

Appendix 10 – Ecological valuation resources

Birds of Conservation Concern

Birds of Conservation Concern The fourth review of the status of birds in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man was published in December 2015. Using standardised criteria, 244 species were assessed and assigned to the Red, Amber or Green list of conservation concern. The assessment criteria include conservation status at global and European levels and, within the UK, historical decline, trends in population and range, rarity, localised distribution and international importance. Birds on the red list that are relevant to the proposed development site are grey partridge, lapwing, Eurasian curlew, skylark, corn bunting and linnet. Other species recorded can be scoped out due to limited availability of habitats and significance, or are recorded as fly-overs only and not relevant to the application site.

Red Listed and Notable Species

The IUCN Red List System was first conceived in 1963 and set a global standard for species listing and conservation assessment efforts. Species, which are: critically endangered; endangered; vulnerable; near threatened; nationally rare; nationally scarce; locally rare or scarce species in GB in categories of the IUCN Red List, which are relevant to the application site are consideration in this document.

Local Biodiversity Action Plans

Created by The Lancashire Biodiversity Partnership, the Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for Lancashire was published in 2001, with the aim of setting out the priorities for conservation action at a local level, and looking at both UK Priority Species and Habitats relevant to Lancashire. The partnership aims to work together with other members of the Partnership in order “to conserve, protect and enhance the biological diversity of Lancashire for current and future generations.”

The Lancashire BAP Species and Lancashire BAP Long List Species are those for which a Lancashire BAP Action Plan has been prepared. Lancashire BAP Long Lists contain those species which occur in Lancashire and are of significance. The list comprises species of biodiversity significance in Lancashire and includes a number of species for which there is a published Species Action Plan (SAP). The list indicates species over which particular consideration is needed whether through Development Control, land management or agri-environment schemes.

The Lancashire BAP Habitat list includes arable farmland, specifically those areas which are managed for wildlife and include bare fallow and grassland leys that are regularly ploughed and re-seeded. It also includes field margins and boundary features such as ditches in arable fields. Arable land in Lancashire along with Cornwall is the last stronghold of one plant, endemic to the UK (purple ramping-fumitory (*Fumaria purpurea*)). The numbers of overwintering pink-footed geese that use arable habitat in the county represents a significant proportion of the global population of this species (14%).

Lancashire Key Species

Lancashire Key Species (LKS) are those in the county which have a recognised status, either, internationally, nationally or locally. Specifically, it includes species identified in one or more of the aforementioned sources.

The Lancashire BAP and/or Lancashire Key Species relevant to the proposed development site in terms of the habitats present are skylark, pink-footed goose, meadow pipit, ruff, Western marsh harrier, Bewick’s swan, whooper swan, little egret, corn bunting, reed bunting, kestrel, snipe, oystercatcher, black-tailed godwit, yellow wagtail, curlew, grey partridge, shelduck, lapwing, bats, water vole, brown hare and purple ramping fumitory, narrow-leaved water-plantain (*Alisma lanceolatum*), whorl-grass (*Catabrosa aquatica*), soft hornwort

(*Ceratophyllum submersum*), frogbit (*Hydrocharis morsus-ranae*), field pepperwort (*Lepidium campestre*), early forget-me-not (*Myosotis ramosissima*), bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*), whorled water milfoil (*Myriophyllum verticillatum*), fine-leaved water-dropwort (*Oenanthe aquatica*), tubular water-dropwort (*Oenanthe fistulosa*), bird's-foot (*Ornithopus perpusillus*), red pondweed (*Potamogeton alpinus*), thread-leaved water-crowfoot (*Ranunculus trichophyllus*), golden dock (*Rumex maritimus*), lesser bladderwort (*Utricularia minor*), greater bladderwort (*Utricularia vulgaris*) and blue-water speedwell (*Veronica anagallis-aquatica*).