

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Richmondshire District Council Preferred Options (Reg. 18) Local Plan 2018-2039

For: Richmondshire District Council

Date: May 2021



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Summary

Richmondshire District Council is reviewing its existing local plan Core Strategy and for the purposes of a Preferred Options (Reg. 18) consultation, has prepared the 'Richmondshire Draft Local Plan 2018-2039'. Importantly, the Richmondshire Plan Area only includes parts of Richmondshire outside of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The following report is the 'Habitats Regulations 'Screening' Assessment' of the Local Plan.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) require local authorities to assess the impact of their local plans on the internationally important sites for biodiversity in and around their administrative areas. Together, these Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar sites are known as 'European sites'. The task is achieved by means of a Habitats Regulations Assessment.

This asks very specific questions of a plan. Firstly, it must be 'screened' to identify if there is a risk that certain policies or allocations may have a 'likely significant effect' on a European site, alone or (if necessary) in-combination with other plans and projects. If the risk of likely significant effects can be ruled out, then the plan may be adopted; but if they cannot, the plan must be subjected to the greater scrutiny of an 'appropriate assessment' to find out if the plan will have an 'adverse effect on the integrity' of the European sites; if this cannot be ruled out, the plan cannot be adopted. If necessary, a plan should be amended to avoid or mitigate any likely conflicts. This usually means that some policies or allocations will need to be modified. This Habitats Regulations Assessment takes full account of up-to-date law, case law and policy, and best practice.

The Assessment was unable to rule out likely significant effects in terms of recreational pressure from all residential allocations within 10km of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC and two discrete components within 5km of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. Also, it was unable to rule out likely significant effects from the potential impact of residential development on land within 2.5km of the North Pennine Moors SPA on golden plover that forage beyond the boundary of the European site. In terms of air pollution, it was unable to rule out likely significant effects from all residential and employment development within the entire plan area on the North Pennine Moors, North Pennine Dales Meadows and Ox Close European sites. The screening assessment is presented in Appendix A, the rationale in Section 3.2 and the outcomes summarised in Tables 7 and 8. **An appropriate assessment will therefore be required.**

Importantly though, there is no statutory need for the Plan to be subjected to a Habitats Regulations Assessment at such an early stage in its evolution. The purpose of this assessment in this case is to identify the work needed to ensure the Regulation 19 edition is sound, fit for purpose and compliant.

In due course, therefore, Richmondshire District Council will prepare a Regulation 19 'Publication' edition. It will be accompanied by a subsequent edition of this HRA that will include the appropriate assessment. The Reg. 19 plan, with any modifications as a result of the appropriate assessment, will then be consulted on in public, prior to submission (Reg 22) and an examination in public (Reg 24).

Although this HRA has been prepared to help the Council discharge its duties under the Habitats Regulations, the Council is the competent authority and it must decide whether to accept this report or otherwise. Further, it should be noted that this HRA has been produced for the purposes of preparing and examining the new Plan. Where individual allocations subsequently become the subject of any planning application it will be necessary in due course to demonstrate compliance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) before permission is granted, in respect of the specific proposals before the Council at that time. This HRA may or may not be appropriate to determine the likely effects of a specific proposal when it eventually comes forward.



1. Introduction and Approach

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (commonly abbreviated to *the Habitats Regulations*) require local (or *competent*) authorities to assess the impact of development plans on the network of internationally important protected areas comprising Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites (or *European sites*). This requirement is delivered via a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) which comprises a series of mandatory tests.
- 1.1.2 This report is the HRA ‘screening assessment’ of the emerging Richmondshire Local Plan draft policies. It has been prepared by Fleming Ecology on behalf of Richmondshire District Council (the *Council*). The western ‘half’ of the district lies within the Yorkshire Dales National Park and so this Plan only addresses approximately 40% or so of the geographical area of the district outside the National Park.
- 1.1.3 Key features of the Plan include the provision for 3,200 new dwellings (160 every year) by the end of the Plan period (2018-2039), much of it concentrated in Catterick Garrison, and, to a lesser extent in Leyburn. Small numbers of houses are proposed within the network of villages and smaller settlements. In addition, an employment growth area has been identified at Scotch Corner.
- 1.1.4 Government guidance¹ allows competent authorities to rely on the conclusions of other, relevant HRAs where there has been no material change in circumstances². Consequently, but only where relevant, this new HRA draws on the findings of other HRAs, for instance those of neighbouring authorities.

1.2 HRA of Local Plans, Natura 2000 and European sites

- 1.2.1 The network of European sites forms the cornerstone of UK nature conservation policy. Each site forms part of a ‘*national network*’ and each is afforded the highest levels of protection in domestic policy and law. They comprise SPAs classified under the 1979 Birds Directive and SACs designated under the 1992 Habitats Directive. As a matter of policy, potential SPAs (pSPAs), possible SACs (pSACs) and those providing formal compensation for losses to European sites, are also given the same protection³. In England, the network of SPAs and SACs (on land and at sea and including

1 Habitats regulations assessments: protecting a European site. Defra and Natural England. 24 February 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site> (accessed 24 March 2021)

2 The suitability of earlier, or higher level assessments is subject to the decision of the CJEU in *Coöperatie Mobilisatie for the Environment UA v College van Gedeputeerde (C-293/17)* [2019] Env. L.R. 27 (“Dutch Nitrogen”).

3 For the avoidance of doubt, the list of statutory European sites also comprises: A site submitted by the UK to the European Commission (EC) before Exit Day (a candidate SAC or cSAC) as eligible for selection as a Site of Community Importance (SCI) but not yet entered on the ECs list of SCI, until such time as the Appropriate Authority has designated the site or it has notified the statutory nature conservation body that it does not intend to designate the site. After Exit Day, no further cSACs will be submitted to the EU. Statutory European sites also include SCI included on a list of such sites by the European Commission from cSACs submitted by the UK before the UK left the EU, until such time as the UK designates the site when it will become a fully designated SAC.



those shared with Scotland and Wales) comprises over 340 sites^{4,5} extending over 7,500,000ha and safeguards the most valuable and threatened habitats and species across Europe.

- 1.2.2 Prior to Brexit, these comprised part of the EU-wide Natura 2000 network of SPAs and SACs to form the largest, coordinated network of protected areas in the world. The SPA and SAC designations made under the European Directives still apply and the term, 'European site' remains in use. Similarly, at present, EU case law still applies. According to long-established Government policy⁶, European sites also comprise 'Wetlands of International Importance' (or Ramsar sites listed under the Ramsar Convention) although these do not form part of the national network.
- 1.2.3 Locally, the network comprises sites such as the North Pennines and North Pennine Dales Meadows. Further afield, it also incorporates several sites in such well known places as the North York Moors, and the Yorkshire Dales.
- 1.2.4 The overarching objective of the national network is to maintain, or where appropriate, restore habitats and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive to a Favourable Conservation Status, and contribute to ensuring, in their area of distribution, the survival and reproduction of wild birds and securing compliance with the overarching aims of the Wild Birds Directive. The appropriate authorities must have regard to the importance of protected sites, coherence of the national site network and threats of degradation or destruction (including deterioration and disturbance of protected features) on SPAs and SACs.
- 1.2.5 The Habitats Regulations apply a series of mandatory tests for the HRA of local development plans set out in Regulation 105 *et seq.* These have been interpreted by European and domestic case law, supported by policy and guidance issued by Government on their implementation notably paragraphs 174-177 of the National Planning Policy Framework, Planning Practice Guidance 'Appropriate Assessment'⁷ and Defra Guidance⁸. These are drawn on where necessary below.
- 1.2.6 In brief, the HRA process requires the competent authority (ie the Council) to first assess the plan to identify whether it is '*... likely to have a significant effect on a European Site ... either alone or in combination with other plans or projects*'. If likely significant effects are found to be absent, the plan may be adopted without further scrutiny. These tests are commonly referred to as 'Screening'.
- 1.2.7 This document stops at this point but in due course, where likely significant effects cannot be ruled out, an '*appropriate assessment*' will be required. This explores whether a plan will have an '*adverse effect on the integrity*' of a European site; if adverse effects cannot be ruled out, a plan cannot normally be adopted. These steps are explained in more detail in Section 1.3 below.
- 1.2.8 The HRA follows principles of case law, both UK and EU. It also refers as appropriate to the Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook⁹ which provides advice regarding undertaking HRAs. Subscribers to the Handbook include Natural England, the Environment Agency and the Planning Inspectorate amongst many others.

4 <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/special-protection-areas-overview/> (accessed 27 March 2021)

5 <https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/england> (accessed 27 March 2021)

6 ODPM Circular 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation – Statutory Obligations and their Impact within the Planning System (16 August 2005), to be read in conjunction with the current NPPF, other Government guidance and the current version of the Habitats Regulations.

7 Planning Practice Guidance <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment> (accessed 27 March 2021)

8 <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site#appropriate-assessment> (accessed 27 March 2021)

9 Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C., (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook, January 2021 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd



1.3 Definitions, the Precautionary Principle & Case Law

- 1.3.1 The overall approach to screening and appropriate assessment was summarised by Advocate General Sharpston in the Sweetman case¹⁰:

“47. It follows that the possibility of there being a significant effect on the site will generate the need for an appropriate assessment for the purposes of article 6(3) In para 44¹¹, it uses the term “in case of doubt”. It is the last of these that seems to me best to express the position. The requirement at this stage that the plan or project be likely to have a significant effect is thus a trigger for the obligation to carry out an appropriate assessment. There is no need to establish such an effect; it is, as Ireland observes, merely necessary to determine that there may be such an effect. ...

49. The threshold at the first stage of article 6(3) is thus a very low one. It operates merely as a trigger, in order to determine whether an appropriate assessment must be undertaken of the implications of the plan or project for the conservation objectives of the site. The purpose of that assessment is that the plan or project in question should be considered thoroughly, on the basis of what the court has termed “the best scientific knowledge in the field”. ...

50. The test which that expert assessment must determine is whether the plan or project in question has “an adverse effect on the integrity of the site”, since that is the basis on which the competent national authorities must reach their decision. The threshold at this (the second) stage is noticeably higher than that laid down at the first stage. That is because the question (to use more simple terminology) is not “should we bother to check?” (the question at the first stage) but rather “what will happen to the site if this plan or project goes ahead; and is that consistent with ‘maintaining or restoring the favourable conservation status’ of the habitat or species concerned?”.

Stage One – Screening

- 1.3.2 The screening test is defined in Regulation 105(1) which states:

“Where a land use plan ... (a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site ... (either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects), and (b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site, the plan-making authority ... must ... make an appropriate assessment ... in view of that site’s conservation objectives”.

- 1.3.3 Taking (b) first, this allows plans, where the sole focus is the management for the benefit of the one or more of the qualifying features without detriment to the others, can be excluded from the need for HRA. However, this rarely applies. Where it does not, an HRA is required.

- 1.3.4 In terms of (a), in this context (see Sweetman, above):

‘Likely’ in the context of ‘a likely significant effect’ is a low threshold and simply means that there is a risk or doubt regarding such an effect¹²;

‘Significant’, in the same context, means ‘any effect that would undermine the conservation objectives for a European site ...’¹³

‘Objective’, in this context, means clear verifiable fact rather than subjective opinion ...

10 Sweetman v An Bord Pleanála (C 258-11) [2012]. Opinion of the Advocate General.

11 The CJEU in Landelijke Vereniging tot Behoud van de Waddenzee v Staatssecretaris Van Landbouw, Natuurbeheer en Visserij (C127-02) [2005] 2 CMLR 31 (“the Waddenzee case”)

12 Waddenzee: European Courts C-127/02 Waddenzee 7th September 2004, reference for a preliminary ruling from the Raad van State at para. 44 and Sweetman, above.

13 Waddenzee at paras. 44, 47 and 48.



- 1.3.5 This means the initial screening phase should not be exhaustive and should act as a trigger for further scrutiny, points clearly described by Advocate General Sharpston in Sweetman, above. This was amplified in the Bagmoor Wind case¹⁴.

‘If the absence of risk ... can only be demonstrated after a detailed investigation, or expert opinion, that is an indicator that a risk exists and the authority must move from preliminary examination to appropriate assessment’.

- 1.3.6 An assessment of in-combination effects is required where an impact is identified which would have an insignificant effect on its own (a residual effect) but where likely significant effects may arise cumulatively with other plans or projects.
- 1.3.7 Finally, Boggis¹⁵ clarifies there should be “*credible evidence that there was a real, rather than a hypothetical, risk*” that the conservation objectives of a European site could be undermined so requiring only the assessment of plausible effects and not the extremely unlikely.

Stage Two – Appropriate Assessment and the Integrity Test

- 1.3.8 The Supreme Court in Champion¹⁶ held that “appropriate” is not a technical term and indicates no more than that the assessment should be appropriate to the task in hand.
- 1.3.9 Fundamentally, the HRA process employs the precautionary principle and Regulation 105 ensures that where a plan is likely to have a significant effect, it can only be adopted if the competent authority can ascertain (following an appropriate assessment) that it ‘*will not adversely affect the integrity of the European site*’. It means that the absence of harm must be demonstrated before a plan can be adopted.
- 1.3.10 This is made clear in the Waddenzee judgement (with emphasis added):

‘where doubt remains as to the absence of adverse effects ... the competent authority will have to refuse authorisation’ (Para 57); and

That is the case where no reasonable scientific doubt remains as to the absence of such effects (Para 59, emphasis added).

