

**SITE AT ROSSETT ROAD, ROSSETT,
WREXHAM**

BIOSECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT

JUNE 2021

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Revised	-

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Cheshire Ecological Services Ltd. (CES), the consultancy division of Cheshire Wildlife Trust, was commissioned to undertake a Biosecurity Risk Assessment of a site at Rossett Road, Rossett, Wrexham, in connection with proposed development of the site.
- 1.2 An extended Phase 1 Habitats survey was conducted on 13th May 2021, as part of the Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) for the site. No invasive non-native species (INNS) were found to be present within the site during the survey.
- 1.3 The application for the proposed development is required to be supported by a Biosecurity Risk Assessment. The Biosecurity Risk Assessment covers appropriate measures should any INNS be identified on site during construction to prevent their spread, and also provide preventative measures to reduce the risk of INNS, pests and infectious diseases being introduced to the site during the construction phase of the proposed development.
- 1.4 The implementation of good biosecurity measures is essential as INNS, pests and infectious diseases can be spread/be introduced via vectors such as footwear, building equipment, machinery and vehicles.
- 1.5 Castle Green Homes will be responsible for ensuring that all site contractors are issued with a copy of the Biosecurity Risk Assessment and that the measures outlined within this report are successfully implemented.

2.0 SITE SURVEY

- 2.1 An extended phase 1 habitats survey was undertaken of the site on the 13th May 2021, as part of the PEA for the site (see CES report - CES_084_Rossett Rd, Rossett_PEA_062021). The survey was conducted by Kyle Mellish ACIEEM, who is experienced in both Phase 1 habitat survey methodology and in the identification of invasive species.
- 2.2 All areas of the site were subject to a thorough walkover, and most invasive species are readily identified in May when the survey was completed.
- 2.3 No evidence of INNS were found during the survey, either on site or in neighbouring habitats.
- 2.4 Earlier surveys of the site by Kingdom Ecology in 2015 and 2016 also did not note any presence of INNS on site.

3.0 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 As no INNS were noted to be present on site during the survey in May 2021, Table 1 below identifies potential vectors by which INNS may enter the site and control measures to minimise the risk of spread of INNS via these vectors.

Table 1: Risk Assessment of possible INNS vectors and associated control measures

Possible Vector	Risk	Likelihood	Control Measures to be Implemented	Likelihood Following Implementation of Control Measures
Construction Machinery	Importation of INNS to the site on plant, machinery or tools	Medium	Avoid frequent movement of plant, machinery and tools between sites. Plant, machinery and tools to be either pressure-washed or disinfected prior to leaving previous sites (i.e. before coming on site). Should plant, machinery or tools come onto site in a dirty condition, they should be cleaned/disinfected – with wastewater not allowed to spread across the site.	Low
Access to site by construction personnel	Importation of INNS, pests and infectious diseases onto site.	Medium	Designated areas for parking of vehicles on compacted hardstanding or similar impermeable materials. Footwear and vehicles to be kept in clean condition, and pressure washed/cleaned if not, with wastewater not allowed to spread across the site. Site personnel to not attend site if feeling unwell. Site personnel to be made aware of the symptoms of tick bites and lyme disease.	Low
Construction Materials	Importation of INNS through construction materials, particularly	Medium	Maximise of on-site soils to minimise importation of topsoil. Any topsoil or aggregates to come from reputable	Low

	through topsoil or aggregates.		sources known to be free of INNS. Any topsoil or aggregates containing suspect materials to be quarantined until further investigated by an ecologist or invasive species specialist.	
Ornamental planting and planting of trees	Importation of INNS onto site within planting materials. Importation of vigorous non-natives onto site. Spread of disease into the wider landscape.	Medium	Ornamental planting should not include any INNS, and should be from a reputable source free of INNS. Vigorous non-native plants that can spread into the wider landscape should be avoided – such as cotoneasters and snowberry. Plants to have been grown in the UK at reputable UK nurseries. Native species planting is to be encouraged, where possible, both within landscaping and homeowner gardens.	Low
Site maintenance	Pests such as rats within piled materials or rubbish and increased difficulty of spotting INNS.	Medium	Site to be maintained in a good state, with minimal piling of materials and waste to be stored appropriately and removed via proper channels.	Low
Establishment by Natural Means	Invasive species may already be present within the seedbank or introduced by wild animals / seeding.	Low	Site to be monitored continuously for INNS, with species to be treated/removed by an experienced specialist if found.	Low

4.0 IDENTIFICATION & COURSE OF ACTION SHOULD INNS BE FOUND

- 4.1 In order for site contractors to identify common invasive species, three of the most common examples are provided in Table 2 within this section; including photographs and features of these plants to assist in identification. It is worth noting however that while these comprise three of the most common invasive species in the UK, many more are prevalent within the country. No part of suspected invasives should be touched during identification – as several can spread from tiny fragments and others can cause severe allergic reactions or skin conditions.
- 4.2 Should invasive species be found or suspected to be found on site, an appropriately experienced ecologist or invasive species specialist should be contacted to confirm identification. The area should be fenced/taped off in the meantime to prevent ingress in the area
- 4.3 If identification is confirmed, an experienced invasive species management company should be contacted to produce a method statement for its treatment/removal from the site, in line with good practice guidance. All invasive species plant materials (as listed under Schedule 9 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act, 1981) are to be treated as controlled waste, and disposed of through appropriate channels only.

Table 2: Common Invasive Species and Identification Features

Common Name / Scientific Name	Legal Status	Implications in Respect of Proposed Development	Identification Features
Japanese Knotweed <i>Reynoutria japonica</i>	Listed under Schedule 9 of the WCA, 1981 (as amended), and Controlled Waste under Part II of the Environmental Protection Act 1990	It is an offence to plant or cause this plant to spread in the wild.	 Tall erect plant that can grow over 2m tall, with green to red stems with purple specks reminiscent of bamboo and large lush green shovel shaped leaves. Can spread from as little as 0.6g of vegetative material. Flowers are cream, held in erect spikes (racemes).

Himalayan Balsam <i>Impatiens glandulifera</i>	Listed under Schedule 9 of the WCA, 1981 (as amended) and Controlled Waste under Part II of the Environmental Protection Act 1990	It is an offence to plant or cause this plant to spread in the wild.	 Up to 2m tall, with long serrated leaves and green to red stems. The white to pink flowers have a strong sickly-sweet smell, and the green fruit capsules explode when ripe.
Giant Hogweed <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i>	Listed under Schedule 9 of the WCA, 1981 (as amended) and Controlled Waste under Part II of the Environmental Protection Act 1990	It is an offence to plant or cause this plant to spread in the wild.	 Very tall umbellifer (white flowers held in heads reminiscent of umbrella) up to 5m tall, with huge (up to 3m long) 3 lobed heavily divided leaves. The stem is green with stiff white hairs and purple blotches, particularly toward the base. The sap of giant hogweed can cause serious burns through phytophotodermatitis.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The successful implementation of the control measures detailed within this document will ensure that the proposed development minimises the risk of spread of invasive species and sets out a clear course of action should they be suspected to be found on site.
- 5.2 If INNS are discovered on site, they should be treated/removed according to current legislation by appropriately experienced and qualified invasive species specialists; all invasive species are controlled waste products.
- 5.3 It is important that continual monitoring is carried out to identify any species that establish within the development site. Identification features and photos of common invasive species are provided within this document, and further information and online learning modules are available to familiarise site works with frequently encountered invasives species via the GB non-native species secretariat (<http://www.nonnativespecies.org/elearning/>).



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