

Japanese Knotweed Strategy

**Land South Of Victoria Street,
Cloughfold,
Rossendale,
BB4 7PT**

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Summary

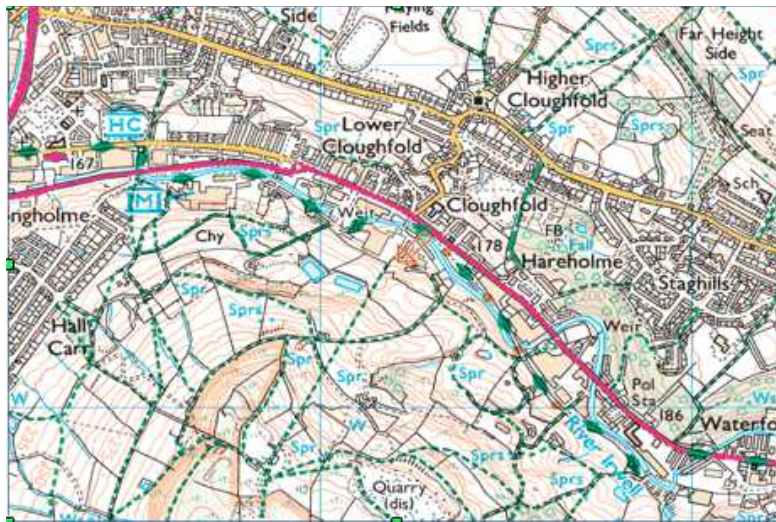
In August 2020 Batworker ecological consultancy was commissioned to undertake a preliminary ecological assessment of Land South Of Victoria Street, Cloughfold, Rossendale, BB4 7PT to assess the potential for impact on protected species.

A daytime walkover survey was carried out on 26th June 2020 in order to support plans for a residential development of four properties.

The site consists of predominately tall ruderal herb growth with scattered semi mature trees present. The site has an extensive stand of japanese knotweed present, a recommended management protocol is included within this report.

Survey site location

Land South Of Victoria Street, Cloughfold, Rossendale, BB4 7PT
NGR: SD8223022422



Personnel

All surveys were conducted by Dave Anderson MSc, Natural England Science, Education and Conservation bat licence holder (2015-15784-CLS-CLS) a bat surveyor and ecologist with 20 years experience. A former Curator of Natural History, at Townerley Hall Museum, with responsibility for managing the East Lancashire Biological Records Centre, the surveyor has delivered training in Badger surveying and identification of field signs in partnership with Lancashire Badger Group.

Survey Summary

Survey	Date	Timings
Daytime Walkover	26.08.2020	1 hour.

Location of Japanese Knotweed



View of knotweed from north

An area of Japanese knotweed, measuring approximately 15m x 4m, is located at T2 on the northern boundary of the site extending into the centre.

Japanese Knotweed Protocol.

Waste containing Japanese Knotweed is classified as 'controlled waste'. As such, you must observe the appropriate duty of care for its proper handling and disposal.

Japanese knotweed requires specialist removal. A contractor should be employed to deal with the existing stand of Japanese Knotweed on site with the client ensuring that the company:

- ! operates within the conditions in 'treatment and disposal of invasive non-native plants: RPS 178' (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/treatment-and-disposal-of-invasive-non-native-plants-rps-178/treatment-and-disposal-of-invasive-non-native-plants-rps-178>)
- ! has the relevant environmental permit

A registered waste carrier and an authorised landfill site or suitable disposal site must be used.

Japanese knotweed waste can be disposed of off-site by transferring it to a disposal facility that's permitted, such as a landfill site that has the right environmental permit.

A toolbox talk should be carried out with contractors prior to work commencing on site highlighting the location of Japanese knotweed and legal requirements for its removal in accordance with published regulations.

The site manager/contractor should mark areas of Japanese knotweed to ensure it is separated from other works on site, with clear warning signage.

All areas affected by Japanese knotweed are to be fenced off and isolated from any activities on site immediately to avoid potential of knotweed spread.

The fencing should be erected at least 7 metres away from any visible knotweed growth to protect rhizomes close to the surface from disturbance (see Environment Agency Knotweed Code of Practice 2.1 and 2.2.).

Any soil within this buffer zone should be treated as contaminated. It is understood that material will be excavated and removed from site.

No material is to leave site from the knotweed areas, except as part of specially supervised knotweed treatment works. Measures should be taken to ensure that any soil (or other material) that could potentially contain Japanese Knotweed plant material is not moved around a site or offsite

Any works required within the 7m buffer zone will need to be supervised by a suitably experienced Japanese knotweed specialist contractor.

All topsoil and materials brought onto site are to be checked prior to accepting (see Environment Agency Knotweed Code of Practice 2.3.).

Make sure all vehicles, equipment and footwear are free of plant fragments before leaving the site or a designated contaminated area within a site. If clothing is muddy it should also

be inspected.

No contaminated knotweed materials are to be moved across site unless on designated haul routes and all care should be given to ensure no spillage occurs from such transported materials.

The contractor and the Site Manager will have responsibility to monitor progress of the knotweed treatment programme.

Monitoring will be carried out prior to any treatment on site to act as a baseline to measure future changes to. Monitoring will be carried out every 12-15 weeks throughout the growing season.

Monitoring of regrowth will be carried out annually for a minimum of five years following completion of works. The appointed specialist contractor is responsible for ensuring the post-works monitoring is carried out.

The contractor and the Site Manager will agree the level of control achieved and the future treatment schedule.

Recording sheets will be used to document the level of growth percentage cover of knotweed on site.

Where appropriate, records should be kept of biosecurity inspections and/or measures.