- 1.3.11 The integrity of a European site is described in Planning Practice Guidance¹⁷ as:
- “the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, that enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was designated.”*
- 1.3.12 Similar definitions, drawing on the term ‘*constitutive characteristics*’ were provided by the CJEU in Sweetman¹⁸ by the European Commission¹⁹.

14 Bagmoor Wind Limited v The Scottish Ministers [2012] CSIH 93

15 Peter Charles Boggis and Easton Bavants Conservation v Natural England and Waveney District Council, High Court of Justice Court of Appeal case C1/2009/0041/QBACF Citation No [2009] EWCA Civ. 1061 20th October 2009

16 R (on the application of Champion) v. North Norfolk District Council [2015] 1 WLR 3170 at para. 41

17 Reference ID: 65-003-20190722

18 Sweetman v An Bord Pleanála (C 258-11) [2014] PTSR 1092 at paragraph 39 (*‘the lasting preservation of the constitutive characteristics of the site ... whose preservation was the objective justifying the designation of that site’*).

19 Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC”, European Union. 2019. (The integrity of the site involves its constitutive characteristics and ecological functions. The decision as to whether it is adversely affected should focus on and be limited to the habitats and species for which the site has been designated and the site’s conservation objectives).



“The integrity of the site involves its constitutive characteristics and ecological functions. The decision as to whether it is adversely affected should focus on and be limited to the habitats and species for which the site has been designated and the site’s conservation objectives.”

- 1.3.13 Whilst the focus is clearly on the qualifying features, in *Holohan*²⁰, it was held that attention should be given to non-qualifying, but ‘typical species’ as follows:

“Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora must be interpreted as meaning that an ‘appropriate assessment’ must, on the one hand, catalogue the entirety of habitat types and species for which a site is protected, and, on the other, identify and examine both the implications of the proposed project for the species present on that site, and for which that site has not been listed, and the implications for habitat types and species to be found outside the boundaries of that site, provided that those implications are liable to affect the conservation objectives of the site”.

- 1.3.14 In *Champion*, the Supreme Court found that the legislative context implies a high standard of investigation whilst referring to Advocate General Kokott in *Waddenzee* at para. 107 that “*absolute certainty*” is not required:

“... the necessary certainty cannot be construed as meaning absolute certainty since that is almost impossible to attain. Instead, it is clear from the second sentence of article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that the competent authorities must take a decision having assessed all the relevant information which is set out in particular in the appropriate assessment. The conclusion of this assessment is, of necessity, subjective in nature. Therefore, the competent authorities can, from their point of view, be certain that there will be no adverse effects even though, from an objective point of view, there is no absolute certainty”.

- 1.3.15 The above principles have recently been applied in the *Compton Parish Council* case²¹.

- 1.3.16 The fundamental test remains, therefore, as one of ‘reasonable scientific doubt’ (or ‘reasonable doubt’). Drawing this together, the Handbook (F.10.1) states:

“Because the integrity test incorporates the application of the precautionary principle as a matter of law, and because plan assessments are, by their nature, less precise than project assessments, it is important for the assessment process to eliminate the prospect of adverse effects on site integrity in so far as that is possible at the level of specificity inherent in the nature and purpose of the particular plan.”

- 1.3.17 Specific issues relating to mitigation are covered in Section 1.4 below.

Stages Three & Four – The Derogations

- 1.3.18 If adverse effects on the integrity of the site can be avoided, the plan can be adopted. If not, derogations would have to be sought to allow the plan to continue; these are regarded as a ‘last resort’²² and considered only in exceptional circumstances. They are not considered further since these circumstances are unlikely to arise in this local plan.

20 *Holohan v. An Bord Pleanála* (C-461/17) [2019] P.T.S.R. 104

21 *Compton Parish Council v. Guildford Borough Council* [2019] EWHC 3242 (Admin) at paragraph 207.

22 *Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC*, European Union. 2019.



Mitigation and recent case law

- 1.3.19 The People Over Wind case²³ in April 2018 allowed the CJEU set out clear guidance as to the role of mitigation measures in an HRA. In taking a different approach from decisions in the UK courts, the court held that measures embedded within a plan or project specifically to avoid or reduce the magnitude of likely significant effects should not be taken into account at the screening stage but reserved for the appropriate assessment. This HRA therefore restricts consideration of mitigation measures to the appropriate assessment.
- 1.3.20 The Court also considered the approach to mitigation at the appropriate assessment stage in Grace & Sweetman²⁴. Here, it held that it is only when it is sufficiently certain that a measure will make an effective contribution to avoiding harm, guaranteeing beyond all reasonable doubt that the project will not adversely affect the integrity of the area, that such a measure may be taken into consideration”.
- 1.3.21** In the Dutch nitrogen case²⁵, the CJEU confirmed that an appropriate assessment is not to take into account the future benefits of mitigation measures if those benefits are uncertain, including where the procedures needed to accomplish them have not yet been carried out or because the level of scientific knowledge does not allow them to be identified or quantified with certainty. It is recognised that the ruling also covered the approach to “autonomous” measures which are not mitigation measures adopted as part of the plan in question, but measures which are taken outside that plan (in that case to reduce nitrogen deposition). The CJEU held that the effect of those measures could not be taken into account either, if their expected benefits are not certain at the time of that assessment²⁶.

Evidence

- 1.3.22 The HRA of development plans was first made a requirement in the UK following a ruling by the European Court of Justice in EC v UK²⁷. However, the judgement²⁸ recognised that any assessment had to reflect the actual stage in the strategic planning process and the level of evidence that might or might not be available. This was given expression in the High Court (Feeney²⁹) which stated:
- “Each ... assessment ... cannot do more than the level of detail of the strategy at that stage permits”.*
- 1.3.23 Because this is a strategic plan, the ‘objective information’ required by the HRA is frequently (but not always) only available at a strategic or high level, without the detail that might be expected at the planning application stage.

Brexit

- 1.3.24 The requirement for the HRA ultimately derives from the EU Habitats Directive. Notwithstanding the UK’s withdrawal from the EU, UK law and policy remains currently largely unchanged, and the

23 People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C 323/17) [2018] PTSR 1668

24 Grace & Sweetman v An Bord Pleanala (C-164/17) [2019] PTSR 266 at paragraphs 51-53 and 57.

25 Coöperatie Mobilisation for the Environment and Vereniging Leefmilieu (C 293/17, C 294/17) [2019] Env. L.R. 27 at paragraph 30

26 See too the Compton Parish Council case, referred to above, at paragraph 207.

27 Commission v UK (C-6/04) [2005] ECR I-9017

28 Commission of the European Communities v UK Opinion of Advocate General Kokott

29 Feeney v Oxford City Council [2011] EWHC 2699 Admin at paragraph 92



Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 remain in force³⁰, other than to accommodate amendments made by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

Role of the competent authority

- 1.3.25 Lastly, although this HRA has been prepared to help the Council discharge its duties under the Habitats Regulations, the Council is the competent authority and it must decide whether to accept this report or otherwise. Further, it should be noted that this HRA has been prepared for the purposes of preparing and examining the Plan. Individual allocations will need to be reviewed when they become the subject of an individual planning application, to ensure that if further assessment under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) is necessary³¹, it is undertaken in accordance with the requirements of appropriate assessment.

2 Identifying European sites at risk

2.1 Methodology

- 2.1.1 The search was restricted to those European sites found within 15km of the district boundary as this was considered to be the maximum extent that policies and allocations of the scale and location proposed could seriously be considered to generate meaningful effects. In effect, this provides a zone of more like 20km from the two main centres of residential growth, Catterick Garrison and Leyburn, which lie well within the district boundary. Settlements, boundaries and European sites are shown on Map 1 (see below).
- 2.1.2 Importantly, the Plan excludes land within the Yorkshire Dales National Park which occupies approximately 60% of the western half of the district. A small area of land on the northern border of the district around the well-known Tan Hill Inn lies outside the National Park but is separated from the main block of the remaining district. The 15km radius though is confined to the main block as there no proposals for development around the Inn or its environs.
- 2.1.3 This focuses the attention of this HRA on a modest list of European sites which comprises:
- North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC;
 - North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC;
 - Ox Close SAC;
 - North York Moors SPA/SAC; and
 - Humber Estuary SPA/SAC/Ramsar³².

30 See the EU (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020 Sch. 5(1) para. 1(1) and section 39(1). The amending regulations come into force at the end of the implementation period they generally seek to retain the requirements of the 2017 Regulations but with adjustments for the UK's exit from the EU, for example by amending references to the Natura 2000 network so that they are construed as references to the national site network: see regulation 4, which also confirms that the interpretation of these Regulations as they had effect, or any guidance as it applied, before exit day, shall continue to do so.

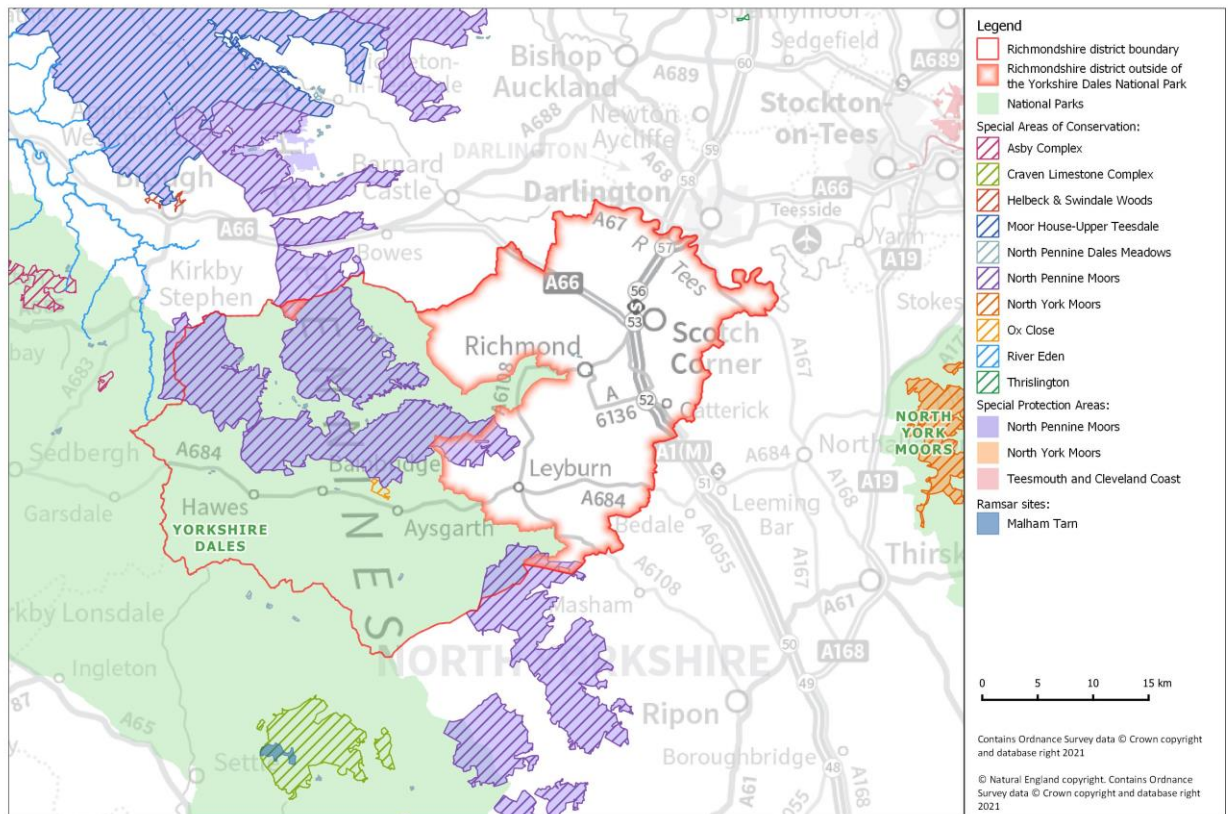
31 See Dutch Nitrogen, above, at paragraphs 100-104 and 120.

32 To encourage a consistent, reliable and repeatable process, the Handbook (Figure F4.4) identifies 16 generic criteria, listed below in Table 1 (Columns 1 & 2), that when evaluated generate a precautionary, 'long' list of European sites in Column 3 which might be affected by the Plan³². However, when considered further, using readily available information and local knowledge (Column 4) the list of plausible threats can be refined, and the list of affected sites reduced (Column 5).



- 2.1.4 The Humber Estuary European site has been added to this list because although lying far downstream of the district, a direct hydraulic link is provided by the Rivers Swale, Ure and Ouse.
- 2.1.5 Not all sites will be vulnerable to measures proposed in the Plan and Table 1 applies generic criteria from the Handbook to clarify which should be included and which should not. Although the western extremity of the extensive North York Moors SPA/SAC lies within 15km of the most easterly point of the district, it is eliminated from any further consideration in this HRA given that it lies much further from the nearest development proposed in Catterick Garrison or Scotch Corner; it is almost inconceivable that the levels of growth proposed could result in measurable effects in the North York Moors.

