



Pyramid Park/Townfields

Bury

National Vegetation Classification Survey Technical Report

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Environment Partnership (TEP) was commissioned by Campbell Reith in April 2024 to complete a National Vegetation Classification (NVC) survey and assessment for land known as Pyramid Park, Bury (Townfields) (hereafter referred to as the 'site'). The NVC survey and assessment are required to inform a planning application for the remediation of the site and future residential plans. An NVC survey has been required due to an area of the site being designated as a Site of Biological Importance (SBI) and Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU) requiring further information of the current condition of the habitat in this area and the presence of swamp and marsh (Greater Manchester Biodiversity Habitat).
- 1.2 This NVC Survey Technical Report details the method of data gathering and interpretation and presents the findings of the NVC survey. This report should be read in conjunction with the TEP Ecological Impact Assessment Ref: 9302.02.005.

Location of Site

- 1.3 The site is located in Bury town centre, with railway lines running along both the western and southern boundaries of the site, and is situated south of the A58, and to the south and west of Bury College. The site is intersected in its eastern half by the B6218 (Market Street). The location of the site is depicted by the red line shown in Figure 1. The approximate central grid reference of the site is SD 80511 10312.
- 1.4 The wider area comprises residential, business and industrial properties to the north, west and east, with Bury College and sports grounds to the south.



Figure 1: Location of the site in the context of the wider landscape

2.0 Methods

Desk Study

- 2.1 In line with current best practice (CIEEM, 2016¹, 2017b²), information regarding designated sites and notable habitats within a 2 km ecological Zone of Influence (ZOI) of the site, were reviewed to inform the NVC survey including, Natural England's Priority Habitat Inventory database to review presence of Priority Habitats as listed by requirements under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.
- 2.2 Table 1 summarises the scope and key sources for reviewing desk study information. The ZOI was applied by extending a search radius from the site boundary.

Table 1: Scope and key sources for desk study information.

Feature	Scope	Key Source(s)
Statutory wildlife sites:	Ramsar sites Proposed Ramsar sites Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) Possible SAC Special Protection Areas (SPA) Potential SPA	Natural England (public sector information)
	Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) National Parks National Nature Reserves (NNR)	Natural England (public sector information)
	Local Nature Reserves (LNR) Country Parks Strategic Nature Areas	Natural England (public sector information)
Notable habitats:	Ancient Woodland Habitats of principal importance Main rivers Habitat Network / Nature Recovery Network	Natural England (public sector information) Environment Agency (public sector information) UK Biodiversity Action Plans Google Earth
Non-statutory local wildlife sites:	Sites of Biological Importance (SBI)	Greater Manchester Local Records Centre (GMLRC)

¹ CIEEM (2016) Guidelines for Accessing and Using Biodiversity Data. Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management

² CIEEM (2017b) Guidelines for Preliminary Ecological Appraisal, 2nd Edition. Chartered Institute of Ecology & Environmental Management

Limitations

- 2.3 Review of online resources and habitat field survey data provided an overview of potential for presence of protected or notable habitats within the site, however, an absence of records does not indicate absence from a search area.

National Vegetation Classification Survey

- 2.4 NVC survey was undertaken by suitably qualified ecologists certified to Level 4 under the Field Identification Skills Certification³ on . Weather conditions during the NVC survey are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: Weather conditions during NVC survey.

Date	Temperature (°C)	Wind (mph)	Weather Conditions
03/06/2024	15.0	6.0	Mostly cloudy

- 2.5 An initial walkover was undertaken to establish the general vegetation patterns across the site and review any repeating vegetation types. Habitats were initially mapped in accordance with the Phase 1 habitat assessment methods (JNCC, 2010⁴), recording the habitat types present, based on the Phase 1 habitat assessment method descriptions. Plant species were identified in accordance with the New Flora of the British Isles (Stace, 2019⁵) and overall species lists for each habitat type recorded as target notes, where relevant. Target notes are provided at Appendix A.
- 2.6 Following the initial walkover, vegetation within the marshy grassland area was sampled using quadrats according to standard NVC methodology⁶ (Rodwell, 2006). Areas of grassland vegetation types were sampled using 2m x 2m quadrats. The NVC survey focused solely on this habitat as this is the reason for the Site of Biological Interest designation.
- 2.7 Quadrats were randomly placed within representative areas of differing vegetation types to provide data for statistical identification and interpretation of habitats within the site. Each quadrat was recorded in the field by listing all plants within it along with the

³ A national skills certification scheme operated by Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland. FISC 4 is the competency level recommended for Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) field assessments

⁴ Joint Nature Conservation Committee, (2010), Handbook for Phase 1 Habitat Survey: A technique for environmental audit.

⁵ Stace, C. (2019). New Flora of the British Isles (4th edn). Cambridge University Press.

⁶ Rodwell, J.S. (2006) National Vegetation Classification: Users' Handbook, Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough, ISBN 978 1 86107 574 1.

abundance of each species and the percentage cover of any bare ground or leaf litter using the Domin scale of abundance. Sufficient quadrats were recorded to include all community types occurring within each surveyed area and to allow a robust statistical analysis of the data.

- 2.8 The positions of quadrats were recorded using a hand-held GPS (Global Positioning System) with an accuracy of approximately 3.0 m. The approximate average vegetation height across each quadrat was also recorded, in addition to other attributes influencing vegetation cover, where noted e.g., fertilised or reseeded land, poached areas, water levels and intensive grazing.

Limitations

- 2.9 The NVC survey was undertaken within the optimum habitat survey season (mid-April to mid-October), and in particular for grasslands from June to July inclusive during the peak growing season and prior to any hay cuts or more intensive grazing. There were no constraints to survey timing.
- 2.10 The site was fully accessible.

Quadrat Data Analysis

- 2.11 Quadrat data was analysed using the computer program TABLEFIT (Hill, 2016)⁷ to establish the 'goodness of fit' to the NVC community types. Vegetation types are graded accordingly, allowing users to isolate the interesting samples that have higher 'goodness-of-fit'. The output results from TABLEFIT analysis of the quadrats have been reviewed to assess which vegetation types, as defined by the NVC system, are represented across the site.
- 2.12 The raw quadrat data and detailed TABLEFIT analysis results (including an explanatory note regarding analysis) are provided at Appendix B.
- 2.13 Table 3 shows the 'goodness-of-fit' score range used to assess TABLEFIT data and the associated ratings for how well a vegetation type fits the standard NVC communities.

