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**RE: Star Radcliffe. APPLICATION NO:70071/FUL. Planning Condition 26.
Non Native Management Plan**

Background

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) identified the presence of Himalayan Balsam on the northern boundary of the site as shown in appendix 1.

Planning condition 26 relates to Invasive Species Management Plan (prior to works within 20m of invasive species) – Method Statement detailing details of protection measures to be adopted to be provided.

The infestation of Balsam on the northern boundary will be verified on site by an appointed Ecological Clerk of Works (EcOW). The EcOW will identify the position of the plant on the site and provide a 20m buffer zone to the site team. The area will be securely fenced off using heras panels supported by rubber feet with 400mm pins to anchor the panels and render them immovable. The purpose of the exclusion zone is to ensure no works are carried out within the area of potential influence of the plant. This is because Balsam can disperse its seed a considerable distance from the plant itself and remain in the seed bed for several years and an adequate exclusion zone is needed to manage this aspect.

This Method Statement is not designed to manage those aspects of works within the exclusion zone. However, the following measures are needed for the works to manage the non-native plant within the exclusion zone.

- A full EcOW requires appointment.
- The EcOW shall supervise the removal of the grass sward within the exclusion zone, outside the physical infestation by the plant parts above ground. This shall be done carefully with regular monitoring of the soils being removed for signs of seed and be fully complied during the works by a written report.
- Before the plant is removed from site it shall be treated by herbicide application carried out in May and repeated in July 2024
- Himalayan balsam plant material (including soil contaminated with seeds) is a 'controlled waste' under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 which means it can only be transported by a registered waste carrier to suitably permitted or exempt sites.

Please do let me know if there is anything further, I can assist you with.

Simon Brain
Managing Director