Map 1: Richmondshire and nearby European sites



Map 1: Richmondshire and nearby European Sites



Table 1 European sites which may be affected by the new Plan

Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
1. All plans (terrestrial, coastal and marine)	Sites (or parts of sites that lie) within the geographic area covered by or intended to be relevant to the plan ³³	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	This criterion simply identifies all the European sites in the Council's geographic area. All sites present are listed.	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC
2. Plans that could affect wetland features ³⁴	(a) Sites upstream or downstream of the plan area in the case of river or estuary sites	Humber Estuary SPA, SAC, Ramsar	Effects considered are those associated with the physical presence of built development and the localised effects on surface/groundwater resources and quality, resulting from changes in run-off, sedimentation, erosion etc. No development of such magnitude is proposed that could lead to such effects in European sites up- or downstream of the Plan area. Although the main rivers within the district, the Swale and the Ure both drain onto the Ouse and, subsequently the Humber Estuary (European site), this lies far distant and harmful effects can be confidently ruled out. Note that the indirect effects of changes to wastewater disposal are assessed separately under '7b'.	None
	(b) Open water, peatland, fen, marsh and other wetland sites with relevant hydrological links to land within the plan area,	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC	Effects considered are those associated with the physical presence of built development and the localised effects on surface/groundwater resources and quality, resulting from changes in run-off, sedimentation, erosion etc.	None

33 This comprises all European sites that lie entirely or partly within the Council area. Relevant European sites outwith this will be identified through the criteria below.

34 Note this title has been amended from 'aquatic environment' in the Handbook to 'wetland features' here for greater clarity and to provide a better 'fit' with the features at risk



Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
	irrespective of distance from the plan area		<p>No development is proposed in such close proximity to the North Pennine Moors European site which occupies the high plateau upstream of any proposed development</p> <p>Consequently, no European sites are affected</p> <p>Note that the indirect effects of changes to wastewater disposal are assessed separately under '7b'.</p>	
3. Plans that could affect the marine environment	Sites that could be affected by changes in water quality, currents or flows; or effects on the inter-tidal or sub-tidal areas or the seabed, or marine species	Humber Estuary SPA, SAC, Ramsar	No development is proposed that could affect any of the physical and biological processes/features of any marine European sites. Consequently, effects on the marine environment of all can be ruled out of the need for further consideration in this HRA.	None
4. Plans that could affect the coast	Sites in the same coastal 'cell', or part of the same coastal ecosystem, or where there are interrelationships with or between different physical coastal processes	Humber Estuary SPA, SAC, Ramsar	No development is proposed that could affect any of the physical and biological processes/features of any coastal European sites. Consequently, effects on the coastal environment of all can be ruled out of the need for further consideration in this HRA.	None
5. Plans that could affect mobile species	Sites whose qualifying features include mobile species which may be affected by the plan irrespective of the location of the plan's proposals or whether the species would be in or out of the site when they might be affected	North Pennine Moors SPA	<p>This considers direct impacts of plan proposals on mobile species.</p> <p>The four qualifying species, hen harrier, merlin, peregrine and golden plover (and the associated typical species) are all upland specialists though golden plovers in particular will frequently exploit land beyond the site boundary for feeding purposes by day and night.</p> <p>Neighbouring HRAs seem to adopt the approach laid out in the existing Bradford Plan/HRA which identified a threshold of 2.5km from the SPA</p>	None



Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
			<p>boundary beyond which use declined and harmful effects could be ruled out.</p> <p>However, proposed development lies considerable distances from the moors and occupies urban fringe land which can safely be assumed to have no functional role.</p> <p>Consequently, effects on mobile species can be ruled out.</p>	
<p>6. Plans that could increase recreational pressure on European sites potentially vulnerable or sensitive to such pressure</p>	<p>(a) Such European sites in the plan area</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC</p>	<p>Due to the proximity of a number of residential allocations, impacts on these European sites cannot be ruled out so will require further consideration in this HRA.</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC</p>
	<p>(b) Such European sites within an agreed zone of influence or other reasonable and evidence-based travel distance of [ie beyond] the plan area boundaries that may be affected by local recreational or other visitor pressure from within the plan area</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>	<p>In this case, this category effectively mimics (6a) above as the vast North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC occupies land across several local authorities and the North Pennine Dales Meadows SACs comprises numerous small fragments again across several authorities. Only Ox Close lies wholly within Richmondshire’s administrative area.</p> <p>Consequently, impacts on these European sites cannot be ruled out so will require further consideration in this HRA.</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
	<p>(c) Such European sites within an agreed zone of influence or other evidence-based longer travel distance of the plan area, which are major (regional or national) visitor attractions such as European sites which are National Nature Reserves (NNRs)</p>	<p>Craven Limestone Complex (SAC) Ingleborough Complex (SAC) Malham Tarn (Ramsar) North York Moors (SPA, SAC)</p>	<p>The sites of the Craven Limestone Complex and the North York Moors (encompassing the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Parks, respectively) are considered too distant (at 25km and 30km) from the two main centres of growth at Leyburn and Catterick Garrison to be affected by any credible threats and so can be ruled out of the need for any further consideration in this HRA.</p>	<p>None</p>



Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
	where public visiting is promoted, sites in National Parks, coastal sites and sites in other major tourist or visitor destinations		The same applies to Ingleborough and Malham Tarn which both lie even more distant.	
7. Plans that would increase the amount of development	(a) Sites in the plan area or beyond that are used for, or could be affected by, water abstraction irrespective of distance from the plan area	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC Humber Estuary SPA/SAC/Ramsar	The European sites listed to the left all depend to a greater or lesser extent on the maintenance of a favourable hydrological regime and so considered vulnerable to changes in groundwater levels or changes in flow in rivers which could arise from water abstraction across a wide area. However, despite the direct hydraulic link with the Humber, this is omitted from the final list on account of distance and that it drains around 20% of England and no appreciable effect is anticipated from changes in Richmondshire.	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC
	(b) Sites used for, or could be affected by, discharge of effluent from wastewater treatment works or other waste management streams serving the plan area, irrespective of distance from the plan area	Humber Estuary SPA, SAC, Ramsar	Although the main rivers within the district, the Swale and the Ure both empty into the Ouse and, subsequently the Humber Estuary, this lies far distant and harmful effects can be confidently ruled out.	None
	(c) Sites that could be affected by the provision of new or extended transport or other infrastructure	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	No such infrastructure proposed	None
	(d) Sites that could be affected by increased deposition of air pollutants arising from the proposals,	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	Adverse impacts from increased air pollution can be possible on European sites that lie within 200m of roads. Components of all listed European sites on the right, can be found within this threshold. Harmful	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC



Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
	including emissions from significant increases in traffic		effects cannot be ruled out at this stage and so will require further consideration in this HRA. There are no major point sources of air pollution proposed by the Plan.	Ox Close SAC
8. Plans for linear developments or infrastructure	This applies to projects and sites within the Plan area. Sites within a specified distance from the centre line of the proposed route (or alternative routes), the distance may be varied for differing types of site / qualifying features and in the absence of established good practice standards, distance(s) to be agreed by the statutory nature conservation body.	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	No such infrastructure proposed in the Plan. However, Highways England is upgrading the A66 along its entire length between the M6 and A1. Although works in the district will be modest, a major upgrade of the Scotch Corner junction is proposed. No direct effects on European sites are anticipated though if the scheme attracts more traffic, an increase in air pollution could result where the road bisects the North Pennine Moors to the west of Bowes in County Durham. However, as not proposed by the Plan this is not considered here.	None
9. Plans that introduce new activities or new uses into the marine, coastal or terrestrial environment	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the new activities proposed by the plan	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	No such activities proposed.	None
10. Plans that could change the nature, area, extent, intensity, density, timing or scale of existing activities or uses	Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the effects of the changes to existing activities proposed by the plan	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	This criterion could potentially be interpreted to include recreational activities or 'urban-edge' effects. However, for the purposes of this HRA, it is considered that the effects of this category will be captured effectively via the application of criteria 5 (mobile species) and 6 (recreation). In terms of other activities, such as quarries, for example, no such activities are proposed.	None



Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
			<p>Impacts arising from construction, operation and decommissioning of development, such as disturbance, are addressed in criterion 14.</p> <p>Therefore, this criterion can be ruled out of the need for further consideration in this HRA.</p>	
<p>11. Plans that could change the quantity, quality, timing, treatment or mitigation of emissions or discharges to air, water or soil</p>	<p>Sites considered to have qualifying features potentially vulnerable or sensitive to the changes in emissions or discharges that could arise as a result of the plan</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC</p>	<p>This criterion is effectively addressed by 7(c) & (d) 'wastewater' and is not duplicated here.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>12. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate, or other characteristics of biological resources harvested, extracted or consumed</p>	<p>Sites whose qualifying features include the biological resources which the plan may affect, or whose qualifying features depend on the biological resources which the plan may affect, for example as prey species or supporting habitat or which may be disturbed by the harvesting, extraction or consumption</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC</p>	<p>No such activities proposed.</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>13. Plans that could change the quantity, volume, timing, rate, or other characteristics of physical resources extracted or consumed</p>	<p>Sites whose qualifying features rely on the non-biological resources which the plan may affect, for example, as habitat or a physical environment on which habitat may develop or which may be disturbed by the extraction or consumption</p>	<p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC</p>	<p>No such activities proposed.</p>	<p>None</p>



Types of plan (or potential effects)	Sites to scan for and check	Initial list of potentially affected European sites	Additional context	European sites selected
14. Plans which could introduce or increase, or alter the timing, nature or location of disturbance to species	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially sensitive to disturbance, for example as a result of noise, activity or movement, or the presence of disturbing features that could be brought about by the plan	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	For the purposes of this HRA, it is considered that the majority of effects of this category will be captured effectively via the application of criteria 5 (mobile species) and/or 6 (recreation). Therefore, these elements are not duplicated here. Instead, this criterion is employed to capture the effects of construction, use and decommissioning of residential or industrial development (in close proximity to a European site) in terms of noise, the movement of people and lighting (which also captures some elements of '15' below.	None
15. Plans which could introduce or increase or change the timing, nature or location of light or noise pollution	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially sensitive to the effects of changes in light or noise that could be brought about by the plan	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC	For the purposes of this HRA, it is considered that the effects of this category will be captured effectively via the application of criteria 5 (mobile species) and/or 6 (recreation) and/or 14 (disturbance) above. Therefore, this criterion can be ruled out of the need for further consideration in this HRA.	None
16. Plans which could introduce or increase a potential cause of mortality of species	Sites whose qualifying features are considered to be potentially sensitive to the source of new or increased mortality that could be brought about by the plan	North Pennine Moors SPA	No such infrastructure, such as wind farms, proposed	None

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- 2.1.4 The outputs of the exercise carried out in Table 1 reduce the number of factors at play and began to clarify the nature of potential impacts. These factors and the sites to which they apply are also shown in Table 2.

Table 2 List of European sites and potential effects

Potential threat	European sites
(6a&b) Recreational pressure	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC
(7a) Water abstraction	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC
(7d) Air pollution	North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Ox Close SAC

- 2.1.5 The net result, and benefit to the HRA, is that the list of issues and sites potentially affected is reduced, making for a shorter and more focused HRA than would otherwise be the case.
- 2.1.6 However, as harmful effects on a number of European sites cannot be ruled out, further ecological information needs to be gathered to inform subsequent scrutiny in the HRA. Drawing on the citations, conservation objectives, supplementary advice and site improvement plans (SIPs), the ecological characteristics of all the European sites that remain at risk are described in Table 2 and are accompanied by observations on their sensitivity to external factors. Qualifying features³⁵, conservation objectives, and both (existing) pressures and (potential) threats are extracted from the SIP are provided in full. Condition assessment data was drawn from Natural England’s website on 8 April 2021. Sources used to populate Table 3 are listed below:

References
North Pennine Moors SPA
North Pennine Moors SPA Citation (Version 3.3). January 2001
Conservation Objectives for North Pennine Moors SPA. Natural England. 21 February 2019 (Version 3)
Supplementary advice on conserving and restoring site features. North Pennine Moors SPA. Natural England. 28 January 2019
North Pennine Moors SAC
North Pennine Moors SAC Citation 14 June 2005
Conservation Objectives for North Pennine Moors SAC. Natural England. 27 November 2018 (Version 3)

35 Qualifying features taken from Natural England conservation objectives



References

Supplementary advice on conserving and restoring site features. North Pennine Moors SAC. Natural England. 28 January 2019

North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC

Site Improvement Plan. North Pennines Group. Natural England. 4 December 2014. V1.0

North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC

North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC Citation (Version 3.0). 23 August 2018

Conservation Objectives for North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. Natural England. 27 November 2018. (Version 3)

Supplementary advice on conserving and restoring site features. North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. Natural England. 11 February 2019

Site Improvement Plan. North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. Natural England. 17 February 2015. (Version 1.0).