⁷ Hill, M. O. 2016. TABLEFIT is a computer program for identifying vegetation types by means of statistical analysis
<https://www.ceh.ac.uk/services/tablefit-and-tablcom>

Table 3: Summary of ‘goodness-of-fit’ ratings by score.

Range of ‘goodness-of-fit’	Rating
80-100	Very good
70-79	Good
60-69	Fair
50-59	Poor
0-49	Very poor

Limitations

- 2.14 TABLEFIT makes statistical comparisons between one or more NVC samples and the floristic tables in British Plant Communities, using simple similarity coefficients, and generates the top five most similar vegetation types. Whilst TABLEFIT provides statistical analysis, it is not a substitute for the experience of ecologists and should never be used alone to provide vegetative identification, particularly as variation in ‘goodness-of-fit’ and habitat types is complex.

3.0 Results

Desk Study

Designated Wildlife Sites

Statutory Sites

- 3.1 Internationally and nationally significant statutory wildlife designations within 2 km of the site are detailed in Table 4. Approximate distances are calculated between the closest points.

Table 4: Statutory designated wildlife sites.

Site Name	Designation	Closest Distance and Direction from Site	Reason(s) for Designation
Statutory wildlife sites of international significance			
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Statutory wildlife sites of national and regional significance			
Chesham Woods	LNR	1.8km north east of the site	Chesham woods is an area of pasture and woodland on the edge of Bury town. It supports three semi-natural woodland and three semi-ornamental gardens/woodland. Chesham is an ideal place to spot wildlife including birds and butterflies.
Hollins Vale	LNR	1.9km south east of the site	Hollins Vale is primarily a farmland reserve, with areas of woodland and wetland adding to its wildlife diversity. Known for its abundance of woodland flowers including bluebells, wood anemones and violets as well as butterflies and birds.
Non statutory wildlife sites of Local significance			
Townside	SBI	Within the site boundary	The site supports areas of swamp and marsh (Greater Manchester Biodiversity Priority Habitat) associated with a drained pond together with trees, scrub and neutral grassland. Surveys in 2012 found an exceptional population of smooth newts. (Citation provided within Appendix C)

Site Name	Designation	Closest Distance and Direction from Site	Reason(s) for Designation
Lower Hinds	SBI	1.2km south west of the site	Calcareous grassland (Gr3)
Daisyfield	SBI	1.3km west of the site	Reedbed & Swamp (Fw1); Ponds & small lodges (Fw2); Grassland (Gr2); Aquatic invertebrates (AI1); Woodland (Wd1)
Manchester, Bolton & Bury Canal East	SBI	1.4km south west of the site at its nearest point	The Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal is a disused waterway with the SBI area including the canal, and associated towpath, pools and grassland.
Elton Reservoir	SBI	1.4km south west of the site	Elton Reservoir is a large reservoir which is reported to be one of the most important reservoirs for birds in Greater Manchester, with around 140 bird species recorded annually and throughout the year; a variety of bird species are attracted to the reservoir during the winter months and during spring and autumn migration times, and a range of breeding bird species are confirmed at the site.
Elton Goyt	SBI	1.7km south west of the site	Elton Goyt comprises an area of marshy pasture, which provides a mosaic of marshy grassland and improved grassland which is used by a range of feeding and breeding birds.
Swan Lodge	SBI	1.9km south of the site	Open Water (Fw3); Running water (Fw4); Aquatic Invertebrates (AI1)
Barracks Lodge	SBI	1.9km west of the site	Ponds & Small Lodges (Fw2); Aquatic Invertebrates (AI1); Amphibians (Am1)
Cyrus Ainsworth's Nurseries and Parkers Lodges	SBI	2km north west of the sit	Open water (Fw3)
Chesham Woods	SBI	1.8km north east of the site	Chesham woods are a group of six woodlands on the edge of Bury. Three are semi-natural and the remainder are the semi-ornamental grounds of demolished large houses.

Notable Habitats and Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI)

3.2 Review of the Defra MAGIC Map database identified no habitats within the site as listed under the Priority Habitat Inventory. However, habitats outside of the site but located within 500m and listed under the Priority Habitat Inventory on the Defra MAGIC Map database, include:

- Good-quality semi-improved grassland (non-priority);
- Open mosaic habitat (OMH); and
- Deciduous woodland.

Nature Recovery Network

3.3 Habitat Network maps are produced by Natural England in response to the Lawton report (Making Space for Nature, A review of England's Wildlife Sites and Ecological Network⁸).

3.4 These maps provide a useful baseline for the development of a Nature Recovery Network (NRN) as required within the 25 Year Environment Plan and for LRNS proposed within the Environment Act.

3.5 The Habitat Network maps in conjunction with other datasets and local knowledge can identify opportunities for biodiversity action. The Habitat Network comprises (a) Existing Habitats (HPI and associated habitats) and (b) Network Enhancement and Expansion Zones. These latter zones include:

- Network Enhancement Zone 1: Land connecting existing habitats which is likely to be suitable for habitat creation. Action in this zone to expand and join up existing habitat patches and improve the connections between them can be targeted here.
- Network Enhancement Zone 2: Land connecting existing habitats which is less likely to be suitable for habitat creation. Action in this zone that improves the biodiversity value through land management changes and/or green infrastructure provision can be targeted here.
- Fragmentation Action Zone: Land within Enhancement Zone 1 that connects existing habitats patches which are currently highly fragmented and where fragmentation could be reduced by habitat creation.
- Network Expansion Zone: Land beyond the Network Enhancement Zones with potential for expanding, linking/joining networks across the landscape.

⁸ Lawton, J.H., Brotherton, P.N.M., Brown, V.K., Elphick, C., Fitter, A.H., Forshaw, J., Haddow, R.W., Hilborne, S., Leafe, R.N., Mace, G.M., Southgate, M.P., Sutherland, W.A., Tew, T.E., Varley, J., & Wynne, G.R. (2010) *Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites and ecological network*. Report to Defra

- 3.6 The site is not covered by this Network, however there are areas of the Network Enhancement Zone within 1km, to the north and east.

