

RECORD OF INDIVIDUAL EXECUTIVE DECISION MADE BY AN OFFICER

Decision Maker	Decision Type	Date
Paul Clifford, Director of Economy	Administrative Decision	29 February 2024

Report on Update of Sites of Biological Importance

Exempt/Confidential Report		No
Key Decision ¹		No

Decision (s) ²

To adopt the changes to the SBIs as outlined in Appendix 2. The advantage to this option is that the changes to SBIs will be subject to the principles set out in National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) of avoid, mitigate and as a last resort compensate any harm.

Reasons for the decision(s)³

The reason for this decision is to adopt changes, which have occurred to designated Sites of Biological Importance (SBIs) within the borough. Changes are outlined in Appendix 2 and Appendix 1 provides maps of the SBIs with boundary amendments. This includes Hull Brook (Grade A) which has had a net loss of 0.6 hectares (due to agricultural improvement) and Ponds at Cowlshaw Farm (Grade B), which gained 0.1hectares due to an increase in swamp present.

Tame Water Woodland and Hey Bank were also reviewed but had no significant changes.

Oldham has a total of 38 SBIs, which has increased overtime from 18 since 1984 (please see Appendix 3 for fact sheet).

¹ If the decision is Key Please use Key Decision Template.

² Brief details of the decision should be inserted. This note must set out the substance of the decision, options considered and the reason for deciding on the chosen option, although care must be taken not to disclose any confidential or exempt information. Please include proposed timescales for commencement and / or completion of implementation as appropriate.

³ Reasons for the decision must be given.

Options/Alternatives considered ⁴


Option 1 - To adopt the changes to the SBIs as outlined in Appendix 2. The advantage of this option is that the changes to SBIs will be subject to the principles set out in NPPF to avoid, mitigate and as a last resort compensate any harm. There are no disadvantages to this option. If development was proposed, it would be expected to comply with NPPF and Local Plan policies.

Option 2 - Not to adopt the changes to the SBIs as outlined in Appendix 2. There are no advantages to this option. The disadvantage is that boundary changes will not have been adopted and therefore the full extent of the SBI's may not be given due consideration under NPPF and the Local Plan.

Conflict of Interest declared⁵

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(Signature of Director of Economy)



(In consultation with relevant Cabinet Member if required)

Decision made pursuant to:

- a) General delegation under the Council's officer scheme of delegation. Non-contract decisions up to £250k.**

⁴ Options must be given.

⁵ If none, please state none. No Member having a disclosable pecuniary interest or officer having an interest in any matter (whether pecuniary or otherwise required to be declared) should take a decision in relation to that matter. Other interests of a non-disqualifying nature should be recorded here. Any dispensation in place in relation to the matter should also be recorded here. This may include other elected Members, officers, stakeholders and the local community.

⁶ The signatory must be duly authorised by Executive Director to make a decision in accordance with the relevant sub-delegation scheme. It is not acceptable for the signature to be 'pp' for the authorised signatory.



Oldham
Council