

Bidston Moss

- Where:** Bidston, North Wirral
- Size:** 86 hectares
- Planned investment:** Currently unconfirmed
- Partners:** Groundwork Wirral, The Mersey Forest, Mersey Waste Disposal Authority, Wirral Borough Council
- Site context:** Bidston Moss is the last landmark travelling east bound on M53 before the Mersey Tunnel and can be seen by road and rail users alike. A former landfill site (closed 1990's), the area is currently classed as unsafe for public access. Greening work has already taken place (as part of the Groundwork land regeneration programme) on the edge of the site and measures have also been taken to secure the site and prevent illegal motorbikes and vandals, who trouble the area. The site is close to several large residential areas of Birkenhead North End, Bidston Rise, Poulton and Leasow. Bidston Moss is also adjacent to a Site of Specific Biological Importance, home to many rare and protected species including barn owls and lapwings.
- Future:** Developments on Bidston Moss are intended to contribute both to an improvement in the local housing market, lifting house prices, and encouraging new investment. Newlands will concentrate on developing Bidston Moss as an important enhancement to views from the area's strategic transport links, especially important in the short term to link in with/support of the Capital of Culture 2008. The site is owned and managed by Mersey Waste Disposal Authority, and the developments through Newlands will enhance this company's commitment to the local area. In addition, the significant DEFRA investment into the Materials Recycling Facility close to the site's southern boundary will act as a gateway to the new woodland. A much needed, graded cycle track will link with the National Cycle Network and will connect with a new pedestrian bridge over Wirral's mainline train track. Bidston Moss will become a feature in a broader cycle provision development scheme with Wirral Borough Council and Sustrans linking into the National Cycleway Network.