National Vegetation Classification Analysis

- 3.7 Habitats recorded within the site are illustrated on the Phase 1 Habitat Survey Drawing G9302.02.006 and descriptions are included within the Target Notes Report at Appendix A. The NVC Survey only covered the areas of marshy grassland within the site.
- 3.8 An overview of the NVC communities recorded and the quadrats which most closely matched each community are listed in Table 5. Each quadrat also has the 'goodness-of-fit' for the NVC community listed in brackets in the 'Quadrat Number ('goodness-of-fit')' column, to show how closely the vegetation found in the quadrat matched the NVC community type.
- 3.9 Overview photographs providing examples of habitats surveyed are included at Appendix A, with photographs of quadrat vegetation provided at Appendix B. Quadrat locations are illustrated on the TEP National Vegetation Classification Drawing 9302.02.009, along with NVC communities identified within the site.

Habitat Type – Marshy grassland

- 3.10 The marshy grassland on site was split into two areas. One area to the east of the Market Street archways and the other to the west.
- 3.11 The marshy grassland on site comprises abundant oval sedge *Carex leporina*, false fox sedge *Carex otrubae* and common spike rush *Eleocharis palustris*, with other species of sedge occurring frequently, such as hairy sedge *Carex hirta* and pendulous sedge *Carex pendula*. There is also a presence of saplings and scrub which have self-seeded over this area, with silver birch *Betula pendula* and goat willow *Salix caprea* the most frequent.
- 3.12 Other species that are present and are more affiliated with marshy grassland include common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, sweet vernal grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, hemp agrimony *Eupatorium cannabinum*, branched bur reed *Sparganium erectum*, marsh orchid *Dactylorhiza sp.*, hairy tare *Ervilla hirsuta*, hard and soft rush *Juncus inflexus* and *Juncus effusus* and multiple willowherb species *Epilobium sp.*



Figure 2: Eastern area of marshy grassland



Figure 3: Western area of marshy grassland

Combined Quadrat Analysis

- 3.13 Overall analysis of quadrats within the two areas of marshy grassland identified the best fit NVC community as being the S19 *Eleocharis palustris* swamp NVC community in the eastern area, though with a very poor 'goodness-of-fit' affinity, scoring 32. And in the western area the S19c *Eleocharis palustris* swamp, *Agrostis stolonifera* sub-community NVC community, though again with a very poor 'goodness-of-fit' affinity, scoring 29.

Individual Quadrat Analysis

- 3.14 Table 5 provides the TABLEFIT analysis best fit NVC community for each quadrat sampled within the marshy grassland areas, showing quadrats included for two areas of the site, west of market street (W) and east of market street (E). The majority of quadrats sampled across the whole site identified the areas of marshy grassland as having 'very poor' affinity to the S19 *Eleocharis palustris* swamp and the S19c *Eleocharis palustris* swamp - *Agrostis stolonifera* sub-community NVC communities.
- 3.15 In the eastern area there was also some recognition of the S19b *Littorella uniflora* sub-community as well as the S18 *Carex otrubae* swamp community.

- 3.16 Within the western area, identification of quadrats with ‘very poor’ affinity to the MG10b *Holcus lanatus*- *Juncus effusus* rush-pasture, *Juncus inflexus* sub-community NVC community, and U1f *Festuca ovina*-*Agrostis capillaris*-*Rumex acetosella* grassland, *Hypochoeris radicata* sub-community could reflect the transition of this vegetated area into semi-improved grassland habitats.

Table 5: Summary of best fit NVC communities recorded across the site within vegetation types identified as marshy grassland using quadrat data.

NVC Community (closest match)	NVC Community Description (closest match)	Area/Quadrat Number ('goodness-of-fit')
S18	<i>Carex otrubae</i> swamp	E/Q4(26)
S19	<i>Eleocharis palustris</i> swamp	E/Q5(34), W/Q2(32), W/Q4(28), W/Q6(39)
S19b	<i>Eleocharis palustris</i> swamp, <i>Littorella uniflora</i> sub-community	E/Q1(28)
S19c	<i>Eleocharis palustris</i> swamp, <i>Agrostis stolonifera</i> sub-community	E/Q2(24), E/Q3(31), W/Q1(36), W/Q5(27)
MG10b	<i>Holcus lanatus</i> - <i>Juncus effusus</i> rush-pasture, <i>Juncus inflexus</i> sub-community	W/Q3(36)
U1f	<i>Festuca ovina</i> - <i>Agrostis capillaris</i> - <i>Rumex acetosella</i> grassland, <i>Hypochoeris radicata</i> sub-community	W/Q7(26)

4.0 Conclusions

- 4.1 No Priority Habitats were identified within the site. The Natural England Habitat Network maps do not identify the site within any zone; however, areas of the Network Expansion Zone are present within 1km of the site.
- 4.2 There are no statutory designated sites with international, national or local importance within 1km of the site and there is only one non-statutory locally designated site within 1km of the site. This is Townside Site of Biological Interest (SBI) which lies within the site boundary. This SBI has been designated as the site supports areas of swamp and marsh (Greater Manchester Biodiversity Priority Habitat). This NVC survey was required to confirm the presence of swamp and marsh priority habitat on site and so the marshy grassland within the site was the only area surveyed.
- 4.3 NVC assessment of quadrat data for the main areas of more recognisable marshy grassland identified the best fit NVC community as being the S19 *Eleocharis palustris* swamp and the S19c *Eleocharis palustris* swamp - *Agrostis stolonifera* sub-community NVC communities though both with a very poor 'goodness-of-fit' affinity. The vast majority of the area surveyed is therefore classified as a swamp and tall-herb fen (Vol. 4) community.
- 4.4 There are some outlier quadrats for example, quadrat W/Q7 in the western area, which could be classified as acid grassland as it has a poor fit to U1f *Festuca ovina*–*Agrostis capillaris*–*Rumex acetosella* grassland. Quadrat W/Q3 in the western area, comprises the MG10b grassland community with a 'very poor' fit, where species prevalent in neutral grasslands are present. This could indicate that, if left with no management, a transition to acidic grassland, or even scrub, may occur and/or it may even be starting around the edges of the surveyed area, particularly in the west.
- 4.5 None of the individual quadrats achieved more than a very poor 'goodness-of-fit' affinity for the identified NVC communities. This could be due to the site beginning to dry out and through the colonisation of scrub around the edges of the site. The presence of quadrats with an affinity to neutral and acidic grassland could also be as a result of drying of the site and a reflection of different soil conditions.
- 4.6 When compared against the habitat descriptions for SBI selection, areas of marshy grassland, can qualify either under grassland guidelines or those for the fen and swamp guidelines⁹.

