



7.55 Species recorded in Wigan include great crested newt, skylark, bittern, linnet, reed bunting, spotted flycatcher, tree sparrow, grey partridge, bullfinch, song thrush, water vole, brown hare, pipistrelle and red squirrel.

7.56 Under-recorded species groups such as invertebrates, mosses and lichens etc. are not listed here. A full list of all species is available at www.defra.gov.uk. (for full web address please see Appendix A 'Further information and advice')

7.57 Proposals that impact upon these species and habitats will need to provide detailed proposals for the protection and enhancement of opportunities on site and the creation of new opportunities wherever possible. This information will need to be submitted as part of the planning application.

Species identified in Local Biodiversity Action Plans

7.58 All species and habitats identified in the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan and Wigan's Biodiversity Strategy and Biodiversity Action Plans need to be taken into consideration when development proposals are being planned. As well as protecting these habitats and species it is important to identify new opportunities for their enhancement.

7.59 Proposals that impact upon these species and habitats will need to provide detailed proposals for the protection and

enhancement of opportunities on site and the creation of new opportunities wherever possible. This information will need to be submitted as part of the planning application.

7.60 Information on the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan is available at: www.gmbp.org.uk

7.61 Information on Wigan's Biodiversity Strategy and Local Action Plans is available at:

- www.wigan.gov.uk
- www.wlct.org (for full web addresses please see Appendix A 'Further information and advice')

Invasive species



Giant Hogweed (see Appendix A for Acknowledgements)

7.62 As well as protected species development also needs to take into



consideration the presence of invasive species.

7.63 Species that must be considered are:

- Japanese knotweed
- Giant hogweed
- Himalayan balsam
- Common ragwort
- Aquatic species – Azolla filiculoides, Australian swamp stonecrop (*Crassula helmsii*), Floating pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*), Parrot's-feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

7.64 These need to be identified as early as possible in the planning process to allow for the broadest range of treatment options to be considered. Vegetation surveys should record the presence, locations and extent of any invasive species.

7.65 It is the responsibility of the landowner to ensure these problem species are dealt with.

7.66 For detailed guidance and further information:

- Guidance for the control of invasive weeds in or near fresh water Environment Agency 2003, Available online at: www.environment-agency.gov.uk (for full web address please see Appendix A 'Further information and advice')

- The Knotweed Code of Practice – Managing Japanese knotweed on development sites Environment Agency 2006. Available online at: www.environment-agency.gov.uk (for full web address please see Appendix A 'Further information and advice')
- Code of Practice on how to prevent the spread of Ragwort DEFRA 2004. Available online at: www.defra.gov.uk (for full web address please see Appendix A 'Further information and advice')

7.67 For general advice please visit:

- www.wigan.gov.uk (for full web addresses please see Appendix A 'Further information and advice')