Ox Close SAC

Ox Close SAC Citation. 14 June 2005

Conservation Objectives for Ox Close SAC. Natural England. 27 November 2018. (Version 3)

Supplementary advice on conserving and restoring features. Ox Close SAC. Natural England. 11 February 201

Site Improvement Plan. Ox Close. Natural England. 15 October 2014. V1.0



Table 3 Description of European sites

North Pennine Moors SPA, SAC		
Description (including summary of qualifying features)	Qualifying features and Conservation objectives	Pressures & threats (P/T)
<p>The North Pennine Moors extend over 100,000ha and hold much of the upland moorland in northern England. The Moor House SPA is subsumed into this site for reporting purposes.</p> <p>A range of typical upland features are represented with transitions between reflecting climate, altitude, aspect, typography and geology. Dry and wet heath along with blanket bog are extensive and predominate though woodlands, grasslands, juniper, springs, fen and slope communities are also present. Conifer plantations and some cropped land can also be found.</p> <p>In turn this supports an important upland breeding bird community. Whilst golden plover, merlin and peregrine can be found more widely, the population of hen harrier is of enormous importance; a tiny population that is subjected to widespread persecution across the country. The overall breeding assemblage is not classified although, drawing the SPA Review, short-eared owl and curlew could be considered to be 'typical species' and are adopted as 'features' in this assessment.</p> <p>Essentially, the entire site is classified as open access land and recreational pressure is identified in Natural England's SIP along with other factors associated with public access including the illicit use of vehicles and fire, a growing threat when allied with climate change. This makes the site unique amongst those listed here.</p> <p>Such an extensive site is criss-crossed by both minor and major roads including the A66 which is proposed to be dualled along its entire upland stretch. Increased traffic along this latter, perhaps associated with growth at Scotch Corner or further afield introduces the threat of nitrogen deposition from vehicle exhausts; all the habitats present are potentially vulnerable.</p> <p>All habitats and the supporting habitats of the bird community support at least some wetland characteristics and so all depend, to a greater or lesser extent, on the maintenance of a favourable hydrological regime. All are therefore vulnerable to new abstractions and any decline in surface or groundwater quality.</p> <p>The SAC/SPA comprises 14 SSSIs. The following lie within the district and the 15km area of search:</p> <p>Arkengarthdale, Gunnerside and Reeth Moors SSSI</p> <p>Bowes Moor SSSI</p> <p>East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI</p> <p>Lovely Seat – Stainton Moor SSSI</p>	<p><u>SPA features</u></p> <p>A082 <i>Circus cyaneus</i>; Hen harrier (Breeding)</p> <p>A098 <i>Falco columbarius</i>; Merlin (Breeding)</p> <p>A103 <i>Falco peregrinus</i>; Peregrine falcon (Breeding)</p> <p>A140 <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>; European golden plover (Breeding)</p> <p><u>SPA conservation objectives</u></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <p>The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features</p> <p>The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</p> <p>The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely</p> <p>The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</p> <p>The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</p> <p><u>SAC features</u></p> <p>H4010. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>; Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath</p> <p>H4030. European dry heaths</p> <p>H5130. <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands; Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands</p> <p>H6130. Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i>; Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals</p> <p>H6150. Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands; Montane acid grasslands</p>	<p>Low breeding success/poor recruitment; (T);</p> <p>Managed rotational burning (P);</p> <p>In appropriate grazing (P);</p> <p>Change in land management (T);</p> <p>Disease (T);</p> <p>Hydrological changes (T);</p> <p>Game management: grouse moors (P);</p> <p>Direct land take from development (T);</p> <p>Air pollution; impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition (P);</p> <p>Fertiliser use (P);</p> <p>Inappropriate cutting/mowing (P/T);</p> <p>Invasive species (T);</p> <p>Agricultural management practices (P);</p> <p>Vehicles (P);</p> <p>Vehicles (illicit) (P/T);</p> <p>Public access/Disturbance (T);</p> <p>Deer (T);</p> <p>Feature location/extent/condition unknown (T); and</p> <p>Climate change (T)</p>



<p>West Nidderdale, Barden and Blubberhouses Moors SSSI</p> <p>The vast majority of the area of these sites are favourable or recovering condition. A not insignificant area is considered to be unfavourable no change however though for a variety of reasons. This may not reflect current conditions though as the majority of condition assessments are several years old.</p> <p>The majority of the pressures and threats do not relate to activities proposed in the Plan.</p>	<p>H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone</p> <p>H7130. Blanket bogs*</p> <p>H7220. Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>); Hard-water springs depositing lime*</p> <p>H7230. Alkaline fens; Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens</p> <p>H8110. Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>); Acidic scree</p> <p>H8210. Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation; Plants in crevices in base-rich rocks</p> <p>H8220. Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation; Plants in crevices on acid rocks</p> <p>H91A0. Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles; Western acidic oak woodland</p> <p>S1528. <i>Saxifraga hirculus</i>; Marsh saxifrage</p> <p>* denotes a priority natural habitat or species</p> <p><u>SAC conservation objectives</u></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <p>The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species</p> <p>The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats</p> <p>The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species</p> <p>The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely</p> <p>The populations of qualifying species, and,</p> <p>The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</p>	
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North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC		
Description (including summary of qualifying features)	Qualifying features and Conservation objectives	Pressures & threats (P/T)
<p>The North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC comprises 58 discrete SSSIs across Cumbria, Durham, Lancashire, North Yorkshire (including Richmondshire) and Northumberland.</p> <p>Each typically exists as isolated fields and each represents fragile, isolated remnants of once typical upland hay meadows and purple-moor grass meadows, the rest having been lost to agricultural intensification. Together, they represent the majority of the remaining UK resource and are almost unique in Europe. Noticeable species include sweet vernal grass, wood crane's-bill, wood anemone, globeflower and lady's mantles.</p> <p>The <i>Molinia</i> meadows are found on wetter soils, frequently associated with spring lines and either be dominant or exist in association with the hay meadows, and are often characterised by globeflower and marsh hawk's-beard</p> <p>All have largely escaped agricultural intensification; traditional management would see only the addition of farmyard manure and, perhaps, 'basic slag', the ash from iron foundries. Consequently, they are considered to be good examples of their type, but remain vulnerable to changes in agricultural practice, eutrophication, from the addition of fertiliser or nitrogen deposition from air pollution, trampling, the disturbance of grazing animals (especially by dogs) and changes in the hydrological regime amongst others; vulnerabilities highlighted by the pressures and threats identified in the SIP.</p> <p>Ten components lie within the 15km area of search as follows: Askrigg Bottoms SSSI, Cliff Beck Meadow, Buttertubs SSSI, Gingerfields SSSI, Mill Holme Meadow, Thwaite SSSI, Len Pastures, Crackpot SSSI, Muker Meadows SSSI, New Close, Calvert Houses SSSI, Richmond Meadows SSSI, Scar Closes, Kisdon Side SSSI, Stephen Ings, Crackpot SSSI and Walden Meadows SSSI.</p> <p>Of the ten, all are in favourable, or unfavourable recovering condition, except for Cliff Beck Meadow and Scar Closes SSSIs at least part of which are considered to be unfavourable declining although the condition assessments are over 10 years old and the outcome may have changed.</p> <p>The qualifying features of all are fragile and vulnerable to recreational pressure and dogs would represent a threat to grazing animals.</p> <p>Similarly, all are susceptible to eutrophication from nitrogen deposition from vehicle exhausts, and all lie in close proximity to roads.</p>	<p><u>SAC features</u></p> <p>H641 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (<i>Molinion caeruleae</i>); Purple moor-grass meadows</p> <p>H6520. Mountain hay meadows</p> <p><u>SAC conservation objectives</u></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <p>The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species</p> <p>The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats</p> <p>The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species</p> <p>The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely</p> <p>The populations of qualifying species, and,</p> <p>The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</p>	<p>Fertiliser use (P);</p> <p>Change in land management (T);</p> <p>Air pollution; impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition (P);</p> <p>Change in land management (P/T);</p> <p>Inappropriate cutting/mowing (P);</p> <p>Changes in species distribution (P);</p> <p>Inappropriate CSS/ESA prescription (P);</p> <p>Drainage (P);</p> <p>Overgrazing (P);</p> <p>Undergrazing (P);</p> <p>Hydrological changes (T);</p> <p>Inappropriate weed control (T);</p> <p>Invasive species (T); and</p> <p>Direct impact from third party (T)</p>



<p>The majority of the remaining pressures and threats do not relate to activities proposed in the Plan.</p>		
<p>Ox Close SAC</p>		
Description (including summary of qualifying features)	Qualifying features and Conservation objectives	Pressures & threats (P/T)
<p>Extending over 140ha, Ox Close lies adjacent to the North Pennine Moors European site and supports a similar if more restricted range of habitats though in different circumstances, reflecting a history of lead-mining,</p> <p>The site supports species-rich examples of metallophyte communities including thrift, moonwort, Pyrenean scurvygrass, spring sandwort and alpine penny-cress and displays a full transition from open ground to closer turf. The hazel coppice and asl/elm/lime woodland is rare in the area and occupies the more nutrient-rich at the bottom of slopes. Herb-rich limestone grassland is also present and supports purple milk-vetch, spring cinquefoil, pasqueflower and early gentian amongst many others Overall, the site and the streams which drain it are considered to support an outstanding assemblage of plants.</p> <p>All the qualifying features are vulnerable to disturbance from recreational pressure and nutrient enrichment from pollution from above or below. Though remote, it is not classified as open access land. Perhaps as a consequence, public pressure is limited.</p> <p>In contrast, it shares an extensive boundary with road though this is relatively minor.</p> <p>Overall, is considered to be in favourable or unfavourable recovering condition although the assessments date from 2012 and 2013.</p> <p>The majority of the pressures and threats do not relate to activities proposed in the Plan.</p>	<p><u>SAC features</u></p> <p>H6130. <i>Calaminarian</i> grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i>; Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals</p> <p>H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone</p> <p>H9180. <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines; Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes*</p> <p>* denotes a priority natural habitat or species</p> <p><u>SAC conservation objectives</u></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <p>The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats</p> <p>The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats, and,</p> <p>The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely</p>	<p>Overgrazing (P/T);</p> <p>Hydrological changes (P/T);</p> <p>Deer (P/T);</p> <p>Forestry and woodland management (P/T);</p> <p>Natural changes to site conditions (T);</p> <p>Disease (T); and</p> <p>Air pollution; impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition</p>



- 2.1.7 By drawing on the combined outputs of Tables 1, 2 & 3, the HRA is able to refine the range of possible impacts and identify the vulnerable qualifying features.
- 2.1.8 In the event, it was not possible to remove any qualifying features from this list at this stage of the HRA. These, the key issues for the next, formal stage of this screening exercise are presented in Table 4 as arranged by site.

Table 4 Initial list of Europeans sites, potential effects and features at risk

European site	Potential effects	Qualifying features at risk
North Pennine Moors SPA	(6) Recreational pressure	All breeding birds (including 'typical' spp) All supporting habitats
	(7a) Water abstraction	All supporting habitats
	(7d) Air pollution	All supporting habitats
North Pennine Moors SAC	(6) Recreational pressure	All qualifying habitats
	(7a) Water abstraction	All qualifying habitats
	(7d) Air pollution	All qualifying habitats
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (all component SSSIs)	(6) Recreational pressure	Upland hay meadow <i>Molinia</i> meadows
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (all component SSSIs)	(7a) Water abstraction	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	(7d) Air pollution	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows
Ox Close SAC	(6) Recreational pressure	All qualifying habitats
	(7a) Water abstraction	All qualifying habitats
	(7d) Air pollution	All qualifying habitats



3 Screening the Policies and Allocations

3.1 Methodology

- 3.1.1 Section 2 confirms that the new Plan is not solely connected to the management of a site because it has the potential to cause harm to a number of European sites. Therefore, it cannot be excluded from the HRA process and screening is required.
- 3.1.2 The next step, therefore, is to identify if there is a credible risk that a proposal in the Plan may lead to a likely significant effect on a European site (by undermining its conservation objectives) and so result in the need for an appropriate assessment. It achieves this by evaluating the proposals in the plan to identify if they can be:
- Screened out from further scrutiny (because the individual policies or allocations are considered not 'likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects');
 - Screened in for further scrutiny in an appropriate assessment (because the individual policies or allocations are considered 'likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects').
- 3.1.3 Section F6.3 of the Handbook describes a list of 'screening categories' (summarised in Table 5 below, itself adapted from an earlier edition of the Handbook) designed to evaluate both policy and site-based allocations to provide a rigorous and transparent approach to the screening process. Importantly, this process helps to provide a distinction between the essential features and characteristics, and mitigation measures of the Plan where relevant.
- 3.1.4 The impact of each potential effect is evaluated against the conservation objectives of the relevant features of the European sites (Table 3) and categorised according to criteria in Table 4 for every policy and/or allocation in the Plan³⁶. Mindful of both the precautionary principle and case law (Boggis), it screens in only those credible likely significant effects and screens out the hypothetical or implausible. The evidence that underpinned the screening exercise and was based on local knowledge, scrutiny of publicly available maps and reports and so on to allow the evaluation of potential impacts. It avoided in-depth analysis that is reserved for the appropriate assessment (see Sweetman above).
- 3.1.5 This provides a bespoke screening opinion for each and every policy and/or allocation in the Plan. The outcomes are summarised in Tables 7 & 8 but given the large number of policies and allocations, the initial screening outcome for each policy and allocation is only presented in Appendix A. Where an effect is identified but it is unclear whether it would be significant alone or in-combination, the issue will be categorised as 'Category I' as a precautionary measure, but any in-combination issues will still be considered below if necessary. Mindful of case law, notably the People Over Wind case, it does not consider the effects of any mitigation proposed or that could be imposed.

36 It should be noted that this approach represents a departure from how the criteria (in Table 4) are used in the Handbook. The latter employs a 'pre-screening' exercise to remove those policies/allocations where there is no conceivable effect before moving onto formal screening. Although a useful mechanism, it is not described in the Regulations so is not employed here. Instead, this HRA, employs the same criteria but uses them to inform the formal screening exercise



3.1.6 To further refine the process, and reduce unnecessary repetition, Section 3.2 provides the rationale behind each individual decision made in Appendix A by exploring how the potential effects might apply at the European sites in question.

Table 5 Screening Categories³⁷

Code	Category	Outcome
A	General statement of policy/general aspiration	Screened out
B	Policy listing general criteria for testing the acceptability/sustainability of the plan	Screened out
C	Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan	Screened out
D	General plan-wide environmental protection/site safeguarding/threshold policies	Screened out
E	Policies or proposals which steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects	Screened out
F	Policy that cannot lead to development or other change	Screened out
G	Policy or proposal that could not have any conceivable effect on a site	Screened out
H	Policy or proposal the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in-combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects)	Screened out
I	Policy or proposal which may have a likely significant effect on a site alone	Screened in Likely significant effect alone
J	Policy or proposal with an effect on a site but unlikely to be significant alone, so need to check for likely significant effects in-combination	Screened in Outcomes requires in-combination assessment
K	Policy or proposal unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in-combination (screened out after the in-combination test)	Screened out
L	Policy or proposal which might be likely to have a significant effect in-combination (screened in after the in-combination test)	Screened in Likely significant effect in combination
M	Bespoke area, site or case-specific policies intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site. Excluded from formal screening but re-considered in appropriate assessment	Screened out



3.2 Rationale

Recreational pressure

- 3.2.1 For those European sites within or in close proximity to the district, adverse ecological effects from recreational pressure are largely limited to walking (frequently with dogs). The most popular destinations can draw in visitors in great numbers from considerable distances and lead to trampling and erosion of habitats, and the disturbance of birds, for example, amongst many other negative impacts. Less popular sites, or those with fewer facilities, have a smaller catchment, fewer visitors and the issue is typically less problematic. Alternatively, sites managed specifically to encourage large numbers of visitors can tolerate these pressures without experiencing significant harm.
- 3.2.2 Excessive recreational pressure typically leads to the disturbance of qualifying species, and a reduction in habitat quality/extent. It can be particularly problematic on land with open or unauthorised access where the ability of visitors to range far and wide can compromise site management. For instance, dogs can not only cause localised eutrophication but can also disturb grazing stock, reducing the effectiveness of traditional management and subsequently encourage a decline in the condition of features not normally considered vulnerable³⁸. This is particularly important in the uplands where grazing represents one of the main management tools.
- 3.2.3 Dog ownership can also prompt an increase in the frequency of visits that typically start earlier and end later in the day on those sites close to settlements, than the general public might normally pursue, so further impeding stock management. Distance or accessibility remain key factors and in general, where modest residential allocations are situated over 5km from a vulnerable European site, then likely significant effects (alone) can often (but not always) be ruled out. Of course, each site is different and other factors will include the fragility of the feature, size of the development, the accessibility of alternative destinations, the availability of footpaths, public transport amongst others.
- 3.2.4 Development that abuts or occurs in close proximity to semi-natural landscapes can also attract potentially harmful 'urban-edge' activities including fly-tipping, cat predation of ground-nesting birds, arson, vandalism and the creation of unauthorised entrances, including those made by householders on directly adjacent properties via their own gardens. Associated with this can be the unauthorised use of motorbikes and 4x4s although this can obviously involve users from further away. All have the potential to have a negative influence on site condition and can be particularly prevalent where development lies immediately adjacent or in very close proximity to European and other protected sites.
- 3.2.5 Table 4 shows that a number of features across all European sites at risk (the North Pennine Moors, Ox Close and the several components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows). These extend over much of the district and, consequently, numerous policies/allocations could be affected. Importantly, though, only the North Pennine Moors European site highlights 'disturbance/public access' as a key pressure or threat in the relevant SIP.
- 3.2.6 Importantly, whilst individual allocations, unless large and in close proximity to a fragile European site, rarely result in likely significant effects alone, a number may have a cumulative effect that can result in likely significant effects in-combination; this is the case in Richmondshire. Overall, the quantum of development is relatively modest, 3,200 new dwellings over the lifetime of the Plan or 160 per year. This though is greater than what would normally be anticipated as the Plan has had to take account of a proposed major expansion of the army garrison at Catterick. The Plan also

38 English Nature Research Report 649 Dogs, Access and Nature Conservation. Taylor, K., Taylor, R., Anderson, P., Longden, K. & Fisher, P.



addresses the housing need from within the Yorkshire Dales National Park but identifies capacity to deliver all of this within the Plan area.

- 3.2.7 The majority, 62%, (1,984) would be delivered within Catterick Garrison. Richmond would provide 8% (256) and Leyburn 7% (224 at Hill Top Farm). Thirteen per cent (or 416 dwellings) are proposed in the network of Primary and Secondary villages. This is set out in Policy H1 with additional detail in Policy H2.
- 3.2.8 Taking the pattern of development and the characteristics of the European sites together, this HRA has adopted a threshold or zone of influence where credible risks from recreational pressure cannot be ruled out from recreational pressure of 10km for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC and Ox Close SAC, and 5km for the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC.
- 3.2.9 These differing thresholds have been adopted to take account of, for instance, the sensitivity of the upland breeding raptor population and the growing fragility of the upland moorland to fire from arson, compared with the relative robustness of the North Pennine Dales Meadows. The latter typically have no public access, are under more active management and frequently lie in close proximity to farm buildings.
- 3.2.10 For practical reasons, the boundary has been extended slightly as a precautionary measure to take account of substantial and clearly related development to encompass entire settlements such as at Catterick Garrison.
- 3.2.11 The 10km radius also acknowledges use of the 7km threshold adopted by several HRAs of local plans which accommodate the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC within their administrative areas. That distance seemed to originate from work on the 2013 Braford local plan which lies at the southernmost extremity of the North Pennine Moors European site. This reflected circumstances in a much more densely populated part of the world and there is no evidence to suggest why it should be adopted in this more rural location. The 10km threshold adopted therefore represents a precautionary threshold.
- 3.2.12 In Richmondshire, Catterick Garrison lies around 7km to the east of the (Lovely Seat – Stainton Moor SSSI component of the) North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC and less than 5km south of the Gingerfields SSSI and Richmond Meadows SSSI components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC³⁹.
- 3.2.13 Residential development in Richmond is proposed within a kilometre or so of the Gingerfields SSSI and Richmond Meadows SSSI components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC, and the development limits of the settlement extend to the boundary of the latter SSSI.
- 3.2.14 Hill Top Farm in Leyburn lies just less than 2km to the south-east of Lovely Seat/Stainton Moor and 5.5km north of the East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI components of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC. The smaller settlements of Bellerby, East Witton, Preston under Scar, Middleham and Redmire all lie within 2.5km of the same.
- 3.2.15 336 new dwellings are proposed within the Primary Service Villages, with over half (220) proposed for Brompton on Swale.
- 3.2.16 Given the enormous size of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC use of the threshold allows the extent of harm to be slightly refined to the just the SSSI components likely to be affected. In this case, the Lovely Seat - Stainton Moor SSSI, and the East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI; other components lie far distant. Similarly, a credible risk from recreational pressure

39 For the avoidance of doubt, SSSI designations play no part in HRA and reference to SSSIs in this HRA is solely for the purpose of identifying geographical areas where there is a credible risk that significant effects could arise.



can be restricted to just the Gingerfields SSSI and Richmond Meadows SSSI components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC.

- 3.2.17 However, neither the quantum of development or proximity suggest any individual allocation or even taken as a whole would represent a credible risk of a likely significant effect '*alone*'. Therefore, all allocations within this threshold are assessed, at this stage '*in combination*'.
- 3.2.18 Given this, it is necessary to take account of other plans or projects that could act 'in combination' with Richmondshire's Plan to make the impacts more likely or more significant.
- 3.2.19 In terms of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, the outcomes were informed by a review of the HRAs of the local plans of neighbouring authorities and those further afield that included the North Pennine Moors within their administrative areas. These comprised Bradford, Craven, Darlington, Durham, Hambleton, Harrogate, Leeds and the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Of these eight, six were able to rule out likely significant effects. In contrast, the HRA for County Durham and Bradford could not rule out likely significant effects but were able to rule out adverse effects on the integrity of the European site following an appropriate assessment and the consideration of mitigation.
- 3.2.20 Consequently, it is considered that there are no other plans or projects that could influence the assessment of recreational pressure in this Plan and HRA allowing development in other local authorities to be eliminated from further consideration in this HRA.
- 3.2.21 The same degree of scrutiny has not been applied for the two (out of 58) elements of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC: Gingerfields SSSI and Richmond Meadows SSSI. This was because it is considered almost inconceivable that impacts on one discrete component could act in combination with another to make any effect more likely or more significant. In this context, it was not considered necessary to explore this further.
- 3.2.22 In contrast, Ox Close SAC lies over 11km from the nearest sizeable allocation, beyond the 10km threshold and so likely significant effects can be ruled out alone.
- 3.2.23 Importantly, all purely employment allocations were excluded from the consideration of recreational pressure. Given the reduced opportunities for employees to visit European sites nearby during the working day, any harmful effects can be screened out, alone.
- 3.2.24 It should also be noted that the number of visitors to the countryside has increased as a consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, should the disease be brought under control, it is simply not known if previous patterns of behaviour will return or whether new-found pastimes will persist. Therefore, a precautionary approach has been taken to this assessment.
- 3.2.25 Consequently, **it is considered that there is a credible risk that the conservation objectives for (the Lovely Seat - Stainton Moor SSSI, and the East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI components of) the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC could be undermined. Likely significant effects could not be ruled out in-combination and an appropriate assessment is required.**
- 3.2.26 Similarly, **it is considered that there is a credible risk that the conservation objectives for (the Gingerfields SSSI and Richmond Meadows SSSI components of) the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC could be undermined. Likely significant effects could not be ruled out in-combination and an appropriate assessment is required.**
- 3.2.27 In contrast, **it is considered highly unlikely that the conservation objectives for Ox Close SAC could be undermined and so likely significant effects were ruled out alone.** This factor on this site is eliminated from any further scrutiny in this HRA.
- 3.2.28 Whilst in general terms no development is proposed in very close proximity to any European site one exception is apparent in terms of the development limits proposed for Richmond. These facilitate



unallocated development and extend to the boundary of the Richmond Meadows SSSI component of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. The potential therefore exists for residential development to be pursued immediately adjacent to one of the few components of this European site to be easily accessible from a centre of population and to display evidence of a heavily used public right of way along its edge. Given its proximity and ease of access, likely significant effects could not be ruled out alone. This is in addition to the risk of recreational pressure in general from proposed development from Catterick Garrison and elsewhere in Richmond.

- 3.2.29 Consequently, **it is considered that there is a credible risk that the conservation objectives for (the Richmond Meadows SSSI component of) the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC could be undermined. Likely significant effects could not be ruled out alone and an appropriate assessment is required.**

Mobile species

- 3.2.30 Mobile species are defined here as those that utilise ('functionally-linked') land beyond the European site boundary for some part of their life-cycle cycle be it seasonally, diurnally or even intermittently. Consequently, they are vulnerable to a range of both localised and strategic effects away from protected areas. However, this pathway only seeks to explore the direct effects of construction. Indirect effects, from recreational pressure, for instance, are considered elsewhere.
- 3.2.31 The only European site at risk in the area of search is the North Pennine Moors SPA with its upland breeding bird community. However, only one component, golden plover, are known to use land off the moors for feeding by night and by day with males and females typically exploiting different areas of pasture to feed.
- 3.2.32 This issue is well known and has featured in some of the HRAs of local plans across the protected area. The Bradford plan of 2013 was the first to explore this issue in detail and although there is evidence that golden plover can range up to 6 or 7 kilometres beyond the boundary of the SPA, the HRA adopted a threshold of 2.5km where the majority of feeding activity takes place. In contrast to the differing approach adopted here in terms of the recreational pressure threshold, this HRA considers the evidence base is sound and so this value is adopted here.
- 3.2.33 Six settlements that are identified as suitable for modest windfall development, and the development at Hill Top Farm in Leyburn (260 dwellings) fall within the 2.5km threshold of both the Lovely Seat – Stainton Moor SSSI and the East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI components of the SPA and provide a credible risk that land-take could destroy valuable feeding areas. Furthermore, policies also allow development outside the identified development limits in certain circumstances potentially compounding this issue. Whilst likely significant effects alone are implausible, effects in combination cannot be ruled out.
- 3.2.34 Consequently, **it is considered that there is a credible risk that the conservation objectives for North Pennine Moors SPA could be undermined. Likely significant effects could not be ruled out in-combination and an appropriate assessment is required.**
- 3.2.35 Where impacts on golden plover have been explored in the HRAs of local plans across the range of the North Pennine Moors SPA, this has been dismissed either at screening or the appropriate assessment. Consequently, it is considered that there are no other plans or projects that could influence the assessment of recreational pressure in this Plan and HRA allowing development in other local authorities to be eliminated from further consideration in this HRA.



Water abstraction

- 3.2.36 All four European sites within the area of search depend to a greater or lesser extent on the presence of a favourable hydrological regime in order to maintain the conservation status of their qualifying features. These are the: North Pennine Moors SPA, North Pennine Moors SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC and Ox Close SAC.
- 3.2.37 Consequently, all four are all vulnerable to changes in groundwater levels which could arise from water abstraction at varying scales for drinking water, industry and agriculture across a wide area, though none have direct links with aquifers or rivers or lakes used to provide the supply. Furthermore, at the country scale, Richmondshire is considered to be an area of low water stress and lies within Yorkshire Water's Grid Surface Water Zone which provides an integrated water supply framework linking resources to provide water to several million users across the north-east of England.
- 3.2.38 Yorkshire Water has recently produced its Water Resources Management Plan⁴⁰. This concluded that whilst supply currently and comfortably exceeds demand, this is expected to fall into deficit across the region by the mid-2030s, a consequence of climate change and an increasing population, amongst others. Its primary measure to address this is via programme of leak reduction with some confidence it will meet anticipated needs.
- 3.2.39 The WRMP subsequently reported that provided Yorkshire Water was able to meet Environment Agency licensing requirements, that there the options were '*unlikely to have a significant effect on qualifying features of any European sites, either alone, or in-combination with other schemes*'. The one exception related to the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC where such effects could not be ruled out. However, a subsequent appropriate assessment concluded, '*Analysis of geological and borehole data indicate that the SACs are above the groundwater water table level and that the SACs are designated for non-water dependant features. As such, it is concluded that abstraction from the proposed North Yorkshire Groundwater Option will not have a significant adverse effect on the qualifying features of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC*'.
- 3.2.40 Overall there can be confidence that measures are in place to manage effectively water resources in the catchment and the absence of harmful effects on European sites in the area of search is confirmed by the HRA of the WRMP. Consequently, **it is considered highly unlikely that the conservation objectives for the North Pennine Moors SPA, North Pennine Moors SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC and Ox Close SAC European sites could be undermined and so likely significant effects were ruled out alone.**

Air pollution

- 3.2.41 Development is typically associated with increased traffic and emissions which can increase the airborne concentration of nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and ammonia (NH₃), and the subsequent rate of nitrogen deposition from the atmosphere. This can lead to the nutrient enrichment and acidification of soils, encouraging more tolerant ruderal species at the expense of sensitive plant, lower plant and invertebrate communities. In high concentrations, ammonia can result in direct toxic effects on vegetation, a factor which may also be true of NO_x. Larger animals, such as small mammals and birds are considered immune to direct effects but can be vulnerable to change in their supporting habitats. Furthermore, it can exacerbate the effects of other factors such as climate change or pathogens, for example

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Water Resource Management Plan 2020 Strategic Environmental Assessment Ricardo/Arup/Yorkshire Water



- 3.2.42 However, levels of nitrogen deposition fall quickly in the first few metres from the roadside before gradually levelling out; beyond 200m, they become difficult to distinguish from background levels. In other words, impacts at 10m, 50m or 200m can be very different from those at the roadside.
- 3.2.43 It can be seen, therefore, that the additional contributions that might arise from increased traffic are only likely to be significant where a European site lies within 200m of a road which is expected to experience an increase of traffic, and where a feature is known to be sensitive to such effects. Such relatively simple tests essentially represent the scope of a screening assessment leaving more detailed analysis and its relationship to the ecological characteristics of the European sites at risk to the appropriate assessment, should any European sites fall into the above categories.
- 3.2.44 Importantly, and building on case law in Sussex (the Wealden case)⁴¹, the assessment of air pollution must consider effects that may arise in-combination with plans and projects in neighbouring authorities and further afield.
- 3.2.45 All the qualifying habitats (except the breeding bird populations) for all the European sites in the area of search were identified to be vulnerable to nitrogen deposition in Table 4. Furthermore, parts of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC and Ox Close SAC, and the Cliff Beck Meadow, Gingerfields, Mill Holme Meadow, Stephen Ings Crackpot, Richmond Meadows and Walden Meadows components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows were all found to lie within 200m of reasonably major roads; other components beyond this threshold were eliminated from the need for further assessment. Consequently, all those included will require an appropriate assessment.
- 3.2.46 Consequently, **it is considered there is a credible risk that the conservation objectives for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows Sac and Ox Close SAC could be undermined and so likely significant effects could not be ruled out alone or in-combination; an appropriate assessment is required.**
- 3.2.47 Bearing in mind the Wealden decision, likely significant effects are expressed alone and in-combination. Because of this, every residential and employment allocation in the emerging Plan is retained for further scrutiny in the appropriate assessment. To avoid unnecessary repetition, this has been applied to just the over-arching policies (H2(4), E1 and E3. Depending on the outcomes of traffic (and, if necessary) air quality analysis in the appropriate assessment, this will also take account of growth in traffic anticipated in neighbouring local authorities as well. However, this evidence is not available to the Council at present.

3.3 Outcomes

- 3.3.1 The outcomes of the above exercises, summarised in Tables 1-4, and Section 3.2 combine to populate Table 6 which shows the list of European sites, potential effects and the qualifying features where likely significant effects could not be ruled out

41 Wealden District Council v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Lewes District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority (Defendants) and Natural England (Interested Party) [2017] EWHC 351 (Admin).



Table 6 Final list of European sites, likely significant effects and features at risk

European site	Likely significant effects	Qualifying features at risk	Screening outcome
North Pennine Moors SPA (Lovely Seat - Stainton Moor SSSI, and East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI only)	(5) Mobile species	Golden plover	Screened in (in-combination)
	(6) Recreational pressure	All breeding birds (including 'typical' spp) All supporting habitats	Screened in (in-combination)
	(7a) Water abstraction	All supporting habitats	Screened out (alone)
	(7d) Air pollution	All supporting habitats	Screened in (in-combination)
North Pennine Moors SAC (Lovely Seat - Stainton Moor SSSI, and East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles) SSSI only)	(6) Recreational pressure	All qualifying habitats	Screened in (in-combination)
	(7a) Water abstraction	All qualifying habitats	Screened out (alone)
	(7d) Air pollution	All qualifying habitats	Screened in (in-combination)
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (Gingerfields SSSI and, Richmond Meadows SSSI only)	(6) Recreational pressure	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Screened in (in-combination)
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (all component SSSIs)	(7a) Water abstraction	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Screened out (alone)
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (Gingerfields SSSI only)	(6) Recreational pressure (including urban-edge effects)	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Screened in (alone)
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (Cliff Beck Meadow, Gingerfields, Mill Holme Meadow, Stephen Ings, Crackpot, New Close, Richmond Meadows and Walden Meadows only)	(7d) Air pollution	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Screened in (in-combination)
Ox Close SAC	(6) Recreational pressure	All qualifying habitats	Screened out (alone)
	(7a) Water abstraction	All qualifying habitats	Screened out (alone) (alone)
	(7d) Air pollution	All qualifying habitats	Screened in (in-combination)

3.3.2 The Screening exercise draws on this evidence to populate Appendix A where the screening outcomes of each policy and allocation is provided in full. The outputs are summarised in Tables 7 & 8 below in terms of the screening categories (see Table 5) and European site, respectively. For those policies or allocations in categories A-H, likely significant effects have been ruled out and further assessment is not required. For those in I-J, it is considered there is a risk that the policies or



allocations could undermine the conservation objectives of the relevant European sites and that likely significant effects could arise, alone or in-combination, and an appropriate assessment is required.

- 3.3.3 These inform the outcome of the formal screening exercise which is presented in Section 3.5. Reference to Appendix A and Section 3.2 is encouraged for detailed observations.

3.4 In-combination assessment

- 3.4.1 Regulation 105 requires that plans are assessed for likely significant effects '*alone or in combination*'. Following best practice, factors considered to represent a risk of a likely significant effect 'alone' should be assessed 'alone'. Those not of sufficient magnitude to represent a credible risk alone but where likely significant effects cannot be ruled out entirely, should be assessed '*in combination*'. Where the risk of a likely significant effect has ruled out alone, there is no need for it to be assessed in-combination because a nil effect alone can only have a nil effect in combination.
- 3.4.2 The screening exercise in this HRA has identified a range of possible effects for a range of impact pathways. Reflecting the generally modest scale of development and relative resilience of the European sites affected, only one issue was found likely to result in a significant effect alone, the impact of the proposed development limits on the Richmond Meadows component of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC from recreational pressure and urban-edge effects.
- 3.4.3 Elsewhere, the screening exercise considered that recreational pressure represented a likely significant effect in combination on two elements of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC (Lovely Seat - Stainton Moor and East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles)), and two elements of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (Gingerfields and Richmond Meadows).
- 3.4.4 Similarly, the screening exercise considered that effects on mobile species (golden plover) from the North Pennine Moors SPA represented a likely significant effect in combination on two elements of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC (Lovely Seat - Stainton Moor and the East Nidderdale Moors (Flamstone Pin – High Ruckles)).
- 3.4.5 In addition, likely significant effects from air pollution were identified alone *and* in-combination however, the absence of underpinning traffic data meant this could not be explored further at this stage.
- 3.4.6 Excluding the latter, all outcomes were informed by a review of the HRAs of the local plans of neighbouring authorities and those further afield that included the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC within their administrative areas. This review is embedded within Section 3.2 above and no further assessment is required other than to note that no other plans or projects were considered to act in combination with those of the district's Plan, allowing this factor to be eliminated from further consideration in this HRA. Mindful of the Waddenzee decision though, this subject will be returned to in the appropriate assessment.
- 3.4.7 These outcomes are shown in the Section 3.2, Tables 7 and 8, and Appendix A.



Table 7 Formal screening outcome by category

Screening outcome	Policies
A General statement of policy Screened out	Vision Strategic objectives
B General criteria for testing acceptability of proposals Screened out	Local objectives SP1, SP2, SP3 Central Richmondshire Sub Area Strategy Lower Wensleydale Sub Area Strategy North Richmondshire Sub Area Strategy SD1, SD2, SD3 H1, H2(3), H2(6), H3, H4 E2, E4, E7 NE4 CR1, CR2, D1
C Proposal referred to but not proposed by the Plan Screened out	None
D Environmental protection policy Screened out	CC1, CC2 NE1, NE2, NE3, NE5, NE6 HE1
E Policies or proposals which steer change in such a way as to protect European sites Screened out	None
F Policy that cannot lead to development or other change Screened out	None
G No conceivable effect on a European site Screened out	None
H Policy or proposal with unspecified location which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in-combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects)	SD4, SD5 H2(4), H2(5), H5, H6, H7, H8 E1, E3, E5, E6 CC3 I1, I2



Screening outcome	Policies
I Likely significant effect alone cannot be ruled out Screened in	H2(4)
J Likely significant effect in-combination cannot be ruled out Screened in	None
K Policy or proposal unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in-combination (screened out after the in-combination test)	H2(4)
L Policy or proposal considered to have in-combination effects Screened in	H2(1), H2(2), H2(4) E1, E3 Note that the impacts of air pollution are considered in-combination as a matter of course and further scrutiny across all residential and employment allocations will continue throughout the appropriate assessment.
M Policy or proposal to provide mitigation to avoid adverse effects on European sites	None

3.4.8 It should be noted that Policy H2(4) is listed three times under (I), (K) & (L) to reflect different aspects of this policy. Similarly, Policies E1 and E3 are identified under both (H) and (L). Appendix A should be referred to for clarity.

Table 8 Formal screening opinion by European site

European site	Qualifying features at risk	Likely significant effects	Policies
North Pennine Moors SPA	Golden plover	Mobile species (in-combination)	H2(4)
North Pennine Moors SPA	All breeding birds (including 'typical' spp)	Recreational pressure (in-combination)	H2(1), H2(2), H2(4)
North Pennine Moors SPA	All supporting habitats	Air pollution (in-combination)	H2(4), E1, E3
North Pennine Moors SAC	All qualifying habitats	Recreational pressure (in-combination)	H2(1), H2(2), H2(4)
North Pennine Moors SAC	All qualifying habitats	Air pollution (in-combination)	H2(4), E1, E3



European site	Qualifying features at risk	Likely significant effects	Policies
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Recreational pressure (in-combination)	H2(1), H2(2)
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Recreational pressure (alone)	H2(4)
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	Upland hay meadows <i>Molinia</i> meadows	Air pollution (in-combination)	H2(4), E1, E3
Ox Close SAC	All qualifying habitats	Recreational pressure (in-combination)	None
Ox Close SAC	All qualifying habitats	Air pollution (in-combination)	H2(4), E1, E3

3.5 Formal screening assessment

3.5.1 The Richmondshire District Council Draft Local Plan 2018-2039 (Reg. 18) has been subjected to a screening assessment according to the statutory provisions laid out in the Habitats Regulations 2017 as amended. This concluded the following:

- Likely significant effects in-combination could not be ruled out on the North Pennine Moors SPA in terms of the possible loss of functionally-linked land from proposed development within 2.5km of European site in Bellerby, East Witton, Preston under Scar, Leyburn, Redmire and Wensley (Policy H2(4));
- Likely significant effects in-combination could not be ruled out on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in terms of the anticipated growth in recreational pressure from all proposed residential allocations within 10km of the site boundary (Policies H2(1) and H2(4));
- Likely significant effects in-combination could not be ruled out on the Gingerfields and Richmond Meadows components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in terms of the anticipated growth in recreational pressure from all proposed residential allocations within 5km of the site boundaries (Policy H2(1) and H2(2));
- Likely significant effects alone could not be ruled out on the Richmond Meadows component of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in terms of the potential for unallocated development within the development limits of Richmond (Policy H2(4));
- Likely significant effects in-combination could not be ruled out on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in terms of the anticipated growth in air pollution from all proposed residential and employment allocations in the district (Policies H2(4), E1 and E3);
- Likely significant effects in-combination could not be ruled out on the Ox Close SAC in terms of the anticipated growth in air pollution from all proposed residential and employment allocations in the district ((Policies H2(4), E1 and E3);
- Likely significant effects in-combination could not be ruled out on the on the Cliff Beck Meadow, Gingerfields, Mill Holme Meadow, Stephen Ings Crackpot, Richmond Meadows and Walden Meadows components of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in terms of



the anticipated growth in air pollution from all proposed residential and employment allocations in the district (Policies H2(4), E1 and E3);

- 3.5.2 Appropriate assessments of all the above will be required. All other policies and allocations, and all other European sites were screened out of the need for further assessment in this HRA.

4 Next steps

- 4.1.1 This screening assessment has highlighted that likely significant effects in combination could not be ruled out in terms of recreational pressure on components of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC. Furthermore, likely significant effects from recreational pressure both alone and in-combination could not be ruled out on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. In addition, likely significant effects could not be ruled out in combination in terms of the impact on mobile species (golden plover) on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC. Likely significant effects from air pollution could also not be ruled out on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC and Ox Close SAC.
- 4.1.2 An appropriate assessment will be required to ascertain if adverse effects on the integrity of the European sites could arise. The precautionary principle demands that the Plan can normally only be adopted if the Council is certain, beyond reasonable scientific doubt, that they will not adversely affect the integrity of the European sites.
- 4.1.3 The greater scrutiny of the appropriate assessment will explore the issues in greater detail. It may require that visitor surveys or traffic/air quality analysis, along with bird surveys of functionally-linked land are carried out to provide the necessary evidence, though the need for any of these is not certain; discussion with Natural England is recommended. This will need to be carried out promptly to meet the Plan timetable and to take account of the breeding bird season.
- 4.1.4 Where it is not certain that an adverse effect can be avoided, and in line with the People Over Wind ruling, the appropriate assessment also considers whether any embedded or additional mitigation measure. Further explanation of the process is provided in Section 1.3.
- 4.1.5 The appropriate assessment will be incorporated into a revised edition of this HRA which will need to be completed prior to consultation of the Regulation 19 edition of the Plan.



Appendix A Record of screening exercise

See Table 5 for definition of criteria.

Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
		Key
	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny	
	Likely significant effect cannot be ruled out in-combination: appropriate assessment required	
	Likely significant effect cannot be ruled out alone: appropriate assessment required	
Strategic policies		
Vision	<p>General Vision for the district stating the overall aims for sustainable development though centres for growth are identified. However, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>A</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>
Strategic objectives	<p>This provides high-level strategic objectives that will guide the Plan and deliver the Vision. Whilst it again identifies centres for growth, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>A</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>
Local objectives	<p>This policy draws on broad planning principles to describe the presumption in favour of sustainable development before identifying broad principles for development. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>
Spatial Principle SP1 Sub Areas	<p>This policy identifies the broad spatial approach to planning within the district and provides the geographical framework for the settlement hierarchy described in SP2.</p> <p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>
Spatial Principle SP2 Settlement Hierarchy	<p>This policy encourages and provides support for development within a defined Settlement Network and identifies criteria to evaluate proposals.</p> <p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>
Spatial Principle SP3: Rural Sustainability	<p>This policy encourages and provides support for development within the rural landscape beyond the defined settlement framework and identifies broad criteria to evaluate proposals.</p>	<p>B</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	
<p>Sub Area Strategies Central Richmondshire</p>	<p>This policy encourages and provides support for development within a defined, geographical area including the Catterick Garrison settlement, and identifies criteria to evaluate proposals.</p> <p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Sub Area Strategies Lower Wensleydale</p>	<p>This policy encourages and provides support for development within a defined, rural, geographical area including the Leyburn and Middleham settlements, and identifies criteria to evaluate proposals.</p> <p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Sub Area Strategies North Richmondshire</p>	<p>This policy encourages and provides support for development within a defined, geographical area. Reflecting its rural character, development is focused on the lower levels of the settlement hierarchy but also, in contrast, includes Scotch Corner and so makes provision for the development of this growth area. It identifies criteria to evaluate proposals.</p> <p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy SD1 Sustainable development</p>	<p>This policy draws on the NPPF to describe the presumption in favour of sustainable development before identifying broad principles for development. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy SD2 Amenity</p>	<p>This policy seeks to ensure that all new development does not result in harm to the locations where it is built. It identifies a range of broad criteria with which to evaluate proposals.</p> <p>However, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy SD3 Access</p>	<p>This policy draws on the NPPF to encourage and support measures to improve the connectivity (including walking, cycling, public transport and road) within and between communities– though in a range of unallocated sites. In addition, it supports facilities in growth areas at Scotch Corner and Catterick Garrison. It identifies broad criteria to evaluate all and encourages suitable studies where relevant.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>However, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	
<p>Policy SD4 Use of Land and Materials</p>	<p>This policy encourages the use of brownfield land and the sensible use of land here and elsewhere taking into account mineral resources, suitable densities of housing and the attractiveness of the setting, whilst being mindful of other needs such as flood management and biodiversity gains</p> <p>This could lead to development on unallocated sites but Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy SD5 Supporting High Quality Electronic Communications</p>	<p>This Policy supports the installation of new high-speed broadband and telecommunication masts across the district though in unspecified locations. It does not lead directly to development and a range of criteria are identified to assess proposals.</p> <p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H1 Scale and distribution of housing</p>	<p>This policy makes provision and identifies the broad distribution for the delivery of 3,200 new dwellings in the district up to 2039 (or 160 per year) according to the settlement hierarchy.</p> <p>Whilst it provides broad support for development, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p> <p>The allocations, development limits and directions for growth are all described in detail in subsequent policies where they are assessed separately.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H2 Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p>	<p>This Policy gives more detailed expression to Policy H1 above.</p> <p>The main settlements and Primary and Secondary locations are listed and identified on a range of supporting maps which define the settlement boundaries within which development will be permitted as well as the named allocations.</p> <p>As such, the policy is made up of several components with differing outcomes for the HRA making an overall assessment difficult. Therefore each component, numbered (1)-(6) is taken separately below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Catterick Garrison Allocations 2. Non-allocated land in Catterick Garrison 3. Directions of Growth 4. Development Limits 5. Spatial preferences 	<p>N/A</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
6. Development criteria		
<p>Given the number of allocations in Catterick Garrison, each is considered independently. Furthermore, specific issues, such as development limits in Richmond are also extracted from more general comments and also assessed independently where necessary,</p>		
<p>Policy H2(1)(1) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Catterick Garrison Allocations Land E of Cookson Way, Colburn (Site ID 26)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 107 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(2) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Catterick Garrison Allocations Gough Road (Site ID 121)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 29 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	
<p>Policy H2(1)(3) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Catterick Garrison Allocations Colburn Park Phase 2 (Site ID 157)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 201 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(4) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Catterick Garrison Allocations Colburndale III (Site ID 401)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 12 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Policy H2(1)(5)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Glencroft, Hipswell (Site ID 13)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 17 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(6)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Coronation Park (Site ID 122)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 50 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(7)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 117 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land E of Walkerville (x2) (Site ID 420)</p>	<p>may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(8)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land adj Lidl (Site ID 185)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 24 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(9)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 20 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Land off Downholme Road (Site ID 357)</p>	<p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(10)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land North of Haigh Road (Site ID 359)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 88 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(11)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Former Civil Service Club (Site ID 364)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 49 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(12)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Former Careers Offices (Site ID 372)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 68 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(13)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Former Dental Care (Site ID 375)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 10 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	
<p>Policy H2(1)(14)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>West Scotton Road (Site ID 375)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 126 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(15)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land West of Harley Crescent (Site ID 379)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 12 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Policy H2(1)(16)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Welfare Unit Offices (Site ID 380)</p>	<p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p> <p>This policy makes provision for 22 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(17)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Harley Hill (Site ID 384)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 630 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	
<p>Policy H2(1)(18)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land Opp Haigh Road (Site ID 361)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 145 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(19)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land East of Richmond Road (Site ID 362)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 86 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Policy H2(1)(20)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land South Jutland Road (Site ID 363)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 60 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(21)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Duchess of Kent Hospital (Site ID 371)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 122 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(22)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 150 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>West Scotton Road (Site ID 376)</p>	<p>may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(23)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land North of Le Cateau School (Site ID 378)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 170 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(24)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 53 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Pinhill Mess (Site ID 383)</p>	<p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(25)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>Land NE Somme Barracks (Site ID 386)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 170 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(26)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison Allocations</p> <p>TMP (Home Rd/Catterick Road) (Site ID 403)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 48 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(1)(27)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison (Allocations)</p> <p>Land S of Loos Rd (Site ID 404)</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 150 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison. It lies approximately 10km east of the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.</p> <p>Consequently, this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(2)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Catterick Garrison non-allocated land</p>	<p>This Policy makes for provision of for development beyond the development limits of Catterick Garrison should suitable projects within it not come forward.</p> <p>Whilst land isn't allocated for development, similar impacts to those identified above can be anticipated. Consequently, , this falls within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>It also lies within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed separately for the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p>	
Policy H2(3) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Directions of Growth	<p>This policy identifies the broad spatial approach to housing growth within Leyburn, Brompton-on-Swale, Catterick Village, Scorton, Middleham, Barton, Melsonby and Middleton Tyas.</p> <p>Whilst it shows in principle support for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies below. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	B No LSE alone
Policy H2(4)(1) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Development Limits	<p>This Policy identifies areas for development but does not allocate land other than to restrict it to within the settlement boundaries of 61 settlements, except those settlements identified in 'Directions of Growth' (see Policy H2(3) above).</p> <p>There is the potential for harm arising from some but not others so for practical reasons, each is not taken separately and so those with common issues are described in groups below.</p> <p>Village settlements or smaller (everywhere except Catterick Garrison, Richmond and Leyburn) account for 29% (975 dwellings) of the housing requirement.</p>	N/A
Policy H2(4)(2) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Development Limits Richmond	<p>In part, this Policy identifies the Development Limits for Richmond. This includes land directly adjacent to the Richmond Meadows component of the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC. Whilst no development is allocated, there is a credible risk that likely significant effects could arise from recreational pressure alone if development was pursued (although no direct effects should arise)</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows alone can be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	I LSE alone North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC
Policy H2(4)(3) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Development Limits	<p>The specific settlements listed below all fall within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on Ox Close may arise:</p> <p>Redmire Preston under Scar Wensley</p> <p>As per policy H1, 80 new dwellings are to be distributed across the Smaller Villages in Lower Wensleydale. There are 9 Smaller Villages in Lower Wensleydale (as listed in policy SP2), and therefore each of the settlements listed above could expect in the region of 8/9 dwellings by 2039. These developments should be inside Development Limits as per Policy H2.</p> <p>Whilst likely significant effects can be ruled out alone they could occur in combination. However, even in these circumstances, given the lack of straightforward access to Ox Close it is considered that development within this area would not represent an appreciable effect and so likely significant effects in all circumstances can be ruled out.</p>	K No LSE in-combination Recreation Ox Close SAC



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on Ox Close SAC in-combination can be ruled out with no residual effects.</p>	
<p>Policy H2(4)(4)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Development Limits</p>	<p>The specific settlements listed below all fall within the 10km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC may arise:</p> <p><u>Central Richmondshire:</u></p> <p><u>Smaller Villages:</u> Hudswell (5)</p> <p><u>Lower Wensleydale:</u></p> <p><u>Primary Villages:</u> Middleham (55)</p> <p><u>Secondary Villages:</u> Hunton, Harmby/ Spennithorne (55 between both)</p> <p><u>Smaller Villages:</u> Bellerby, Constable Burton, Finghall, Newton-le-Willows, Patrick Brompton, Preston-under-Scar, Redmire, Thornton Steward, Wensley (80 between all)</p> <p>The number and distribution of new dwellings is set by Policy H1, with delivery split across the settlements listed in SP2. This gives an approximate number of expected new dwellings for each settlement by 2039, shown in brackets above. These developments should be inside Development Limits as per Policy H2.</p> <p>Given the distances, direct effects on all European sites can be ruled out.</p> <p>However, although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(4)(5)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Development Limits</p>	<p>In addition, the specific settlements listed below all fall within the 2.5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from the impact of land-take and disturbance on the functionally-linked land utilised by golden plover from the North Pennine Moors SPA may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p> <p>Bellerby Preston under Scar Middleham</p> <p>Leyburn Redmire</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from the loss of functionally-linked land for golden plover from the North Pennine Moors SPA in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p><u>Mobile spp</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA</p>
<p>Policy H2(4)(6)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Development Limits</p>	<p>This Policy proposes delivery of a 1,915 new dwellings within Catterick Garrison.</p> <p>Given the distances, direct effects on all European sites can be ruled out.</p> <p>However, the specific settlements listed above all fall within the 5km threshold where a credible risk of harm from an anticipated increase in recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC may arise. Although harmful effects can be ruled out alone, risks remain in-combination with other allocations that the conservation objectives could be undermined.</p>	<p>L</p> <p>LSE in-combination</p> <p><u>Recreation</u></p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>This has already been identified for each allocation in Catterick Garrison above but reference here takes account of possible development within the development limits of the settlement.</p> <p>In addition, allocations and development limits identify/suggest that residential growth within Brompton-on-Swale and Skeeby could also add to this pressure as both also lie within 5km of the SAC.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from recreational pressure on the North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	
<p>Policy H2(4)(7)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Development Limits</p>	<p>All settlements identified in this Policy are listed below. For the sake of brevity, all smaller settlements are not listed here. Reference to Policy H2 should be made for the complete list.</p> <p>Catterick and Brompton</p> <p>Catterick Garrison</p> <p>Colburn</p> <p>Croft and Middleton</p> <p>Gilling West</p> <p>Hipswell</p> <p>Leyburn</p> <p>Lower Swaledale</p> <p>Lower Wensleydale</p> <p>Melsonby</p> <p>Middleham</p> <p>Richmond</p> <p>Scotton</p> <p>The likelihood of significant effects arising from these secondary settlements from recreational pressure and on mobile species has been evaluated on the rows above.</p> <p>Other than those identified, all other direct or in-direct effects have been ruled out except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst this is assessed separately, harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from air pollution on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p>L</p> <p><u>Air pollution</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p> <p>Ox Close SAC</p>
<p>Policy H2(5)</p> <p>Allocations and Location of Housing Development</p> <p>Spatial preference</p>	<p>This policy identifies that ‘in the first instance [development] should be located within development limits’. But that if such opportunities do not exist, development can be within the Direction of Growth if adjacent to the Development Limit. Settlements with Directions of Growth are Leyburn, Brompton-on-Swale, Catterick Village, Scorton, Middleham, Barton, Melsonby and Middleton Tyas.</p> <p>This opens the door to development outside the Development Limits. Despite this, it does not lead directly to development.</p>	<p>H</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	
<p>Policy H2(6) Allocations and Location of Housing Development Development criteria</p>	<p>This policy identifies the broad spatial approach to all residential development</p> <p>Whilst it in principle supports for development these issues will be assessed by means of specific policies elsewhere. It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H3 Affordable Housing</p>	<p>This policy seeks to influence the provision of affordable housing by identifying criteria to evaluate proposals. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H4 Housing Mix</p>	<p>This policy seeks to ensure that new residential development contributes to the delivery of the overall housing mix by identifying criteria to evaluate proposals. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H5 Rural Workers Dwellings</p>	<p>This policy encourages development in unknown locations but identifies criteria to evaluate proposals. The scale and nature of this type of development make it unlikely that direct impacts on European sites would result.</p> <p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H6 Conversion of Rural Buildings for Housing</p>	<p>This policy encourages development (the conversion of rural buildings) in unknown locations but identifies criteria to evaluate proposals. The scale and nature of this type of development make it unlikely that direct impacts on European sites would result.</p> <p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H7 Replacement Dwellings</p>	<p>This policy encourages development (the replacement of buildings which are unsuitable for conversion) in unknown locations but identifies criteria to evaluate proposals. The scale and nature of this type of development make it unlikely that direct impacts on European sites would result.</p> <p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy H8 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation</p>	<p>This policy encourages development in known and unknown locations but identifies criteria to evaluate proposals. The scale and nature of this type of development make it unlikely that direct impacts on European sites would result.</p> <p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.		
<p>Policy E1 Scale and Distribution of Economic Growth</p>	<p>This policy makes provision for 11.6ha of land for economic development at a range of allocated and unallocated sites. Broad allocations are identified, including at Scotch Corner, Catterick Garrison, Leyburn, Richmond, Brompton-on-Swale and Middleham but others benefit from specific allocations; and a range of criteria are identified.</p> <p>Those with allocations lie in Barton and Scotch Corner, beyond any of the thresholds identified where recreational pressure could arise. Consequently, at such distances, all direct and indirect effects can be ruled out.</p> <p>For unallocated development, Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>Therefore, likely significant effects can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed for all European sites separately.</p> <p>All other direct or in-direct effects have been ruled out except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst this is assessed separately, harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from air pollution on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	<p>H</p> <p>No LSE alone and</p> <p><u>L</u></p> <p><u>Air pollution</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p> <p>Ox Close SAC</p>
<p>Policy E2 Supporting a Sustainable Economy</p>	<p>This policy encourages the principle of economic development, and identifies criteria to assess proposals. It does not directly lead development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone.</p>	<p>B</p> <p>No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy E3 – Allocations for Economic Development</p>	<p>This policy allocates 60.89ha of land at eight sites to meet economic/employment requirements in addition to the 11.6ha put forward in E1. The land allocated all lies within Catterick Garrison.</p> <p>The broad location lies approximately 7.5km west of the North Pennine Moors, 28km west of the North York Moors and 3km south of the nearest component of the North Pennine Dales Meadows European sites. At such a distance, direct effects are ruled out.</p> <p>However, this falls within the 10km threshold of the North Pennine Moors and 5km threshold of the North Pennine Dales Meadows where the risk of harm from recreational pressure may arise.</p> <p>Despite this, given its employment function, this risk is removed as employees are less likely to visit any European sites</p> <p>Therefore, likely significant effects from recreational pressure can be ruled out alone on any European site with no residual effects.</p> <p>Other European sites lie far distant, ruling out all other direct or indirect effects except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution, which is assessed for all European sites separately.</p> <p>Development is also proposed at unallocated sites within Catterick Garrison should land not become available. Criteria are provided to assess these proposals should they arise.</p>	<p>H</p> <p>No LSE alone and</p> <p><u>L</u></p> <p><u>Air pollution</u></p> <p>North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC</p> <p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC</p> <p>Ox Close SAC</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	<p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>Therefore, likely significant effects from windfall or unallocated development can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p> <p>All other direct or in-direct effects have been ruled out except for the possible cumulative impact of air pollution on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC. Whilst this is assessed separately, harmful effects alone can be ruled out, at present this cannot be ruled out in combination with other plans or projects.</p> <p>Therefore, a likely significant effect from air pollution on the North Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, North Pennine Dales SAC and Ox Close SAC in-combination cannot be ruled out and an appropriate assessment is required.</p>	
<p>Policy E4 Protection of Allocated and Existing Employment Sites</p>	<p>This policy seeks to safeguard existing employment allocations from other types of development.</p> <p>It does not directly lead development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy E5 Economic Development in the Countryside</p>	<p>This policy provides support for development in unidentified locations beyond the defined Settlement Network and identifies criteria to evaluate subsequent proposals.</p> <p>The scale and nature of this type of development make it unlikely that direct impacts on European sites would result.</p> <p>Furthermore, Policy NE1 can be relied on to ensure that any proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy E6 Sustainable Tourism</p>	<p>This policy supports tourism-related development across the district with larger accommodation facilities encouraged within town centres though this is highly unlikely to threaten to undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>Beyond this, encouragement is given to camping and caravanning sites in the countryside and whilst broad criteria are provided, none relate to biodiversity or European sites though no land is allocated for this purpose.</p> <p>However, Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy E7 Town and Local Centres</p>	<p>This policy encourages retail and residential development within town and local centres, and identifies criteria to assess proposals (including out of town developments). It does not directly lead development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone.</p>	<p>B No LSE alone</p>
<p>Policy CC1 Sustainable Design</p>	<p>This policy seeks to promote sustainable development, a reduction in carbon emissions and the adoption of climate change adaptation techniques in new development by identifying criteria to evaluate proposals. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p>	<p>D No LSE alone</p>



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.	
Policy CC2 Flood Risk and Sustainable Drainage	<p>This policy seeks to ensure that future development avoids and alleviates flood risk.</p> <p>It achieves this by identifying a broad range of criteria (including reliance on statutory procedures, such as the sequential flood risk test) by which to evaluate future proposals. This can be relied upon to deliver broad environmental benefits.</p> <p>However, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy CC3 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	<p>This policy supports renewable and low carbon energy projects across a range of scales from the commercial to the small or community level.</p> <p>Micro-projects for domestic purposes are unlikely to undermine the conservation objectives of any European site. However, the policy makes reference to the North Yorkshire 'Energy Opportunities Map' (EOM) which focuses on the commercial scale. This study highlighted the considerable constraints provided by landscape and European sites. Whilst recognising this, the policy it states that 'the development of renewable energy will not be precluded' in areas of constraint.</p> <p>Potentially, this could result in development proposals coming forward for potentially damaging projects within or in close proximity to European sites.</p> <p>The policy does not allocate land for projects and provides criteria to manage this potential conflict. In addition, Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	H No LSE alone
Policy NE1	<p>This policy draws on policy and law to describe the levels of protection afforded to European sites (and those designations and features of national and more local importance). This is particularly relevant in terms of unallocated or windfall development proposals which may come forward.</p> <p>It cannot lead to likely significant effects on a European site.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy NE2 Landscape Character	<p>This policy seeks to promote appreciation of the wider landscape character in design by identifying criteria to evaluate proposals. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy NE3 Green Infrastructure	<p>This policy seeks to conserve and enhance the existing green infrastructure by providing criteria for development.</p> <p>This can only provide broad environmental benefits and cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy NE4 Water Quality	<p>This policy seeks to maintain water quality and draws on the Water Framework Directive and River Basin Management Plans to identify broad criteria for new development to deliver improvements in flood management, the disposal of wastewater and biodiversity, specifically at Catterick Garrison.</p> <p>However, it does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p>	B No LSE alone



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
	A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.	
Policy NE5 Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	<p>This policy also seeks to conserve and enhance trees, hedgerows and woodland as a specific component of the existing green infrastructure by providing criteria for development.</p> <p>This can only provide broad environmental benefits and cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy NE6 Local Green Spaces	<p>This policy seeks to conserve and enhance the existing green spaces that lie outside more formal green infrastructure networks by providing criteria for development.</p> <p>This can only provide broad environmental benefits and cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy HE1 Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment	<p>This policy seeks to conserve a broad range of designated and non-designated heritage assets are conserved where development is proposed.</p> <p>It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	D No LSE alone
Policy CR1 Existing Open Space, Community, Sports & Recreation Facilities	<p>This policy seeks to secure the retention and improvement of existing community facilities, and access to both by identifying criteria to evaluate proposals. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	B No LSE alone
Policy CR2 New Facilities	<p>This policy encourages new development to provide new community facilities, and access to both by identifying criteria to evaluate proposals. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any SPA/SAC.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	B No LSE alone
Core Policy D1 Design	<p>This policy encourages new development to display high quality architectural and landscaping design and provides criteria for new development.</p> <p>This does not lead to development and cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	B No LSE alone
Policy I1 Providing and Delivering Infrastructure	<p>This policy encourages the incorporation of 'infrastructure and facilities' in new development. It does not lead directly to development and a range of criteria are identified to assess proposals.</p> <p>Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	H No LSE alone



Policy	Rationale	Screening outcome
<p>Policy I2 Infrastructure Delivery Plan</p>	<p>This policy sets out a framework and timetable to deliver Policy I1. It does not lead directly to development and a range of criteria are identified to assess proposals. Importantly, it indicates the need for improvements to Colburn wastewater treatment works to ensure there is sufficient headroom to meet water quality requirements. In addition, it identifies improvements to facilitate traffic flows onto the A66 which could have implications for air pollution on European sites</p> <p>However, Policy NE1 can be relied upon to ensure that proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site.</p> <p>It therefore does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any European site.</p> <p>A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.</p>	<p>H No LSE alone</p>