⁹ [guidelines.pdf \(tameside.gov.uk\)](#)

- 4.7 For grassland, 2 or more of the listed features should be exhibited to be considered for SBI selection and the marshy grassland on site does exhibit this.
- 4.8 This is based on supporting the enough species from the guideline list (Table 2, Page 31¹⁰); including a number of fine grass species, including sweet vernal grass, crested dog's tail and common bent; and the sward including a good distribution of forbs.
- 4.9 To be selected under fen and swamp, one feature should be exhibited to be considered for SBI selection and the marshy grassland on site does not. This is based on not supporting enough species from Table 3 of the guidelines, although the predominant species is common spike rush.
- 4.10 In conclusion, the site does support a swamp habitat although with a 'very poor' affinity to this NVC community. Under the SBI guidelines, the site would be considered, in its current state, under the grassland habitat rather than swamp and fen.
- 4.11 It is likely, therefore, that the site is of local interest give its town centre locale, but it does not represent a high quality example of marshy or swamp habitat for which the SBI is designated for.

¹⁰ [guidelines.pdf \(tameside.gov.uk\)](#)

Appendix A: Target Notes Report

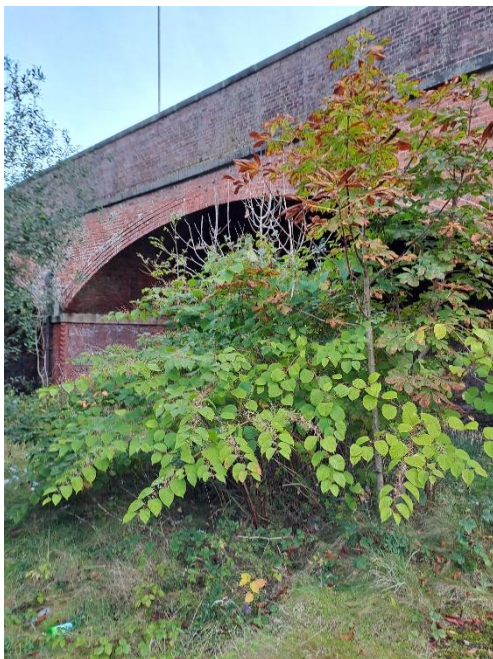
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KEY - D = Dominant, A = Abundant, F = Frequent, O = Occasional, R = Rare

Target Note TN1

Area of marshy grassland in location of historical drained pond. This area is dropped and bordered by a small brick wall. The marsh is invaded by encroaching regeneration scrub and trees such as birch and willow and some areas are overrun by bramble. Japanese Knotweed present

<i>Carex leporina</i>	Oval Sedge	A
<i>Carex otrubae</i>	False Fox-sedge	A
<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Common Spike-rush	A
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	F
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	F
<i>Carex hirta</i>	Hairy Sedge	F
<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	F
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	F
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	F
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	F
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	O
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	O
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	O
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	American Willowherb	O
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp-agrimony	O
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	O
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	O
<i>Myosotis laxa</i>	Tufted Forget-me-not	O
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary-grass	O
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	O
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	O
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping Buttercup	O
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	O
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	Branched Bur-reed	O
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	R
<i>Dactylorhiza sp.</i>	Marsh-orchid	R
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	R
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	R
<i>Ervilla hirsuta</i>	Hairy Tare	R
<i>Geum urbanum</i>	Wood Avens	R
<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Common Ragwort	R
<i>Juncus inflexus</i>	Hard Rush	R
<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon argentatum</i>	Variegated Archangel	R
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Reed	R
Reynoutria japonica	Japanese Knotweed	R
<i>Rosa canina</i> agg.	Dog Rose	R
<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> agg.	Bramble	R
<i>Rumex acetosa</i>	Common Sorrel	R
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	Dandelion	R
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	R
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	R



Target Note TN2

Area of semi-natural broadleaved woodland. This bank of woodland sits next to the pathway on entrance to the site from Townfield's Close and extends to the railway line in the south.

<i>Salix species</i>	Willow species	A
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	F
<i>Galium aparine</i>	Cleavers	F
<i>Ranunculus repens</i>	Creeping buttercup	F
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	F
<i>Taraxacum officinale agg.</i>	Dandelion	F
<i>Acer campestre</i>	Field Maple	O
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	O
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Horsetail	O
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	O
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	O
<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Elder	R



Target Note TN3

Planted corridor of poplar trees. These mature trees link to the railway embankment which acts as a wildlife

corridor.

Populus sp.



Poplar species

D



Target Note TN4

Large area of marsh/marshy grassland within the centre of the site, the location of the historical pond. Situated at the base of the northern embankment and borders the poplar corridor. Mostly birch and willow regeneration, likely to dry out in the summer.

