

**Site Name:** Alexandra Colliery

**Site Area:** 5.61 hectares **National Grid Reference:** SJ501941

**Date of Designation:** December 2003 **District:** St. Helens

**Date of Last Revision:** N/A **Local Site Number:** 95

**CITATION:** This site occupies a disused mine working and spoil heap. A range of habitats have now developed on this site including, acid and neutral grasslands which contain a number of regionally and locally important species.

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

<b>Guideline</b>		<b>Comment</b>
<b>HABITATS</b>		
H1;	Rarity	2 priority BAP habitats; 2 priority Habitats Directive habitats; 2 regionally important habitats.
H2;	Diversity	10 habitats recorded.
H3;	Nearness	--
H4.	Isolation	--
<b>PLANTS</b>		
SP1;	Rarity	2 regionally important species; 7 locally rare species.
SP2;	Diversity	Total of 117 plant species. One of 58 sites with more than 100 species.
SP3;	Naturalness	84.6% of the plants are native to the borough. Colonisation has been aided by man and the site has been physically altered.
SP4.	Nationally Rare	--
<b>ANIMALS</b>		
General		
SP5;	Rare/priority	--
Birds		
B1;	Non-breeding population	--
B2;	Breeding population	--
B3;	Regional rare/scare	--
B4;	Breeding assemblage	--
B5.	Assemblage, breeding, wintering, passage.	--
Dragonflies		
Od1.	Breeding	--
Od2.	Regional rare/scarce	--
Butterflies		
Bf1;	Region rare breeding	--
Bf2.	Breeding assemblage	--
Amphibians		
A1;	Rarity	--
A2.	Exceptional populations	--
Reptiles		
R1;	Population of native species.	--
R2;	Exceptional population	--
Bats		
Bat1;	Roost	--
Bat2.	Assemblage	--
Mammals		
Mam1.	Breeding	--

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

NOTE: Validated data from 1981 to December 2003 have been used in this assessment. Other data may become available to support this designation.

## Status of features of nature conservation importance

### Habitats

#### **2 Priority BAP habitats**

Unimproved acid grassland  
Unimproved neutral grassland

#### **2 Priority Habitat Directive habitats**

Unimproved acid grassland  
Unimproved neutral grassland

#### **2 Regionally Important habitats (North West Biodiversity Audit)**

Unimproved acid grassland  
Unimproved neutral grassland

### Plants

#### **2 Regionally important species (North West Biodiversity Audit)**

Yellow-wort (*Blackstonia perfoliata*),  
Smooth tare (*Vicia tetrasperma*)

#### **7 Locally rare species**

A moss (*Barbula fallax*)  
A lichen (*Cladonia rangiformis*)  
Pale willowherb (*Epilobium roseum*)  
Lesser hawkbit (*Leontodon saxatilis*)  
A moss (*Polytrichum piliferum*)  
Upright hedge parsley (*Torilis japonica*)  
Smooth tare (*Vicia tetrasperma*)



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URBAN REGENERATION AND HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Alexandra Colliery

PLANNING SECTION

Date: 22 January 2008

Scale 1:2500

Grid Ref: 350102,394072

Drawn: