

Ref BEK-23071-22

21 November 2023

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**MULLER PROPERTY GROUP**

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### **Land at 21 Thomas Street, Lindley – Biodiversity Net Gain - Justification of Baseline Habitats Used.**

This site consists of the majority rubble and remnants of demolition materials. The substrate is concrete patches, rubble from building demolition and gravel, with two small (35m<sup>2</sup>) patches of grassy vegetation where previous planted borders have existed (see Google Earth Images below). The non-native bushes are regeneration across the site, with some native ruderal species.

As most of the vegetation is introduced and spreading, this site would develop into a non-native scrub – some of which are INNS, which would be better avoided if possible.

The most appropriate UK Habs classification for the whole site would be u1f – Sparsely vegetated Urban Land, defined as Urban Land with Vegetation cover >10% - <50%. Currently this is not an option in the BNG Metric 4.0. There are no natural substrates to call “soil” for a grassland classification to be used, and therefore G4 is unsuitable for this site as the definition states that grass species must >75%, on fertile neutral soils which is incorrect for this site.

Therefore, the only other suitable option to the previously used u1b6 in V.2 would be to split the remainder of the site 50/50 between Urban introduced shrub and Urban unvegetated unsealed surface (once the solid areas of concrete have been deducted), which reflects the 50/50 vegetation. (the individual areas are too small to map).



Google Earth 2021 compared with Google Earth 2011, showing substrates prior to demolition of buildings.



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