<i>Eleocharis palustris</i>	Common Spike-rush	A
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	F
<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>	Cuckooflower	F
<i>Carex hirta</i>	Hairy Sedge	F
<i>Carex leporina</i>	Oval Sedge	F
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	F
<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>	Creeping Bent	O
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	O
<i>Carex otrubae</i>	False Fox-sedge	O

<i>Carex pendula</i>	Pendulous Sedge	O
<i>Carex pseudocyperus</i>	Cyperus Sedge	O
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	O
<i>Dactylorhiza sp.</i>	Marsh-orchid	O
<i>Epilobium ciliatum</i>	American Willowherb	O
<i>Epilobium hirsutum</i>	Great Willowherb	O
<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>	Common Cottongrass	O
<i>Eupatorium cannabinum</i>	Hemp-agrimony	O
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	O
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	O
<i>Juncus effusus</i>	Soft Rush	O
<i>Moss sp.</i>	Moss species	O
<i>Phalaris arundinacea</i>	Reed Canary-grass	O
<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Reed	O
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	O
<i>Ranunculus flammula</i>	Lesser Spearwort	O
<i>Ranunculus sceleratus</i>	Celery-leaved Buttercup	O
<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Curled Dock	O
<i>Sparganium erectum</i>	Branched Bur-reed	O
<i>Agrostis capillaris</i>	Common Bent	R
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>	Meadow Foxtail	R
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	R
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	R
<i>Epilobium montanum</i>	Broad-leaved Willowherb	R
<i>Epilobium parviflorum</i>	Hoary Willowherb	R
<i>Epilobium tetragonum</i>	Square-stalked Willowherb	R
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	R
<i>Jacobaea vulgaris</i>	Common Ragwort	R
<i>Juncus conglomeratus</i>	Compact Rush	R
<i>Lycopus europaeus</i>	Gypsywort	R
<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Ribwort Plantain	R
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English Oak	R
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	R
<i>Salix caprea</i>	Goat Willow	R
<i>Scorzoneroide autumnalis</i>	Autumn Hawkbit	R
<i>Trifolium pratense</i>	Red Clover	R
<i>Trifolium repens</i>	White Clover	R



Target Note TN5

Northern embankment of the site dominated by dense continuous bramble. Mature trees lie at the top of

the embankment on the border of the site

<i>Rosa sp.</i>	Rose species	F
<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	Sycamore	O
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	O
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	O
<i>Poa trivialis</i>	Rough Meadow-grass	O
<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	O
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	R
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	R
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	R
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	R
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel	R
<i>Salix cinerea</i>	Grey Willow	R
<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	Rowan	R



Target Note TN6

Area of hardstanding path leading down under railway/tramway. Brick and concrete embankment on the southern side.

<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>	Bramble	A
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	O
<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>	Cherry Laurel	R



Target Note TN7

Modified neutral grassland (MG) dominates the rest of the site in the form of three pyramid shaped grassland mounds and the southern embankment that borders the railway line. Scattered trees and scrub are also present.

<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	False Oat-grass	A
<i>Festuca rubra</i>	Red Fescue	A
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Yorkshire-fog	F
<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>	Sweet Vernal-grass	O
<i>Ranunculus acris</i>	Meadow Buttercup	O
<i>Taraxacum officinale</i> agg.	Dandelion	O
<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	R
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	R
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	R
<i>Cynosurus cristatus</i>	Crested Dog's-tail	R



Target Note TN8

Woodland in southwestern corner of the site bordering tramway and railway line.

<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	Alder	F
<i>Betula pendula</i>	Silver Birch	F
<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	Hawthorn	F
<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Ash	O
<i>Hedera helix</i>	Ivy	O
<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	Holly	O
<i>Salix</i> sp	Willow sp.	O
<i>Urtica dioica</i>	Nettle	O
<i>Corylus avellana</i>	Hazel	R
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>	Beech	R
<i>Ficaria verna</i>	Lesser celandine	R
<i>Prunus</i> sp.	Cherry species	R



Appendix B: TABLEFIT Output and Quadrat Results Report and Quadrat Photos

Habitat Type Combined Quadrat Analysis

Eastern Area

Habitat Type – Marshy Grassland

Goodness of Fit: 32

Manual Allocation: No

NVC Code: S19 *Eleocharis palustris* swamp

S19 32 | 87 13 76 43| Eleochar palustr swamp
 S19a 31 | 87 13 76 40| Eleochar palustr swamp Eleoch palustr
 S19b 31 | 44 14 100 38| Eleochar palustr swamp Littorella unif
 S19c 25 | 46 16 57 40| Eleochar palustr swamp Agrost stolonif
 MG10b 12 | 45 32 0 0| Holc lana-Junc effusus Junc inflexus

Western Area

Habitat Type – Marshy grassland

Goodness of Fit: 29

Manual Allocation: No

NVC Code: S19c *Eleocharis palustris* swamp, *Agrostis stolonifera* sub-community

S19c 29 | 56 21 57 41| Eleochar palustr swamp Agrost stolonif
 S19 28 | 93 15 64 34| Eleochar palustr swamp
 S19b 28 | 53 18 100 28| Eleochar palustr swamp Littorella unif
 S19a 24 | 87 14 63 29| Eleochar palustr swamp Eleoch palustr
 OV35 17 | 41 26 41 21| L port-R fl mud pioneer

Individual Quadrat Analysis and Notes

Eastern Area

Quadrat Q1

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80605 10295

Species List

Eleocharis palustris	6
Moss sp.	6
Carex otrubae	5
Epilobium ciliatum	3
Rumex crispus	3
Equisetum arvense	2
Ranunculus repens	2
Cardamine pratensis	1
Eupatorium cannabinum	1
Poa trivialis	1
Ranunculus acris	1
Salix cinerea	1

TableFit Results

```

Parameters = All sp Domin Sp & c
*** Name not in dictionary *** moss sp.
C3.24A S19b 28 | 50 17 100 29| Eleochar palustr swamp Littorella unif
C3.24A S19 28 | 78 13 82 33| Eleochar palustr swamp
C3.24A S19a 26 | 78 13 82 31| Eleochar palustr swamp Eleoch palustr
A2.53D S19c 19 | 33 12 59 31| Eleochar palustr swamp Agrost stolonif
D5.21 S18a 19 | 61 14 67 20| Carex otrubae swamp Carex otrubae

```



Quadrat Q2

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80605 10298

Species List

Moss sp.	7
Eleocharis palustris	5
Agrostis stolonifera	4

Carex hirta	4
Carex leporina	4
Myosotis laxa	3
Plantago lanceolata	3
Agrostis capillaris	2
Equisetum arvense	2
Juncus effusus	2
Ranunculus repens	2
Acer pseudoplatanus	1
Betula sp.	1
Cardamine pratensis	1
Rumex crispus	1
Taraxacum officinale agg.	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
A2.53D S19c	24 63	19 59	28 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif
E3.44 MG10c	23 64	39 24	16 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Iris pseudacor
E3.44 MG10b	23 63	38 21	20 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Junc inflexus
C3.24A S19	19 100	12 52	21 Eleochar palustr swamp	
E3.44 OV28a	17 73	25 24	14 A sto-R rep muddy grass	Pers hy-Ror syl



