

Site Name: Sutton Manor

Site Area: 62.8 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ520906

Date of Designation: June 2017 **District:** St Helens

Date of last revision: N/A **LWS Number:** 120

CITATION: An extensive mosaic of grassland, scrub, woodland and wetland habitats created on a former colliery. The site is owned and managed by the Forestry Commission and has a large expanse of developing plantation woodland intersected by grasslands. The geology of the site means it retains water and a large amount of wetland and marsh present. Water voles have been recorded on site and the site is well populated with bird species.

APPRAISAL: This site has been evaluated against the guidelines approved by the Council in February 2000 for selection of Local Wildlife Sites. The site's evaluation against the guidelines is set out below.

Guideline		Comment
HABITATS		
H1; H2; H3; H4.	Rarity Diversity Nearness Isolation	4 regionally important; 12 habitats recorded. -- 4 sites within 1 Km.
PLANTS		
SP1; SP2; SP3; SP4.	Rarity Diversity Naturalness Nationally Rare	- Total of 134 plant species recorded. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species. Over 80% of the plant species are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered. --
ANIMALS		
General SP5; Birds B1; B2; B3; B4; B5. Dragonflies	Rare/priority Non-breeding population Breeding population Regional rare/scare Breeding assemblage Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage.	

Od1. Od2.	Breeding Regional rare/scarce	Guideline met- Water vole (<i>Arvicola amphibius</i>)
Butterflies Bf1; Bf2.	Region rare breeding Breeding assemblage	
Amphibians A1; A2.	Rarity Exceptional populations	
Reptiles R1; R2;	Population of native species Exceptional population	
Bats Bat1; Bat2.	Roost Assemblage	
Mammals Mam1.	Breeding	

SUMMARY: The combination of these factors has led to this site being identified as a Local Wildlife Site.

NOTE: Validated data from 1981 to June 2017 have been used in this assessment. Other data may become available to support this designation

Status of features of nature conservation importance

Habitats

4 Regionally Important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)

Standing water
Unimproved neutral grassland
Swamp
Scrub

Species

1 Nationally Important Species

Water vole (*Arvicola terrestris*)

1 Wildlife & Countryside Act – Schedule 5 species

Water vole (*Arvicola terrestris*)