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SURVEYS, INSPECTIONS, REPORTS

SITE OFF OAK DRIVE COLWYN BAY CONWY LL29 7YP

Invasive Non-native Plant Species Survey Results

- The Cofnod (Local Ecological Records Centre) website was accessed (www.cofnod.org.uk) and a Cofnod Data Request [E07584] was made for a data search for Priority Species and designated wildlife sites within a 1km radius of the site. There are records of invasive non-native plant species (Himalayan Balsam, Japanese knotweed, wall cotoneaster) within 1km radius of the site.
- Japanese Knotweed was observed on site, in the scrub area (A2) within the small woodland area.

REASONABLE AVOIDANCE MEASURES

Site Induction

- As part of the site induction process, all staff working on site will be made aware of the presence of Japanese Knotweed on site. The Wildlife & Countryside Act (1981) and the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) (2006) are the key legislation that tackle the threat of non-native species and their impact on the UK ecosystems.
- The toolbox talk will set out what measures are being implemented to control Japanese Knotweed on the site and what measures are being implemented to avoid it being transported off site.
- A photographic identification sheet will be displayed in the site office to help workers know what the plant looks like.



PRO3755



UK/I 0343A

Biosecurity Control Measures

Herbicide Treatment Programme

- A programme of regular treatments using a high-grade Glyphosphate-based herbicide, should be implemented to control the Japanese Knotweed. This can be applied by spraying the foliage and/or by stem injections between Spring-early Autumn, when the plant is actively growing and the foliage can absorb the herbicide and translocate it down the stem to the rhizomes.
- Pulling up stems or cutting is ineffective in controlling the plant and may only provide a temporary solution. If even a tiny section of rhizome is left in the soil it will re-grow. This method will also create 'waste' which has to be disposed of correctly. It is an offence to plant, disperse or allow dispersal, or cause further spread of an invasive non-native species, which can result in a criminal prosecution with fines and/or imprisonment.

Excavation and disposal

- If the Japanese Knotweed is growing within an area of the site to be developed, the plant should be fully removed by excavation (including the topsoil) and disposed of in the appropriate manner. Under The Environmental Protection (Duty of Care) Regulations 1991, the plant material is classed as a 'controlled waste' and therefore must be transported offsite to a licenced landfill site by a company with the appropriate Waste Carriers Licence. It is strongly recommended that a professional company specialised in removing Japanese Knotweed is instructed to carry out this operation.

Biosecurity control measures for contractors on site

- Excavating machines/dumpers etc. are to be dedicated to the site where feasible, and should be brought to site in a clean state. On completion of works on the site, machines should be power washed with clean water in a suitable location, before moving from the area, all in accordance with agreed sediment control policies within proximity of water courses, i.e. minimum offset, agreed buffer zones, silt control bunding etc.
- All reinstated natural areas, i.e. non formal areas/plantings are to be reinstated with retained site soils, the importation of non-sterilised topsoil's from partner sites etc. is to be avoided, this is to ensure local provenance is maintained where feasible during the construction phase.
- Any imported materials, specifically top soils, are to be supplied from an accredited source to prevent the import of any invasive seed base etc.
- All landscaping and mitigation plantings to be compliant with the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019.
- Arrive at the site with clean footwear and vehicle.
- Keep access to a minimum.
- If practical do not take vehicles onto premises, keep to established tracks and park vehicles on hard standing.
- Ensure clothing and footwear is clean (visually from soil, plant fragments and debris) before leaving the site, by brushing/scrubbing off loose debris and rinsing with clean water.
- Ensure vehicle is kept clean - in particular remove any accumulated mud before leaving the site.

