

# Midland Metro

## G2.6 Amenity

Consideration is given to the amenity value of sites for purposes connected with the observation and study of wildlife, and for the quiet enjoyment of the natural environment (as distinct from outdoor recreation). The criteria relate to many issues including the following:

- the intrinsic appeal and wildlife content of the site (common and attractive species may be as important as rare species in this context);
- the potential of the site for educational use, especially by schools (habitat robustness may be important in this context);
- whether the site has existing nature conservation use, or potential for such use (having regard to matters such as ownership, imperatives for conservation management, access, ease of movement within the site, and public safety);
- the local demand for amenity sites, having regard to the location of the site relative to areas of population and areas of ecological deficiency.

These criteria were largely developed by the urban wildlife movement, but the need for amenity sites in some rural areas is increasingly recognised. Further details of amenity considerations relevant to the assessment are given in Greater London Council (1985), Greater Manchester Council (1986), Usher (1986), Johnston (1990) and Goldsmith (1991).

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