Quadrat Q3

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80614 10295

Species List

Moss sp.	7
Eleocharis palustris	6
Carex otrubae	5
Agrostis stolonifera	3

Cardamine pratensis	2
Epilobium ciliatum	2
Ranunculus repens	2
Epilobium parviflorum	1
Equisetum arvense	1
Ervilla hirsuta	1
Eupatorium cannabinum	1
Myosotis laxa	1
Rumex crispus	1
Sparganium erectum	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
A2.53D S19c	31 63	22 69	36 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif
C3.24A S19	30 100	14 83	33 Eleochar palustr swamp	
C3.24A S19a	28 100	14 82	29 Eleochar palustr swamp	Eleoch palustr
C3.24A S19b	23 40	12 100	28 Eleochar palustr swamp	Littorella unif
D5.21 S18	20 80	13 66	22 Carex otrubae swamp	



Quadrat Q4

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80617 10286

Species List

Carex otrubae	6
Eleocharis palustris	5
Moss sp.	5
Agrostis capillaris	4
Carex hirta	4
Poa trivialis	3
Betula sp.	2

Cardamine pratensis	2
Epilobium ciliatum	2
Rumex crispus	2
Eupatorium cannabinum	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
D5.21 S18	26 70	13 100	27	Carex otrubae swamp
D5.21 S18a	26 61	15 100	25	Carex otrubae swamp
D5.21 S18b	20 46	10 85	26	Carex otrubae swamp
C3.24A S19b	18 40	15 100	17	Eleochar palustr swamp
C3.24A S19	18 78	14 50	20	Eleochar palustr swamp

Carex otrubae
Atrippl hastata
Littorella unif



Quadrat Q5

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat reference - SD 80624 10295

Species List

Eleocharis palustris	7
Carex leporina	6
Moss sp.	5
Agrostis capillaris	4
Cardamine pratensis	2
Carex otrubae	2
Phragmites australis	2
Ranunculus acris	2
Betula sp.	1
Carex pendula	1
Epilobium montanum	1
Taraxacum officinale agg.	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
C3.24A S19	34 78	13 100	39 Eleochar palustr swamp	
C3.24A S19a	32 78	13 100	36 Eleochar palustr swamp	Eleochar palustr
C3.24A S19b	31 50	17 100	35 Eleochar palustr swamp	Littorella unif
A2.53D S19c	21 33	12 59	37 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif



Western Area

Quadrat Q1

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80482 10322

Species List

Moss sp.	8
Agrostis stolonifera	7
Eleocharis palustris	4
Rumex crispus	3
Anthoxanthum odoratum	2
Carex hirta	2
Carex leporina	2
Cynosurus cristatus	2
Cardamine pratensis	1
Epilobium ciliatum	1
Juncus effusus	1
Ranunculus acris	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
*** Name not in dictionary ***			moss sp.	
A2.53D S19c	36 63	25 65	45 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif
E3.44 MG10b	30 50	45 39	39 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Junc inflexus

E3.44	OV28a	24		42	19	60	34		A sto-R rep muddy grass	Pers hy-Ror syl
E3.44	MG10c	23		49	41	24	35		Holc lana-Junc effusus	Iris pseudacor
E3.44	MG10a	23		68	33	21	29		Holc lana-Junc effusus	Typical



Quadrat Q2

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80482 10334

Species List

Carex hirta	8
Eleocharis palustris	8
Moss sp.	8
Eriophorum angustifolium	3
Cardamine pratensis	2
Carex pseudocyperus	2
Equisetum arvense	2
Salix cinerea	2
Agrostis capillaris	1
Juncus effusus	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
C3.24A S19	32 78	16 100	33	Eleochar palustr swamp
C3.24A S19a	30 78	16 100	31	Eleochar palustr swamp
C3.24A S19b	26 40	17 100	29	Eleochar palustr swamp
A2.53D S19c	20 33	15 59	31	Eleochar palustr swamp
D5.21 S17	14 55	30 2	1	Carex pseudocyp swamp

Eleochar palustr
Littorella unif
Agrost stolonif



Quadrat Q3

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80500 10331

Species List

Agrostis stolonifera	9
Carex leporina	7
Moss sp.	5
Juncus conglomeratus	3
Cardamine pratensis	2
Eleocharis palustris	2
Juncus effusus	2
Ranunculus acris	2
Rumex crispus	2
Dactylorhiza sp.	1
Epilobium ciliatum	1
Epilobium parviflorum	1
Holcus lanatus	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =		All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
*** Name not in dictionary ***				dact sp.	
E3.44	MG10b	36 59	44 39	51 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Junc inflexus
E3.44	MG10a	34 92	42 24	44 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Typical
E3.44	MG10c	33 64	48 27	47 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Iris pseudacor
J	OV19d	29 30	21 62	51 Poa ann-Tripl inod weed	Mat dis-Pla maj
A2.53D	S19c	29 63	23 46	49 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif



Quadrat Q4

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80491 10310

Species List

Moss sp.	8
Carex hirta	7
Eleocharis palustris	6
Phragmites australis	3
Agrostis stolonifera	2
Eriophorum angustifolium	2
Juncus effusus	2
Epilobium ciliatum	1
Epilobium tetragonum	1
Ranunculus acris	1
Salix cinerea	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
*** Name not in dictionary ***			epil tetr	
C3.24A S19	28 100	18 82	24 Eleochar palustr swamp	
A2.53D S19c	27 63	28 61	24 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif
C3.24A S19b	24 50	19 100	21 Eleochar palustr swamp	Littorella unif
C3.24A S19a	22 78	14 82	22 Eleochar palustr swamp	Eleoch palustr
E3.44 MG10a	16 61	32 3	3 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Typical



Quadrat Q5

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80515 10313

Species List

Dactylorhiza sp.	8
Moss sp.	8
Eleocharis palustris	6
Agrostis stolonifera	4
Carex leporina	4
Ranunculus flammula	3
Cardamine pratensis	2
Salix cinerea	2
Carex hirta	1
Epilobium ciliatum	1
Juncus effusus	1
Ranunculus acris	1
Ranunculus repens	1
Rumex crispus	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
A2.53D S19c	27 63	22 81	26 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif
C3.5 OV35	26 64	34 52	19 L port-R fl mud pioneer	
E3.44 MG10b	26 66	49 19	9 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Junc inflexus
E3.44 MG10c	23 64	44 20	8 Holc lana-Junc effusus	Iris pseudacor
C3.24A S19	23 100	14 83	21 Eleochar palustr swamp	



Quadrat Q6

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80542 10301

Species List

Moss sp.	8
Eleocharis palustris	7
Agrostis stolonifera	3
Cardamine pratensis	2
Carex leporina	2
Epilobium parviflorum	2
Carex otrubae	1
Carex pendula	1
Epilobium ciliatum	1
Ranunculus acris	1
Ranunculus flammula	1
Rumex crispus	1
Sparganium erectum	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
C3.24A S19	39 100	15 100	44 Eleochar palustr swamp	
C3.24A S19a	36 100	15 100	39 Eleochar palustr swamp	Eleoch palustr
A2.53D S19c	36 63	23 69	46 Eleochar palustr swamp	Agrost stolonif
C3.24A S19b	34 56	20 100	37 Eleochar palustr swamp	Littorella unif
C3.5 OV35	25 56	33 41	26 L port-R fl mud pioneer	



Quadrat Q7

Survey Comments

Approximate quadrat grid reference - SD 80554 10301

Species List

Agrostis capillaris	7
Carex leporina	6
Eleocharis palustris	5
Moss sp.	5
Carex pendula	4
Dactylorhiza sp.	3
Juncus conglomeratus	3
Ranunculus flammula	3
Salix cinerea	2
Cardamine pratensis	1
Eriophorum angustifolium	1
Ranunculus acris	1
Ranunculus repens	1
Rumex crispus	1

TableFit Results

Parameters =	All sp	Domin	Sp & c	
E1.92 U 1f	26 30	14 98	33 Fes ovi-Agr cap-Rum acl	Hypoch radicata
C3.24A S19b	20 56	18 100	15 Eleochar palustr swamp	Littorella unif
C3.5 OV35	18 48	26 52	14 L port-R fl mud pioneer	
C3.24A S19a	17 100	14 50	15 Eleochar palustr swamp	Eleoch palustr



Appendix C: Townside SBI Citation



SITE NAME : Townside*		District : Bury
LOCATION : Bury	GRID REF : SD805103	GRADE : B

SITE DESCRIPTION

The site supports areas of swamp and marsh (Greater Manchester Biodiversity Priority Habitat) associated with a drained pond together with trees, scrub and neutral grassland.

Since the site was first surveyed the site has lost its open water habitat and now supports marsh and swamp, although small areas of open water are present seasonally. The marsh and swamp support abundant common spike-rush as well as abundant *Rhytidadelphus squarrosus* and *Calliergonella cuspidate*. Field horsetail, rough meadow-grass, Yorkshire fog, sweet vernal-grass, crested dog's-tail, bulrush, oval sedge, hairy sedge, pendulous sedge, common cottongrass, soft rush, creeping buttercup, meadow buttercup, hoary willowherb, great hairy willowherb, cuckooflower, hemp-agrimony, ribwort plantain, curled dock and red clover are occasional to frequent. Male fern, marsh foxtail, tufted hair-grass, false-fox sedge, compact rush, hard rush, lesser spearwort and yellow flag-iris also occur. Reed canary-grass, cyperus sedge, water plantain, fringed water-lily, marsh ragwort, branched bur-reed, wavy bittercress and short-fruited willowherb have been recorded.

Grey and goat willow, sliver birch and bramble are invading the marsh areas. The invasive *Crassula helmsii* is locally abundant. The invasive Japanese knotweed is recorded.

Coarse grassland on the embankment north of the marsh includes abundant crested dog's tail, rough meadow-grass and meadow buttercup, with frequent Yorkshire fog, sweet vernal-grass and false oat-grass and occasional red fescue, oval sedge, meadow foxtail, ragwort and nettle. Mature sycamore is present at the top of the slope. Lesser pond-sedge is local abundant along the base of the slope.

To the south of the marsh grassland, willow and bramble scrub and a number of planted poplar trees have been included as a link to the vegetation along the railway embankment, which is regarded as a wildlife corridor.

Surveys in 2012 found an exceptional population of smoot newts. Surveys in 2005 also found good population of frog and 74 aquatic invertebrate species.

A high level of bat activity over the wetland east of Market Street has been recorded. The site supports a number of common bird species including goldfinch, willow warbler, blackbird and wren in addition to the UK Biodiversity Priority Species song thrush and dunnock. Orange tip and green-veined white were observed. Meadow Brown butterfly and burnet moth are recorded.

The site is owned by the Local Authority.

Additional information provided by survey undertaken by David Orchard (2012), Martin Prescott (2012) and David Bentley (2005) The habitat figures given are an approximation and are only intended to give an indication of the relative proportions of each habitat.

* Formerly Townside Pond

Drawings

Phase 1 Habitat Survey Map - G9302.02.006

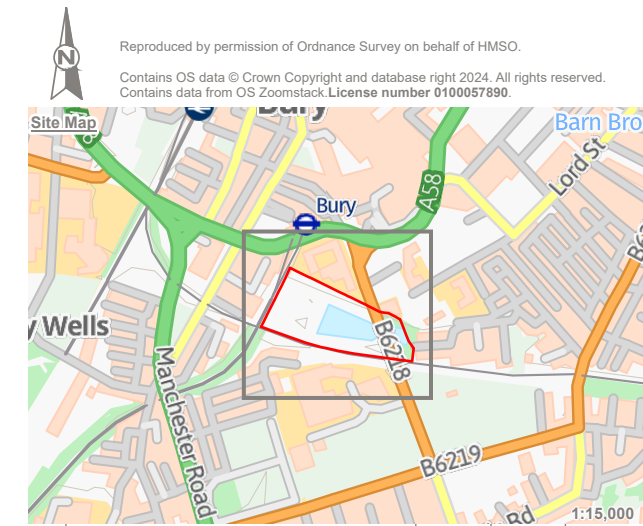
National Vegetation Classification Map - G9302.02.009



KEY

- Site boundary
- Target note
- Mammal entry point
- Japanese knotweed
- Scattered scrub
- Scattered broad-leaved tree
- PRF-I: Tree with potential roost feature suitable for individual bats
- Semi-natural broad-leaved woodland
- Continuous bramble scrub
- Modified neutral grassland
- Marsh/marshy grassland
- Hardstanding

Note:
The locations of habitats and habitat features are indicative.



Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date



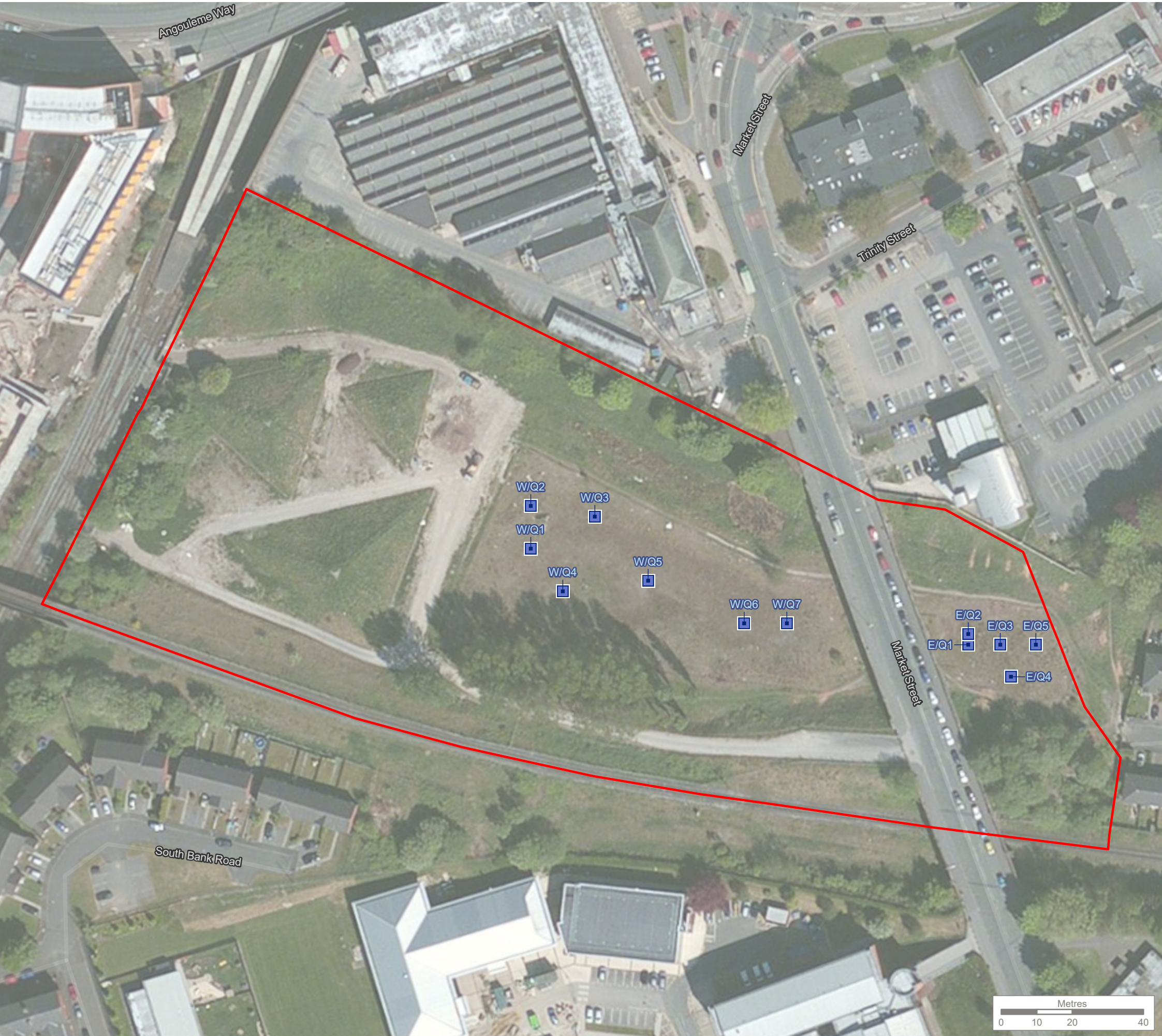
THE ENVIRONMENT PARTNERSHIP
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Project
Pyramid Park, Bury

Title
Phase 1 Habitat Survey

Drawing Number
G9302.02.006

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Scale	Date
CW	BJ	EH	1:1,250 @ A3	12/06/2024

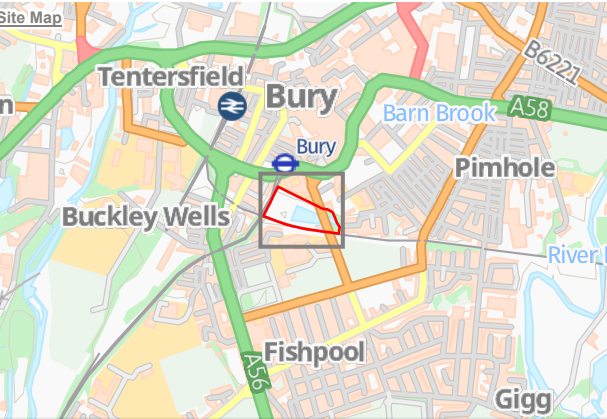


KEY

Site boundary

National Vegetation Classification (NVC) survey location

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AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community



Rev	Description	Drawn	Approved	Date



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Project
Pyramid Park, Bury

Title
National Vegetation Classification (NVC) Survey Locations

Drawing Number
G9302.02.009

Drawn	Checked	Approved	Scale	Date
ET	BJ	EH	1:1,100 @ A3	06/09/2024

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