## **Newark & Sherwood District Council**

Habitats Regulations Assessment

Publication Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document

August 2022







# Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Newark and Sherwood District Council Plan Review

Publication Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document

Habitats Regulations Assessment Report

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## Contents

	intro	duction	
	1.1	Background	
	1.2	Purpose of this report	1
2	Day	elopment Plan Document	7
2			
	2.1	Background to the review  Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD	
	2.2	Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD	4
3	The	HRA process	5
	3.1	Overview	
	3.2	Previous HRA work	
4		nodology	
	4.1	HRA guidance	
	4.2	HRA methodology	
	4.3	Stage 1: Screening for likely significant effects	
	4.4	What is a Likely Significant Effect?	
	4.5	In-combination effects	
	4.6	Consideration of mitigation measures	
	4.7	Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment and Integrity Test	
	4.8	Dealing with uncertainty	
	4.9	The Precautionary Principle	I8
5	Hab	itats sites	19
	5.1	Identification of Habitats sites	
	5.2	Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC	21
	5.3	Humber Estuary SPA, Humber Estuary SAC and Humber Estuary Ramsar site	21
	5.4	The Wash SPA, the Wash Ramsar and the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC	22
	5.5	Habitats sites scoped into the HRA	24
	5.6	Ecological information	24
c	Char	rused Farest Descible Detential Chesial Protection Area (nnCDA)	26
6		wood Forest Possible Potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	
	6.1	Natural England advice	
	6.2	Nightjar in Sherwood Forest ppSPA	
	6.3 6.4	Woodlark in Sherwood Forest ppSPA	
	0.4	Sherwood Porest designations	
7	Imp	act Pathways	34
	7.1	Gathering information about impact pathways	
	7.2	Threats and pressures	34
	7.3	Air quality	
	7.4	Public access and disturbance	
	7.5	Habitat fragmentation and loss	
	7.6	Hydrology	
	7.7	Summary of threats and pressures	55
8	חסח	Screening (HRA Stage 1)	56
U	8.1	Policy and allocations pre-screening	
	8.2	Screening conclusion	
		-	
9	App	ropriate Assessment - Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC	
	9.1	Introduction	
	9.2	Air quality	59
	9.3	Recreational pressure	66
10	) Ann	ropriate Assessment - Humber Estuary	75
10	, App 10.1	Introduction	
	10.1	Mitigation	
	10.2	Water Quality Appropriate Assessment	
11	App	ropriate Assessment - Sherwood Forest ppSPA	
	11.1	Introduction	
	11.2	Air quality	80

11.3	Recreational pressure	86
	Urbanisation effects	
	Functionally linked land	
12 Cc	Conclusions and Next Steps	97
	Conclusions	
12 2	Next stens	98

Appendix A: In-combination assessment

Appendix B: Habitats site conservation objectives, threats and pressures

Appendix C: Habitats sites and corresponding SSSI conservation status

Appendix D: DPD Pre-Screening to inform the Test of Likely Significance

Appendix E: 2010 Transport Study traffic modelling extracts

Appendix F: Review of habitat types within Habitats site and within 200m of A and B road network

## List of Figures

Figure 3.1: Stages in the Habitats Regulations Assessment process	7
Figure 4.1: Outline of steps in stage 1; the whole screening process.	
Figure 4.2: Outline of the in-combination pre-screening assessment methodology	
Figure 5.1: Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC location map	20
Figure 5.2: Other Habitats site location map	23
Figure 6.1: Sherwood Forest ppSPA location map	
Figure 6.2: Records of (nightjar) churring males at Sherwood Forest based on the nightjar survey completed in by the RSPB (source: NBGRC)	
Figure 6.3: Corresponding SSSI designations	32
Figure 7.1: A and B Roads within 200m of Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA	37
Figure 7.2: Suggested Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC ZOI	
Figure 7.3: Suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI	
Figure 7.4: River Basin Areas	
Figure 9.1: Local contributions to source attribution data obtained from APIS for the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC  Figure 9.2: DPD allocations within proposed suggested Birklands & Bilhaugh ZOI which would result in additional dwellings	al
Figure 9.3: NSDC Amended Core Strategy DPD – Green Infrastructure Design (extract from DPD)	
Figure 11.1: Priority habitat inventory (filtered for woodland and heathland)	
Figure 11.2: RSPB heathland extent and potential mapping project – showing existing heathland habitat only	
Figure 11.3: DPD allocations within proposed suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI and proposed suggested Birklar Bilhaugh SAC ZOI which would result in a net increase in dwellings	88
List of Tables	
Table 3.1: Findings of previous HRA documents prepared to support the plan-making process.	
Table 4.1: Pre-screening assessment and reasoning categories from Part F of the DTA Handbook	
Table 7.1: Nitrogen and Acidity Critical Loads at Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC	
Table 7.2: Nitrogen Critical Loads at SSSIs that coincide with Sherwood Forest ppSPA	
Table 7.3: Acidity Critical Loads at SSSIs that coincide with Sherwood Forest ppSPA	
Table 7.4: Analysis of DPD alone and in-combination AADT flows along B6034 against Natural England screening guidance for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC	43
<b>Table 7.5:</b> Analysis of DPD alone and in-combination AADT flows along road links against Natural England scree guidance for Sherwood Forest ppSPA	44
<b>Table 7.6:</b> Pressures and threats for Habitats sites that may potentially be affected by the DPD	
<b>Table 9.1:</b> Summary of components of the DPD with potential public access and disturbance LSEs at the Birkland Bilhaugh SAC	
Table 9.2: Review of SSSI IRZ data for housing allocations within suggested 8.9km SAC recreational ZOI	
Table 11.1: Summary of components of the DPD with potential public access and disturbance and functionally linduples at Sherwood Forest ppSPA	
<b>Table 11.2:</b> Review of SSSI IRZ data for housing allocations within suggested 8.9km SAC recreational ZOI and suggested 24.7km Clumber Park SSSI ZOI	90
Table 11.3: Allocations containing potential suitable habitat for woodlark and nightjar outside of the ppSPA bour	ndary 96

### Acronyms

AA Appropriate Assessment

AADT Annual Average Daily Traffic

APIS Air Pollution Information System

CJEU Court of Justice of the European Union

DfT Department for Transport

DMRB Design Manual for Roads and Bridges

DPD Development Plan Document
DTA David Tyldesley and Associates

ERF Energy Recovery Facility

EU European Union

GIS Geographic Information System

HDV Heavy Duty Vehicles

HRA Habitat Regulation Assessment

IBA Important Bird Area
IRZ Impact Risk Zone

IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature

JNCC Joint Nature Conservation Committee

LDF Local Development Framework

LNR Local Nature Reserve

LPA Local Planning Authority

LPR Local Plan Review

LSE Likely Significant Effect

N Nitrogen

NBGRC Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre

NE Natural England

NNR National Nature Reserve

NO<sub>2</sub> Nitrogen Dioxide NO<sub>x</sub> Nitrogen Oxides

NPPF National Planning Policy Framework

NSDC Newark and Sherwood District Council

PACS Publication Amended Core Strategy

ppSPA Possible Potential Special Protection Area

PRoW Public Right of Way

RBMP River Basin Management Plan
RIA Recreational Impact Assessment

RoW Right of Way

RSPB Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

SAC Special Area of Conservation

SAMM Strategic Access Management and Monitoring

SANG Strategic Alternative Natural Greenspace

SIP Site Improvement Plan SPA Special Protection Area

SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest

STW Severn Trent Water

SuDS Sustainable Urban Drainage
TAG Transport Analysis Guidance

UK United Kingdom

WFD Water Framework Directive

WRMP Water Resource Management Plan

WwTW Wastewater Treatment Works

## 1 Introduction

#### 1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 Newark and Sherwood District Council (NSDC) are in the process of reviewing their Local Development Framework (LDF) through a Plan Review. The LDF consists of the following documents:
  - Policies Map;
  - Amended Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD);
  - Allocations and Development Management DPD;
  - Supplementary Planning Documents; and
  - Neighbourhood Plans.
- 1.1.2 The principal aim of this review is to ensure the allocations and policies contained within the Amended Core Strategy and Allocations and Development Management DPDs continue to be appropriate, up-to-date and effective.
- 1.1.3 The Amended Core Strategy was adopted in March 2019<sup>1</sup> as part of the Plan Review process. NSDC are now in the process of reviewing remaining elements of the Plan Review. The main focus is on updating and amending the adopted Allocations and Development Management DPD in particular in relation to allocations to meet the future housing need of gypsy and travellers <sup>2</sup>. However, in addition to this, the review of a small amount of content from the Amended Core Strategy is also being undertaken.
- 1.1.4 Lepus Consulting has therefore prepared this report to inform the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Publication NSDC Allocations and Development Management DPD (referred to hereafter as the 'DPD') on behalf of NSDC.

#### 1.2 Purpose of this report

1.2.1 The HRA has been prepared in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)<sup>3</sup>, known as the Habitats Regulations. When preparing development plan documents, councils are required by law to carry out an HRA. The requirement for authorities to comply with the Habitats Regulations when preparing a Local Plan is also noted in the Government's online planning practice guidance<sup>4</sup>.

sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/newarkandsherwood/imagesandfiles/planningpolicy/pdfs/corestrategy/ACS2019.pdf [Date Accessed: 17/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Newark and Sherwood District Council (2019) Amended Cote Strategy. Available at: Newark and Sherwood District Council (2019) Amended Cote Strategy. Available at: <a href="https://www.newark-">https://www.newark-</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Newark and Sherwood District Council (2013) Allocations and Development Management DPD. Available at: <a href="https://www.newark-sherwood/congov.uk/media/newarkandsherwood/imagesandfiles/planningpolicy/pdfs/corestrategy/ACS2019.pdf">https://www.newark-sherwood/imagesandfiles/planningpolicy/pdfs/corestrategy/ACS2019.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 17/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 SI No. 2017/1012, TSO (The Stationery Office), London. Available at: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents</a> [Date Accessed: 29/01/21] as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. Available at: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573</a> [Date Accessed: 29/01/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (July 2019) Planning Practice Guidance Note, Appropriate Assessment, Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment

1.2.2 The purpose of this report is to inform the HRA of the DPD using best available information. NSDC, as the Competent Authority, will have responsibility to make the Integrity Test. This can be undertaken in light of the conclusions set out in this report, having regard to representations made by Natural England under the provisions of Regulations 63(3) and 105(2) of the Habitats Regulations.

## 2 Development Plan Document

#### 2.1 Background to the review

- 2.1.1 The first part of the LDF review (**Section 1.1**) focused on a review of both the Amended Core Strategy DPD and Allocations and Development Management DPD referred to by the Council as the DPD review.
- 2.1.2 The Issues Paper<sup>5</sup> (2015) comprised the first consultation stage of this DPD review. This paper set the scope of the review, the issues identified as important and potential approaches to addressing them. Following receipt of comments on the Issues Paper and collection of the evidence base, consultation was undertaken on the first part of the 'Preferred Approach' stage in 2017. This set out the preferred approach to new development targets, based on the latest evidence, a refined spatial strategy, new affordable housing policies and a range of other minor changes.
- 2.1.3 Following consultation on the first part of the Preferred Approach stage, concerning 'strategy', NSDC consulted on the remaining elements through the 'Preferred Approach Sites and Settlements' and 'Preferred Approach Town Centres and Retail' papers in 2017.
- 2.1.4 Following the 'Preferred Approach Stage' it became necessary to uncouple the Plan Review, and so the review of the Core Strategy DPD was progressed ahead of that of the Allocations and Development Management DPD.
- 2.1.5 Representations were sought on the Publication Amended Core Strategy between July and September 2017, with the Amended Core Strategy being submitted to the Secretary of State at the end of that month. Following completion of the examination hearings in February 2018 a period of consultation on the modifications necessary to make the Plan sound was carried out between August and September 2018. Subsequently the Amended Core Strategy was adopted by Full Council in March 2019.
- 2.1.6 Since adoption of the Amended Core Strategy, NSDC has consulted on a series of options for the Allocations & Development Management DPD through publication of the Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD Options Report between July and September 2021<sup>6</sup>. This consultation sought views on affordable housing, approach towards future Gypsy and Traveller pitch provision, ongoing suitability of land allocated for housing and employment and development management policies and other policy content.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> NSDC (2015) Plan Review Issues Paper. Available at: <a href="https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/newarkandsherwood/imagesandfiles/planningpolicy/pdfs/planreview/Issues%20Paper.pdf">https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/newarkandsherwood/imagesandfiles/planningpolicy/pdfs/planreview/Issues%20Paper.pdf</a> [Date Access ed: 14/11/19]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> NSDC (2019) Allocations and Development Management Issues Paper 2019. Available at: <a href="https://newark-sherwooddc.inconsult.uk/ADMIssuesPaper2019/consultationHome">https://newark-sherwooddc.inconsult.uk/ADMIssuesPaper2019/consultationHome</a> [Date Accessed: 28/07/21]

#### 2.2 Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD

2.2.1 NSDC is now consulting on the Publication Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD (the 'DPD'). This plan represents an update to the Adopted Allocations & Development Management DPD (July 2013)<sup>7</sup>. The amended DPD does not identify any new allocations from the adopted Allocations & Development Management DPD, with the exception of Gypsy and Traveller pitches. A number of allocations identified in the adopted DPD have received planning permission and have also been bult out. Several other allocations have been de-selected. Policies within the DPD have also been updated to reflect changes to national planning policy and guidance since 2013. Once adopted, the Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD will replace the current Allocations and Development Management DPD adopted in 2013, and be used to help determine planning applications.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Newark and Sherwood. Local Development Framework. Allocations and Development Management. Development Plan Document. Adopted July 2013. Available at: <a href="https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/nsdc-redesign/documents-and-images/your-council/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-information/allocations-and-development-management-dpd/Allocations-and-Development-Management-Development-Plan-Document.pdf">Development-Plan-Document.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

## 3 The HRA process

#### 3.1 Overview

- 3.1.1 The HRA process assesses the potential effects of a plan or project on the conservation objectives of sites designated under the Habitats<sup>8</sup> and Birds<sup>9</sup> Directives. These sites form a system of internationally important sites throughout Europe known collectively as the 'Natura 2000 Network'. In line with the Habitats Regulations, UK sites which were part of the Natura 2000 Network before leaving the EU, have become part of the National Site Network.
- The Habitats Regulations<sup>10</sup> provide a definition of a European site at Regulation 8. These sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Sites of Community Importance, Special Protection Areas (SPA) and sites proposed to the European Commission in accordance with Article 4(1) of the Habitats Directive.
- 3.1.3 In addition, policy in England and Wales notes that the following sites should also be given the same level of protection as a European site<sup>11</sup>. European sites together with sites set out in national policy (listed below) are referred to in England and Wales as a Habitats site<sup>12</sup>.
  - A potential SPA (pSPA);
  - A possible / proposed SAC (pSAC);
  - Listed and proposed Ramsar Sites (Wetland of International Importance); and
  - In England, sites identified or required as compensation measures for adverse effects on statutory Habitats sites, pSPA, pSAC and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.
- 3.1.4 Regulation 63 of the Habitats Regulations notes a competent authority, before deciding to undertake, or give any consent, permission or other authorisation for, a plan or project, must make an appropriate assessment of the implications of the plan or project for that site in view of its site conservation objectives. These tests are referred to collectively as a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/810197/NPPF\_Feb\_2019\_revised.pdf [Date Accessed: 02/02/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Official Journal of the European Communities (1992). Council Directive 92 /43 /EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Official Journal of the European Communities (2009). Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 SI No. 2017/1012, TSO (The Stationery Office), London. Available at: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents</a> [Date Accessed: 02/02/22] as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. Available at: <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573</a> [Date Accessed: 02/02/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2021). National Planning Policy Framework. Para 181. Available at: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/810197/NPPF\_Feb\_2019\_revised.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/810197/NPPF\_Feb\_2019\_revised.pdf</a>
[Date Accessed: 02/02/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Habitats site: Any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites. Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2021). National Planning Policy Framework. Para 181. Available in Annex 2 (Glossary) at:

- 3.1.5 HRA applies to plans or projects which are likely to have a significant effect on a Habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and / or not directly connected with or necessary to the management of that site.
- There is no set methodology or specification for carrying out and recording the outcomes of the assessment process. The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook, produced by David Tyldesley Associates (referred to hereafter as the 'DTA Handbook'), provides an industry recognised good practice approach to HRA. The DTA Handbook, and in particular 'Practical Guidance for the Assessment of Plans under the Regulations'<sup>13</sup>, which forms part F, has therefore been used to prepare this report, alongside reference to Government Guidance on Appropriate Assessment<sup>14</sup>. The DTA Handbook is used by Natural England, the Government's statutory nature conservation organisation and is widely considered to be an appropriate basis for the HRA of plans.
- 3.1.7 A step-by-step guide to the methodology adopted in this assessment, as outlined in the DTA Handbook, is illustrated in **Figure 3.1**. In summary, the four key stages of the HRA process are as follows:
  - Stage 1. Screening: Screening to determine if the DPD would be likely to have a significant effect on a Habitats site. This stage comprises the identification of potential effects associated with the DPD on Habitats sites and an assessment of the likely significance of these effects.
  - Stage 2. Appropriate Assessment and the 'Integrity Test': Assessment to
    ascertain whether or not the DPD would have a significant adverse effect on the
    integrity of any Habitats site to be made by the Competent Authority (in this
    instance the NSDC). This stage comprises an impact assessment and evaluation
    in view of a Habitats site's conservation objectives. Where adverse impacts on
    site integrity are identified, consideration is given to alternative options and
    mitigation measures which are tested.
  - Stage 3. Alternative solutions: Deciding whether there are alternative solutions which would avoid or have a lesser effect on a Habitats site.
  - Stage 4. Imperative reasons of overriding public interest and compensatory measures: Considering imperative reasons of overriding public interest and securing compensatory measures.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (September) (2013) edition UK: DTA Publications Limited. Available at: www.dtapublications.co.uk

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Government Guidance on Appropriate Assessment. July 2019. Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment. Available at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment">https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment</a>

#### Article 6(3) Article 6(4) (Regulation 63 or 105) (Regulations 64 & 68 or 107 & 109) Stage 2: Stage 4: Imperative reasons Stage 1: **Appropriate** Stage 3: Assessment (AA) **Alternative** of overriding public **Screening for** likely significant and the Integrity Solutions interest (IROPI) and effects Test compensatory measures • Identify underlying • Is the risk and harm to • Can plan be exempted, · Agree the scope and methodology of AA need for the plan? the site overridden by excluded or eliminated? • Gather information about · Identify whether imperative reasons of Undertake AA the European sites. alternative solutions public interest (taking Apply the integrity • In a pre-screening process, exist that would account of 'priority' test, considering check whether plan may features where achieve the further mitigation affect European sites, either objectives of the plan appropriate? where required. alone or in combination, and have no, or a Identify and prepare · Embed further and change the plan as far lesser effect on the delivery of all necessary as possible to avoid or mitigation into plan reduce harmful effects on European site(s)? compensatory Consult statutory the site(s) • Are they financially, measures to protect body and others • In a formal screening legally and technically overall coherence of • Is it possible to decision, decide whether feasible? Natura 2000 network ascertain no adverse plan may have significant • Notify Government effect on integrity? effects on a European site. Assessment is complete Assessment is Assessment ends IF Assessment is complete IF <u>IF</u> There are alternative complete: Either Taking no account of Taking account of solutions to the A] there are IROPI and mitigation measures, mitigation measures, plan: compensatory the plan has no likely plan has no adverse Plan cannot be measures: Plan can be significant effect either effect on integrity of adopted without adopted alone or in combination any European site, modification B] if not, Plan cannot with plans or projects: either alone or in be adopted

Outline of the four-stage approach to the assessment of plans under the Habitats Regulations

Extract from The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook, <a href="www.dtapublications.co.uk">www.dtapublications.co.uk</a>
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Figure 3.1: Stages in the Habitats Regulations Assessment process<sup>15</sup>

combination: Plan can be adopted

Plan can be adopted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (October) (2018) edition UK: DTA Publications Limited. Available at: <a href="https://www.dtapublications.co.uk">www.dtapublications.co.uk</a>

#### 3.2 Previous HRA work

3.2.1 **Table 3.1** summarises the outcome of the HRA work that has been undertaken to date to support the plan-making process.

**Table 3.1:** Findings of previous HRA documents prepared to support the plan-making process.

HRA Report	Findings
Allocations and Development Management Publication Development Plan Document – Assessment under the Habitats Regulations September 2012 Author: WSP	The 2012 HRA was prepared to support the Allocations and Development Management Development Plan Document (Adopted July 2013). The key issues identified included air pollution and recreational pressures on Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC as well as water abstraction in relation to a new water main. It was concluded that there will be no LSEs (either alone or in combination).
	It is noted that this screening exercise was undertaken before the 2018 'Sweetman ruling' (see <b>Box 2</b> for further details).
HRA Screening Report of Newark and Sherwood District DPD review (Strategy sites and settlements, and town centres and retail) January 2017 Author: Lepus	The 2017 Screening Report was prepared to support a Local Plan Review (LPR). The key issues identified included air pollution stemming from road traffic within 200m of the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC, cat predation of nightjar and woodlark and pet dog disturbance of nightjar and woodlark. It was concluded, in agreement with Natural England, that these LSEs could not be ruled out at this stage.
Air Quality Assessment: Former Thoresby Colliery, Edwinstowe May 2017 Author: Redmore Environmental Ltd	Redmore Environmental Ltd was commissioned by Rodgers Leask Limited to undertake an Air Quality Assessment to support the planning application for a mixed-use development at the former Thoresby Coliery, Edwinstowe. Air quality impacts as a result on the construction and operational phase of the development were considered to be not significant.
HRA Re-screening Report of Newark and Sherwood District DPD Review (Strategy sites and	The 2018 Re-screening Report was prepared to support the LDR following the Redmore Air Quality Assessment (May 2017) <sup>16</sup> .
settlements, and town centres and retail) July 2017 Author: Lepus	It was concluded that there would be no LSE on the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC as a result of air pollution caused by the scale of development proposed in the LPR. It was also considered that, following the application of mitigation, it would be unlikely that a LSE on the nightjar and woodlark of Sherwood Forest possible potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA) would occur as a result of increased predation and disturbance.  It is noted that this screening exercise was undertaken before the 2018 'Sweetman ruling' (see <b>Box 2</b> for further details).
HRA Appropriate Assessment Of Newark and Sherwood District Publication Amended Core Strategy (PACS) June 2018 Author: Lepus	The 2018 'Sweetman' ruling determined that mitigation measures are only permitted as part of an Appropriate Assessment. Therefore, the HRA AA of the PACS document was prepared to ensure the HRA process was Sweetman compliant. It concluded that the PACS satisfies the Habitat Regulations and LSEs were objectively ruled out for all Habitats sites (Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Redmore environmental (2017) Air Quality Assessment, Formery Thoresby Coilliery, Edwinstowe, 17<sup>th</sup> Febuary 2017

HRA Report F	indings
Development Management Development Plan Document - Options Report Regulation 18 August 2021 Author: Lepus	At the option report stage, an HRA screening process was undertaken which identified likely significant effects from air quality, public access and disturbance, habitat loss and fragmentation and hydrology at the ollowing Habitats sites:  • Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC;  • Humber Estuary SPA;  • Humber Estuary SAC;  • Humber Estuary Ramsar;  • The Wash SPA;  • The Wash Ramsar;  • The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC;  In addition, it also screened in likely significant effects upon the proposed potential Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It identified the requirement for further, more detailed, appropriate assessment (stage 2 in the HRA process).

## 4 Methodology

#### 4.1 HRA guidance

- 4.1.1 As noted in **Section 1.2**, the application of HRA to land-use plans is a requirement of the Habitats Regulations. HRA applies to plans and projects, including all Local Development Documents in England and Wales.
- 4.1.2 This report has been informed by the following guidance:
  - Planning Practice Guidance: Appropriate Assessment<sup>17</sup>; and
  - The Habitat Regulations Assessment Handbook David Tyldesley and Associates (referred to hereafter as the DTA Handbook), 2013 (in particular Part F: 'Practical Guidance for the Assessment of Plans under the Regulations').

#### 4.2 HRA methodology

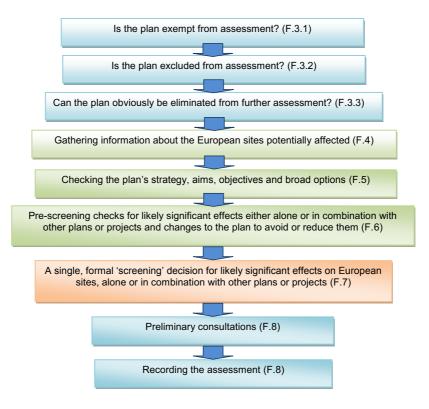
4.2.1 HRA is a rigorous precautionary process centred around the conservation objectives of a Habitats site's qualifying interests. It is intended to ensure that designated Habitats sites are protected from impacts that could adversely affect their integrity. A step-by-step guide to this methodology is outlined in the DTA Handbook and has been reproduced in **Figure 3.1**.

#### 4.3 Stage 1: Screening for likely significant effects

- 4.3.1 The first stage in the HRA process comprises the screening stage. The purpose of the screening process is to firstly determine whether a plan is either (1) exempt (because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Habitats site), (2) whether it can be excluded (because it is not a plan), or (3) eliminated (because there would be no conceivable effects), from the HRA process. If none of these conditions apply, it is next necessary to identify whether there are any aspects of the plan which may lead to likely significant effects at a Habitats site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 4.3.2 Screening considers the potential 'significance' of adverse effects. Where elements of the DPD will not result in a likely significant effect (LSE) on a Habitats site these are screened out and are not considered in further detail in the process. The screening stage follows a number of steps which are outlined in **Figure 4.1**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (July 2019) Planning Practice Guidance Note, Appropriate Assessment, Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment

#### Outline of the steps in stage 1, the whole of the screening process



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Figure 4.1: Outline of steps in stage 1; the whole screening process.

4.3.3 Pre-screening the components of a plan at the early stage of the plan-making process helps to minimise or avoid LSEs upon any Habitats site and can improve the plan. Pre-screening was firstly undertaken at Regulation 18 (DPD Options Report) – **Table 3.1** and has been repeated at Regulation 19 of the Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD to pick up any changes since Regulation 18. The pre-screening process uses a number of evaluation codes to summarise whether or not a plan component is likely to have LSEs alone or in-combination, see **Table 4.1**, and inform the formal screening decision.

Table 4.1: Pre-screening assessment and reasoning categories from Part F of the DTA Handbook

Pre-screening assessment and reasoning categories from Chapter F of The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (DTA Publications, 2013):

- A. General statements of policy / general aspirations.
- B. Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals.
- C. Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan.
- D. General plan-wide environmental protection / site safeguarding / threshold policies
- E. Policies or proposals that steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects.
- F. Policies or proposals that cannot lead to development or other change.
- G. Policies or proposals that could not have any conceivable or adverse effect on a site.
- H. Policies or proposals 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).
- I. Policies or proposals with a likely significant effect on a site alone.
- J. Policies or proposals unlikely to have a significant effect alone.
- K. Policies or proposals unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in combination.
- L. Policies or proposals which might be likely to have a significant effect in combination.
- M. Bespoke area, site or case-specific policies or proposals intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site.

#### 4.4 What is a Likely Significant Effect?

- 4.4.1 HRA screening provides an analysis of LSEs identified during the HRA screening process. It considers the nature, magnitude and permanence of potential effects in order to inform the plan making process.
- 4.4.2 The DTA Handbook guidance provides the following interpretation of LSEs:
- 4.4.3 "In this context, 'likely' means risk or possibility of effects occurring that cannot be ruled out on the basis of objective information. 'Significant' effects are those that would undermine the conservation objectives for the qualifying features potentially affected, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects... even a possibility of a significant effect occurring is sufficient to trigger an 'appropriate assessment'."<sup>18</sup>
- 4.4.4 With reference to the conservation status of a given species in the Habitats or Birds Directives, the following examples would be considered to constitute a significant effect:
  - Any event which contributes to the long-term decline of the population of the species on the site;
  - Any event contributing to the reduction, or to the risk of reduction, of the range of the species within the site; and
  - Any event which contributes to the reduction of the size of the habitat of the species within the site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup>Tyldesley, D. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook – Chapter F. DTA Publications

- 4.4.5 Rulings from the 2012 'Sweetman<sup>19</sup>, case provide further clarification:
- 4.4.6 "The requirement that the effect in question be 'significant' exists in order to lay down a de minimis threshold. Plans or projects that have no appreciable effect on the site are thereby excluded. If all plans or projects capable of having any effect whatsoever on the site were to be caught by Article 6(3), activities on or near the site would risk being impossible by reason of legislative overkill."
- 4.4.7 Therefore, it is not necessary for the Council to show that the DPD will result in no effects whatsoever on any Habitats site. Instead, the Council is required to show that the DPD, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects, will not result in an effect which undermines the conservation objectives of one or more qualifying features.
- 4.4.8 Determining whether an effect is significant requires careful consideration of the environmental conditions and characteristics of the Habitats site in question, as per the 2004 'Waddenzee<sup>20</sup>, case:
- 4.4.9 "In assessing the potential effects of a plan or project, their significance must be established in the light, inter alia, of the characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned by that plan or project".

#### 4.5 In-combination effects

- 4.5.1 Where screening concludes that there are no LSEs from the DPD alone, it is next necessary to consider whether the effects of the policies in-combination with other plans and projects would combine to result in an LSE on any Habitats site. It may be that the Plan alone may not have a significant effect but could have a residual effect that may contribute to incombination effects on a Habitats site.
- 4.5.2 The DTA Handbook<sup>21</sup> notes that "where an aspect of a plan could have some effect on the qualifying feature(s) of a European site, but that aspect of the plan alone are unlikely to be significant, the effects of that aspect of the plan will need to be checked in combination firstly, with other effects of the same plan, and then with the effects of other plans and projects".
- 4.5.3 As such an in-combination assessment has been undertaken as part of the HRA process at both the screening stage (where no LSE are considered possible alone but in-combination effects are likely) and will be undertaken at the appropriate assessment stage (where, following appropriate assessment and mitigation, an insignificant adverse effect is still likely which has the potential to act in-combination with other plans and projects).
- 4.5.4 The in-combination assessment presented in Chapter F of the DTA Handbook comprises a ten-step approach as illustrated in **Figure 4.2** below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Source: EC Case C-258-11 Reference for a Preliminary Ruling, Opinion of Advocate General Sharpston 'Sweetman' delivered on 22nd November 2012 (page 48)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Source: EC Case C-127/02 Reference for a Preliminary Ruling 'Waddenzee' 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2004 (para 48)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Tyldesley, D. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. DTA Publications.

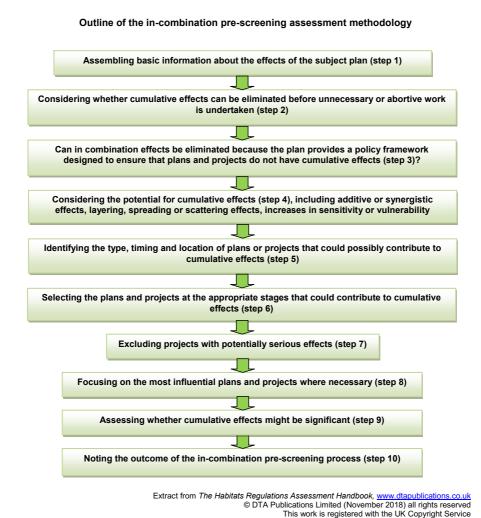


Figure 4.2: Outline of the in-combination pre-screening assessment methodology

- 4.5.5 Plans and projects which are considered to be of most relevance to the in-combination assessment of the DPD include those that have similar impact pathways. These include those plans and projects that have the potential to increase development in the HRA study area. In addition, other plans and projects with the potential to increase traffic across the study area which may act in-combination with the DPD, such as transport, waste and mineral plans and projects, have been taken into consideration. Plans which allocate water resources or are likely to influence water quality in the study area have been considered. Finally, neighbouring authority local plans which may increase development related public access and disturbance pressures at Habitats sites have also been considered.
- 4.5.6 The following points describe how in-combination effects have been taken into account in the Regulation 18 HRA screening exercise, and how they will be taken into consideration in future stages of the HRA process.
  - Air quality LSEs on all Habitats sites within the HRA study area in-combination with the NSDC Local Development Framework have been taken into consideration within traffic modelling undertaken to support the Core Strategy

- sites which has fed into the DPD assessment (as noted in **Table 3.2**). This includes current and future growth within the Plan and wider area.
- Consideration of in-combination impacts upon water quality and water quantity
  has been taken into consideration in the Water Cycle Study prepared to support
  the Local Development Framework and will be taken into consideration in any
  related work undertaken to support the DPD specifically.
- Consideration of recreational in-combination effects created by housing development proposed by other land use plans will be taken into consideration in the consideration of recreational impacts.
- 4.5.7 The assessment of potential in-combination effects at this stage of the assessment has not resulted in additional impact pathways being screened in, however, a number of links between other plans and projects and the DPD have been identified.
- 4.5.8 The following neighbouring authorities' local plans, and other relevant plans and projects, and their HRA work have been reviewed as part of this screening assessment (see **Appendix A**).
  - Ashfield District Council;
  - Bassetlaw District Council;
  - Gedling Borough Council;
  - Mansfield District Council;
  - Melton District:
  - North Kesteven District;
  - Nottinghamshire County Council;
  - Rushcliffe District;
  - South Kesteven District; and
  - West Lindsey District.
- 4.5.9 Traffic and roads represent a cross boundary issue. On 20<sup>th</sup> March 2017 a high court ruling<sup>22</sup> found that traffic increases and subsequent air pollution on roads within 200m of a Habitats site also requires an in-combination approach that considers the development of neighbouring and nearby authorities (**Box 1**).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Wealden District Council & Lewes District Council before Mr Justice Jay. Available at: http://www.bailii.org/ew/cases/EWHC/Admin/2017/351.html [Date Accessed: 27/01/20]

#### Box 1: The Wealden Case (March 2017)

On 20th March 2017 a high court ruling found that traffic increases and subsequent air pollution on roads within 200m of an EU site also requires an in-combination approach that considers the development of neighbouring and nearby authorities. This is because projects and plans that increase road traffic flow have a high likelihood of acting together, or 'in-combination', with other plans or projects that would also increase traffic on the same roads. If the combined effects of borough's development will lead to increases of traffic of more than 1,000 cars a day, further consideration of the issue is required. This would be through traffic and air quality modelling. It is therefore necessary to consider the potential impact of the Local Plan on roads within 200m of each EU site both alone and in-combination with relevant plans and projects.

4.5.10 The approach outlined above for an in-combination effects assessment is compliant with the Wealden Judgement.

#### 4.6 Consideration of mitigation measures

4.6.1 The European Court Judgement on the interpretation of the Habitats Directive in the case of People Over Wind and Sweetman vs Coillte Teoranta (Case C-323/17<sup>23</sup>) determined that mitigation measures are only permitted to be considered as part of an appropriate assessment (Box 2).

#### Box 2: The Sweetman Case (April 2018)

A recent decision by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17) (from here on known as the 'Sweetman Case') has important consequences for the HRA process in the UK.

In summary, the ruling reinforces the position that if an LSE is identified during the HRA screening process it is not appropriate to incorporate mitigation measures to prevent the LSE at this stage. An appropriate assessment (AA) of the potential effects and the possible avoidance or mitigation measures must be undertaken. The 're-screening the Plan after mitigation has been applied' is no longer an option which would be legally compliant:

"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, in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out, subsequently, an appropriate assessment of the implications, for a site concerned, of a plan or project, it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of the measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site."

- 4.6.2 In light of the above, it is necessary to further define mitigation measures. The DTA Handbook notes that there are two types of measures as follows<sup>24</sup>:
  - "Measures intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site; or
  - Features or characteristics of a plan which are essential in defining the nature, scale, location, timing, frequency or duration of the plan's proposals, or they may be inseparable aspects of the plan, without which an assessment of the plan could not properly be made, in the screening decision, even though these features or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> InfoCuria (2018) Case C-323/17. Available at: <a href="http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?docid=200970&doclang=EN">http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?docid=200970&doclang=EN</a> [Date Accessed: 27/01/20]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Tyldesley, D. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. DTA Publications.

characteristics may incidentally have the effect of avoiding or reducing some or all of the potentially adverse effects of a plan".

4.6.3 The HRA screening process undertaken for the DPD has not taken account of incorporated mitigation or avoidance measures that are intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a Habitats site when assessing the LSE of the DPD on Habitats sites. These are measures, which if removed (i.e. should they no longer be required for the benefit of a Habitats site), would still allow the lawful and practical implementation of a plan.

#### 4.7 Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment and Integrity Test

- 4.7.1 Stage 2 of the HRA process comprises the appropriate assessment and integrity test. The purpose of the appropriate assessment (as defined by the DTA Handbook) is to "undertake an objective, scientific assessment of the implications for the European site qualifying features potentially affected by the plan in light of their consideration objectives and other information for assessment"<sup>25</sup>.
- 4.7.2 As part of this process decision makers should take account of the potential consequences of no action, the uncertainties inherent in scientific evaluation and should consult interested parties on the possible ways of managing the risk, for instance, through the adoption of mitigation measures. Mitigation measures should aim to avoid, minimise or reduce significant effects on Habitats sites. Mitigation measures may take the form of policies within the DPD or mitigation proposed through other plans or regulatory mechanisms. All mitigation measures must be deliverable and able to mitigate adverse effects for which they are targeted.
- 4.7.3 The appropriate assessment aims to present information in respect of all aspects of the DPD and ways in which it could, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects, affect a Habitats site.
- 4.7.4 The plan-making body (as the Competent Authority) must then ascertain, based on the findings of the appropriate assessment, whether the DPD will adversely affect the integrity of a Habitats site either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. This is referred to as the Integrity Test.

#### 4.8 Dealing with uncertainty

- 4.8.1 Uncertainty is an inherent characteristic of HRA and decisions can be made only on currently available and relevant information. This concept is reinforced in the 7<sup>th</sup> September 2004 'Waddenzee' ruling<sup>26</sup>:
- 4.8.2 "However, 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."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Tyldesley, D. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. DTA Publications.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup>EC Case C-127/02 Reference for a Preliminary Ruling 'Waddenzee' 7<sup>th</sup> September 2004 Advocate General's Opinion (para 107)

The Precautionary Principle

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4.9

- 4.9.1 The HRA process is characterised by the precautionary principle. This is described by the European Commission as being:
- 4.9.2 "If a preliminary scientific evaluation shows that there are reasonable grounds for concern that a particular activity might lead to damaging effects on the environment, or on human, animal or plant health, which would be inconsistent with protection normally afforded to these within the European Community, the Precautionary Principle is triggered."

## 5 Habitats sites

#### 5.1 Identification of Habitats sites

- 5.1.1 Each Habitats site has its own intrinsic qualities, besides the habitats or species for which it has been designated, that enables the site to support the ecosystems that it does. An important aspect of this is that the ecological integrity of each site can be vulnerable to change from natural and human induced activities in the surrounding environment (known as pressures and threats). For example, sites can be affected by land use plans in a number of different ways, including the direct land take of new development, the type of use the land will be put to (for example, an extractive or noise-emitting use), the pollution / threat a development generates (air pollution or increased recreational pressure), and the resources used (during construction and operation for instance).
- 5.1.2 An intrinsic quality of any Habitats site is its functionality at the landscape ecology scale. This refers to how the site interacts with the zone of influence of its immediate surroundings, as well as the wider area. This is particularly the case where there is potential for developments resulting from the plan to generate water or air-borne pollutants, use water resources or otherwise affect water levels. Adverse effects may also occur via impacts to mobile species occurring outside a designated site, but which are qualifying features of the site. For example, there may be effects on protected birds that use land outside the designated site for foraging, feeding, roosting or other activities.
- 5.1.3 There is no guidance that defines the study area for inclusion in HRA. Planning Practice Guidance for Appropriate Assessment (listed above) indicates that:
- 5.1.4 "The scope and content of an appropriate assessment will depend on the nature, location, duration and scale of the proposed plan or project and the interest features of the relevant site. 'Appropriate' is not a technical term. It indicates that an assessment needs to be proportionate and sufficient to support the task of the competent authority in determining whether the plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site".
- 5.1.5 Previous HRA screening and appropriate assessment work undertaken to support the LDF review (see **Table 3.1**) considered a 15km study area from the plan area on the basis of identified impact pathways and previous HRA work undertaken for NSDC. Previous HRA work provided an assessment of one Habitats site within this study area: Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC (the location of which is illustrated in **Figure 5.1**).
- 5.1.6 In order to determine a study area for the DPD HRA, consideration has been given to the nature and extent of potential impact pathways from the DPD and their relationship to Habitats sites. The following sections set out those Habitats sites which will be included in the HRA study area for this DPD.

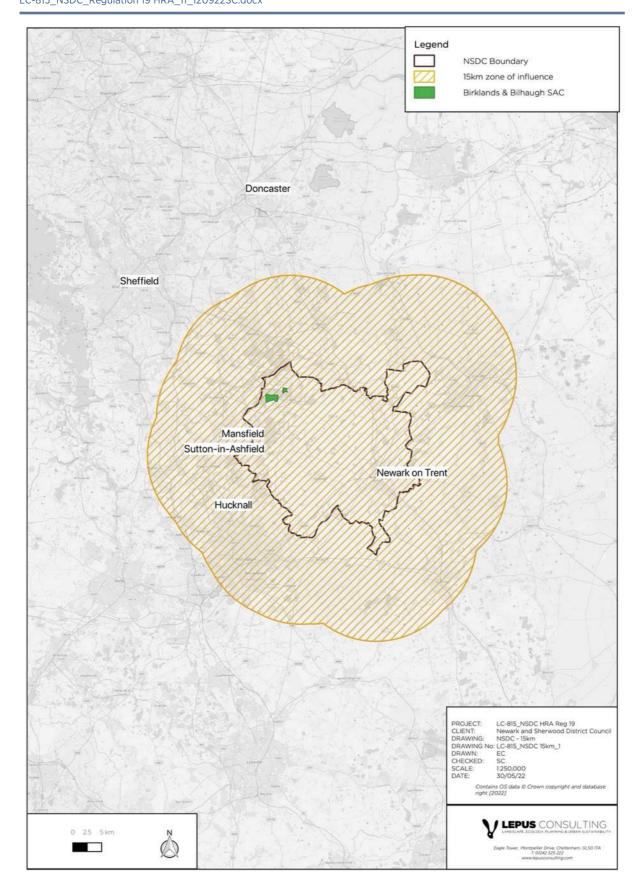


Figure 5.1: Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC location map

#### 5.2 Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC

- 5.2.1 Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC is the only Habitats site located wholly within the Plan area. It is the most northerly site in Europe selected for its qualifying feature of old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains (**Appendix B**). Both native oak species, *Quercus petraea* and *Quercus robur*, are present within the site and the mix of age-classes ensures good potential for maintaining the structure and function of the woodland system, including the continuity of dead-wood habitats. Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC is notable for its diverse fungal assemblage and abundant invertebrate fauna.
- 5.2.2 The SAC comprises two components which include these important areas of ancient oak woodland. The western component forms the southern half of the Sherwood Forest NNR. The north eastern component is privately owned and administered Thoresby Estate. The majority of the Sherwood Forest NNR, and all of the SAC, are also designated as part of the larger Birklands & Bilhaugh SSSI. The Budby South Forest RSPB reserve sits within the northern part of the NNR, to the immediate north of the SAC.
- 5.2.3 Condition data for the underpinning Birklands & Bilhaugh SSSI (**Appendix C**) indicates that this site is in an 'unfavourable recovering' condition with the exception of two units. Unit 8 and Unit 12 which are classified as 'unfavourable no change' due to the replacement of woodland and heathland with areas of hardstanding, buildings and surfaced walkways as well as poor woodland management.
- 5.2.4 The SIP identifies that Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC has the potential to be vulnerable to the following potential impacts:
  - Air pollution arising from vehicles associated with the plan;
  - Public access and disturbance associated with increased visitor pressure arising from the plan.

#### 5.3 Humber Estuary SPA, Humber Estuary SAC and Humber Estuary Ramsar site

- 5.3.1 The Humber Estuary is located on the Lincolnshire coast and is fed by the Rivers Ouse, Trent and Hull, Ancholme and Graveney. It supports a mosaic of estuarine habitats including tidal rivers, estuaries, mud flats, sand flats, lagoons and saltmarshes among others. It is designated as a SPA, SAC and Ramsar site due to these estuarine habitats and the species which they support (Appendix B).
- 5.3.2 Humber Estuary SAC, Humber Estuary SPA and Humber Estuary Ramsar sites are located approximately 36km to the north of NSDC's administrative boundary and are hydrologically connected via the River Trent.
- 5.3.3 The River Trent enters the Plan area in the south west, close to Gunthorpe, flowing through the centre of the Plan area, through Newark on Trent and passing out the Plan area in the north eastern corner. The River Trent then flows in a north easterly direction joining the Humber Estuary to the north of Scunthorpe.
- 5.3.4 A number of tributaries within the Plan area feed into the River Trent, including the River Greet, the River Devon and the River Smite. The River Maun and the River Meden run through the north western area of the Plan area, flowing in a north westerly direction to join the River Idle which is also a tributary of the River Trent.
- 5.3.5 NSDC is located predominantly within the Humber River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) and straddles the 'Idle and Torne' and 'Lower Trent and Erewash' Humber RBMP sub catchments.

- 5.3.6 The Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar designations are noted in the SIP and Ramsar Information Sheet to be sensitive to any changes in water quality (**Appendix B**). Data for the SSSIs which underpin these designations indicate that a number of these are in an unfavourable declining condition due to water pollution including agricultural run-off (**Appendix C**).
- 5.3.7 Given the hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the Humber Estuary these designations will be considered further in the HRA process. Their location is show in **Figure 5.2**.

#### 5.4 The Wash SPA, the Wash Ramsar and the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC

- 5.4.1 The Wash is located on the east coast and extends from Lincolnshire, at Gibraltar Point, to North Norfolk. The Wash and North Norfolk coast area comprises the largest marine embayment in Britain with an extensive expanse of intertidal sediment flats and other coastal habitats. These include intertidal sandbanks, biogenic and geogenic reef, saltmarsh and a barrier beach system. This network of coastal habitats supports a diverse range of associated fauna. The area is also designated due to its importance for breeding and moulting of the common seal (*Phoca vitulina*) and as a winter-feeding area for waders and wildfowl outside of the breeding season (**Appendix B**).
- 5.4.2 A small part of the NSDC administrative area is located in the catchment of the River Witham which is located in the Anglian RBMP. The River Witham rises south of Grantham, passes through Lincoln and drains into the Wash at Boston.
- 5.4.3 The Wash SPA and the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC designations are noted in the SIP to be sensitive to any changes in water levels (**Appendix B**). Given the hydrological connectivity between the Plan area and the Wash, these designations will be considered further in the HRA process. Their location is shown in **Figure 5.2**.

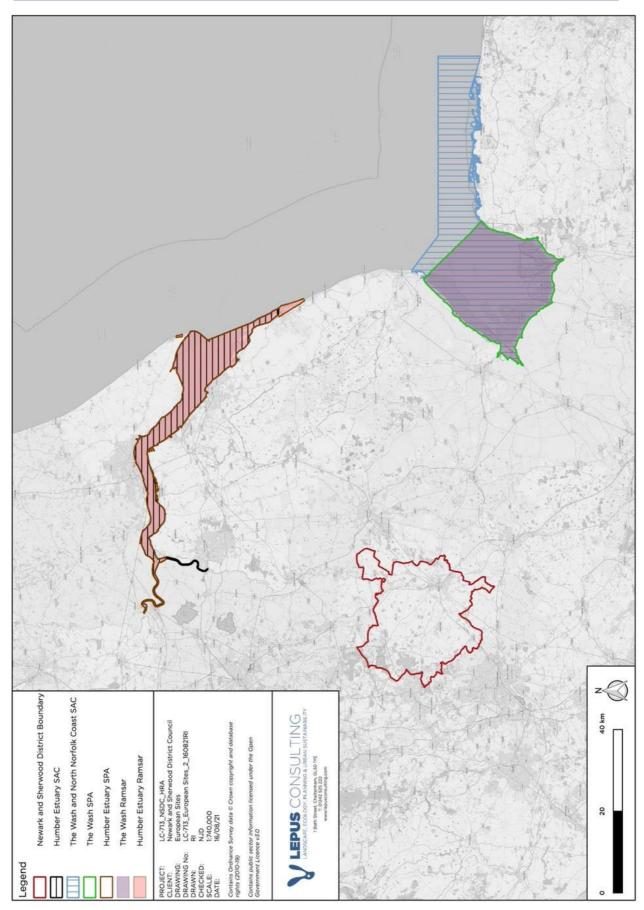


Figure 5.2: Other Habitats site location map

#### 5.5 Habitats sites scoped into the HRA

- 5.5.1 Taking into consideration impact pathways and previous HRA work undertaken in 2017 and 2018, the following European sites will be considered further in this HRA.
  - Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC;
  - The Humber Estuary SAC;
  - The Humber Estuary SPA;
  - The Humber Estuary Ramsar;
  - The Wash Ramsar:
  - The Wash SPA; and
  - The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC.

#### 5.6 Ecological information

5.6.1 The CJEU ruling in the Holohan case (C-461/17<sup>27</sup>) confirmed that Appropriate Assessment should: (i) catalogue (i.e. list) all habitats and species for which the site is protected and (ii) include in its assessment other (i.e. non-protected) habitat types or species which are on the site and habitats and species located outside of the site if they are necessary to the conservation of the habitat types and species listed for the protected area (**Box 3**).

#### Box 3: Holohan v An Bord Pleanala (November 2018)

"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.

Article 6(3) of Directive 92/43 must be interpreted as meaning that the competent authority is permitted to grant to a plan or project consent which leaves the developer free to determine subsequently certain parameters relating to the construction phase, such as the location of the construction compound and haul routes, only if that authority is certain that the development consent granted establishes conditions that are strict enough to guarantee that those parameters will not adversely affect the integrity of the site.

Article 6(3) of Directive 92/43 must be interpreted as meaning that, where the competent authority rejects the findings in a scientific expert opinion recommending that additional information be obtained, the 'appropriate assessment' must include an explicit and detailed statement of reasons capable of dispelling all reasonable scientific doubt concerning the effects of the work envisaged on the site concerned".

This report fully considers the potential for effects on species and habitats. This includes those not listed as a qualifying feature for the Habitats site, but which may be important to achieving its conservation objectives. This ensures that the functional relationships underlying Habitats sites and the achievement of their conservation objectives are adequately understood.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> EUR-Lex (2018) Case C-461/17. Available at: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:62017CJ0461&from=EN">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:62017CJ0461&from=EN</a> [Date Accessed: 05/11/19]

- 5.6.3 **Appendix B** identifies the qualifying features of each of these sites and presents details of their conservation objectives. This information is drawn from the Joint Nature Conservancy Council (JNCC)<sup>28</sup> and Natural England<sup>29</sup>.
- 5.6.4 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are protected areas in the United Kingdom designated for conservation. SSSIs are the building blocks of site-based nature conservation in the UK. A SSSI will be designated based on the characteristics of its fauna, flora, geology and/or geomorphology. Whilst typically analogous in ecological function, the reasons for its designation can be entirely different to those for which the same area is designated as a SAC, SPA or Ramsar.
- 5.6.5 Natural England periodically assesses the conservation conditions of each SSSI unit, assigning it a status. SSSIs located either entirely or partially within the European sites considered in this report are listed in **Appendix C** along with their current conservation status. The conservation status of each SSSI highlights any SAC/SPA that is currently particularly vulnerable to threats/pressures. Conservation status is defined as follows:
  - Favourable;
  - Unfavourable recovering;
  - Unfavourable no change; or
  - Unfavourable declining.
- SSSI units in either an 'Unfavourable no change' or 'Unfavourable declining' condition indicate that the European site may be particularly vulnerable to certain threats or pressures. It is important to remember that the SSSI may be in an unfavourable state due to the condition of features unrelated to its European designation. However, it is considered that the conservation status of SSSI units that overlap with Habitats designated sites offer a useful indicator of habitat health at that location.
- Natural England defines zones around each SSSI which may be at risk from specific types of development, these are known as Impact Risk Zones (IRZ). These IRZs are "a GIS tool developed by Natural England to make a rapid initial assessment of the potential risks to SSSIs posed by development proposals. They define zones around each SSSI which reflect the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and indicate the types of development proposal which could potentially have adverse impacts. The IRZs also cover the interest features and sensitivities of European sites, which are underpinned by the SSSI designation and "Compensation Sites", which have been secured as compensation for impacts on Natura 2000/Ramsar sites". The location of IRZs has been taken into consideration in this assessment as they provide a useful guide as to the location of functionally linked land and likely vulnerabilities to development proposed within the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> JNCC (2019) Available at: <a href="http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1458">http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1458</a> [Date Accessed: 05/11/19]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Natural England (2019) Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/ [Date Accessed: 05/11/19]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Natural England (2019) Natural England's Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest User Guidance. Available at: <a href="https://magic.defra.gov.uk/Metadata">https://magic.defra.gov.uk/Metadata</a> for <a href="magic/SSSI%20IRZ%20User%20Guidance%20MAGIC.pdf">magic/SSSI%20IRZ%20User%20Guidance%20MAGIC.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 05/11/19]

## 6 Sherwood Forest Possible Potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)

#### 6.1 Natural England advice

- 6.1.1 At a Public Inquiry in 2011, the Secretary of State refused planning permission for an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) on land at the former Rufford Colliery site at Rainworth. This was due to likely effects of development on breeding populations of nightjar and woodlark within Sherwood Forest<sup>31</sup>. This area has been notified as an Important Bird Area (IBA)<sup>32</sup> and identified as an indicative core area by Natural England. The boundaries of these areas are shown in **Figure 6.1**.
- 6.1.2 These areas of land are informally known as the Sherwood Forest possible potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA). The Sherwood Forest ppSPA encompasses those areas of greatest ornithological interest for breeding nightjar and woodlark<sup>33</sup>.
- 6.1.3 Following the Rufford Colliery Public Inquiry, Natural England provided advice to all affected Local Planning Authorities in 2014 in relation to the Sherwood Forest ppSPA<sup>34</sup>. This advice recommends a precautionary approach be adopted which ensures reasonable and proportionate steps are taken to avoid or minimise, as far as possible, any potential adverse effects from development on the breeding populations of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest area. Natural England recommend that plans and proposals be accompanied by an additional and robust assessment of the likely impacts arising from the proposals on breeding nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest area. This should ideally cover the potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts which may include, but may not be limited to, the following;
  - Disturbance to breeding birds from people, their pets and traffic;
  - Loss, fragmentation and/or damage to breeding and/or feeding habitat;
  - Bird mortality arising from domestic pets and/or predatory mammals and birds;
  - Bird mortality arising from road traffic and/or wind turbines; and
  - Pollution and/or nutrient enrichment of breeding habitats.
- As such, whilst not a formal Habitats site designation, in order to ensure a risk-based approach was taken and Natural England's advice followed, previous HRA Screening and Appropriate Assessment work (see **Table 3.1**) considered impacts upon the Sherwood Forest ppSPA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Communities and Local Government (2011) Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Section 77. Application by Veolia Nottinghamshire Limited Land at Former Rufford Colliery, Rainworth, Nottinghamshire, NG21 0ET (Application Ref: 3/07/01793/CMW. Available at: <a href="https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20121029114856/http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planning-callins/pdf/1914959.pdf">https://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planning-callins/pdf/1914959.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> An Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) is an area identified using an internationally agreed set of criteria as being globally important for the conservation of bird populations.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> This area has been established on the basis of evidence provided to the Rufford Colliery Public Inquiry and comprises national nightjar and woodlark surveys undertaken in 2004 and 2006.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice Note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region.

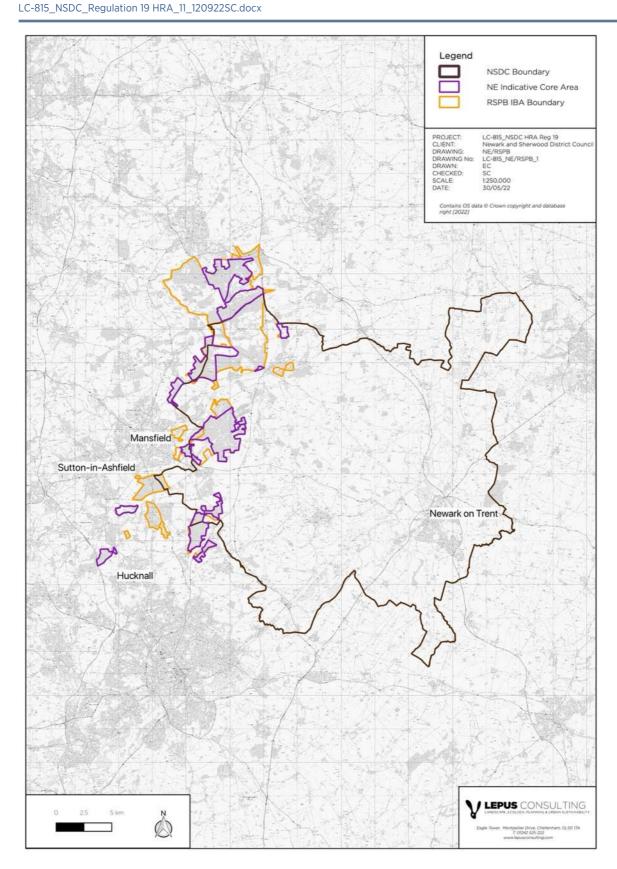


Figure 6.1: Sherwood Forest ppSPA location map

6.1.5 The native population of nightjar and woodlark<sup>35</sup> present at Sherwood Forest ppSPA is believed to be close, or meets, the qualifying feature standards that are used to designate Habitats sites (SPAs) for breeding birds; chiefly that the population represents more than 1% of the UK population however other variables are also considered relevant to the creation of an SPA designation.

#### 6.2 Nightjar in Sherwood Forest ppSPA

- 6.2.1 Sherwood Forest ppSPA supports a population of breeding nightjar<sup>36</sup>. The normal counting unit for nightjars is churring males. In 2004 the UK population of nightjar was estimated at 4,600 churring males<sup>37</sup>. The threshold for SPA classification is to support 1% of the UK population, which for nightjars would be 46 churring males. The most up-to-date nightjar survey data from Nottinghamshire Biological and Geological Records Centre (NBGRC) undertaken by the RSPB reveal the number of territories in Sherwood Forest, based on the number of churring males without adjustment, recorded during a 2016 survey, to be 96<sup>38</sup>. Each territory is approximately 1km<sup>2</sup>. Further analysis of the data accounting for habitat blocks, gave a minimum estimate of 66 pairs, which was considered to be similar to previous surveys of Sherwood; 67 territories in 1981, 73 in 1992 and 66 in 2004, which suggests that nightjars are maintaining their population<sup>39</sup>.
- 6.2.2 Recently, a steep linear decrease in the number of successful fledglings per breeding attempt has become evident, with studies suggesting nest failure is most likely in areas frequented by walkers and dogs<sup>40</sup>.
- 6.2.3 **Figure 6.2**, replicated from the NBGRC report, shows the number of churring males recorded across Sherwood Forest. This shows a fairly even distribution across the ppSPA, although populations might be denser in the more northern portions of the forest. This distribution of nightjar in Sherwood, see **Figure 6.2**, accords well with the RSPB Important Bird Area (IBA) and the Natural England Indicative Core Area **Figure 6.1**<sup>41</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice Note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> RSPB Futurescapes Sherwood Forest Available online at: <a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/lmages/sherwood-forest\_tcm9-281889.pdf">https://www.rspb.org.uk/lmages/sherwood-forest\_tcm9-281889.pdf</a> [Accessed 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Conway, G., Wotton, S., Henderson, I., Langston, R., Drewitt, A. & Currie, F. (2007) Status and distribution of European Nightjars Caprimulgus europaeus in the UK in 2004. Bird Study 54: 98–111

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Cornish, C., Lowe, A., Wilkinson, C., Lucas, E and Wotton, S. 2018. A report by RSPB for the Sherwood Habitats Strategy Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Cornish, C., Lowe, A., Wilkinson, C., Lucas, E and Wotton, S. 2018. A report by RSPB for the Sherwood Habitats Strategy Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Langston, R.H.W., Liley, D., Murison, G., Woodfield, E. & Clarke, R.T. (2007) What effects do walkers and dogs have on the distribution and productivity of breeding European Nightjar Caprimulgus europaeus? Ibis 149, supplement 1: 27–36

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Natural England. 2014. Advice Note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: <a href="https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014">https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

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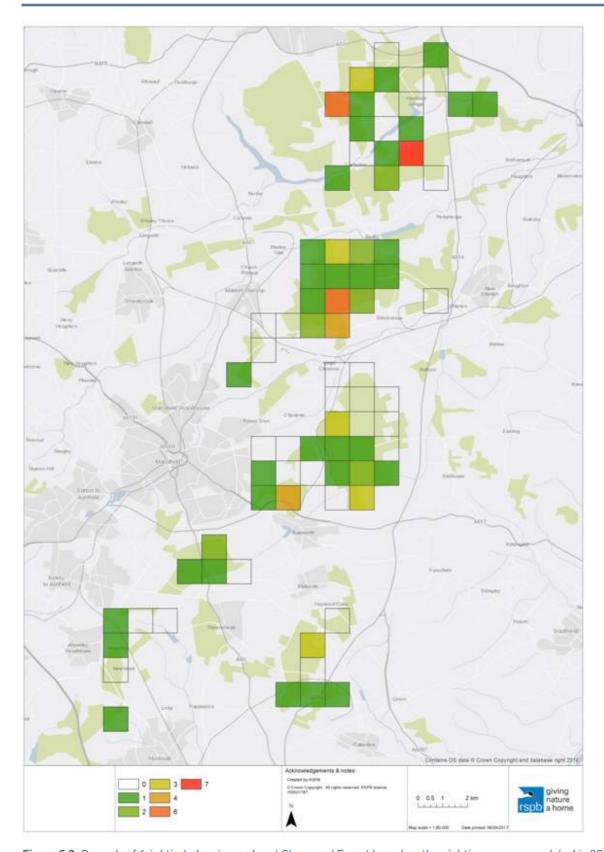
- 6.2.4 As part of the Bassetlaw Local Plan review a Recreational Impact Assessment (RIA) was commissioned for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC/Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve (NNR) and Clumber Park SSSI. Both these sites underpin parts of the proposed Sherwood Forest ppSPA. The aim of these RIAs was to identify potential recreational mitigation required to ensure no adverse impacts from the Bassetlaw Local Plan, either alone or incombination with other plans and projects. The assessments included consideration of a Garden Village which was a key component of the Bassetlaw Local Plan. However, since preparation of these RIAs, two landowners unexpectedly withdraw their site from the proposed Garden Village development shortly before submission of the Bassetlaw Local Plan. As such, Bassetlaw are considering a Regulation 19 Second Addendum to address consequential changes and to provide focussed changes in response to updated evidence prior to submitting the plan to the Independent Planning Inspectorate<sup>42</sup>. The RIAs however still provide some useful baseline information in relation to both the SAC and ppSPA in relation to habitat types present, bird surveys and recreational impacts which has been drawn upon in this HRA.
- 6.2.5 The RIAs included bird surveys, targeting woodlark and nightjar. The surveys indicated 4 to 5 territorial nightjar within the Sherwood Forest NNR which indicates that the locality potentially supports a significant proportion of the qualifying populations of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA.
- 6.2.6 Nightjar is a ground-nesting summer migrant which feeds on moths and other flying insects at night, mainly at dusk and dawn. Nightjar predominantly feed over heathland and along forest rides but are most successful at feeding when there is range of food-rich habitats present<sup>43</sup>. Nightjar nests are usually located within gaps in dry lowland heathland, coppice woods or forest clearings with limited tree canopy cover. During the day the nightjar is found on open ground habitats and often use trees as song or lookout posts<sup>44</sup>. They require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages. The height, cover, variation and composition of vegetation and characteristics of habitat are important to support breeding and successful nesting, rearing of young, concealment from predators and movement along flight lines and roosting. Requirements for nightjar include<sup>45</sup>:
  - Heathland;
  - Open woodland;
  - Clearings;
  - Recently felled conifer plantations; and
  - Heterogenous and semi-open natural habitats.

<sup>42</sup> https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/planning-and-building/the-draft-bassetlaw-local-plan/bassetlaw-local-plan-2020-2038-publication-version-second-addendum-may-2022/bassetlaw-local-plan-2020-2038-publication-version-second-addendum-may-2022/ [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> RSPB. Land management for nightjars. https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/nightjars/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Cornish, C., Lowe, A., Wilkinson, C., Lucas, E and Wotton, S. 2018. A report by RSPB for the Sherwood Habitats Strategy Group.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Sierro, Antoine, et al. "Habitat use and foraging ecology of the nightjar (Caprimulgus europaeus) in the Swiss Alps: towards a conservation scheme." Biological conservation 98.3 (2001): 325-331.



**Figure 6.2:** Records of (nightjar) churring males at Sherwood Forest based on the nightjar survey completed in 2016 by the RSPB (source: NBGRC).

# 6.3 Woodlark in Sherwood Forest ppSPA

- 6.3.1 Populations of woodlark in Sherwood Forest are less well established. Their territories are considered to average approximately 3.4ha, ranging from 0.9 to 8.3ha, whilst male territories rarely, if ever, overlap<sup>46</sup>. The mean distance woodlark travel from nest to forage site is 3.1km, with the majority travelling between 2km and 4km<sup>47</sup>.
- 6.3.2 The Bassetlaw Local Plan RIAs bird surveys indicated the presence of 4 to 6 pairs of woodlark within the Sherwood Forest NNR which indicates that the locality potentially supports a significant proportion of the qualifying populations of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA.
- 6.3.3 Woodlarks are a ground nesting bird which feeds predominantly on beetles, caterpillars and spiders foraged from the soil or from short turf<sup>48</sup>. During the winter, they change their diet to feed on seeds and often join flocks of finches, skylarks and buntings on stubbles and set-aside fields and therefore agricultural fields may become an important habitat type at this time of the year. Similarly to nightjar, woodlark require an open mosaic structure of habitat to support all life cycle stages. Occasional trees around woodland edges or scattered trees provide song and lookout posts.
- 6.3.4 Their habitat requirements include:
  - Lowland heathland with short, sparse, natural developed turf interspersed with tussocky vegetation;
  - A high abundance of invertebrate prey on bare ground;
  - Winter fields (stubbles and set-asides); and
  - Heterogeneous land type with two to four land cover types suitable for foraging and nesting.

# 6.4 Sherwood Forest designations

6.4.1 Sherwood Forest ppSPA coincides with seven SSSIs (**Appendix C**) and the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC as shown in **Figure 6.3**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Sirami, C., Brotons, L., & Martin, J. L. (2011). Woodlarks Lullula arborea and landscape heterogeneity created by land abandonment. Bird Study, 58(1), 99-106

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Bright. J. A., Langston. R. H. W. and Anthony. S. (2009) Mapped and written guidance in relation to birds and onshore wind energy development in England. RSPB Research Report No 35

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> RSPB. Land management for Woodlark. <a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/woodlarks/">https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/woodlarks/</a>

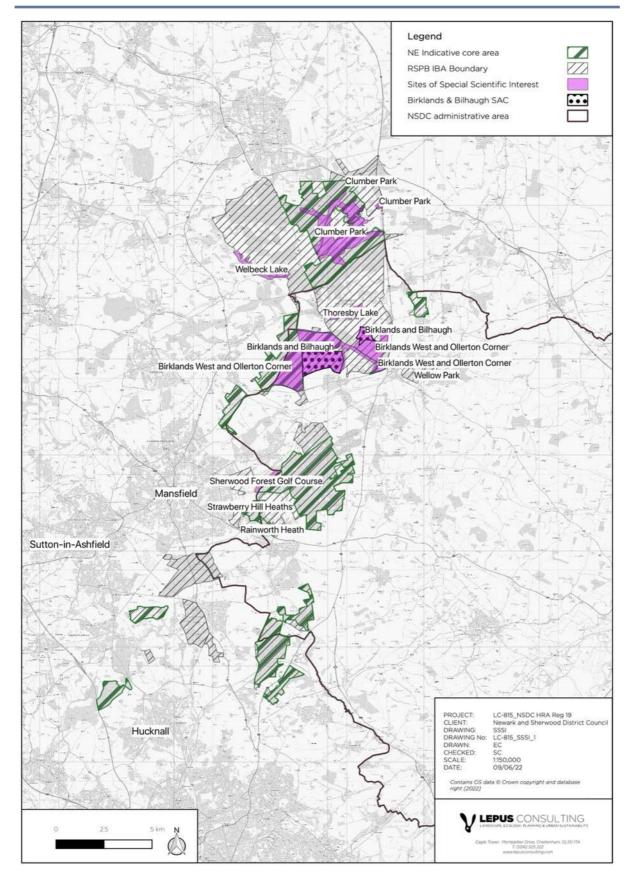


Figure 6.3: Corresponding SSSI designations

- 6.4.2 The SSSI condition data for each of these sites indicates that all of the sites have some units that are in an 'Unfavourable' condition. The unfavourable condition of these units is due to poor woodland management of the scrub as well as public access and disturbance through the construction of surfaced walkways and buildings.
- 6.4.3 In addition, it also comprises a number of other underpinning designations as follows:
  - The Greenwood (Community Forest);
  - Sherwood Heath Local Nature Reserve (LNR);
  - Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve (NNR);
  - Rainworth Water LNR;
  - Oak Tree Heath LNR;
  - Cockglode and Rotary Wood LNR;
  - Clumber Park Nature Reserve; and
  - Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC<sup>49</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> BirdLife International (2022) Important Bird Areas factsheet: Sherwood Forest. Downloaded from <a href="http://www.birdlife.org">http://www.birdlife.org</a> on 01/06/2022. [Date Accessed: 01/06/22]. Available at: <a href="http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/sherwood-forest-iba-united-kingdom/details">http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/sherwood-forest-iba-united-kingdom/details</a>

# 7 Impact Pathways

# 7.1 Gathering information about impact pathways

7.1.1 It is important to understand how the DPD may affect a Habitats site in order to determine LSEs. Consideration must first be given to potential links or causal connections between the effects of the DPD and Habitats sites. This section therefore scopes potential impact pathways at the Habitats sites listed in **Paragraph 5.5.1**.

# 7.2 Threats and pressures

- 7.2.1 Threats and pressures to which each Habitats site is vulnerable have been identified through reference to data held by the JNCC on Natura 2000 Data Forms and Site Improvement Plans (SIPs). This information provides current and predicted issues at each Habitats site. Threats and pressures which are likely to be impacted by the DPD at each Habitats site are provided at **Appendix B**. It is noted that each Habitats site may be vulnerable to other threats and pressures which are outside the scope of the DPD. These threats and pressures have not been included in this assessment having been scoped out.
- 7.2.2 Supplementary advice notices prepared by Natural England provide more recent information on threats and pressures upon Habitats sites than SIPs. Additional threats flagged up by supplementary advice notices which may be impacted by the DPD have also been identified (Appendix B).
- 7.2.3 As the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is not a formal Habitats site designation, impacts on potential threats and pressures at the site have been taken from Natural England's advice note to Local Planning Authorities (2014)<sup>50</sup> (see **Section 6.1**) and the Sherwood Forest IBA<sup>51</sup> factsheet. The IBA factsheet indicates that other threats from land use planning<sup>52</sup> to the IBA may include the following. Each is given a level of priority which is also provided below for context in brackets.
  - Energy production and mining of relevance is renewable energy (low);
  - Human intrusions and disturbance of relevance is Recreational activities (very high);
  - Pollution of relevance is air borne pollutants (medium); and
  - Residential and commercial development (medium to high).
- 7.2.4 Following a review of HRA assessment work undertaken to date for the Newark and Sherwood Publication Amended Core Strategy and an identification of causal connections and links, the remaining threats and pressures that are considered to be within the scope of influence of the DPD include:
  - Atmospheric pollution;
  - Public access and disturbance recreational disturbance and urbanisation threats
  - Habitat loss and fragmentation; and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Natural England. 2014. Advice Note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: <a href="https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014">https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/sherwood-forest-iba-united-kingdom/details

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> The IBA factsheet lists other threats and pressures which are not likely to be influenced by the DPD.

Hydrology (water levels and water quality).

# 7.3 Air quality

- 7.3.1 Air pollution can affect Habitats sites if it has an adverse effect on its features of qualifying interest. The main mechanisms through which air pollution can have an adverse effect is through eutrophication (nitrogen), acidification (nitrogen and sulphur) and direct toxicity (ozone, ammonia and nitrogen oxides)<sup>53</sup>. Deposition of air pollutants can alter the soil and plant composition and species which depend upon these.
- 7.3.2 Excess atmospheric nitrogen deposition within an ecosystem or habitat can disrupt the delicate balance of ecological processes interacting with one another. As the availability of nitrogen increases in the local environment, some plants that are characteristic of that ecosystem may become competitively excluded in favour of more nitrophilic plants. It also upsets the ammonium and nitrate balance of the ecosystem, which disrupts the growth, structure and resilience of some plant species.
- 7.3.3 Excess nitrogen deposition often leads to the acidification of soils and a reduction in the soils' buffering capacity (the ability of soil to resist pH changes). It can also render the ecosystem more susceptible to adverse effects of secondary stresses, such as frost or drought, and disturbance events, such as foraging by herbivores.
- 7.3.4 As an attempt to manage the negative consequences of atmospheric nitrogen deposition and acidification, 'critical loads' and 'critical levels' have been established for ecosystems across Europe. Each Habitats site is host to a variety of habitats and species, the features of which are often designated a critical load for nitrogen deposition. The critical loads of pollutants are defined as a:
- 7.3.5 "...quantitative estimate of exposure to one or more pollutants below which significant harmful effects on specified sensitive elements of the environment do not occur according to present knowledge"<sup>54</sup>.
- 7.3.6 Critical levels are defined as "concentrations of pollutants in the atmosphere above which direct adverse effects on receptors, such as human beings, plants, ecosystems or materials, may occur according to present knowledge" <sup>55</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> APIS (2016) Ecosystem Services and air pollution impacts. Available at: <a href="http://www.apis.ac.uk/ecosystem-services-and-air-pollution-impacts">http://www.apis.ac.uk/ecosystem-services-and-air-pollution-impacts</a>. [Date Accessed: 06/02/20]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Coordination Centre for Effects (CCE). Critical load and level definitions. Available at: <a href="https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/Coordination">https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/Coordination</a> Centre for Effects [Date Accessed: 29/07/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Coordination Centre for Effects (CCE). Critical load and level definitions. Available at: https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/en/Coordination Centre for Effects [Date Accessed: 29/07/21]

- 7.3.7 Natural England has developed a standard methodology for the assessment of traffic related air quality impacts under the Habitats Regulations which is relevant to the HRA of land use plans<sup>56</sup>. In addition, the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM)<sup>57</sup> and the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)<sup>58</sup> have also prepared advice on the assessment of air quality impacts at designated sites. This guidance sets a number of thresholds for screening of Likely Significant (air quality) Effects (LSEs) at the HRA screening stage (Stage 1 of the HRA process) and methodologies for further Appropriate Assessment and ecological interpretation of air quality impacts.
- 7.3.8 The Natural England methodology sets out a staged approach to screening of likely significant air quality effects which has been applied here<sup>59</sup>. The first step is to determine if the plan will give rise to emissions which are likely to reach a Habitats site. The DPD will trigger housing and employment development and as such increase traffic related emissions. Data obtained from the Office for National Statistics highlights the most common destinations for journeys to work undertaken by car or van arising from and finishing in the DPD area are from the neighbouring authority areas<sup>60</sup>. Both the Birklands to Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA are located within the plan area, and Sherwood Forest ppSPA also extends into neighbouring authority areas.
- 7.3.9 It is widely accepted that air quality impacts are greatest within 200m of a road source, decreasing with distance<sup>61,62,63</sup>. The A616 passes in-between the two units of Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC. The A6075 runs to the south of the SAC and the A614 to the east. None of these strategic A roads pass within 200m of the SAC. However, the B6034 runs immediately adjacent to the eastern border of the southwest component of the SAC. This route has the potential to be used by commuters to and from neighbouring districts such as Mansfield District and Bassetlaw District (see **Figure 7.1**).
- 7.3.10 As the ppSPA is composed of several components spread out over a large area, a number of strategic routes and non-strategic road links pass within 200m of the ppSPA (see **Figure 7.1**). These routes are likely to be used by commuters to and from neighbouring districts such as Mansfield, Bassetlaw, Gedling and Ashfield.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Natural England (2018) Natural England's approach to advising competent authorities on the assessment of road traffic emissions under the Habitats Regulations (NEA001). Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Holman et al (2020). A guide to the assessment of air quality impacts on designated nature conservation sites – version 1.1, Institute of Air Quality Management, London.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> CIEEM (2021) Advice on Ecological Assessment of Air Quality Impacts. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. Winchester, UK.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Natural England (2018) Natural England's approach to advising competent authorities on the assessment of road traffic emissions under the Habitats Regulations (NEA001). Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Office for National Statistics (2011) Location of usual residence and place of work by method of travel to work (2011 census data). Available at: <a href="https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/WU03UK/chart/1132462281">https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/WU03UK/chart/1132462281</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> The Highways Agency, Transport Scotland, Welsh Assembly Government, The Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland (2007) Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1: Air Quality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Natural England (2016) The ecological effects of air pollution from road transport: an updated review. Natural England Commissioned Report NECR 199.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Bignal, K., Ashmore, M. & Power, S. (2004) The ecological effects of diffuse air pollution from road transport. English Nature Research Report No. 580, Peterborough.

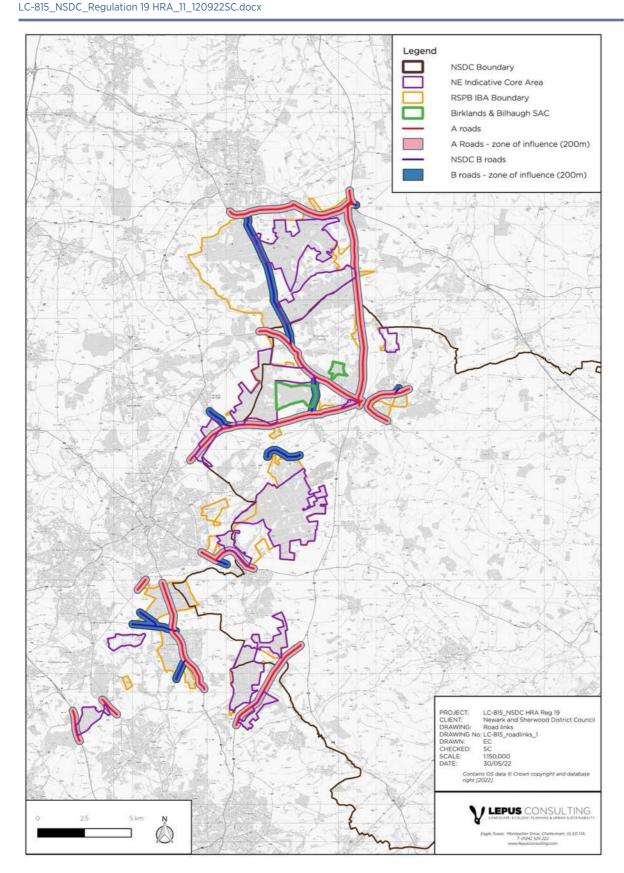


Figure 7.1: A and B Roads within 200m of Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA

7.3.11 Based on this information it is likely that traffic emissions from the DPD will reach both the SAC and ppSPA. The next step in Natural England's methodology is to determine if the qualifying features of these sites are sensitive to air pollution.

- 7.3.12 As highlighted through the review of threats and pressures at Habitats sites (**Appendix B**) air pollution, and in particular atmospheric nitrogen deposition and acidity, has been identified as a threat or pressure for qualifying features the 'dry oak-dominated woodland' of the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC.
- 7.3.13 **Table 7.1** summarises the critical loads and current deposition for nitrogen and acidity at Birklands to Bilhaugh SAC. All data has been taken from Air Pollution Information Systems (APIS)<sup>64</sup>.

**Table 7.1:** Nitrogen and Acidity Critical Loads at Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC<sup>65</sup>

Qualifying features	Relevant Nitrogen Critical Load Class	Empirical Critical Load (kg N/ha/yr)	Current Nitrogen Deposition (Kg N/ha/yr)
	Acidophilous Quercus - dominated woodland	10-15	Max: 41.1 Min: 309 Average: 40.1
	Relevant Acidity Class	Acidity Critical Loads (keq)	Current
Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains (H9190)		MinCLminN: 0.142   MaxCLminN: 0.142	
	Unmanaged Broadleafed/Coniferous Woodland	MinCLMaxS: 1.243   MaxCLMaxS: 1.245	Max: 2.9   0.2 Min: 2.8   0.2 Average: 2.9   0.2
		MinCLMaxN: 1.385   MaxCLMaxN: 1.387	

- 7.3.14 The current levels of nitrogen deposition and acidity at Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC significantly exceed the critical load for old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains.
- 7.3.15 Exceedance of the critical loads can modify the chemical status resulting in accelerating or damaging plant growth, altering vegetation structure and composition and causing loss of sensitive species<sup>66</sup>.
- 7.3.16 Natural England's advice<sup>67</sup> indicates that the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is sensitive to 'pollution and/or nutrient enrichment of breeding habitats' which may include nitrogen deposition and acidification due to air pollution triggered by new development.
- 7.3.17 The SSSIs which underpin this designation support many habitats which are sensitive to air pollution and upon which nightjar and woodlark populations depend. Given the diverse diet of these birds it is unlikely that a change in air quality will affect food availability. However, given their specific nesting requirements, impacts from air pollution upon these habitats has the potential to occur. Local air pollution sources in the area range from large farms, biomass and waste gas plants and main road traffic<sup>68</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Air Pollution Information Systems (APIS) Available at: <a href="http://www.apis.ac.uk/">http://www.apis.ac.uk/</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

 $<sup>^{65}</sup>$  APIS data is taken for the midyear 2019 (2018, 2019 and 2020) at 1 Km<sup>2</sup> resolution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Natural England (2016) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC Supplementary Advice. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5179475394297856 [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>67</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014 [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>68</sup> Clean Air Strategy <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/770715/clean-air-strategy-2019.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/770715/clean-air-strategy-2019.pdf</a>

7.3.18 **Table 7.2** summarises the critical loads and current nitrogen deposition for the SSSIs that coincide with Sherwood Forest ppSPA<sup>69</sup>. It is noted that not all habitat types listed below provide important habitat for nightjar and woodlarks. Nightjars can be found on heathlands, moorlands, in open woodland with clearings and in recently felled conifer plantations and feed on insects (moths and beetles)<sup>70</sup>. Woodlark feed on seeds and insects and require sparse, short grassy or heathy turf, together with bare ground, as they forage for food on the ground. They also require tussocky vegetation for nesting and scattered trees to use as song posts<sup>71</sup>.

**Table 7.2:** Nitrogen Critical Loads at SSSIs that coincide with Sherwood Forest ppSPA<sup>72</sup>

Features	Relevant Nitrogen Critical Load Class	Empirical Critical Load (kg N/ha/yr)	Current Nitrogen Deposition (Kg N/ha/yr)
Clumber Park SSSI			
Acid grassland – Rumex Acetosella grassland	Inland dune siliceous grasslands	8-15	Max: 25.1
Acid grassland - Galium saxatile grassland			Min: 24.2
Acid grassland – Rumex acetosella lowland acid grassland	Non-Mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland	10-15	Average: 24.6
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland	Broadleaved deciduous woodland	10-20	Max: 44 Min: 42.3 Average: 43.1
Dwarf shrub heath	Dry heaths	10-20	Max: 25.1 Min: 24.2 Average: 24.6
Neutral grassland	Low and medium altitude hay meadows	20-30	Max: 25.1 Min: 24.2 Average: 24.6
Invertebrate assemblage	No comparable habitat		Max: 28.2
Lowland open waters and their margins	No borned balaitat and mand	N/a	Min: 16.6 Average: 23.2
Assemblages of breeding birds	No broad habitat assigned		
Welbeck Lake SSSI			
Grey Heron	No borned babitat accionad	N1/-	Max: 24
Lowland open water	No broad habitat assigned	N/a	Min: 16.6 Average: 19.4
Thoresby Lake SSSI			
Acid grassland - Galium saxatile grassland	Non-Mediterranean dry acid and neutral closed grassland	10-15	Max: 24.4 Min: 23.6 Average: 24.1
Fen, marsh and swamp (Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds)	Rich fens	15-30	Max: 24.4 Min: 23.6 Average: 24.1
Birkland and Bilhaugh SSSI			
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (Quercus spp. Betula spp. Deschampsia flecuosa woodland)	Acidophilous Quercus – dominated woodland	10-15	Max: 41.6 Min: 39 Average: 40.3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>69</sup> Air Pollution Information Systems (APIS) Available at: <a href="http://www.apis.ac.uk/">http://www.apis.ac.uk/</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> RSPB. Bird A-Z. Available at: <a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/woodlark/">https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/woodlark/</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> RSPB. Land Management for Woodlarks. Available at: <a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/woodlarks/">https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/woodlarks/</a> [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Green – below critical load range. Amber – within critical load range. Red – exceeds critical load range.

Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (Quercus robur, Pteridium aquilinum and Rubus fruticosus woodland)	Meso and eutrophic Quercus woodland	15-20	Max: 41.6 Min: 39 Average: 40.3
Dwarf shrub heath	Dry heaths	10-20	Max: 24 Min: 22.7 Average: 23.3
Invertebrate assemblage	No comparable habitat	N/a	Max: 24.1 Min: 18.5 Average: 21.6
Birklands West and Ollerton Corner SSSI			
Dwarf shrub heath	Dry heaths	10-20	Max: 23.7 Min: 22.3 Average: 22.8
Invertebrate assemblage	No comparable habitat	N/a	Max: 22.1 Min: 17.2 Average: 19.6
Strawberry Hill Heaths SSSI			
Dwarf shrub heath (Calluna vulgaris - Deschampsia flexuosa heath)	Dry heaths	10-20	Max: 22.8 Min: 22.4
Dwarf shrub heath (Calluna vulgaris - Erica cinerea heath)	,		Average: 22.5
Rainworth Heath SSSI			
Dwarf shrub heath (Calluna vulgaris - Deschampsia flexuosa heath)	Dry heaths	10-20	Max: 23.3 Min: 22.7
Dwarf shrub heath (Erica tetralix – Sphagnum compactum wet heath)	Northern wet heath: Erica tetralix dominated wet heath	10-20	Average: 22.8

# 7.3.19 Current maximum nitrogen deposition and acidity exceeds the critical load for all the majority of features within each of the SSSIs.

Table 7.3: Acidity Critical Loads at SSSIs that coincide with Sherwood Forest ppSPA

Features	Relevant Acidity Critical Load Class	Acidity Critical Load (keq)	Acid Deposition Nitrogen   Sulphur keq/ha/yr
Clumber Park SSSI			
Neutral grassland - <i>Cynosurus</i> <i>cristatus</i> - Centaurea nigra grassland	Acid grassland	MinCLminN: 0.223   MaxCl minN: 0.223	
Acid grassland – Galium saxatile grassland	Acid grassland	MinCLMaxS: 0.48   MaxCl MaxS: 0.5	Maximum: 1.8   0.2 Minimum: 1.7   0.2 Average: 1.8   0.2
Acid grassland – Rumex Acetosella grassland	Acid grassland	MinCLMaxN: 0.703	Average. 1.0   0.2
Acid grassland – Rumex acetosella lowland acid grassland	Acid grassland	MaxCLMaxN: 0.723	
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew	Broadleaved	MinCLminN: 0.142   MaxCLminN: 0.142 MinCLMaxS: 1.172	Maximum: 3.1   0.2
woodland	/coniferous woodland  MaxCLMaxS: 1.207  MinCLMaxN: 1.314    MaxCLMaxN: 1.349	Minimum: 3   0.2 Average: 3.1   0.2	
Dwarf shrub heath	Dry heaths	MinCLminN: 0.892   MaxCLminN: 0.892	

		MinCLMaxS: 0.48   MaxCLMaxS: 0.5	
		MinCLMaxN: 1.372   MaxCLMaxN: 1.392 MinCLminN: 0.856   MaxCLminN: 0.856	Maximum: 1.8   0.2 Minimum: 1.7   0.2 Average: 1.8   0.2
Neutral grassland - <i>Cynosurus</i> <i>cristatus</i> - Centaurea nigra grassland	Calcareous grassland	MinCLMaxS: 4   MaxCLMaxS: 4	
		MinCLMaxN: 4.856   MaxCLMaxN: 4.856	
Invertebrate assemblage	No comparable habitat		
Lowland open waters and their margins	Not assessed for this feature	N/a	Maximum: 2   0.2 Minimum: 1.2   0.2 Average: 1.7   0.2
Assemblages of breeding birds			
Welbeck Lake SSSI			17100
Grey Heron	No broad habitat assigned	N/a	Maximum: 1.7   0.2 Minimum: 1.2   0.2
Lowland open water Thoresby Lake SSSI	accigines.		Average: 1.4   0.2
THORESDY Lake 3331		MinCLminN: 0.223   MaxCLminN: 0.223	
Acid grassland – Galium saxatile grassland	Acid grassland	MinCLMaxS: 0.48   MaxCLMaxS: 0.5	Maximum: 1.7   0.2 Minimum: 1.7   0.2 Average: 1.7   0.2
		MinCLMaxN: 0.703   MaxCLMaxN: 0.723	
Fen, marsh and swamp (Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds)	Not sensitive to acidity	n/a	n/a
Birkland and Bilhaugh SSSI			
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (Quercus spp. Betula spp. Deschampsia flecuosa	Broadleaved /coniferous woodland	MinCLminN: 0.142   MaxCLminN: 0.142	
woodland)	,	MinCLMaxS: 1.243   MaxCLMaxS: 1.245	Maximum: 3   0.2 Minimum: 2.8   0.2
Broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (Quercus robur, Pteridium aquilinum and Rubus fruticosus woodland)	Broadleaved /coniferous woodland	MinCLMaxN: 1.385   MaxCLMaxN: 1.387	Average: 2.9   0.2
		MinCLminN: 0.892   MaxCLminN: 0.892	
Dwarf shrub heath	Dwarf shrub heath	MinCLMaxS: 0.51   MaxCLMaxS: 0.51	Maximum: 1.7   0.2 Minimum: 1.6   0.2
		MinCLMaxN: 1.402   MaxCLMaxN: 1.402	Average: 1.7   0.2
Invertebrate assemblage	No comparable acidity class	n/a	
Birklands West and Ollerton Corner S			
Dwarf shrub heath	Dwarf shrub heath	MinCLMayS: 0.5 L	Maximum: 1.7   0.2 Minimum: 1.6   0.2
		MinCLMaxS: 0.5   MaxCLMaxS: 0.52	Average: 1.6   0.2

		MinCLMaxN: 1.392   MaxCLMaxN: 1.412	
Invertebrate assemblage	No comparable acidity class	n/a	Maximum: 1.6   0.2 Minimum: 1.2   0.2 Average: 1.4   0.2
Strawberry Hill Heaths SSSI			
Dwarf shrub heath (Calluna vulgaris – Deschampsia flexuosa		MinCLminN: 0.892   MaxCLminN: 0.892	
heath)  Dwarf shrub heath (Calluna	Dwarf shrub heath	MinCLMaxS: 0.5   MaxCLMaxS: 0.52	Maximum: 1.6   0.2 Minimum: 1.6   0.2 Average: 1.6   0.2
vulgaris – Erica cinerea heath)		MinCLMaxN: 1.392   MaxCLMaxN: 1.412	
Rainworth Heath SSSI			
Dwarf shrub heath (Calluna vulgaris - Deschampsia flexuosa		MinCLminN: 0.892   MaxCLminN: 0.892	47122
heath)	5 ( )	MinCLMaxS: 0.5	Maximum: 1.7   0.2
Dwarf shrub heath (Erica tetralix –	Dwarf shrub heath	MaxCLMaxS: 0.52	Minimum: 1.6   0.2 Average: 1.6   0.2
Sphagnum compactum wet heath)		MinCLMaxN: 1.392   MaxCLMaxN: 1.412	

- 7.3.20 Given the sensitivities of both Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA (in terms of habitats which supports woodlark and nightjar populations) to changes in air quality, the next step in Natural England's methodology is understand if the qualifying features of each site could be exposed to a change in air quality.
- 7.3.21 Obtaining an early understanding of the spatial distribution of qualifying features within a site helps to inform this stage of the assessment. A preliminary review of aerial photography indicates that features for which the SAC is designated are likely to lie within 200m of the B6034. In addition, woodland and heathland habitats which support woodlark and nightjar populations are also likely to be present within areas of the ppSPA which sit within 200m of the A and B road network.
- 7.3.22 The Natural England advice states that consideration should next be given to the risk of road traffic emissions associated with the DPD when screening air quality likely significant effects. The advice notes that an assessment of the risks from road traffic emissions can be expressed in terms of the average annual daily traffic flow (AADT) as a proxy for emissions. The use of the AADT screening threshold is advocated by Highways England in their Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB). This screening threshold is intended to be used as a guide to determine whether a more detailed assessment of the impact of emissions from road traffic is required. This non-statutory, or guideline threshold, is based on a predicted change of daily traffic flows of 1,000 AADT or more (or a change in heavy-duty vehicle (HDV) flows on motorways of 200 AADT or more).
- A district-wide transport study was undertaken in 2010 to support the review of both the Adopted Core Strategy and Adopted Allocations and Development Management Plan DPD. This provided AADT data for modelled road links for a number of development scenarios. Relevant traffic data has been extracted from this transport study (**Appendix E**) to allow a comparison of flows for a DPD alone and DPD in-combination scenario against Natural England's screening thresholds.
- 7.3.24 As shown in **Table 7.4** AADT flows along the B6034 associated with traffic growth triggered by the Core Strategy and Allocations and Development Management Plan DPD alone and incombination do not exceed the 1,000 AADT threshold.

7.3.25 Given the date of the traffic data analysed (2010) and taking a precautionary approach to the assessment of impacts, air quality impacts at the SAC have been screened in for further consideration in the Appropriate Assessment.

**Table 7.4:** Analysis of DPD alone and in-combination AADT flows along B6034 against Natural England screening guidance for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC

Link within 200m of SAC	Baseline flows (AADT, 2008) <sup>73</sup>	Do Nothing flows (AADT, 2026) <sup>74</sup>	Do Something flows (AADT, 2026) <sup>75</sup>	Change from the Local Plan Alone (Difference between Do Something vs Do Nothing	Change from base Local Plan in-combination (Difference between current base and Do Something
B6034	2900	3000	3100	100	200

7.3.26 A similar exercise has been undertaken for traffic flows on road links within 200m of the ppSPA. Given the nature and extent of the ppSPA boundary outside the NSDC administrative boundary, not all road links were modelled in the traffic study. **Table 7.5** provides an analysis of traffic data that is available.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Data extracted from Figure 5 of the Traffic Assessment – **Appendix E**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Data includes AADT flows for all committed developments within the district and outside the district (i.e. developments with planning permission already. Data extracted from Figure 23 of the Traffic Assessment – **Appendix E**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>75</sup> Data shows 2026 two-way AADT flows (cumulative total of Base + Committed Development + Local Plan development) - Data extracted from Figure 29 of the Traffic Assessment – **Appendix E**.

**Table 7.5:** Analysis of DPD alone and in-combination AADT flows along road links against Natural England screening guidance for Sherwood Forest ppSPA

Link within 200m of SAC	Baseline flows (AADT, 2008) <sup>76</sup>	Do Nothing flows (AADT, 2026) <sup>77</sup>	Do Something flows (AADT, 2026) <sup>78</sup>	Change from the Local Plan Alone (Difference between Do Something vs Do Nothing	Change from base Local Plan in-combination (Difference between current base and Do Something
A614 (n)	9800	12600	13900	1300	4100
B6034	2900	3000	3100	100	200
wA616 (North)	8400	8800	9700	900	1300
A616 (central)	6400	6700	7600	900	1200
A6075 (East)	6000	6500	7600	1100	1600
A6075 (central)	15600	16300	17200	900	1600
A6075 (West)	18300	19300	20900	1600	2600
A616 (South)	7900	9000	11600	2600	3700
B6030	9000	10500	18200	7700	9200
A617	16300	20800	24400	3600	8100
A614 (South)	13200	14600	16100	1500	2900

7.3.27 As can be seen the 1,000 AADT threshold it exceeded along a number of road links for both the DPD alone and in-combination. Air quality impacts at the ppSPA have been screened in for further consideration in the Appropriate Assessment.

#### 7.4 Public access and disturbance

- 7.4.1 Public access and disturbance can take a number of forms. It can include both physical and non-physical disturbance, which can be caused by urbanisation pressures and increased recreational activity.
- 7.4.2 These activities can result in damage to habitats through erosion and compaction, troubling of grazing stock, spreading invasive species, cat predation, dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping, tree climbing, wildfire and arson, noise, vibration, light pollution and vandalism. Typically, disturbance of habitats and species is the unintentional consequence of people's presence which can cause changes in bird behaviour at nesting and feeding sites and impact bird breeding success and survival.
- 7.4.3 Across the UK, public access and disturbance threats at Habitats sites are often considered in terms of buffer distances. For recreational impacts, these are often determined through analysis of visitor and recreational survey data, baseline site information and take into consideration the proximity of new development.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Data extracted from Figure 5 of the Traffic Assessment – **Appendix E**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>77</sup> Data includes AADT flows for all committed developments within the district and outside the district (i.e. developments with planning permission already. Data extracted from Figure 23 of the Traffic Assessment – **Appendix E**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Data shows 2026 two-way AADT flows (cumulative total of Base + Committed Development + Local Plan development) - Data extracted from Figure 29 of the Traffic Assessment - **Appendix E**.

The Bassetlaw Local Plan Review RIAs for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve (NNR) (as discussed in **Section 6.2**)<sup>79</sup> provided results of bird surveys (targeting woodlark and nightjar), a walk-over recreation impact assessment and a visitor survey. The study identified existing recreational impacts which are taking place on site including trampling of habitats, damage to veteran trees, contamination and disturbance to ground nesting birds. The visitor surveys highlighted that approximately a fifth of all interviewees visited the survey area 1 to 3 times per week, whilst another fifth visited less than once per month. Analysis of visitor postcode data, when looking at only the two most frequent activity types undertaken on site (walkers and dog walkers), and those who visit at least once a month, suggested recreational Zone of Influence (ZOI) of 8.9km (see **Figure 7.2**). Based on this evidence the RIA sets out a suggested strategic approach to mitigation which comprises a mixture of Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMM) at the SAC and also provision of alternative Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) away from the SAC and NNR.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

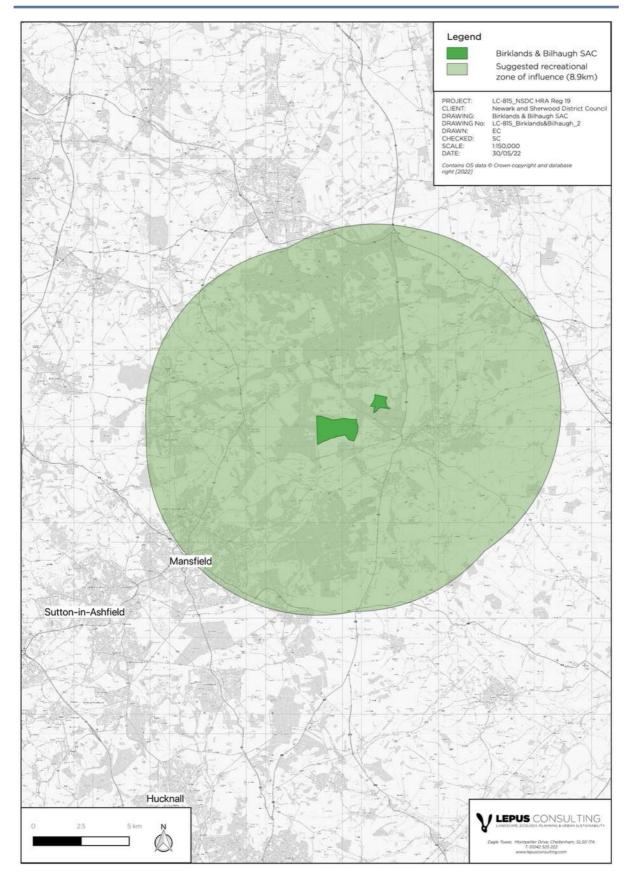


Figure 7.2: Suggested Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC ZOI

- 7.4.5 The Bassetlaw Local Plan Review Clumber Park SSSI RIA<sup>80</sup> similarly provided the results of bird surveys (including targeted surveys for Woodlark and Nightjar), a walk-over recreation impact assessment and a visitor survey. It identified a range of current recreational impacts which are taking place at the SSSI including trampling of habitats, den building, damage from car parking, damage to veteran trees, contamination and disturbance to ground nesting birds. Analysis of visitor postcode data indicated that the SSSI receives visitors from a wide area, aided by its proximity to the motorway network. The RIA sets out a suggested recreational ZOI of 24.7km (see **Figure 7.3**). Based on the collated evidence, the RIA sets out a similar suggested strategic approach to mitigation as that proposed for the SAC, comprising a mixture of SAMM and SANG.
- 7.4.6 It should be noted that the local planning authorities within these ZOI have not signed up to either the SAC or SSSI ZOI or the underpinning methodologies. The information presented in these RIA has been used as baseline information to inform this HRA.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>80</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Clumber Park SSSI Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at:

https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6838/622\_clumber\_park\_recreation\_impact\_assessment\_report\_080322\_final.pdf [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

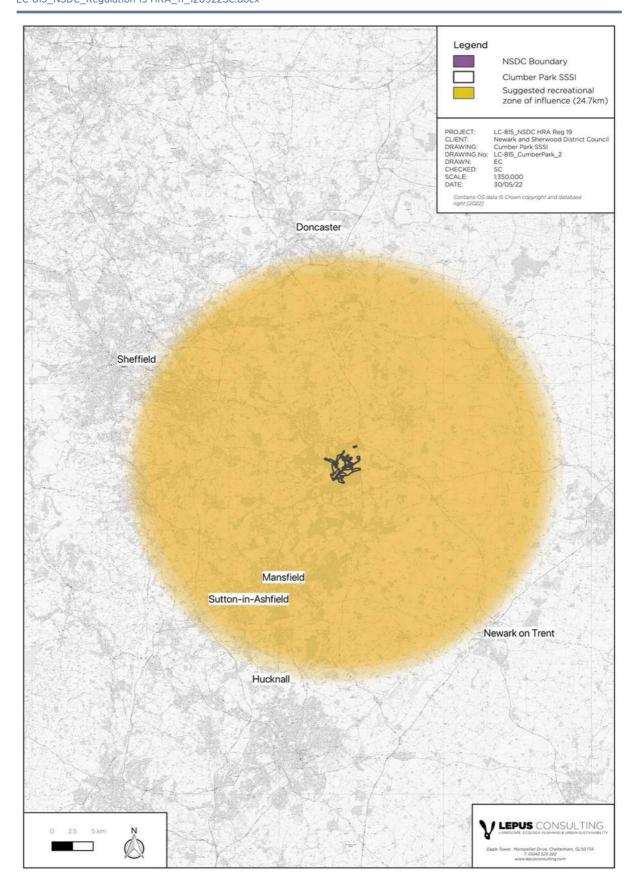


Figure 7.3: Suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI

- 7.4.7 Urbanisation effects are caused where development is located close to a Habitats site designated boundary. These effects often include cat predation of ground nesting birds, lighting (illumination), fly tipping, noise and vandalism. As with recreational impacts, urbanisation mitigation strategies have been implemented across the UK through the establishment of buffer zones. Commonly applied urbanisation zones of influence extend around 400 500m from the edge of a designation as this reflects likely impacts from pets (e.g. cat predation) and the distance from which people access a site on foot. The Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Delivery Framework<sup>81</sup> is one such strategy which makes recommendations for accommodating development while also protecting the SPA's qualifying features by establishing a 400m zone where development does not take place. Another example is the mitigation strategy developed for Burnham Beeches SAC which has a 500m area from the designation boundary within which there is a presumption against development.
- 7.4.8 Given the birds of importance at the Sherwood Forest ppSPA include some of the same species as those for which the Thames Basin Heaths SPA is designated (nightjar and woodlark), it is reasonable to assume that a similar buffer distance of 400m may apply. A study undertaken by Liley *et al*<sup>83</sup>. indicates a correlation which suggests that patches of heathland surrounded by a high human population are less likely to support nightjar (due to urbanisation effects). However, other factors may also contribute to distribution such as declining availability of foraging areas.
- 7.4.9 Due to the distance of the Humber Estuary and the Wash from the DPD area recreational and urbanisation impacts at these designations have not been considered further.
- 7.4.10 The SIP for Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC indicates that it is under threat from public access and disturbance impacts. It notes that the current visitor centre complex is located within the SAC and visitor pressure associated with this is preventing the restoration of the oak woodland to its full extent. Since preparation of the SIP the visitor centre has been moved out of the SAC itself to Edwinstowe, in order to provide an opportunity for habitat restoration. However, the visitor centre still represents a gateway to the forest and is only around 150m from the SAC itself. The recent use of the SAC as a public park has resulted in soil compaction, nutrient enrichment, direct loss of trees and introduction of invasive species<sup>84</sup>.
- 7.4.11 There are various recreational activities and uses of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA that are likely to attract visitors from a wide catchment area. Activities include Sherwood Forest Country Park and Visitor Centre, Rufford Abbey and Country Park and the Centre Parcs holiday resort near Sherwood Pines Forest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>81</sup> Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board (2009). Thames Basin Heaths SPA Delivery Framework. <a href="https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-08/thames-basin-heaths-spa-delivery-framework.pdf">https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-08/thames-basin-heaths-spa-delivery-framework.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 30/05/22].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>82</sup> Burnham Beeches Special Area of Conservation. Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Strategy. Supplementary Planning Document. Available at: https://www.chiltern.gov.uk/article/11300/Burnham-Beeches-Special-Area-of-Conservation-Strategic-Access-and-Mitigation-Strategy-Supplementary-Planning-Document-SPD- [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>83</sup> Liley, D & Clarke, R.T. 2003. The impact of urban development and human disturbance on the numbers of nightjar *Caprimulgus europaeus* on heathlands in Dorset, England. Biological Conservation 114: 219- 230.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>84</sup> Natural England (2015) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC Site Improvement Plan. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6727956374224896 [Date Accessed: 31/07/21].

- 7.4.12 Natural England recommend taking a risk-based approach to plan making at the Sherwood Forest ppSPA in relation to the impacts upon breeding nightjar and woodlark. This includes consideration of the following effects which may be worsened by increased public access and disturbance:
  - Disturbance to breeding birds from people, their pets and traffic;
  - Loss, fragmentation and/or damage to breeding and/or feeding habitat; and
  - Bird mortality arising from domestic pets and/or predatory mammals and birds.
- 7.4.13 Given the sensitivities of both the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA to public access and disturbance effects, and location of a number of DPD allocations within the draft suggested ZOI which emerged through the Bassetlaw Local Plan review RIAs, they are both scoped in for further consideration in the HRA process.

# 7.5 Habitat fragmentation and loss

- 7.5.1 As noted in **Paragraph 6.4.9,** Natural England highlight habitat loss and fragmentation as a potential risk to Sherwood Forest ppSPA which should be considered when development plan making.
- 7.5.2 The DPD will not result in the direct loss of land within the SAC or the ppSPA. However, there is potential for the DPD to result in the loss of habitat outside the SAC or the ppSPA which may be supporting habitat. Supporting habitat, also referred to as functionally linked habitat<sup>85</sup>, may be located some distance from a Habitats site. The fragmentation of habitats through the loss of connecting corridors would hinder the movement of qualifying species.
- 7.5.3 A detailed desk study has been undertaken as part of the Regulation 19 HRA screening process to determine potential areas where loss of supporting / functionally linked habitat has the potential to occur (reported upon in **Appendix D**). This has drawn on Natural England SSSI IRZ data, IUCN data, magic, priority habitat inventory data and aerial photography. This review notes that there are areas of potential woodlark and nightjar habitat located outside land within the ppSPA and close to or at allocation sites. Given the existing fragmented nature of the ppSPA, any additional fragmentation of this habitat may have a significant effect on these bird populations. As such, habitat loss and fragmentation will therefore be considered further in this HRA process in respect of the ppSPA.
- 7.5.4 Habitat loss and fragmentation is not identified as a threat at Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and is therefore not considered further in this assessment.

# 7.6 Hydrology

7.6.1 Urban development can reduce catchment permeability and the presence of drainage networks may be expected to remove runoff from urbanised catchments. This may result in changes in run off rates from urbanised areas to Habitats sites or watercourses which connect to them. Water mains leakage and sewer infiltration may also affect the water balance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>85</sup> "The term 'functional linkage' refers to the role or 'function' that land or sea beyond the boundary of a European site might fulfil in terms of ecologically supporting the populations for which the site was designated or classified. Such land is therefore 'linked' to the European site in question because it provides an important role in maintaining or restoring the population of qualifying species at favourable conservation status". Source: Natural England. 2016. Commissioned Report. NECR207. Functional linkage: How areas that are functionally linked to European sites have been considered when they may be affected by plans and projects - a review of authoritative decisions.

- 7.6.2 Urbanisation also has the potential to reduce the quality of water entering a catchment during the construction of a development through processes such as sedimentation, accidental spillage of chemicals and materials. Water quality may also be reduced through effluent discharges and pollution as well as an increased water temperature.
- 7.6.3 Features for which a Habitats site is designated are often sensitive to changes in water quality and water quantity. Therefore, urbanisation affecting drainage streams which is connected to a Habitats site has the potential to adversely affect the features for which it is designated.
- 7.6.4 Both the Humber Estuary and the Wash are located downstream of the Plan area and are hydrologically connected by rivers which drain the Plan area (see **Section 5.3**). As identified in Natural England's SIP, both designations are sensitive to water pollution (**Appendix B**).
- 7.6.5 A Water Cycle Study (WCS) was undertaken to inform the plan review<sup>86</sup>. This updated previous studies in light of planning legislation, River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) updates and current water utility forward planning.
- 7.6.6 The WCS notes that according to Severn Trent Water's (STW) Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP) <sup>87</sup> details for the Newark Water Supply Zone (WSZ), proposed development within the district is not proposed to exceed that for which STW are planning. There is therefore no need to evaluate the impacts of water supply in the district independently of the WRMP and its HRA<sup>88</sup>. Water supply issues are therefore not considered further within the HRA process. Water supply was not identified as a threat in Natural England's SIP at the Humber Estuary (for either the SAC or SPA) see **Appendix B**.
- 7.6.7 The Water Framework Directive (WFD) provides an indication of the health of the water environment and whether a water body is at good status or potential. This is determined through an assessment of a range of elements relating to the biology and chemical quality of surface waters and quantitative and chemical quality of groundwater. To achieve good ecological status or potential, good chemical status or good groundwater status every single element assessed must be at good status or better. If one element is below its threshold for good status, then the whole water body's status is classed below good. Surface water bodies can be classed as high, good, moderate, poor or bad status.
- 7.6.8 The WFD sets out areas which require special protection. These include areas designated for "the protection of habitats or species where the maintenance or improvement of the status of water is an important factor in their protection including relevant Natura 2000 sites designated under Directive 92/43/EEC (the Habitats Directive) and Directive 79/409/EEC (the Birds Directive)" Birds Directive)" Birds Directive)
- 7.6.9 A River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>86</sup> White Young Green. 2016. Newark and Sherwood Water Cycle Study.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>87</sup> Severn Trent (2019) Water Resources Management Plan 2019. Available at: <a href="https://www.severntrent.com/content/dam/stw-plc/our-plans/severn-trent-water-resource-management-plan.pdf">https://www.severntrent.com/content/dam/stw-plc/our-plans/severn-trent-water-resource-management-plan.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 31/07/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>88</sup> Ricardo (2019) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2019 Habitats Regulations Assessment. Available at: https://www.severntrent.com/content/dam/stw-plc/water-resource-zones/2019/WRMP19-HRA-Final-Report.pdf [Date Accessed: 3031/07/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>89</sup> Official Journal of the European Communities (2000) Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy. Available at: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:5c835afb-2ec6-4577-bdf8-756d3d694eeb.0004.02/DOC\_18format=PDF">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:5c835afb-2ec6-4577-bdf8-756d3d694eeb.0004.02/DOC\_18format=PDF</a> [Date Accessed: 31/07/21]

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- 7.6.10 The Humber RBMP<sup>90</sup> sets out a number of water management issues to rivers within this river basin as follows:
  - Physical modifications;
  - Pollution from wastewater;
  - Pollution from towns, cities and transport;
  - Changes to the natural flow and level of water;
  - Negative effects of invasive non-native species;
  - Pollution from rural areas; and
  - Pollution from abandoned mines.
- 7.6.11 An HRA was prepared alongside the development of the Humber RBMP<sup>91</sup>. This concluded the following with respect to impacts on European sites: "the updated RBMP ... proposed measures are not likely to have any significant effects on any European sites, alone or incombination with other plans or projects". It notes that HRA requirements will continue to apply to lower tier plan and project level assessments.
- 7.6.12 The Anglian River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)<sup>92</sup> provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning. It provides strategic level policy guidance in relation to baseline classification of water bodies, statutory objectives for protected areas and water bodies and a summary of measures to achieve statutory protection.
- 7.6.13 The Anglian RBMP outlines a number of measures to tackle water management issues and achieve a series of environmental objectives set out within the plan. Local measures are set out on a catchment basis. An HRA was undertaken alongside the preparation of the RBMP<sup>93</sup>. This HRA concluded that, at the strategic plan level, and given the range of potential mitigation options available, the RBMP is not likely to have any significant effects on any European sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. It notes the requirement for project level HRA where necessary for lower tier plans.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/496430/RBMP\_HRA\_Anglian\_FINAL\_Jan\_2016.pdf [Date Accessed: 25/09/20]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>90</sup> Environment Agency (2015) Humber River Basin Management Plan. Available at: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/718328/Humber\_RBD\_Part\_1\_river\_basin\_management\_plan.pdf">management\_plan.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 31/07/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>91</sup> Environment Agency (2015) Humber River basin management plan HRA. Available at:

<a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/496431/RBMP\_HRA\_Humber\_FINAL\_Jan\_2016.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/496431/RBMP\_HRA\_Humber\_FINAL\_Jan\_2016.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 31/07/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>92</sup> Environment Agency (2015) Anglian River Basin Management Plan. Available at: <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/718327/Anglian\_RBD\_Part\_1\_river\_basin\_management\_plan.pdf">management\_plan.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 25/09/20]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>93</sup> Environment Agency (2015). River basin management plan for the Anglian River Basin District Habitats Regulations Assessment Updated December 2015. Available at:

- 7.6.14 Development within the DPD has the potential to change water quality which may affect these downstream designations. All allocations proposed in the DPD are located within the Humber River Basin District Area (see **Figure 7.4**). No allocations are proposed in the Anglian River Basin District Area. As such, hydrology effects at the Humber Estuary SAC, Humber Estuary SPA and Humber Estuary Ramsar will be considered further in the HRA process. The Wash SPA, the Wash Ramsar and the Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC can be scoped out of the HRA process as there will be no pathway of impact from the DPD on water quality.
- 7.6.15 Natural England's Supplementary Advice for the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC notes that it is not sensitive to hydrological impacts. This is due to the site geology which is free draining sandstone allowing surface water to percolate quickly to the Sherwood aquifer some depths below. It also notes that surface water is not found on site and the water table is currently 15-20m below the surface. As such water quality will not be considered for either the SAC or ppSPA.

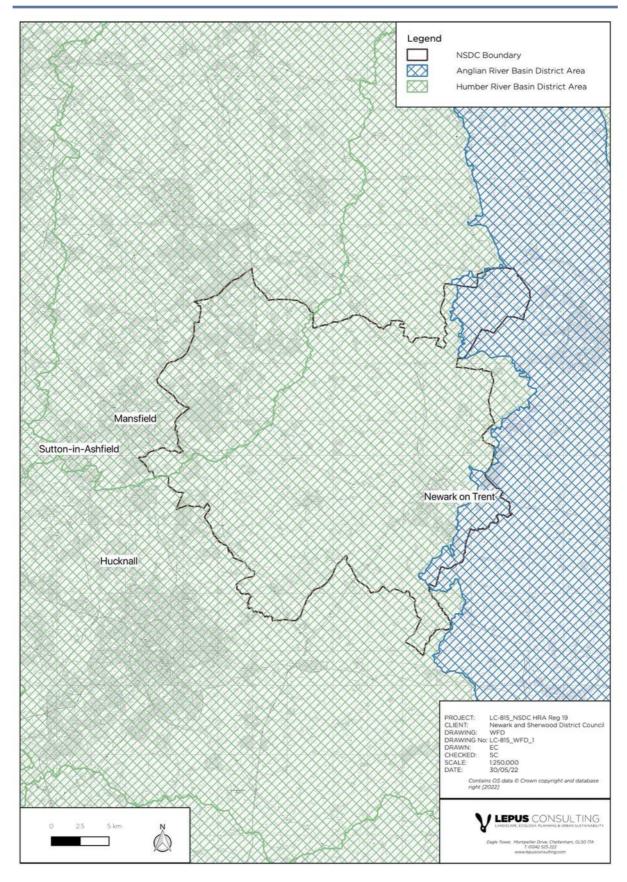


Figure 7.4: River Basin Areas

# 7.7 Summary of threats and pressures

7.7.1 **Table 7.3** provides a summary of the scoping outputs in terms of Habitats sites which will form the basis of the HRA screening assessment.

**Table 7.6:** Pressures and threats for Habitats sites that may potentially be affected by the DPD

	Threats and pressures			
Habitats sites	Air Pollution	Public access/ disturbance	Habitat fragmentation / loss	Water quality
Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Sherwood Forest ppSPA	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Humber Estuary SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable
Humber Estuary SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable
Humber Estuary Ramsar	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable
The Wash SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
The Wash Ramsar	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure

# 8 DPD Screening (HRA Stage 1)

# 8.1 Policy and allocations pre-screening

- 8.1.1 Each component of the Publication Amended Allocations & Development Management DPD have been appraised against the HRA pre-screening criteria (see **Table 4.1**), taking into consideration case law and best practice. **Appendix D** provides the output of this prescreening exercise.
- 8.1.2 It is concluded that LSEs, either from the DPD alone or in- combination with other plans or projects, could be screened out for a number of policy options. This is because they fell into the following categories (see **Table 4.1** for a description of each category):
  - Category B: Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals;
  - Category D: Environmental protection / site safeguarding; and
  - Category F: Policies or proposals that cannot lead to development or other change.
- 8.1.3 A number of components of the DPD were however considered likely to have an LSE on the basis of this assessment as they fell into the following categories:
  - Category I: Policies or proposals with a likely significant effect on a site alone;
     and
  - Category L: Policies or proposals which might be likely to have a significant effect in combination.
- 8.1.4 LSEs were identified at the following European sites:
  - Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC air pollution and public access and disturbance (recreation);
  - Humber Estuary SPA water quality;
  - Humber Estuary SAC water quality; and
  - Humber Estuary Ramsar water quality.
- 8.1.5 In addition, to ensure a risk-based approach to the HRA has been adopted, consideration has also been given to the following potential proposed SPA.
  - Sherwood Forest ppSPA air pollution, public access and disturbance (recreation and urbanisation impacts) and habitat loss / fragmentation.

### 8.2 Screening conclusion

As required under Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations, an assessment has been undertaken of LSEs of the Regulation 19 Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD upon Habitats sites. The pre-screening checks (Appendix D) indicate that the DPD has the potential to have LSEs on a number of Habitats sites, both alone, and for a number of policies / allocations, in-combination and upon the undesignated Sherwood Forest ppSPA. The DPD is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Habitats site. The screening assessment takes no account of mitigation measures that the DPD may incorporate to mitigate adverse impacts upon Habitats sites. It is therefore concluded that the DPD will be screened into the HRA process.

8.2.2 The next stage of the HRA process will be Stage 2 - Appropriate Assessment.

# 9 Appropriate Assessment – Birklands& Bilhaugh SAC

### 9.1 Introduction

9.1.1 The HRA screening process (**Appendix D**) indicated that a number of components of the DPD have the potential to result in LSEs at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC as a result of air pollution and public access and disturbance impacts (increased recreational pressure). All allocations have the potential to have a cumulative and in-combination air quality effect. Policies with potential for public access and disturbance impacts are summarised in **Table 9.1** below.

**Table 9.1:** Summary of components of the DPD with potential public access and disturbance LSEs at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC

biiliaugii SAC		
DPD Policy	Summary of Policy	Public Access and Disturbance Screening Conclusion
Entry-Level Exception Core Policy 2A	This policy supports entry-level sites.	This policy supports entry-level sites. As the location of these sites is unknown due to their nature, they have the potential to have potential LSEs upon the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.  Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance
Screened in Category L Air quality Policy OB/MU/1	Land at the rear of Petersmith Drive has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 225 dwellings, enhanced Strategic Sports Infrastructure and Open Space, the latter of which will be located in the south of the site.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance – recreational impacts
Ollerton & Boughton – Mixed Use Site 2 Policy OB/MU/2	The land between Kirk Drive, Stepnall Heights and Hallam Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 120 dwellings and enhanced Open Space.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance – recreational impacts
Edwinstowe - Housing Site 2 Policy ED/Ho/2	Land to the north of Mansfield Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 50 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance – recreational impacts
Bilsthorpe - Housing Site 2 Policy Bi/Ho/2	Land to the north of Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 136 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance – recreational impacts
Bilsthorpe - Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Bi/MU/1	Land to the east of Eakring Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development providing around 75 dwellings and retail development	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance – recreational impacts

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DPD Policy	Summary of Policy	Public Access and Disturbance Screening Conclusion
Rainworth - Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Ra/MU/1	Land at Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 6 dwellings and retail and town centre uses.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance - recreational impacts
Clipstone – Mixed Use Site 1 Policy CI/MU/1	Land at the former Clipstone Colliery has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development.  Assuming the retention of the headstocks and powerhouse, the site will accommodate around 120 dwellings, 12 hectares of employment provision, retail and enhanced Public Open Space.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance - recreational impacts
Additional Provision on Existing Sites Policy GRT2	This policy sets out the locations of existing Gypsy Roma Traveller sites at which additional provision will be provided for gypsy and travellers.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance - recreational impacts

# 9.2 Air quality

- 9.2.1 The following Appropriate Assessment focuses on assessing more precisely the ecological impacts of air pollution at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC in view of its qualifying features and conservation objectives taking into account air quality information. This assessment follows Natural England's current guidance and therefore assesses the likely effects to inform a conclusion as to whether an adverse effect on site integrity can be ruled out. The following assessment also draws on Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM's) guidance following a six-step methodology. It includes consideration of factors such as:
  - the action needed to achieve the conservation objectives for the SAC;
  - the expected future trend in pollutants of concern (and the scientific reasonableness of any trend);
  - the magnitude of any future 'in combination' dose and how it may change the trend; and
  - the physical extent of the affected area as a proportion of that interest feature within the European site<sup>94</sup>.
- 9.2.2 Nitrogen oxides (NOx) are produced during the combustion processes, partly from nitrogen compounds in fuel, but mostly by direct combination of atmospheric oxygen and nitrogen in flames<sup>95</sup>. Road transport emissions of NOx in 2018 were the largest contributor to UK total emissions of NOx with most emissions related to diesel vehicles<sup>96</sup>. The introduction of catalytic converters has seen an overall reduction in emissions since 1990. NOx has the potential to impact habitats through direct toxicity and through their contribution to nitrogen deposition.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>94</sup> CIEEM. January 2021. Paragraph 20. Advisory Note: Ecological Assessment of Air Quality Impacts

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>95</sup> Air Pollution Information Systems (2017) Pollutants, available at: <a href="http://www.apis.ac.uk/">http://www.apis.ac.uk/</a> [Date Accessed: 08/06/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>96</sup> National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory. Available at: <a href="https://naei.beis.gov.uk/overview/pollutants?pollutant\_id=6">https://naei.beis.gov.uk/overview/pollutants?pollutant\_id=6</a> [Date Accessed: 08/06/22]

- 9.2.3 Ammonia originates from both natural and anthropogenic sources, with the main manmade source being agriculture. Other man-made sources of ammonia include industrial processes and vehicular emissions (from catalyst-equipped petrol vehicles and selective catalytic reduction on light and heavy goods diesel fueled vehicles). As with NOx, elevated levels of ammonia can be directly toxic to plants and can also enrich a system with nitrogen causing eutrophication and acidification effects on habitats.
- 9.2.4 APIS describes nitrogen deposition as the input of reactive nitrogen from the atmosphere to the biosphere both as gases, dry deposition and in precipitation as wet deposition<sup>97</sup>. Anthropogenic sources of enhanced reactive nitrogen deposition come from emissions of oxidised nitrogen (NOx) and fossil fuel combustion and reduced nitrogen from agricultural sources.
- 9.2.5 Nitrogen is a major growth nutrient for plants. An increase in nitrogen can be toxic to plants and can lead to eutrophication which can cause species loss and changes in the structure and function of ecosystems. Nitrogen can also cause acidification of soils. Traffic related inputs of NOx and ammonia have an impact on the rates of nitrogen deposition. Nitrogen deposition rates are habitat specific as different habitats have different tolerances to different levels.
- 9.2.6 Natural England's supplementary advice notes that the qualifying features of the SAC are considered sensitive to changes in air quality, in particular nitrogen and acidity. Exceedance of critical values for air pollutants may modify the chemical status of its substrate, accelerating or damaging plant growth, altering its vegetation structure and composition and causing the loss of sensitive typical species associated with it. It sets out a target for air quality as to 'maintain or restore as necessary the concentrations and deposition of air pollutants to at or below the site-relevant Critical Load or Level values given for the H9190 feature of the site on the Air Pollution Information System'98.
- 9.2.7 Given the SAC is currently suffering the adverse impacts of nitrogen deposition (excessive bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* growth), it is considered that any increase in nitrogen deposition could exacerbate the issue further and thereby undermine the integrity of the SAC and its conservation objectives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>97</sup> APIS. Nitrogen Deposition. Available at: <a href="http://www.apis.ac.uk/">http://www.apis.ac.uk/</a> [Date Accessed: 08/06/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>98</sup> Natural England. European Site Conservation Objectives: Supplementary Advice on Conserving and Restoring Site Features. Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5179475394297856">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5179475394297856</a> [Date Accessed: 07/05/22]

#### Mitigation

- 9.2.8 It is anticipated that the following policies, which form the Amended Core Strategy DPD, Publication Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD and wider county level policy, will have a positive impact and contribute towards the mitigation of air quality impacts from traffic sources at the SAC. The Appropriate Assessment in respect of air quality therefore takes these into consideration.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Spatial Policy 7 Sustainable Transport. This
    policy notes that the Council will encourage and support development
    proposals which promote an improved and integrated transport network and
    an emphasis on non-car modes as a means of access to services and facilities.
    It also notes that development must contribute to the implementation of the
    Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan and provide high quality active travel
    alternatives.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Spatial Policy 9 Selecting Appropriate Sites for Allocation. This policy sets requirements for site selection which includes being accessible by public transport.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Core Policy 11 -Rural Accessibility. This policy requires that the Council will seek to secure improved public transport to villages.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Core Policy 12 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure. This notes that planning permission will not be granted for development proposals on, or affecting, Special Areas of Conservation or Special Protection Areas (European Sites) unless it is directly related to the management of the site for nature conservation and public access and does not significantly harm the integrity of the site. It also notes that the Council will work with partners to develop a strategic approach to managing Air Quality in the Sherwood Area, including through the development of a Supplementary Planning Document.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Area Polices. The area policies for NSDC set
    out a number of requirements for the Council and new development to
    integrate sustainable transport options into design, undertake Transport
    Assessments and work to implement new and improved public transport
    schemes/infrastructure, including cycling and walking which contribute to
    reducing traffic congestion and improving transport choices.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD ShAP1 Sherwood Area and Sherwood Forest.
     This policy notes that the council will work to ensure he continued delivery of the conservation aims and objectives of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and preventing development which would have an adverse impact on this area.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD ShAP4 Land at Thoresby Colliery. This policy specifically notes that development will be required to develop proposals to monitor air quality in and around the site and a framework for addressing any future issues which may be identified through such monitoring.
  - Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy DM10 Pollution and Hazardous Materials. There is a requirement for new development which has the potential to lead to increased deposition of nitrogen, as part of any planning application, to consider the potential for

effects on Habitats sites and the scope for avoiding or mitigating these. It also requires new development proposals to identify opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts, such as through traffic and travel management, green infrastructure provision and enhancement and consider the Air Quality Strategy for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire 2020-2030.

- Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy DM5b –
   Design. This policy requires new development to be compliant with Core Policy
   12 (above) in terms of ecological protection.
- Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy DM7 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure. This policy requires new development to be compliant with Core Strategy Policy 12 (listed above).
- Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan. The current Local Transport Plan (the third Local Transport Plan) covers the whole of the county and will run from 1 April 2011 to 31 March 2026<sup>99</sup>. Chapter 5 looks at encouraging healthy and sustainable travel options. It has a focus on public transport provision, promoting and facilitative active and healthy travel linked to the Green Infrastructure network. Chapter 7 looks at improving the environment through improvements in transport related air quality.

# Air Quality Appropriate Assessment

- 9.2.9 The qualifying feature of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC is old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains; Dry oak-dominated woodland. The RIA for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC<sup>100</sup> which was commissioned as part of the Bassetlaw Local Plan Review (see Section 7.4) included a site walkover during which habitats were classified using UK Habs<sup>101</sup> categories (modified to differentiate different broad- leaved woodland types on site). A review of this habitat mapping data indicates that habitats within 200m of the B6034 comprise Broadleaved woodland (predominantly ancient oak woodland with a smaller area of birch high forest woodland in the northern corner of the SAC). There is also a small area of acid grassland. This indicates that the qualifying habitat of the SAC is located within 200m of the B6034.
- 9.2.10 The Supplementary Advice from Natural England for Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC provides a target to "maintain or restore as necessary the concentrations and deposition of air pollutants to at or below the site-relevant Critical Load or Level values given for the H9190 feature of the site on the Air Pollution Information System" 102. It goes on to note that the SAC is considered sensitive to changes in air quality, in particular nitrogen and acidity.
- 9.2.11 APIS<sup>103</sup> indicates that the qualifying feature of the SAC is sensitive to changes in air quality. Critical loads for nitrogen and acidity are provided in **Table 7.1** and as can be seen both nitrogen and acidity are currently exceeding these thresholds.

<sup>99</sup> https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/public-transport/plans-strategies-policies/local-transport-plan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>100</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council

<sup>101</sup> https://ukhab.org/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>102</sup> Natural England (2016) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6318128569516032 [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>103</sup> Air Pollution Information System. <a href="http://www.apis.ac.uk/srcl">http://www.apis.ac.uk/srcl</a>

9.2.12 APIS source attribution data for the SAC<sup>104</sup> indicates that the SAC sits in an agricultural 'hotspot', with the majority of nitrogen deposition from local contributions coming from livestock (39.2%) and fertilisers (11.9%). Road transport makes up a smaller contribution to the critical load exceedance (9.81%). It is clear from this data that steps to avoid critical load exceedance and restore the site to 'at or below' critical loads, will require action to reduce emissions from existing agricultural sources as a priority. CIEEM's guidance notes that where 'road transport makes only a small contribution to the critical load exceedance, investment to encourage cleaner car technology may be sufficient to regard a new proposal which leads to a small increase in traffic on local roads as acceptable'.

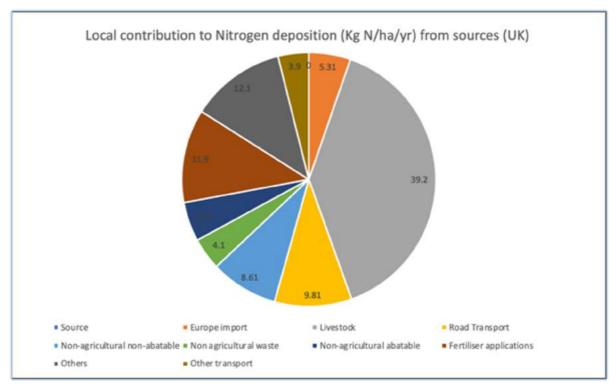


Figure 9.1: Local contributions to source attribution data obtained from APIS for the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC<sup>105</sup>

- 9.2.13 As part of the work undertaken to support the Amended Core Strategy HRA (**Table 3.1**), Redmore Environmental Ltd (Redmore) were instructed to undertake an Air Quality Assessment (ref: 1459r2) on the Thoresby Colliery proposal<sup>106</sup>. Natural England, the Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and the RSPB commented on this assessment and noted their concerns on the assessment's methodology and inputs.
- 9.2.14 Redmore addressed the issues raised by the RSPB, Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust and Natural England (ref: 1459r1) in their report dated 12 May 2017<sup>107</sup>. The report assessed the potential increases in annual NOx concentrations and nitrogen deposition within the SAC as a result of additional road traffic exhaust emissions associated the Thoresby Colliery allocation which is located within close proximity to the SAC and the B6034. The report concluded that:

<sup>104</sup> http://www.apis.ac.uk/ [Date Accessed: 08/06/22]

<sup>105</sup> http://www.apis.ac.uk/ [Date Accessed: 08/06/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>106</sup> Redmore environmental (2017) Air Quality Assessment, Formery Thoresby Colliery, Edwinstowe, 17th February 2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>107</sup> Redmore environmental (2017) Air Quality Technical Note (Ecological Impacts) Former Thoresby Colliery, Edwinstowe, 12th May 2017

- "Impacts on annual mean NOx concentrations were classified as not significant
  at the worst-case receptor locations in accordance with the stated methodology.
  This was because the predicted change in annual mean NOx concentration was
  less than 1% of the critical level at all locations;
- Impacts on nitrogen deposition were classified as not significant at the worstcase receptor locations in accordance with the stated methodology. This was because the predicted increase in nitrogen deposition was less than 1% of the critical load at all locations; and
- Although not specifically required due to impacts at the Birklands and Bilhaugh SSSI and SAC, the proposals included mitigation to prevent, and where not possible, minimise, the quantity of vehicle exhaust emissions. This reduction has not been considered within the modelling assessment and therefore the presented impacts are worst-case."
- 9.2.15 Furthermore, Redmore was commissioned to undertake an In-Combination Assessment<sup>108</sup> of potential cumulative impacts of the proposed Thoresby Colliery allocation and other local sources of pollution (ref: 1459–2r1). These sources included the Center Parcs Combined Heat and Power Unit, Bilsthorpe Energy Centre, Brickyards Farm, Longbelt Farm and Stud Farm Anaerobic Digestion Plant. The assessment concluded that:
- 9.2.16 "The predicted contribution from all considered sources to oxides of nitrogen concentrations and nitrogen deposition was below the relevant criteria at all ecological receptor locations in the vicinity of the site for all modelling years. As such, resultant impacts were classified as not significant in accordance with the stated criteria."
- 9.2.17 In response to the air quality assessments conducted by Redmore, Natural England stated that an LSE on Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC due to air pollution, caused by the proposed development at Thoresby Colliery, can be ruled out. Natural England confirmed that:
- 9.2.18 "The projected amount of nitrogen deposition from the proposed new development when considered alone and in combination with other proposals will be below the relevant threshold for significant effects for the Birkland and Bilhaugh SAC."
- 9.2.19 The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust were also consulted on the ShAP4 development proposals and the Air Quality Technical Note. They advised in their letter to NSDC, dated 24 May 2017, that their concerns relating to air quality have been sufficiently allayed and they are able to remove their holding objection to the planning application. However, NWT requested that the development be subject to long term atmospheric nitrogen deposition monitoring, at Sherwood Forest ppSPA and Birkland & Bilhaugh SAC.
- 9.2.20 Based on the conclusions of the Redmore Air Quality Assessments, and in accordance with advice from Natural England, it was considered that there would be no adverse impact on site integrity of the Birkland & Bilhaugh SAC caused by a change in air quality as a result of the Amended Core Strategy.

<sup>108</sup> Redmore environmental (2017) In-Combination Assessment, Former Thoresby Colliery, Edwinstowe, 7th June 2017

- 9.2.21 As set out in Chapter 2, the Amended DPD represents an update to the Adopted Allocations & Development Management DPD (July 2013)<sup>109</sup>. It provides for Gypsy and Traveller pitch provision (including a new policy and associated allocations), includes an update of Amended Core Strategy and Adopted Allocations & Development Management policy content to reflect national policy updates and provides a refresh of employment and housing allocations to reflect where sites have been constructed or de-allocated. There have been no new housing or employment allocations included to the amended DPD since adoption of the Adopted Allocations & Development Management DPD, but instead a reduction in allocations to reflect completions and deallocations. The locally identified gypsy and traveller pitch requirement for planning definition traveller households equates to 118 pitches between 2013 and 2033. Given the scale and variable occupation of pitches, it is considered that the additional traffic related air pollution will be limited. As such it can be concluded that the air quality work undertaken by Redmore represents a worst-case air quality assessment and therefore the conclusions from this can be applied to this assessment.
- 9.2.22 In addition, as noted at **Section 9.3**, policies set out in the NSDC Amended Core Strategy and Amended DPD incorporate measures for sustainable transport and a requirement to encourage modal shift. This will have a positive impact upon air quality by discouraging the private care and encouraging electric cars. There are also a number of national initiatives to reduce vehicle related emissions, such as the Government's commitment to end the sale of new vehicles that are powered by a combustion engine by 2030.
- 9.2.23 The following factors have been taken into consideration in this section of the Appropriate Assessment:
  - NSDC Amended Core Strategy and Amended DPD policy wording to encourage a modal shift and encourage update of electric vehicles.
  - National policy initiatives to encourage a modal shift and encourage update of electric vehicles.
  - Outputs of the 2010 Traffic Study (**Table 7.4**) which indicates that traffic flows will not exceed Natural England's 1,000 AADT screening thresholds for LSEs.
  - Scale and nature of gypsy and traveller pitch provision set out in the Amended DPD.
  - Conclusions of the Redmore air quality modelling which indicates no adverse air quality effect either alone or in-combination.
- 9.2.24 Taking these into consideration it can be concluded that there will be no adverse impacts on site integrity at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC due to a change in air quality as a result of the Amended DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>109</sup> Newark and Sherwood. Local Development Framework. Allocations and Development Management. Development Plan Document. Adopted July 2013. Available at: <a href="https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/nsdc-redesign/documents-and-images/your-council/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-information/allocations-and-development-management-dpd/Allocations-and-Development-Management-Development-Plan-Document.pdf">https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/nsdc-redesign/documents-and-images/your-council/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-information/allocations-and-development-management-dpd/Allocations-and-Development-Management-Development-Plan-Document.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 25/05/22]

# 9.3 Recreational pressure

- 9.3.1 The SIP for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC indicates that its qualifying feature (dry oak dominated woodland) is sensitive to public access and disturbance effects due to its attraction to visitors (presence of the Major Oak and the cultural importance of Robinhood) and use as a public park. The SIP notes that recreational pressure can cause "localised soil compaction, nutrient enrichment, direct loss of trees (vandalism, health and safety), introduction of non-native species (including new diseases) as well as an altered ecological succession. Such impacts can affect the health of soils, tree roots and the associations with mycorrhizal fungi which in turn can have impacts on the health of the veteran and ancient trees as well as emerging cohorts". It is noted that the visitor centre was relocated outside the Sherwood Forest NNR to a less sensitive location to reduce recreational impacts upon the woodland.
- 9.3.2 Natural England's Supplementary Advice notes that the SAC is sensitive to high levels of recreational pressure. It states that "The condition of the soil surrounding such [ancient] trees will affect their roots, associated mycorrhizal fungi and growth. Plants have difficulty in compacted soil because the mineral grains are pressed together, leaving little space for air and water which are essential for root growth. Unless carefully managed, activities such as construction, forestry management and trampling by grazing livestock and human feet during recreational activity may all contribute to excessive soil compaction around ancient trees. Parts of this SAC are undergoing recovery from historic high levels of recreational trampling". <sup>111</sup>
- 9.3.3 As noted in **Section 6.2**, as part of the Bassetlaw Local Plan Review an RIA was undertaken for Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest NNR<sup>112</sup>. The SAC comprises two components which include an important area of ancient oak woodland. The western component forms the southern half of the Sherwood Forest NNR and is accessible to the public, whilst the north eastern component is privately owned and administered Thoresby Estate and provides no public access. This assessment therefore focuses on recreational impacts at the western component of the SAC. The majority of the Sherwood Forest NNR, and all of the SAC, are also designated as part of the larger Birklands & Bilhaugh SSSI. The Budby South Forest RSPB reserve sits within the northern part of the NNR, to the north of the SAC and was therefore included in the RIA.
- 9.3.4 Habitats recorded as part of the RIA within the SAC itself included a mix of broadleaved woodland (ancient oak woodland), broadleaved woodland (birch high forest) and acid grassland. Recreational impacts observed on these habitats included loss of ground flora and soil compacts, damage to exposed roots (including those of veteran trees), abrasion to tree limbs and removal of deadwood for den building and eutrophication along path edges.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>110</sup> Natural England (2015) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC SIP. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5351066822508544">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5351066822508544</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

Natural England (2018) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6070092765069312">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6070092765069312</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>112</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

- 9.3.5 The SAC coincides with a number of units of the underpinning Birklands and Bilhaugh SSSI including units 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 12 (Appendix C). All units are classed as being unfavourable recovering, with the exception of unit 9 which is classed as bring unfavourable no change. The unfavourable condition for these units is not directly attributable to recreational impacts for most units, but impacts such as compaction and eutrophication are likely to affect the ability of long term site management to improve habitat condition and ultimately the achievement of the sites conservation objectives (Appendix B). Unfavourable conditions at unit 12 is attributable to recreational pressure with the condition assessment noting that areas of the woodland and heathland have been replaced with areas of hardstanding, buildings and surfaced walkways (Appendix C).
- 9.3.6 The visitor survey undertaken as part of the RIA highlighted the types of visits and activities undertaken on site and visitor behaviour<sup>113</sup>. The most frequently recorded activities were shown to be walking, dog walking and bird/wildlife watching. Dog walkers were the group who visited the most frequently. Over three quarters of visitors arrived by car with the remainder travelling to the site by foot. Proximity to home was the most commonly given reason for site choice. Other reasons given for visiting were the Major Oak, local knowledge of the site, the environment for dogs, and wildlife interest.
- 9.3.7 As set out in **Section 7.4**, analysis of postcode data using only the two most frequent activity types (walkers and dog walkers), and those who visit at least once a month provided a suggested recreational ZOI of 8.9km (see **Figure 7.2**).
- 9.3.8 A number of polices have been screened in for further consideration in the Appropriate Assessment as they allocate residential development within this suggested provisional ZOI (as listed below and shown in **Figure 9.2**).
  - Policy OB/MU/1 Land at the rear of Petersmith Drive. 225 units.
  - Policy OB/MU/2 Land between Kirk Drive, Stepnall Heights and Hallam Road.
     120 units.
  - Policy Bi/Ho/2 Land to the north of Mansfield Road. 50 units.
  - Policy ED/Ho/2 Land to the north of Kirklington Road. 136 units.
  - Policy Bi/MU/1 Land to the east of Eakring Road. 75 units.
  - Policy Ra/MU/1 Land at Kirklington Road. 6 units.
  - Policy CI/MU/1 Land at the former Clipstone Colliery. 120 units.
  - GRT/1. Pitch Requirements.
  - Policy GRT2. Additional Provision on Existing Sites. Site GTR/5 can accommodate 11 pitches. Site GTR/4 can accommodate 3 pitches. Site GTR/1 can accommodate 13 pitches. Site GTR/2 can accommodate 3 pitches.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>113</sup> It is noted that the visitor survey undertaken for the RIA covered the Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve (which comprises a large proportion of Budby South Forest RSPB Reserve) in addition to the SAC.

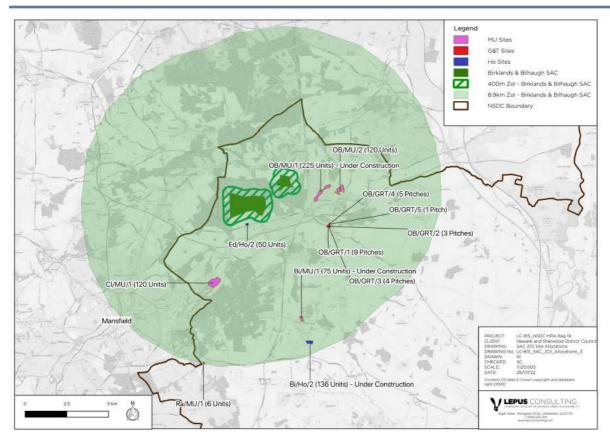


Figure 9.2: DPD allocations within proposed suggested Birklands & Bilhaugh ZOI which would result in additional dwellings.

- 9.3.9 Whilst individually these allocations may not have an adverse impact upon the SAC due to increased recreational pressure, when taken together cumulatively, and in-combination with growth in neighbouring LPA areas (Bassetlaw, Mansfield and Bolsover District Council areas), given their locations within the ZOI, there may be an adverse impact.
- 9.3.10 As noted in **Section 7.4** and **Appendix A**, due to the withdrawal of the garden village, the Bassetlaw Local Plan allocates 3,377 new homes. As well as redeveloping brownfield sites and identifying small scale greenfield sites within the development boundaries, two large urban extensions are identified; on the northern edge of Worksop at Peaks Hill Farm for 1,080 dwellings; and, at Ordsall South in Retford for 890 dwellings. These areas are outside the ZOI. Mansfield District Council's plan was adopted in 2020<sup>114</sup> and allocates at least 6500 new homes between 2013 to 2033 (distributed as: Mansfield urban area 90%, 5850 units and Warsop Parish 10%, 650 units). Warsop and the northeastern area of Mansfield falls within the suggested ZOI. The Bolsover Local Plan was adopted in 2020<sup>115</sup> and aims to deliver 5,168 dwellings over the plan period. However, only the far eastern area of Bolsover District falls within the suggested SAC ZOI. A review of policies maps indicates that there are a limited number of allocations within the ZOI buffer area, with only one allocation for 54 units in Shirebrook.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>114</sup> Mansfield District Council (2020) Mansfield District Local Plan Adopted Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/1645/mdc-adopted-local-plan-2020">https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/1645/mdc-adopted-local-plan-2020</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>115</sup> Bolsover District Council (2020) Bolsover District Local Plan Adopted Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.bolsover.gov.uk/p/207-planning-policy/pla

### Mitigation

- 9.3.11 A strategic recreational approach to mitigation has not been developed for the SAC. Commonly applied approaches across the UK comprise a mixture of SAMM at the Habitats site in question and also provision of alternative SANG away from the effected Habitats site (as set out in **Section 7.4**).
- 9.3.12 It is anticipated that the following policies, which form the Amended Core Strategy DPD, Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD and wider county level policy, will have a positive impact and contribute towards the mitigation of recreational impacts from population growth at the SAC. The Appropriate Assessment in respect of recreational impacts therefore takes these into consideration.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Area Objectives Sherwood Area. This policy
    notes that the Council will promote and manage increased tourism in a way
    that safeguards the sensitive environmental and ecological areas and allows
    enjoyment of the District's celebrated historic built and natural environments.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Spatial Policy 8 Protecting and Promoting Leisure and Community Facilities. This policy indicates that provision of new and enhanced community and leisure facilities will be encouraged, particularly where they address a deficiency in current provision, and where they meet the identified needs of communities, both within the District and beyond.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Spatial Policy 9 Selecting Appropriate Sites for Allocation. This policy indicates that new development will not impact on sites that are designated nationally or locally for their biodiversity and give preference to sites of lesser environmental value, avoid impact on biodiversity and provide net gains in biodiversity wherever possible.
  - Amended Core Strategy DPD Core Policy 12 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure. This notes that planning permission will not be granted for development proposals on, or affecting, Special Areas of Conservation or Special Protection Areas (European Sites) unless it is directly related to the management of the site for nature conservation and public access and does not significantly harm the integrity of the site. It notes that the Council will:
    - Provide for SANG to reduce visitor pressure on the District's ecological, biological and geological assets, particularly in the Newark area and for 5kms around the Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation. It notes that the Council will support the development of a Green Infrastructure Network, as illustrated in the Green Infrastructure Diagram (copied below for ease of reference Figure 9.3), linking together Key Strategic Routes throughout the District and providing for, in appropriate locations, visitor infrastructure that improves accessibility. The District Council will, in particular, promote improved green infrastructure linkages between:
      - Newark and Southwell; and
      - Southwell and the north-west of the District
    - Development proposals crossing or adjacent to the network should make provision for its implementation and/or enhancement;
    - Positively view proposals that seek to enhance the District's Green Infrastructure resource in support of tourism development. Proposals

- in the Bilsthorpe, Edwinstowe and Ollerton & Boughton areas, in connection with the Sherwood Forest Regional Park, will be supported. In Newark, new Green Infrastructure schemes that maximise the potential of the Trent Riverside area will be supported.
- Support the implementation of area-based Strategic Green Infrastructure interventions.
- Amended Core Strategy DPD ShAP1 Sherwood Area and Sherwood Forest. This policy notes that the council will work to ensure he continued delivery of the conservation aims and objectives of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and preventing development which would have an adverse impact on this area. In relation to tourism this policy notes that recreation and tourism facilities within Sherwood Forest will be improved. Proposals for such development will be required to comply with Core Policy 7 Tourism, Core Policy 12 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure, Policy DM7 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure, Policy DM8 Development in the Open Countryside and:
  - Clearly demonstrate that that there will be no harm to the Special Area of Conservation;
  - Implement mitigation measures to reduce the impact on the natural environment;
  - Promote access by a range of transport modes including public transport and, where appropriate, ensure integration between car parking and cycling facilities.
- Amended Core Strategy DPD ShAP4 Land at Thoresby Colliery. This policy specifically notes that development will be required to provide SANG within the core development area as part of the provision of green infrastructure.
- Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy DM5b Design. This
  policy requires new development to be compliant with Core Policy 12 (above)
  in terms of ecological protection.
  - Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy DM7 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure. This policy requires new development to be compliant with Core Policy 12 (listed above). It states, "Planning permission will not be granted for development proposals on, or affecting European sites including, Special Areas of Conservation or Special Protection Areas unless it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site and does not significantly harm the integrity of the site". It goes on to note that, "Public open space provided in connection within new development (including allocations) in settlements within a 8.9km radius of Birklands & Billhaugh Special Area of Conservation, (provided in accordance with the Planning Obligations & Developer Contributions SPD) shall be designed to reflect the need to provide SANGS in perpetuity to relieve pressure on the SAC. Where SANGS are proposed, their quantity and quality shall be developed and agreed in conjunction with the District Council and Natural England. In circumstances where site characteristics mean on site SANGS is not possible, bespoke off-site solutions will be considered provided they satisfy the District Council and Natural England that they are contributing to relieving recreational pressure on the SAC".

- Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy ED/Ho/2 Edwinstowe Housing Site 2. This policy notes that development will be subject to the provision of public open space within the site or at alternative locations within the village, which should be provided in accordance with Policy DM3, Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, and which shall be designed to reflect the need to provide SANGS to relieve pressure on the Birklands & Billhaugh SAC.
- Allocations and Development Management DPD Policy CL/MU/1 Clipstone
   Mixed Use Site 1. This policy requires development to provide Green Infrastructure through the partial restoration of the site and connections to the Sherwood Forest Pines Park, Vicar Water Country Park and Sustrans Route 6 through the design and layout of any planning application.
- NSDC Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)<sup>116</sup> reflects policy DM7. It indicates that, as set out in Core Policy CP12, public open space provided in connection with allocations in settlements within a 8.9km radius of Birklands & Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation, shall be designed to reflect the need to provide SANGS in perpetuity to relieve pressure on the SAC. Where SANGS are proposed, their quantity and quality shall be developed and agreed in conjunction with the District Council and Natural England. The SPD provides guidance on the delivery of SANG, indicating that it can be provided as part of new development or through the improvement and management of existing sites, must be managed in perpetuity and Accessible Natural Greenspace (ANGSt) compliant.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>116</sup> NSDC. 2013. Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document. Adopted December 2013. Available at: <a href="https://www.newark-sherwooddc.gov.uk/media/nsdc-redesign/documents-and-images/your-council/planning-policy/supplementary-planning-information/supplementary-planning-documents/developer-contributions-and-planning-obligations/Adopted-Developer-Contributions-&-Planning-Obligations-SPD-December-2013.pdf [Date Accessed: 15/06/22]

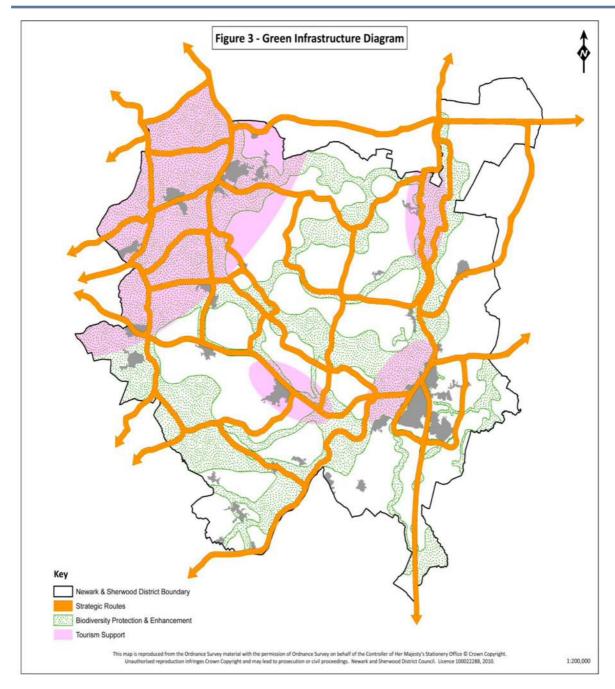


Figure 9.3: NSDC Amended Core Strategy DPD - Green Infrastructure Design (extract from DPD)

# **Recreational Pressure Appropriate Assessment**

9.3.13 A review of Natural England SSSI IRZ data has been undertaken of all allocations which are located within the SAC suggested ZOI (see outputs in **Table 9.2**). This data identifies the circumstances under which Natural England must be consulted upon a development application and provides an indication as to the sensitivity of each site. **Figure 9.2** illustrates the location of each of these allocations with the ZOI for the SAC.

Table 9.2: Review of SSSI IRZ data for housing allocations within suggested 8.9km SAC recreational ZOI

DPD Policy and No. Residential Units	SSSI IRZ Data in relation to residential development
Policy OB/MU/1 225 Units	Approx. 1.4km from the SAC
	Residential development of 50 units or more.

DPD Policy and No. Residential Units	SSSI IRZ Data in relation to residential development
Under construction	
Policy OB/MU/2 120 Units	Approx. 2.4km from the SAC Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy ED/Ho/2 50 Units	Approx. 640m from the SAC Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy Bi/Ho/2 136 Units Under construction	Approx. 8km from the SAC. Null
Policy Bi/MU/1 75 Units Under construction	Approx. 6.5km from the SAC. Null
Policy Ra/MU/1 6 Units	Approx. 8.7km from the SAC Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy CI/MU/1 120 Units	Approx. 3.6km from the SAC.  Residential development of 50 units or more.
Additional Provision for Gypsy and Traveller pitches Site OB/GTR/1 can accommodate 9 pitches. Site OB/GTR/2 can accommodate 3 pitches. Site OB/GTR/3 can accommodate 4 pitches. Site OB/GTR/4 can accommodate 5 pitches. Site OB/GTR/5 can accommodate 1 pitch.	Approx. 3km from the SAC.  Residential development of 50 units or more.

- 9.3.14 Consultation with Natural England has indicated that where the analysis of SSSI IRZ data indicates more than 50 dwellings are allocated in a sensitive area (allocations shaded in red in **Table 9.2**), it may be necessary to strengthen recreational mitigation policy wording for specific allocations. It is noted that SSSI IRZ data applies to all SSSIs and not simply those which underpin the SAC. As show in **Table 9.2** not all allocations trigger an IRZ threshold.
- 9.3.15 Three of the above allocations are already under construction. Therefore, a total of 296 dwellings are allocated over the plan period and 22 gypsy and traveller pitches within this ZOI.
- 9.3.16 Policy DM7 will ensure SANG is provided for new development (resulting in a net increase in dwellings) which is located within 8.9km of the SAC (in accordance with the Planning Obligations & Developer Contributions SPD). This shall be designed to reflect the need to provide SANGS in perpetuity to relieve pressure on the SAC. Where SANGS are proposed, their quantity and quality shall be developed and agreed in conjunction with the District Council and Natural England. In circumstances where site characteristics mean on site SANGS is not possible, bespoke off-site solutions will be considered provided they satisfy the District Council and Natural England that they are contributing to relieving recreational pressure on the SAC.

- 9.3.17 Provision of SANG should be linked to the Green Infrastructure provision across the plan area (**Figure 9.3**). Green spaces may be provided through a number of mechanisms such as enhanced or new GI, links with a network of GI, or for instance combining it with active travel routes (such as a cycle way). The aim of new green space must however be to increase recreational capacity away from the SAC and be in place prior to development coming forward in order for it to be effective. Management arrangements must also be in place (as set out in the SPD) in perpetuity for it to continue to deliver benefits over the lifetime of development.
- 9.3.18 There are no allocations within 400m of the SAC (see **Figure 9.2**) and therefore it can be concluded that there will be no urbanisation impacts associated with the DPD.
- 9.3.19 Taking into consideration policy wording set out in the DPD, there will be no adverse public access and disturbance impacts from development, either alone or in-combination, on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.

# 10 Appropriate Assessment – Humber Estuary

#### 10.1 Introduction

10.1.1 The HRA screening process (**Appendix D**) indicated that allocations proposed in the DPD are located within the Humber River Basin District Area and therefore have the potential to have water quality effects at the downstream Humber Estuary SAC, Humber Estuary SPA and Humber Estuary Ramsar designations.

# 10.2 Mitigation

- 10.2.1 The Environment Agency as the environmental regulator, among other roles, has responsibility for water quality and resources in England. It manages discharges to the water environment through issue of Environmental Permits (EPs). These control the release of sewage discharges from Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW). Issue of these EPs considers flow conditions and provides consent for maximum pollutant concentrations for each discharge. The objective of this system is to ensure that the receiving watercourse is not prevented from meeting its environmental objectives, with specific regard to the physico-chemical Status element of the WFD classification.
- 10.2.2 Area policies in the Amended Core Strategy DPD require new development, where appropriate, to incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS). SuDS are a natural approach to managing drainage in and around development. They work by slowing and holding back the water that runs off from a site, allowing natural processes to break down pollutants and the quality of run-off to be improved. Core Policy 9 requires new development through its design, to pro-actively manage surface water including, where feasible, the use of SuDS. Core Policy 10 Climate Change notes that new proposals should be efficient in the consumption of water which would decrease the volume of water for treatment at WwTWs.
- 10.2.3 Policy DM5b - Design - of the Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD sets out the requirement for new development to incorporate SuDS into design. This will improve the quality of run-off discharges from sites. Policy DM5d - Design - sets out water efficiency standards for new development to meet the optional higher standard of 110l/person/day. This will reduce the volume of water which needs to go for treatment at WwTWs. Policy DM10 - Pollution and Hazardous Materials - requires all new development to consider potential impacts upon the water environment noting that 'proposals for potential point source polluters and other activities that have potential to lead to increased deposition of nitrogen should, as part of any planning application, consider the potential for effects on European sites and the scope for avoiding or mitigating these'. A number of allocation specific policy wording requires new development to 'consider the positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime'. These policies also require 'developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development'.

10.2.4 Policy DM2 – Development on Allocated Sites and Policy DM3 – Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations - note that new development, as required, must make appropriate contributions to infrastructure provision in accordance with the Developer Contributions\_& Planning Obligations SPD.

# 10.3 Water Quality Appropriate Assessment

- 10.3.1 Natural England's SIP for the Humber Estuary identifies water pollution as a threat. This predominantly relates to an annual Dissolved Oxygen (DO) sag in the tidal River Ouse with potential implications for the migration of sea lamprey. It also relates to pollutants leaching from Capper Pass, a former aluminium smelting plant and that several of the Barton and Barrow clay pits on the south bank of the estuary fail the total Phosphorus (P) target and need lake management plans and nutrient budgets<sup>117</sup>. It is important that development set out in the DPD does not add to these impacts in order for the Humber Estuary SAC, Humber Estuary SPA and Humber Estuary Ramsar site's conservation objectives to be achieved.
- 10.3.2 Discharges of pollution can come from point and diffuse sources associated with new development. Increased domestic and / or employment discharge can lead to increased discharges at WwTWs (point source pollution). Diffuse sources of pollution can include contaminated runoff from new roads, drainage from residential areas and accidental spillages (for instance during construction of development or from commercial and employment sites).
- 10.3.3 Discharges from employment and commercial premises and WwTWs will require an EP to be issued from the Environment Agency. EPs control these sources of pollution. However, runoff from roads, roofs and areas of hard standing may not require an EP. These sources of runoff can be managed through implementation of SuDS as required through Amended Core Strategy DPD and Amended Allocations and Development Management Plan DPD policy outlined in Section 10.2.
- 10.3.4 Taking the regulatory framework and policy requirements into consideration it can be concluded that there will be no adverse impacts on site integrity at the Humber Estuary SPA, Humber Estuary SAC and Humber Estuary Ramsar due to a change in water quality as a result of the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>117</sup> Natural England. 2015. Humber Estuary SIP. [Date Accessed: 20/06/22]. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5427891407945728

# 11 Appropriate Assessment – Sherwood Forest ppSPA

#### 11.1 Introduction

11.1.1 Whilst the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is not a designated Habitats site, in line with Natural England's guidance (see **Chapter 6**), an Appropriate Assessment of LSEs has been undertaken to ensure a risk-based approach has been taken. The HRA screening process (**Appendix D**) indicated that a number of components of the DPD have the potential to result in LSEs at the Sherwood Forest ppSPA. All allocations have the potential for cumulative and in-combination air quality impacts. Policies with the potential for public access and disturbance (increased recreational pressure and urbanisation impacts) and impacts upon functionally linked land are set out in **Table 11.1**.

**Table 11.1:** Summary of components of the DPD with potential public access and disturbance and functionally linked land LSEs at Sherwood Forest ppSPA

DPD Policy	Summary of Policy	Screening Conclusion (excluding air quality)
Entry-Level Exception Core Policy 2A	This policy supports entry-level sites.	This policy supports entry-level sites. As the location of these sites is unknown due to their nature, they have the potential to have potential LSEs upon the Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance - Functionally linked land
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 2 Policy NUA/Ho/2	Land south of Quibells Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 25 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Collingham - Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Co/MU/1	Land in between Swinderby Road and Station Road, to the west of the railway line has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development providing around 80 dwellings, allotments, up to 0.75ha of employment uses in the north eastern part of the site, public open space and the potential for a station car park.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Sutton on Trent - Mixed Use Site 1 Policy ST/MU/1	Land to the east of Hemplands Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 37 dwellings, retail and additional car parking for the adjacent doctor's surgery.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Southwell - Housing Site 2 Policy So/Ho/2	Land south of Halloughton Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 45 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)

DPD Policy	Summary of Policy	Screening Conclusion (excluding air quality)
Southwell - Housing Site 4 Policy So/Ho/4	Land East of Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 45 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Southwell - Housing Site 5 Policy So/Ho/5	Land off Lower Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 60 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Southwell - Housing Site 7 Policy So/Ho/7	Southwell Depot has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 18 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Ollerton & Boughton – Mixed Use Site 1 Policy OB/MU/1	Land at the rear of Petersmith Drive has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 225 dwellings, enhanced Strategic Sports Infrastructure and Open Space, the latter of which will be located in the south of the site.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Ollerton & Boughton - Mixed Use Site 2 Policy OB/MU/2	The land between Kirk Drive, Stepnall Heights and Hallam Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 120 dwellings and enhanced Open Space.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Ollerton & Boughton - Employment Site 3 Policy OB/E/3	Land to the south of Boughton Industrial Estate has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (urbanisation impacts)  - Functionally linked land
Ollerton & Boughton - Retail Allocation 1 Policy OB/Re/1	Land at Rufford Avenue has been allocated on the Policies Map for the development of retail and town centre uses.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (urbanisation impacts)
Edwinstowe - Housing Site 2 Policy ED/Ho/2	Land to the north of Mansfield Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 50 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Bilsthorpe - Housing Site 2 Policy Bi/Ho/2	Land to the north of Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 136 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Bilsthorpe - Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Bi/MU/1	Land to the east of Eakring Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development providing around 75 dwellings and retail development	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Rainworth - Housing Site 2 Policy Ra/Ho/2	Land to the East of Warsop Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 190 dwellings.	Screened in Category L

DPD Policy	Summary of Policy	Screening Conclusion (excluding air quality)
		<ul> <li>Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)</li> </ul>
Rainworth - Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Ra/MU/1	Land at Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 6 dwellings and retail and town centre uses.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational and urbanisation impacts)  - Functionally linked land
Rainworth - Employment Site 1 Policy Ra/E/1	Land West of Colliery Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for Employment Development. The site is 5.5ha in size and B1/B2/B8 is appropriate.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (urbanisation impacts)  - Functionally linked land
Clipstone – Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Cl/MU/1	Land at the former Clipstone Colliery has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development.  Assuming the retention of the headstocks and powerhouse, the site will accommodate around 120 dwellings, 12 hectares of employment provision, retail and enhanced Public Open Space.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational and urbanisation impacts)  - Functionally linked land
Blidworth - Housing Site 1 Policy Bl/Ho/1	Land at Dale Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 55 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Blidworth - Housing Site 3 Policy Bl/Ho/3	Land south of New Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing up to a maximum of 81 dwellings.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)
Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation Policy DM4	Renewable and low carbon energy generation provision.  Whilst this policy does not set out locations and details for renewable and low carbon energy generation schemes, such schemes (depending on their nature and location) have the potential for likely significant effects.	Screen in Category I Functionally linked land
Additional Provision on Existing Sites Policy GRT2	This policy sets out the locations of existing Gypsy Roma Traveller sites at which additional provision will be provided for gypsy and travellers.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational and urbanisation impacts)
Site Allocations Policy GRT4	This policy gives the locations of sites which allocated for Gypsy Roma Traveller accommodation.	Screened in Category L  - Public access and disturbance (recreational impacts)

# 11.2 Air quality

- 11.2.1 The following section of the Appropriate Assessment focuses on assessing more precisely the ecological impacts of air pollution of nightjar and woodlark populations associated with the Sheerwood Forest ppSPA, taking a risk-based approach as set out by Natural England. The guidance drawn on for this assessment and likely impacts of a change in air quality are set out in **Section 9.2**.
- 11.2.2 As noted in **Section 6**, Natural England's advice<sup>118</sup> indicates that the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is sensitive to 'pollution and/or nutrient enrichment of breeding habitats' which may include nitrogen deposition and acidification due to air pollution triggered by new development.

#### Mitigation

11.2.3 It is anticipated that policies listed in **Section 9.2.8**, which form the Amended Core Strategy DPD and Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD and wider county level policy, will have a positive impact and contribute towards the mitigation of air quality impacts from traffic sources at the Sherwood Forest ppSPA. The Appropriate Assessment in respect of air quality therefore takes these into consideration.

# Air Quality Appropriate Assessment

- 11.2.4 Whilst a change in air quality is unlikely to directly affect woodlark and nightjar populations within the Sherwood Forest ppSPA area, there is the potential for indirect impacts upon their habitat.
- 11.2.5 As set out in **Chapter 6** woodlark and nightjar rely on a mosaic of open habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. The height, cover, variation and composition of vegetation and characteristics of habitat are important to support breeding and successful nesting, rearing of young, concealment from predators and movement along flight lines and roosting.
- 11.2.6 Whilst a proportion of the ppSPA is underpinned by SSSI designations (see **Figure 7.3**), it is noted that a large proportion of the ppSPA is not. **Tables 7.2** and **7.3** illustrate the sensitives of woodlark and nightjar habitat to changes in air quality, set out relevant critical loads and highlight current exceedances of these critical loads across underpinning SSSIs.
- 11.2.7 Current and future exceedances of critical loads at these underpinning SSSIs may result in changes to the chemical status of habitat substrate, accelerating or damaging plant growth, altering vegetation structure and composition and thereby affecting the quality and availability of nesting, feeding or roosting habitats. Given the diverse diet of these birds it is unlikely that a change in air quality will affect food availability. However, given their specific nesting requirements, impacts from air pollution upon these habitats has the potential to occur.
- 11.2.8 It is important to gain a detailed understand the habitat types within 200m of the road links which may be affected by the DPD and how these may be used by nightjar and woodlark populations. **Figure 7.1** illustrates A and B road links which are located within 200m of the ppSPA.

<sup>118</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014 [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

11.2.9 Appendix F provides a review of habitat types located within 200m of each road link which is within the RSPB IBA or Natural England's Indicative Core Area (Figure 6.1). This data has been collated through a review of existing publicly available habitat survey data (Figure 11.1), priority habitat inventory data, the RSPB's Sherwood Forest heathland extent and potential mapping project<sup>119</sup> (Figure 11.2), information held on Natural England's Designated Site's System Viewer for the underpinning SSSI designations<sup>120</sup> and a review of aerial photography. It is noted that priority habitat inventory data does not cover the whole area of the ppSPA and there are sections of the ppSPA which are not underpinned by a SSSI designation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>119</sup> https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/heathland-extent-and-potential-maps/

<sup>120</sup> https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/

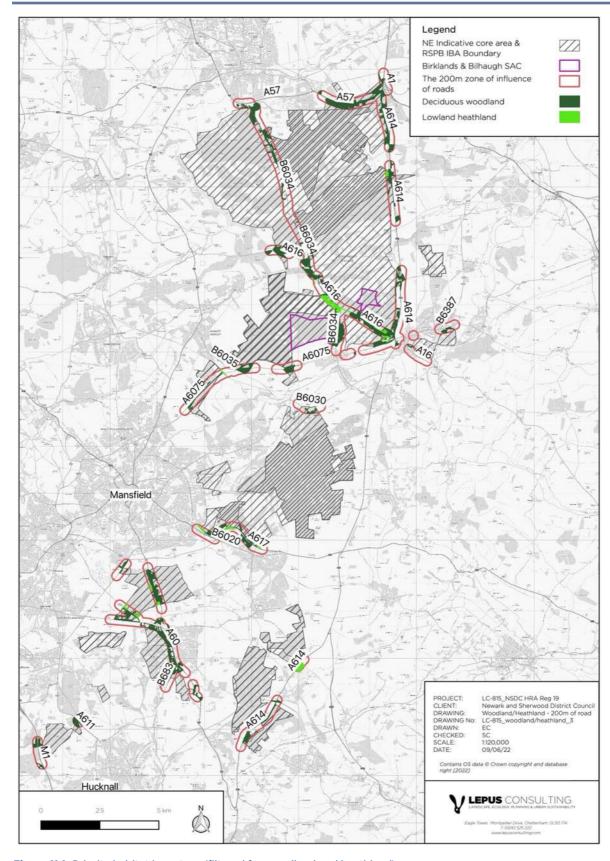


Figure 11.1: Priority habitat inventory (filtered for woodland and heathland)

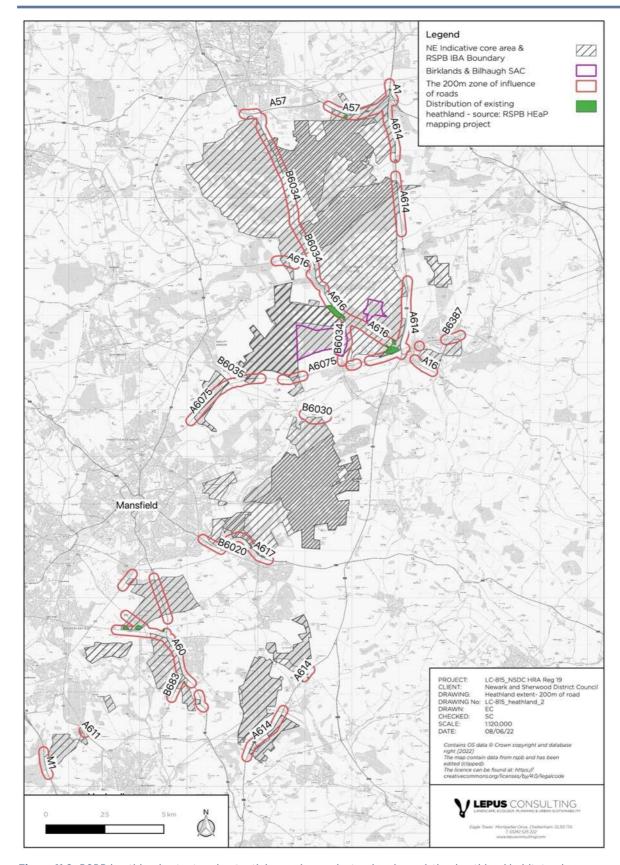


Figure 11.2: RSPB heathland extent and potential mapping project – showing existing heathland habitat only

- As noted in **Section 7.3**, the effects of air pollution are considered unlikely to be significant beyond 200m of each road link. As set out in **Appendix F**, a number of areas which are within 200m of the A616, A6075, A617, B6139 and B6020 support potentially suitable habitat which would meet the lifecycle stages for woodlark and nightjar with heathland and woodland (some open in nature) being present. Other areas within 200m of the road network contain dense coniferous and deciduous woodland which is not likely to incorporate the open mosaic habitat required for the lifecycle of these species. A review of previous ecological work undertaken for the area<sup>121</sup> suggests these dense wooded areas comprise primarily plantation woodland managed on a rotational basis. By its nature the rotational management of woodland will provide a more open and heterogeneous range of habitats favoured by these species of bird, which will reduce as trees mature and the canopy develops.
- 11.2.11 Felling of the woodland crop will result in the removal of nutrient build up from the environment. The associated management practices of woodland cropping are much more likely to determine habitat suitability when compared to nitrogen deposition and acidification from traffic emissions. In addition, whilst it is noted that woodland is vulnerable to a change in air quality, taller vegetation such as woodland, restricts the dispersal of pollutants in the air from road sources, acting as a buffer and limiting the overall impact.
- 11.2.12 As set out in Appendix F, and illustrated in Figure 11.1 and Figure 11.2, there are a number of smaller areas of heathland habitat within 200m of road links. These areas of habitat represent 41.3ha of the RSPB mapped existing heathland. Overall, within the wider area of the ppSPA the RSPB has mapped 392.4ha of existing heathland. Heathland is more sensitive to the impacts of increased traffic related emissions. The IBA factsheet for Sherwood Forest notes that woodlark and nightjar are highly sensitive to human intrusions and disturbance. These areas of heathland are located in close proximity to key road links and as such the use of these areas by woodlarks and nightjars are likely to be unfavourable due to traffic related noise, vibration and lighting levels. Review of RSPB HEaP mapping data indicates that there is a larger area of suitable existing heathland habitat outside the 200m road buffer which would provide a less disturbed environment for woodlark and nightjar. In addition, as part of the Sherwood Forest Futurescapes project<sup>122</sup>, the RSPB has mapped areas for potential re-creation of heathland habitat which covers the majority of the ppSPA and also the wider area beyond this designation. This project aims to expand and link-up these vital areas of habitat to enable wildlife to move more freely across the landscape. Project such as this which promote landscape scale habitat management and enhancement will have a large impact upon woodlark and nightjar populations making populations more robust to localised impacts.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>121</sup> LUC (August, 2021) Bassetlaw Local Plan Habitat Regulations Assessment – Screening Assessment and Appropriate Assessment. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6475/hra-report-for-reg-19">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6475/hra-report-for-reg-19</a> summer-2021.pdf [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>122</sup> https://www.rspb.org.uk/globalassets/downloads/documents/futurescapes/futurescapes-sherwoodforest-booklet.pdf

- 11.2.13 As noted at **Section 9.3**, policies set out in the NSDC Amended Core Strategy and Amended DPD incorporate measures for sustainable transport and a requirement to encourage modal shift. These will have a positive impact upon air quality by discouraging the private care and encouraging electric cars. There are also number of national initiatives to reduce vehicle related emissions, such as the Government's commitment to end the sale of new carbon propelled vehicles by 2030.
- 11.2.14 In addition, it is noted that there are no new sites allocated through the DPD, with the exception of gypsy and traveller pitches and that several previously allocated sites have been constructed, received planning permission or have been de-allocated.
- 11.2.15 The following factors have been taken into consideration in this section of the appropriate assessment:
  - NSDC Amended Core Strategy and Amended DPD policy wording to encourage a modal shift and encourage update of electric vehicles.
  - National policy initiatives to encourage a modal shift and encourage update of electric vehicles.
  - The scale and nature of allocated gypsy and traveller pitches which is unlikely to have a significant effect upon traffic related emissions to air.
  - Management of woodland habitat as a rotational crop.
  - Extent and distribution of heathland habitat and location in close proximity to road network.
  - Future projects to enhance heathland habitat across the wider area.
- 11.2.16 Taking these into consideration it can be concluded that there will be no adverse impacts on site integrity at the Sherwood Forest ppSPA due to a change in air quality as a result of the DPD.

# 11.3 Recreational pressure

- 11.3.1 The following section of the Appropriate Assessment focuses on assessing more precisely the ecological impacts of increased recreational pressure upon nightjar and woodlark populations associated with the Sheerwood Forest ppSPA, taking a risk-based approach as required by Natural England.
- 11.3.2 As noted in **Section 6**, Natural England's advice<sup>123</sup> indicates that the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is vulnerable to 'disturbance to breeding birds from people, their pets and traffic and also loss, fragmentation and/or damage to breeding and/or feeding habitat'. These direct and indirect impacts may be caused by a number of factors including increased recreational pressure and dog walking.
- 11.3.3 The Sherwood Forest ppSPA is underpinned by a number of designations (**Chapter 6**) including seven SSSIs and a number of LNRs. Given the size, extent and distribution of the ppSPA, recreational access varies across the site.
- 11.3.4 The northern section of the ppSPA (outside the NSDC administrative boundary) contains Clumber Park Country Park which includes the whole of the smaller Clumber Park SSSI designation and the National Trusts Clumber Park site. The area contains walking, cycling and horse-riding trails promoted by the National Trust and long-distance routes such as the Robin Hood Way. There are also visitor facilities provided such as parking, toilets, a shop, cafes and cycle hub.
- 11.3.5 Moving in a southerly direction, areas of the ppSPA around Thoresby Park are not accessible to the general public. The RSPB Budby South Forest (open access) and the Sherwood Forest Country Park and Sherwood Forest NNR (which includes part of the larger Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC) are crossed by a number of Rights of Way (RoW), including the Robin Hood Way. Areas to the east and west of this Country Park contain less RoW.
- 11.3.6 In the centre of the ppSPA are the Forestry Commission sites; the Sherwood Pines Forest Park and Birklands Sherwood Forest, both of which are open access. They provide visitor facilities, a Go Ape, a number of activity and walking trails, play areas, bike hire, wild running, mountain biking trails and camping options. The area to the south west of these sites contains a smaller number of RoW.
- 11.3.7 Areas in the west of the ppSPA, close to Harlow Wood, Newstead Abbey, Ravenshead and Newstead Village, are outside the NSDC administrative boundary. Ordnance Survey mapping data indicates that these areas also contain a smaller number of RoW but are crossed by the Robin Hood Way. Thieves Wood is a Forestry Commission site which is located to the west of Harlow Wood and contains opportunities for walking.
- 11.3.8 The southern sections of the ppSPA, contain Blidworth Woods which is an open access Forestry Commission areas of woodland with car parks and promoted routes for horse riding and walking. There are a number of RoW in this area.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>123</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014 [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

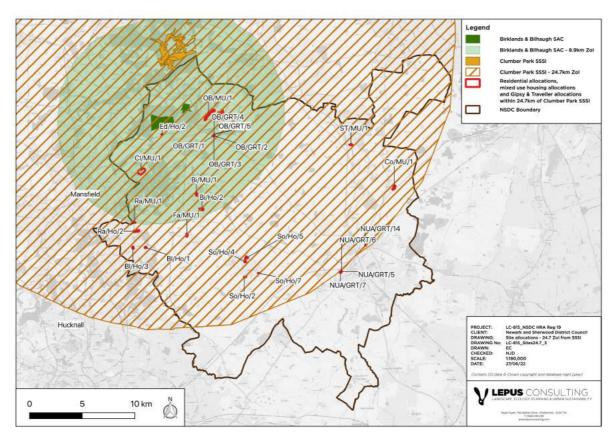
- 11.3.9 As noted in **Section 7.4**, as part of the Bassetlaw Local Plan Review RIAs were undertaken at two areas which form a small part of the overall ppSPA. These include the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC/Sherwood Forest NNR<sup>124</sup> and Clumber Park SSSI<sup>125</sup>. Accessibility across the rest of the ppSPA area varies in nature and has not been subject to visitor surveys.
- 11.3.10 The Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC/Sherwood Forest NNR and Clumber Park SSSI have a large visitor draw. Other sites, such as those managed by the Forestry Commission are also likely to draw visitors from a wider area. Public access is not possible in others.
- 11.3.11 Habitats recorded as part of the RIA within the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC included a mix of broadleaved woodland (ancient oak woodland), broadleaved woodland (birch high forest), acid grassland. Within the northern section of the Sherwood Forest NNR, the RIA recorded areas of mixed heathland and shrub with acid grassland, scattered trees and mixed plantation woodland. Habitats recorded in the RIA at Clumber Park SSSI included a range of habitats such as semi-natural broad-leaved woodland, plantation woodland, heathland and grassland, marginal vegetation, and ornamental plantings. Recreational impacts observed on these habitats included loss of ground flora and soil compaction, damage to exposed roots (including those of veteran trees), abrasion to tree limbs and removal of deadwood for den building and eutrophication along path edges. Recreational impacts at other areas of the ppSPA have not be subject to a baseline survey.
- 11.3.12 The bird surveys undertaken as part of these RIA indicated that in the Clumber Park SSSI, nightjar appear to favour less disturbed areas of the site, whilst woodlark are more widely distributed and therefore vulnerable to increased recreational pressure. At the NNR and SAC, nightjars were shown to also favour less well used parts of the RSPB Reserve and the edges of the site, whilst woodlark are distributed across the two western thirds of the RSPB Reserve and showed a preference for fenced enclosures. The RIAs indicate that these birds are sensitive to both direct recreational disturbance from people and dog walking and also indirect recreational impacts upon their habitat.
- 11.3.13 The visitor survey undertaken as part of the RIA highlighted the types of visits and activities undertaken and visitor behaviour at both the Clumber Park SSSI, Sherwood Forest NNR and Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC<sup>126</sup>. The most frequently recorded activities were shown to be walking and dog walking, with bird/wildlife watching undertaken at the SAC and cycling / mountain biking undertaken at the SSSI. Dog walkers were the group who visited both sites the most frequently. Over three quarters of visitors arrived at the SAC and four fifths at the SSSI by car, with the remainder travelling to each site by foot. Proximity to home was the most commonly given reason for site choice. Other reasons given for visiting were the Major Oak, local knowledge of the site, familiarity, the environment for dogs, scenery and wildlife interest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>124</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>125</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Clumber Park SSSI Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6838/622\_clumber\_park\_recreation\_impact\_assessment\_report\_080322\_final.pdf [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>126</sup> It is noted that the visitor survey undertaken for the RIA covered the Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve (which comprises a large proportion of Budby South Forest RSPB Reserve) in addition to the SAC.

11.3.14 A number of polices have been screened in for further consideration in the Appropriate Assessment as they allocate residential development (and gypsy and traveller sites) within the suggested provisional ZOIs (as shown in **Figure 11.3**).



**Figure 11.3:** DPD allocations within proposed suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI and proposed suggested Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC ZOI which would result in a net increase in dwellings

- 11.3.15 Whilst individually these allocations may not have an adverse impact upon the ppSPA due to increased recreational pressure, when taken together cumulatively, and in-combination with growth in neighbouring LPA areas (which due to the large ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI includes Bassetlaw, Mansfield, Bolsover, Gedling, Ashfield, North East Derbyshire, Chesterfield, Sheffield, Rotherham, Doncaster, West Lindsey, North Kesteven District areas), there is the potential for adverse direct and indirect impacts upon nightjar and woodlark populations and their habitat.
- 11.3.16 Recreational impacts are likely to comprise damage to habitats with indirect impacts upon birds and also disturbance to the birds themselves. Disturbance has the potential to adversely impact upon these species through a change in feeding or roosting behaviour, increases in energy expenditure due to increased flight, abandonment of nest sites, increased predation of eggs and chicks and desertion of supporting habitat. Effects may occur on habitat both within and outside of the ppSPA boundary. Such impacts may have a knock-on effect upon the successful nesting, rearing, feeding and/or roosting of these bird species. Sources of disturbance may also reduce the availability of suitable habitat through displacement and contraction of habitats

#### Mitigation

- 11.3.17 A strategic recreational approach to mitigation has not been developed for the ppSPA and it is noted that recreational accessibility and visitor data has not been collated for all parts of the ppSPA. Commonly applied approaches across the UK to recreational mitigation comprise a mixture of SAMM at the Habitats site in questions and also provision of alternative SANG away from the effected Habitats site (as set out in **Section 7.4**).
- 11.3.18 It is anticipated that the policies set out in **Section 9.3**, which form the Amended Core Strategy DPD and Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD, will have a positive impact and contribute towards the mitigation of recreational impacts from population growth at the SAC. The Appropriate Assessment in respect of recreational impacts therefore takes these into consideration.
- 11.3.19 Of particular relevance is Core Policy 12 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure. This notes the Council will
  - "support the development of a Green Infrastructure Network, as illustrated in the Green Infrastructure Diagram (replicated in Figure 9.3), linking together Key Strategic Routes throughout the District and providing for, in appropriate locations, visitor infrastructure that improves accessibility. The District Council will, in particular, promote improved green infrastructure linkages between:
    - Newark and Southwell; and
    - Southwell and the north-west of the District
  - Development proposals crossing or adjacent to the network should make provision for its implementation and/or enhancement;
  - Positively view proposals that seek to enhance the District's Green Infrastructure resource in support of tourism development. Proposals in the Bilsthorpe, Edwinstowe and Ollerton & Boughton areas, in connection with the Sherwood Forest Regional Park, will be supported. In Newark, new Green Infrastructure schemes that maximise the potential of the Trent Riverside area will be supported;
  - Support the implementation of area-based Strategic Green Infrastructure interventions".
- 11.3.20 Policy DM7 of the Amended Core Strategy DPD Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure provides overarching protection for Habitats sites 'Planning permission will not be granted for development proposals on, or affecting, Special Areas of Conservation or Special Protection Areas (European Sites) unless it is directly related to the management of the site for nature conservation and public access and does not significantly harm the integrity of the site'. In relation to the ppSPA it goes on to note that "Development proposals within 400 metres of those locations which Natural England have identified as supporting breeding woodlark and nightjar known as a possible potential Special Protection Area or ppSPA will adopt a risk based approach as set out in the Natural England Advice Note to Local Planning Authorities. In particular consideration should be given to the effects of light, noise and pet predation resulting from the proposed development".
- 11.3.21 Also of relevance is the Amended Core Strategy DPD ShAP1 Sherwood Area and Sherwood Forest Regional Park policy. This notes that the council will work to ensure the continued delivery of the conservation aims and objectives of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and preventing development which would have an adverse impact on this area.

### **Recreational Pressure Appropriate Assessment**

11.3.22 A review of Natural England SSSI IRZ data has been undertaken of all allocations which are located within the suggested ZOIs (see outputs in **Table 11.2**). This data identifies the circumstances under which Natural England must be consulted upon a development application and provides an indication as to the sensitivity of each site.

**Table 11.2:** Review of SSSI IRZ data for housing allocations within suggested 8.9km SAC recreational ZOI <u>and</u> suggested 24.7km Clumber Park SSSI ZOI

DPD Policy and No. Residential Units	SSSI IRZ Data in relation to residential development
Policy NUA/Ho/2 25 Units	Approx. 24.7km from Clumber Park SSSI Null
Policy Co/MU/1 80 Units Under construction	Approx. 22.6km from Clumber Park SSSI IRZ null
Policy ST/MU/1 37 Units Housing element complete. Allocation for community facilities/retail element.	Approx. 16.9km from Clumber Park SSSI IRZ null
Policy So/Ho/2 45 Units Under construction	Approx. 20.6km from Clumber Park SSSI IRZ null
Policy So/Ho/4 45 Units Outline planning permission granted	19.1km from Clumber Park SSSI IRZ null
Policy So/Ho/5 60 Units	Approx. 19.1km from Clumber Park SSSI IRZ null
Policy So/Ho/7 18 Units	Approx. 20.7km from Clumber Park SSSI IRZ null
Policy OB/MU/1 225 Units Under construction	Approx. 1.4km from the SAC Approx. 5.1km from Clumber Park SSSI Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy OB/MU/2 120 Units	Approx. 2.4km from the SAC Approx. 5.8km from Clumber Park SSSI Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy ED/Ho/2 50 Units	Approx. 640m from the SAC Approx. 6km from Clumber Park SSSI Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy Bi/Ho/2 136 Units Under construction	Approx. 8km from the SAC.  Approx. 13.3km from Clumber Park SSSI  Null
Policy Bi/MU/1 75 Units Under construction	Approx. 6.5km from the SAC.  Approx. 11.7km from Clumber Park SSSI  Null
Policy Ra/Ho/2. 190 Units Part complete	Approx. 15.4km from Clumber Park SSSI Residential development of 50 units or more.

DPD Policy and No. Residential Units	SSSI IRZ Data in relation to residential development
Policy Ra/MU/1 6 Units	Approx. 8.7km from the SAC Approx. 14.7km from Clumber Park SSSI Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy CI/MU/1 120 Units	Approx. 3.6km from the SAC.  Approx. 9.7km from Clumber Park SSSI  Residential development of 50 units or more.
Policy BI/Ho/1. 55 Units	Approx. 16.9km from Clumber Park SSSI Null
Policy BI/Ho/3 81 Units Full planning permission	Approx. 17km from Clumber Park SSSI Null
Additional Provision for Gypsy and Traveller pitches Site OB/GTR/1 can accommodate 9 pitches. Site OB/GTR/2 can accommodate 3 pitches. Site OB/GTR/3 can accommodate 4 pitches. Site OB/GTR/4 can accommodate 5 pitches. Site OB/GTR/5 can accommodate 1 pitch.	Approx. 3km from the SAC. Residential development of 50 units or more.

- 11.3.23 Consultation with Natural England has indicated that where the analysis of SSSI IRZ data indicates more than 50 dwellings are allocated in a sensitive area (allocations shaded in red in **Table 9.2**). As can be seen only three sites trigger the IRZ thresholds where construction has not been started or planning permission granted.
- 11.3.24 There is currently no requirement for SANG provision for new development which may increase recreational pressures upon areas of the ppPSA. However, Policy DM7 will ensure that a precautionary risk-based approach is taken to any development as per Natural England's guidance. This will reflect the nature, scale and proximity of development to the ppSPA and levels of accessibility at the ppSPA itself.

- 11.3.25 Core Policy 12 notes that the Council will support the Green Infrastructure Network across the plan area linking together key routes. Provision of a robust and well-connected network of GI for new development must be appropriate to the scale of development proposed in the DPD and designed to recommended standards. This will ensure that recreational impacts are directed away from the ppSPA and instead to an appropriate provision. GI also has the advantage of providing a range of other functions such as providing multiple benefits for wildlife, improving quality of life and water quality and flood risk, health and wellbeing, recreation, access to nature and adaptation to climate change.
- 11.3.26 Taking into consideration the policy wording secured through both the DPD and Amended Core Strategy, the scale of development and an analysis of Natural England's IRZ thresholds, it can be concluded that there will be no adverse impact on site integrity from increased recreational pressure alone or in-combination.

#### 11.4 Urbanisation effects

- 11.4.1 As outlined in **Section 7.4**, urbanisation effects often include cat predation of ground nesting birds, lighting (illumination), fly tipping, noise and vandalism. Urbanisation effects can result from all types of development set out in the DPD (residential, retail, gypsy and traveller and employment). As noted in **Section 7.4** commonly applied urbanisation zones of influence extend around 400m from the edge of a designation as this reflects likely impacts from pets (e.g. cat predation) and the distance from which people access a site on foot. An example of this is the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Delivery Framework<sup>127</sup> which has established a 400m zone where development may not take place.
- 11.4.2 Natural England's advice<sup>128</sup> notes that the assessment of impacts upon the ppSPA should include a consideration of:
  - Disturbance to breeding birds from people, their pets and traffic;
  - Bird mortality arising from domestic pets and/or predatory mammals and birds;
     and
  - Bird mortality arising from road traffic and/or wind turbines.
- 11.4.3 Woodlark and nightjar, as ground nesting birds, are particularly vulnerable to predation from domestic pets (such as cats), and as they feed predominantly at dusk and dawn<sup>129</sup> they are vulnerable to light disturbance from road traffic and also sources of noise and vibration<sup>130</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>127</sup> Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board (2009). Thames Basin Heaths SPA Delivery Framework. <a href="https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-08/thames-basin-heaths-spa-delivery-framework.pdf">https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-08/thames-basin-heaths-spa-delivery-framework.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 30/05/22].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>128</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014 [Date Accessed: 18/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>129</sup> RSPB. Land management for nightjars. https://www.rspb.org.uk/our-work/conservation/conservation-and-sustainability/advice/conservation-land-management-advice/nightjars/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>130</sup> Natural England. 2016. Thames Basin Heaths SPA Supplementary Advice. [Date Accessed: 20/06/22]. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4590853229117440">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4590853229117440</a>

11.4.4 Disturbance in these forms has the potential to adversely impact upon these species through a change in feeding or roosting behaviour, increases in energy expenditure due to increased flight, abandonment of nest sites, increased predation of eggs and chicks and desertion of supporting habitat. Effects may occur on habitat both within and outside of the ppSPA boundary. Such impacts may have a knock-on effect upon the successful nesting, rearing, feeding and/or roosting of these bird species. Sources of disturbance may also reduce the availability of suitable habitat through displacement and contraction of habitats.

#### Mitigation

- 11.4.5 It is anticipated that the policies set out in **Section 9.3**, which form the Amended Core Strategy DPD and Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD, will have a positive impact and contribute towards the mitigation of urbanisation impacts from population growth at the ppSPA. The Appropriate Assessment in respect of urbanisation impacts therefore takes these into consideration.
- 11.4.6 Of particular relevance is policy DM7 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure, which notes that development within 400m of the ppSPA must adopt a risk based approach as set out in the Natural England Advice Note to Local Planning Authorities.

#### **Urbanisation Appropriate Assessment**

11.4.7 **Figure 11.4** shows all employment, gypsy and traveller, housing and retail allocations within 400m of the ppSPA.

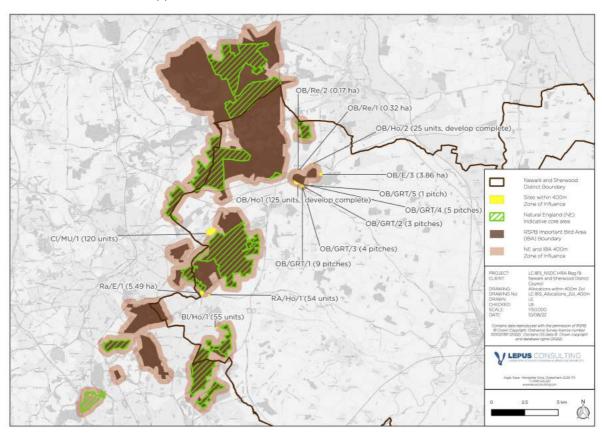


Figure 11.4: DPD allocations within 400m of ppSPA boundary

- 11.4.8 Given the location of allocations within 400m of the ppSPA, it is necessary to ensure that operational and construction related noise, visual and lighting proposals and cat predation do not have a disturbance impact upon woodlark and nightjar populations. This may include the incorporation of screens, bunds, cat deterrent planting and landscaping, fencing, directional lighting, and low noise emitting equipment among other solutions. There are a number of methods suggested in best practice lighting<sup>131</sup> and noise<sup>132</sup> standards and quiet construction techniques can also be used and the timing of works scheduled to avoid sensitive seasons such as the bird breeding season.
- 11.4.9 The exact details of these measures will be provided at the planning application stage which reflects the hierarchical nature of plan making. Given there are widely used techniques available to mitigate urbanisation impacts, there is no uncertainty over the deliverability of these allocations.
- 11.4.10 This approach is compliant with case law which requires the Competent Authority to be satisfied that mitigation solutions can be achieved in practice<sup>133</sup>, <sup>134</sup>, whilst recognising the multi-staged planning and approval procedural approach to plan making<sup>135</sup>.
- 11.4.11 The requirement to consider urbanisation effects at the planning application stage are secured through both DM7 (which requires a risk-based approach to be adopted) and also individual allocation policy wording, where located within 400m buffer of the ppSPA (Figure 11.4).
- 11.4.12 Consideration has also been given to Amended Core Strategy and Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD policy wording which require that no development will be permitted which would have an adverse impact upon a Habitats site.
- 11.4.13 Taking into consideration the policy wording secured through both the DPD and Amended Core Strategy, it can be concluded that there will be no adverse impact on site integrity from urbanisation impacts alone or in-combination.

### 11.5 Functionally linked land

11.5.1 Habitat requirements for nightjar and woodlark are set out in **Section 6.3**. These birds require a mosaic of open habitats to meet all lifecycle stages. Nightjar predominantly feed over heathland, in open woodland, clearings and recently felled conifer plantations. and along forest rides but are most successful at feeding when there is range of food-rich habitats present. Similarly to nightjar, woodlark require an open mosaic structure of habitat including occasional trees around woodland edges or scattered trees. During the winter, woodlark change their diet to feed on seeds and often use winter fields.

Guidance Note 08/18 'Bats and artificial lighting' by the Bat Conservation Trust and the Institution of Lighting Professionals (2018)

BS 5228-1:2009+A1:2014: "Code of practice for noise and vibration control on construction and open sites. Noise

<sup>133</sup> Ltd (NANT Ltd) v Suffolk Coastal District Council, Court of Appeal, 17 February 2015. Available at: <a href="https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Suffolk-Coastal-Local-Plan/Core-Strategy-and-DMP/No-Adastral-New-Town-Ltd-v-SCDC.pdf">https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Suffolk-Coastal-Local-Plan/Core-Strategy-and-DMP/No-Adastral-New-Town-Ltd-v-SCDC.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 11/11/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>134</sup> Opinion of Advocate General Kokott delivered on 9 June 2005. Commission of the European Communities v United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Failure of a Member State to fufil obligations - Directive 92/43/EEC - Conservation of natural habitats - Wild fauna and flora. Case C-6/04. Available at: <a href="https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A62004CC0006">https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A62004CC0006</a> [Date Accessed: 11/11/21].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>135</sup> R (o a o Devon Wildlife Trust) v. Teignbridge DC [2015] EWHC 2159 (Admin). 28 July 2015. Available at: https://www.casemine.com/judgement/uk/5a8ff76460d03e7f57eac083 [Date Accessed: 11/11/21]

11.5.2 Whilst woodlark and nightjar populations are likely to be focused within the ppSPA boundary, they may also use the wider area where suitable habitat requirements are present.

#### Mitigation

It is anticipated that the policies set out in **Section 9.3**, which form the Amended Core Strategy DPD and Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD, will have a positive impact and contribute towards the mitigation of impacts upon functionally linked land. Of particular relevance is Policy DM7 which requires a risk based approach to be taken to development within 400m of the ppSPA. In addition policy wording for Policies OB/E/3 and Cl/MU/1 notes that these sites have the potential to provide functionally linked habitat for woodlark and nightjar and therefore should be subject to the risk based approach set out in Polic DM7 Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure should be followed. The Appropriate Assessment therefore takes these into consideration.

### **Functionally Linked Land Appropriate Assessment**

- 11.5.4 The DPD will not lead to the loss of any land within the ppSPA boundary.
- 11.5.5 Development proposed in the DPD however has the potential to lead to the direct loss and / or degradation of habitat which supports qualifying features of the ppSPA. This supporting habitat is known as functionally linked habitat<sup>136</sup>.
- 11.5.6 The tests set out under Article 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Regulations need to be applied in respect of plans or projects which may significantly affect functionally linked habitat that plays an important role in contributing to the favourable conservation status of the relevant species for which a Habitats site is designated. Given the risk based approach taken to the assessment of impacts at the ppSPA a similar precautionary approach has been taken.
- 11.5.7 Woodlark and nightjar are mobile species and use a variety of habitats outside of the ppSPA boundary, for instance habitat which may provide winter foraging habitat. These habitats may be functionally linked where they play an important role in maintaining or restoring the population of a qualifying bird species at favourable conservation status.
- 11.5.8 In addition to direct loss or degradation of habitat (designated or functionally linked), development has the potential to result in the fragmentation of habitats through the loss of connecting corridors which would hinder the movement of qualifying species.
- 11.5.9 As set out in **Section 5.6**, Natural England defines zones around SSSIs which may be at risk from specific types of development, known as IRZs. These provide a valuable reference for identifying areas that may provide supporting habitat for the designated sites.
- 11.5.10 The screening assessment presented in **Appendix D** considers the suitability of habitat at each allocation to provide functionally linked habitat on the basis of a desk-based assessment looking at the following factors:
  - Distance from the ppSPA (sites closer the ppSPA are more likely to provide roosting and /or foraging opportunities for birds)
  - Site characteristics including details on:
    - Habitat type / existing land use

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>136</sup> "The term 'functional linkage' refers to the role or 'function' that land or sea beyond the boundary of a European site might fulfil in terms of ecologically supporting the populations for which the site was designated or classified. Such land is therefore 'linked' to the European site in question because it provides an important role in maintaining or restoring the population of qualifying species at favourable conservation status". Source: Natural England. 2016. Commissioned Report. NECR207. Functional linkage: How areas that are functionally linked to European sites have been considered when they may be affected by plans and projects - a review of authoritative decisions.

- Cropping regime if agricultural, potential to provide winter food resource
- The size of the site
- Details of any existing factors (where available) that may affect the habitat suitability, including:
  - Existing public rights of way and their usage, especially by users with dogs
  - Proximity to existing built up areas
  - Noise and visual disturbance such as road infrastructure
- 11.5.11 There are two allocations which have been identified as being located within a parcel of land with the potential to provide habitat which could be defined as being functionally linked due to its importance to woodlark and nightjar (**Table 11.3**). The full screening assessment can be found at **Appendix D**.

**Table 11.3:** Allocations containing potential suitable habitat for woodlark and nightjar outside of the ppSPA boundary

DPD Policy	Summary of habitat types present and suitability to support nightjar and woodlark outside the ppSPA
Ollerton & Boughton - Employment Site 3 Policy OB/E/3	Land to the south of Boughton Industrial Estate.  The allocation is located on edge of Boughton approx. 180m from the closest component of the ppSPA. A review of aerial photography indicates that it is contiguous with blocks of deciduous woodland habitat which join with the ppSPA area. The site comprises a grassed field with a wooded boundary.  Impacts upon FLL associated with the ppSPA are possible.
Clipstone – Mixed Use Site 1 Policy Cl/MU/1	Land at the former Clipstone Colliery.  The allocation is located on the edge of Clipstone approx. 160m from the closest component of the ppSPA. The site comprises rough pasture with woodland around its boundary, with urban development to its west. Based on a review of aerial photography it has the potential to provide FLL for the ppSPA.

- 11.5.12 Policy wording for the above sites recognises their potential to provide functionally linked sites. As part of project level HRA, bird surveys could be undertaken as part of a risk based approach to determine whether each site provides any habitat which may support populations of woodlark and nightjar. If significant numbers of these birds are identified then appropriate mitigation will be required for instance the provision of optimal foraging habitat within the site or surrounding landscape.
- 11.5.13 Taking into consideration the Amended Core Strategy and Amended Allocations and Development Management DPD policy wording and above recommendations it can be concluded that no development will have an adverse impact upon the integrity of functionally linked habitat associated with the ppSPA.

# 12 Conclusions and Next Steps

#### 12.1 Conclusions

- 12.1.1 The DPD is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Habitats site. A screening assessment was therefore undertaken which identified a number of likely significant effects associated with the DPD. Taking no account of mitigation measures these had the potential to affect the following Habitats sites:
  - Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC air pollution and public access and disturbance (recreation);
  - Humber Estuary SPA water quality;
  - Humber Estuary SAC water quality; and
  - Humber Estuary Ramsar water quality.
- 12.1.2 In addition, to ensure a risk-based approach to the HRA has been adopted, consideration was also given to the following potential proposed SPA.
  - Sherwood Forest ppSPA air pollution, public access and disturbance (recreation and urbanisation impacts) and habitat loss / fragmentation.
- 12.1.3 The HRA therefore progressed to an Appropriate Assessment which looked at the impacts of a change in air quality, water quality, public access and disturbance effects (recreational pressure and urbanisation effects) and impacts upon functionally linked land upon the qualifying features and conservation objectives of each Habitats site and the ppSPA.
- 12.1.4 The appropriate assessment has drawn on the Precautionary Principle to identify a number of potential threats and pressures that might be exacerbated by the DPD. The HRA therefore made a series of recommendations during the development of the DPD aimed at strengthening the plan's wording to ensure adequate policy protection is provided. Recommendations which have been included as a result of the HRA of the DPD are summarised in **Box 4**.

#### **Box 4: Overview of Recommendations**

- Strengthening of policy wording to ensure the protection of the SAC. This included updating of SANG requirements for all new dwellings within an 8.9km ZOI.
- Strengthening of policy wording to ensure protection of the ppSPA. This included the requirement for a risk-based approach to be taken for all sites within 400m.
- Policy wording strengthened for Policy OB/E/3 and Policy CI/MU/1 to require more detailed project assessment of functionally linked land potential, once site details and layout are known.
- 12.1.5 The appropriate assessment has taken into consideration the protective nature of policies within the Publication DPD itself. It has also looked at the hierarchical nature of plan making i.e. the requirement for HRA at lower tiered stages of the plan making process and project application stage. A number of existing protection measures are set out in high level strategic policy and existing planning policy frameworks that serve to help overcome the identified potential adverse effects.
- 12.1.6 Following adoption of the HRA recommendations and consideration of the above factors, the HRA concluded that the DPD would have no adverse impact on site integrity at any Habitats site, or upon the ppSPA, either alone or in-combination.

# 12.2 Next steps

- 12.2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the HRA of the Publication Version of the DPD using best available information.
- 12.2.2 The Council, as the Competent Authority, have responsibility to make the Integrity Test, which can be undertaken in light of the conclusions set out in this report.
- 12.2.3 This report will be submitted to Natural England, the statutory nature conservation body, for formal consultation. The Councils must 'have regard' to their representations under the provisions of Regulations 63(3) and 105(2) prior to making a final decision as to whether they will 'adopt' the conclusions set out within this report as their own.

# Appendix A: In-combination assessment

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development - Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
Nottinghamshire County Council Waste Local Plan <sup>1</sup>	Current Waste Plan was adopted in January 2002 The current waste local plan is being progressively replaced by the Replacement Waste Local Plan, which is being prepared in two parts; the Waste Core Strategy (Adopted 2013) and the Waste Sites and Policies Document.  Consultation on the Issues and Options (Reg 18) was undertaken in early 2022 and the final version is currently being prepared.	Objectives: Strategic objectives of the Waste Core Strategy:  Strengthen local economy; Care for the environment; Community well-being; Energy and climate; Sustainable transport; Meet future needs; and High quality design and operation.  These are reflected in the plan review (issues and options report). The issues and options paper sets out broad locations for provision of waste management facilities. These are in or close to the main urban areas where most people live and work and where the majority of our waste is produced. Larger facilities are seen as being most suitable within the Nottingham and Mansfield/Ashfield areas with smaller/medium sized facilities to serve Worksop, Retford and Newark.	Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Joint Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Core Strategy and Nottinghamshire Minerals Core Strategy - Preliminary Screening Report (July 2011) <sup>2</sup> Outcome: In view of Natural England's advice, it was considered premature to consider the potential for in-combination effects in the report.  There is no HRA available at this time or the waste plan review.	Yes. This plan may increase vehicle movements in the study area and emissions to air. This plan has the potential to trigger LSEs in terms of air quality in-combination with the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Nottinghamshire County Council (2002) Adopted Waste Local Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/109140/wastelocalplan.pdf">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/109140/wastelocalplan.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 12/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> WSP Environment & Energy (2011) HRA for the Joint Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Core Strategy and Nottinghamshire Minerals Core Strategy - Preliminary Screening Report. Available at: https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/2558/preliminary-screening-report.pdf [Date Accessed: 12/05/22]

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
Nottinghamshire County Council Minerals Local Plan <sup>3</sup>	The Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan was adopted in March 2021.	The Minerals Local Plan sets out the approach to minerals provision in Nottinghamshire up to 2036.	Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan HRA Screening Report (March 2019) <sup>4</sup> Outcome: The HRA found that the test of LSEs identified no linking impact pathways between site allocations in the Plan and the Habitat sites (Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC, Hatfield Moor SAC and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA).  The HRA also considered Sherwood Forest ppSPA. Due to the distance between Bestwood II quarry and the ppSPA, it was considered that there were no linking pathways for LSEs on the ppSPA directly. However, the Bestwood II North site allocation is to take place within plantation woodland which could potentially provide suitable habitat for nightjar and woodlark. Therefore, it was concluded that the proposed development of land raises the potential for LSEs on SPA bird populations due to direct landtake and disturbance.  There is no legal obligation to conduct an appropriate assessment of the potential for adverse effects on the integrity of possible Habitat	Yes.  This plan may increase vehicle movements in the study area and emissions to air. This plan has the potential to trigger LSEs in terms of air quality in-combination with the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Nottinghamshire County Council (2021) Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/3764136/adopted-minerals-local-plan.pdf">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/3764136/adopted-minerals-local-plan.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 12/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> AECOM (2019) Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan HRA Screening Report. Available at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/3764136/adopted-minerals-local-plan.pdf">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/3764136/adopted-minerals-local-plan.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 12/05/22]

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
			sites. However, Natural England advises that local authorities take a 'risk-based approach' to forward planning and decision making. The HRA therefore provided mitigation/restrictions for Bestwood II in order to ensure that impacts on potential functionally linked land for nightjar and woodlark are investigated and mitigated before that land is lost.	
Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan <sup>5</sup>	The current Local Transport Plan (The third Local Transport Plan) will run from 2011 to 2026. It is made up of two separate documents; the Local Transport Plan strategy and the Implementation Plan.	Objectives:  The strategic transport goals for Nottinghamshire:  • provide a reliable, resilient transport system which supports a thriving economy and growth whilst encouraging sustainable and healthy travel; • improve access to key services, particularly enabling employment and training opportunities; and • minimise the impacts of transport on people's lives, maximise opportunities to improve the environment and help tackle carbon emissions.  Potential for in-combination effects:	Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment – Screening Report (March 2011) <sup>6</sup> Outcome: The HRA states that the policies and strategies of the LTP3 do not give direct or in-combination effects and therefore the Plan was screened out from requiring an Appropriate Assessment. Nottinghamshire County Council will be required to undertake HRA screening on each project. The HRA concluded that some mitigation must be applied to reach a conclusion of no LSEs on European designated sites. As part of the mitigation local transport authority	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality impacts. Promotion of alternative modes of transport to the private car may result in positive LSEs incombination with the DPD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Nottinghamshire County Council (2019) Local Transport Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/plans-strategies-policies/local-transport-plan#ltps">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/plans-strategies-policies/local-transport-plan#ltps</a> [Date Accessed: 12/05/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> URS Scott Wilson (2011) Nottinghamshire Local Transport Plan HRA – Screening Report. Available at: <a href="https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/123086/habitats-regs-assess-report.pdf">https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/media/123086/habitats-regs-assess-report.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 12/05/22]

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
		LTP3 includes the prospect of undefined new roads, new road schemes, and public transport infrastructure.  Worksop Bus Station could potentially take place within a distance of 2km of the possible potential Sherwood Forest SPA, and could potentially lead to likely significant effects (without mitigation)	should avoid deteriorations in air quality within 200m of Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and avoid deteriorations in air quality, noise and light pollution within 200m of Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It is noted that this screening exercise was undertaken before the 2018 'Sweetman ruling' (see Section 3 of main report for further details).	
Bassetlaw District Council	The Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020 – 2037: Publication Version <sup>7</sup> was consulted on between September 2021 and October 2021 and the Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020 – 2037: Publication Version Second Addendum <sup>8</sup> in January 2022 – February 2022. It was anticipated that the Publication	Objectives:  The Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020 – 2037: Publication Version Second Addendum proposed strategic policies for the period 2020 to 2037 for the provision of 10,476 dwellings over the plan period, 21 gypsy and traveller pitches and 196ha of general employment land. Potential for in-combination effects:  Some proposed potential sites are located within or in close proximity to the potential possible Sherwood Forest ppSPA and the Birklands to Bilhaugh SAC.	Bassetlaw Local Plan Habitat Regulations Assessment – Screening Assessment and Appropriate Assessment (May 2022) <sup>9</sup> . Outcome: The HRA screening stage concluded that policies and site allocations in the Local Plan either alone or in-combination, will result in likely significant effects on Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC as a result of increased recreation pressure. In addition, likely significant effects in- combination with other Local Plans on water quality in relation to	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Bassetlaw District Council (2021 Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020 – 2037: Publication Version. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6527/local-plan-publication-version-2020-2037.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6527/local-plan-publication-version-2020-2037.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Bassetlaw District Council (2022) Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020 – 2038: Publication Version Second Addendum. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6862/lp-second-addendum.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6862/lp-second-addendum.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> LUC (May, 2022) Bassetlaw Local Plan Habitat Regulations Assessment – Screening Assessment and Appropriate Assessment. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6849/hra-update-report-for-reg-19\_second-addendum-consultation-2022.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6849/hra-update-report-for-reg-19\_second-addendum-consultation-2022.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 02/08/22]

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
	Version alongside the Addendum would be sent for independent examination. However, due to a landowner unexpectedly withdrawing their site, a Regulation 19 Second Addendum was necessary to address consequential changes prior to submitting the plan. The Bassetlaw Local Plan 2020-2038: Publication Version, Publication Version Addendum and Publication Version Second Addendum were submitted to the Secretary of State on 18 July 2022 for independent examination.	Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar cannot be ruled ou. It also concluded likely significant effects at Sherwood Forest ppSPA as a result of physical damage or loss of off-site habitat, disturbance from noise vibration and light, air pollution and recreation impacts associated with the housing and employment development proposed to be delivered through policies and site allocations in the Local Plan.  The Appropriate Assessment examined detail regarding the impact pathways (for noise/vibration and light pollution to off-site habitat), recreational impacts and air quality. It took into consideration recommended mitigation measures within relevant policies. It concluded no adverse effects on integrity of the any Habitats site or the ppSPA as a result of the Local Plan.	Significant Effect (ESE)

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
Mansfield District Council	The Mansfield Local Plan was adopted in September 2020 <sup>10</sup> .	At least 6500 new homes proposed for 2013 to 2033 (Mansfield urban area - 90% and Warsop Parish - 10%);     At least 41 hectares of employment land from 2013 to 2033; and     Up to 17,240 sqm of retail and leisure floorspace between 2017 and 2033.	Local Plan Publication Final Habitat Regulations Assessment (2019) <sup>11</sup> Outcome: This comprised an AA of impacts upon the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This focused specifically upon recreational impacts, urbanisation impacts, habitat fragmentation and air quality. Following inclusion of suitable policy wording in the plan around publicly accessible green space, green infrastructure and biodiversity the HRA reached a conclusion of no adverse effect on site integrity at any Habitat site.	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.
Bolsover District Council	The Bolsover Local Plan was adopted in March 2020 <sup>12</sup> .	The Objectives of the Local Plan are to make provision for:	HRA has been undertaken alongside development of the Local Plan <sup>13</sup> . Overall, the assessment of the draft	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Mansfield District Council (2020) Mansfield District Local Plan Adopted Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/1645/mdc-adopted-local-plan-2020">https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/1645/mdc-adopted-local-plan-2020</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Mansfield District Council in partnership with AECOM (2019) Final Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Mansfield District Council Local Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/1667/mdc-final-hra-dec-2019">https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/1667/mdc-final-hra-dec-2019</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Bolsover District Council (2020) Bolsover District Local Plan Adopted Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.bolsover.gov.uk/p/207-planning-policy/planning-policy-documents/90-development-plan">https://www.bolsover.gov.uk/p/207-planning-policy/planning-policy-documents/90-development-plan</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Amec Foster Wheeler (2015). Local Plan for Bolsover District: Habitats Regulations Assessment Scope and Approach. Report for Bolsover District Council, Ref. B36792cbri008ir. Available at: https://www.bolsover.gov.uk/images/LIVE/P/Plan\_HRA\_Scope\_Note\_1510.pdf. