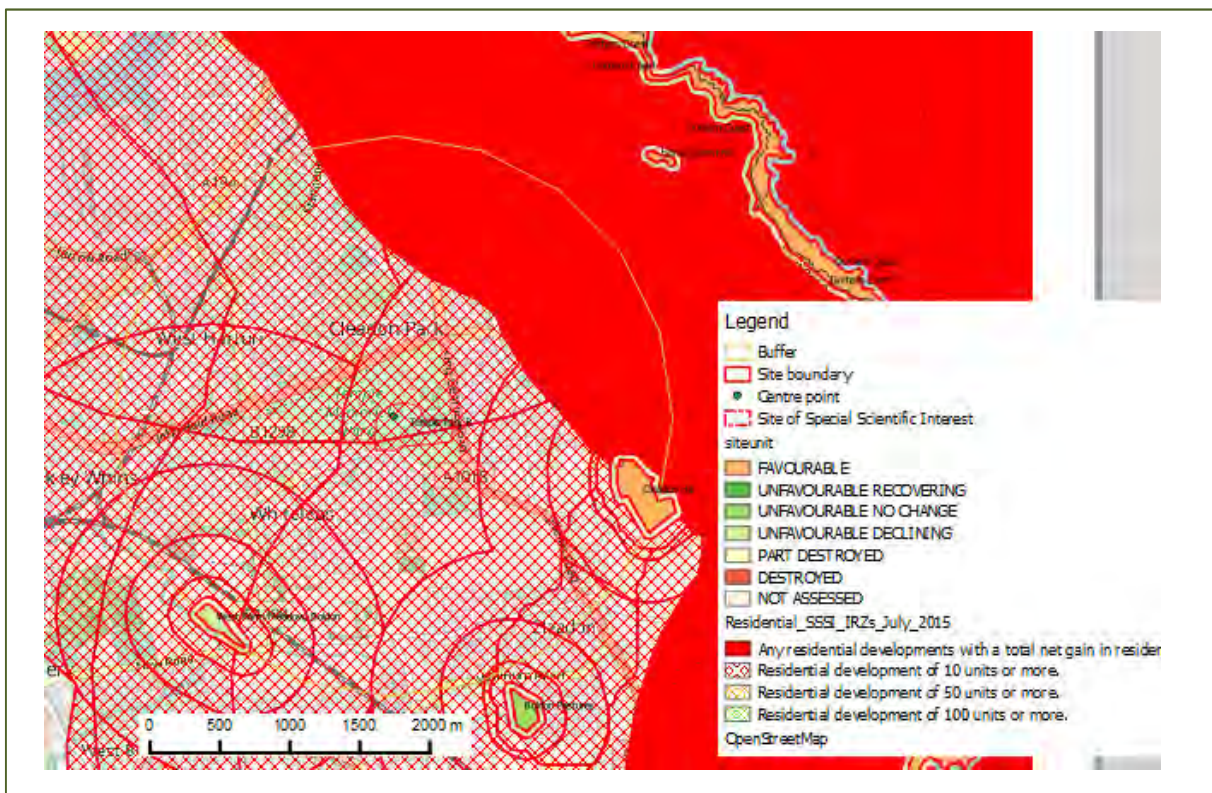
Result

development categories listed on the left hand margin of the table	development description listed in the right hand margin of the table

Site Check Report

The proposed development does not fit any of the described criteria within the IRZ.

The proposed development does sit within an SSSI IRZ.



Indicating the SSSI's and their - IRZ 2km around survey area
 data supplied by natural England <http://www.gis.naturalengland.org.uk/> © Natural England copyright [2016]

7.4.2 Local Record Centre Data

Data was supplied ERIC North East

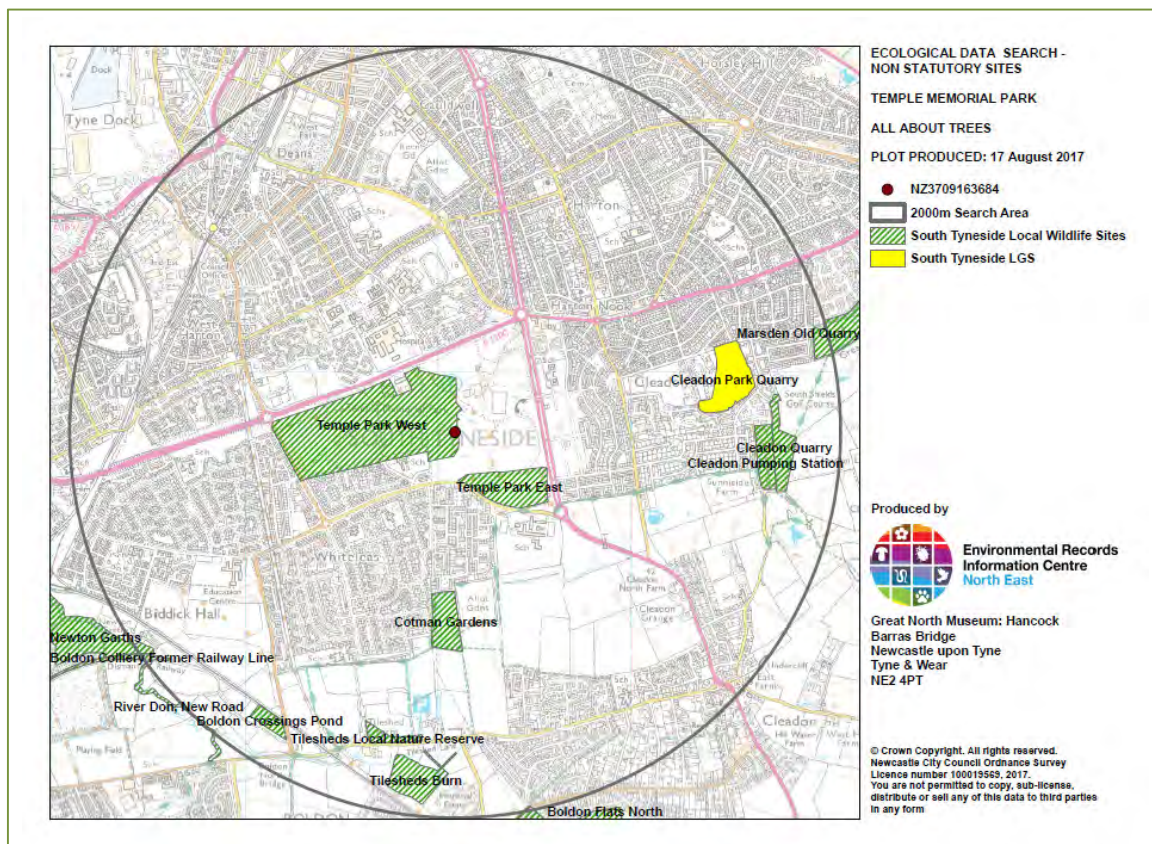
Non-Statutory Sites

Local Wildlife Sites

Boldon Colliery Former Railway Line (ST29)
 Temple Park West
 Boldon Crossing Pond (ST25)
 Tilesheds Nature Reserve (ST27)
 Cotman Gardens
 Marsden Old Quarry (ST43)
 Cleadon Pumping Station (ST8)
 River Don New Road
 Temple Park East
 Tilesheds Burn (ST28)
 Boldon Flats (ST20)

Local Geodiversity Site

Cleadon Quarry (ST9)



Species Data Search

The full set of data can be provided on request 539 records were provided.

Group	Number of records	No of species
Amphibian	29	7
Birds	155	73
Insect	173	33
Terrestrial Mammal	115	12
Marine Mammal	4	2
Mollusc	2	2
Flowering plant	52	17
Reptile	4	4

7.4.3 Internet Search

Personal communication identified that a Pallas's grasshopper warbler had been caught within the search area. A search of the internet provided the following

<http://www.shieldsgazette.com/news/environment/twitchers-flock-to-see-rare-bird-1-4975176>

The Pallas's grasshopper warbler breeds in Siberia and the Far East and migrates to South East Asia, it is thought the bird was probably migrating and was blown off course during the recent storms.

7.4.2 Plant list

Plant list of species identified on site.

Scientific name	English name		Temple Park, South Shields
<i>Grasses, Sedges and Rushes</i>			
<i>fescue sp</i>	Festuca sp		y
<i>Poa sp</i>	meadow grass		y
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent		y
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent		y
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass		y
<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>	Cock's-foot	B2.1	y
<i>Festuca ovina</i>	Sheep's-fescue	B1.2	y
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue		y
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	B2.2	y
<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Perennial Rye-grass	B4	y
<i>Phleum pratense</i>	Timothy		y
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass		y
<i>Trees & Shrubs</i>			
See tree reports			
<i>Herbs</i>			
<i>Achillea millefolium</i>	Yarrow		y
<i>Anthriscus sylvestris</i>	Cow Parsley		y
<i>Bellis perennis</i>	Daisy	B4	y
<i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i>	Shepherd's-purse		y
<i>Cardamine hirsuta</i>	Hairy bittercress		y
<i>Centaurea nigra</i>	Common Knapweed		y
<i>Chamerion angustifolium</i>	Rosebay Willowherb		y
<i>Cirsium</i>	Thistle sp	B2.2	y
<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	Foxglove		y
<i>Geranium pratense</i>	Meadow Crane's-bill		y
<i>Geranium robertianum</i>	Herb-Robert		y
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens		y
<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>	Hogweed		y
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain		y
<i>Potentilla anserina</i>	Silverweed		y
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup		y
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble		y
<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>	Common Ragwort		y
<i>Taraxacum agg.</i>	Dandelion	B4	y

Preliminary Ecological Appraisal At Temple Park, South Shields

For Tolent Living Ltd

28th September 2017

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Scientific name	English name		Temple Park, South Shields
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover		y
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	B2.2, B4	y
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Common Nettle	B2.2	y

The following trees were identified during the Arboricultural survey

Tree No.	Species Latin Name - Common Name	Bat Roost Potential
1	Swedish Whitebeam <i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	None
2	Large-leaved Lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	None
3	Large-leaved Lime <i>Tilia platyphyllos</i>	None
4	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	None
5	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	None
6	Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	None
7	Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	None
8	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	None
9	Silver Birch <i>Betula pendula</i>	None
10	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	None
11	Sycamore <i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	None
1	Swedish Whitebeam Field Maple Hawthorn Common Alder Blackthorn Elder Rowan Goat Willow Hazel Turkish Hazel English Oak Cherry Plum Ash <i>Sorbus intermedia, Acer campestre, Crataegus monogyna, Alnus glutinosa, Prunus spinosa, Sambucus nigra, Sorbus aucuparia, Salix caprea, Corylus avellana, Corylus colurna, Quercus robur, Prunus cerasifera, Fraxinus excelsior</i>	None
2	Ash Elder Hawthorn Hazel Grey Alder Cherry Plum White Poplar Rowan Silver Birch English Oak <i>Fraxinus excelsior, Sambucus nigra, Crataegus monogyna, Corylus avellana, Alnus incana, Prunus cerasifera, Populus alba, Sorbus aucuparia, Betula pendula, Quercus robur</i>	None
3	Ash Hawthorn Grey Alder White Poplar Rowan Field Maple Goat Willow Cherry Plum Elder <i>Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus monogyna, Alnus incana, Populus alba, Sorbus aucuparia, Acer campestre, Salix caprea, Prunus cerasifera, Sambucus nigra</i>	None
4	Ash Hawthorn White Poplar Goat Willow Blackthorn Grey Alder <i>Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus monogyna, Populus alba, Salix caprea, Prunus spinosa, Alnus incana</i>	None
5	Ash Hawthorn White Poplar Swedish Whitebeam Elder Blackthorn <i>Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus monogyna, Populus alba, Sorbus intermedia, Sambucus nigra, Prunus spinosa</i>	None
6	Ash Hawthorn Elder Swedish Whitebeam Field Maple White Willow Grey Alder Goat Willow Blackthorn <i>Fraxinus excelsior, Crataegus monogyna, Sambucus nigra, Sorbus intermedia, Acer campestre, Salix alba, Alnus incana, Salix caprea, Prunus spinosa</i>	None
7	Ash Field Maple White Willow Aspen Western Balsam Poplar Swedish Whitebeam Norway Maple Rowan White Poplar <i>Fraxinus excelsior, Acer campestre, Salix alba, Populus tremula, Populus trichocarpa, Sorbus intermedia, Acer platanoides, Sorbus aucuparia, Populus alba</i>	Low
8	Swedish Whitebeam Crack Willow Western Balsam Poplar Grey Alder Sycamore Osier <i>Sorbus intermedia, Salix fragilis, Populus trichocarpa, Alnus incana, Acer pseudoplatanus, Salix viminalis</i>	Low

Tree No.	Species <i>Latin Name - Common Name</i>	Bat Roost Potential
9	White Poplar White Willow Osier <i>Populus alba, Salix alba, Salix viminalis</i>	Low
10	White Willow Hawthorn Ash Aspen Silver Birch <i>Salix alba, Crataegus monogyna, Fraxinus excelsior, Populus tremula, Betula pendula</i>	None
11	Swedish Whitebeam <i>Sorbus intermedia</i>	None
12	Western Balsam Poplar Hawthorn Field Maple <i>Populus trichocarpa, Crataegus monogyna, Acer campestre</i>	None
13	Hawthorn Field Maple Wild Cherry Western Balsam Poplar Rowan <i>Crataegus monogyna, Acer campestre, Prunus avium, Populus trichocarpa, Sorbus aucuparia</i>	None



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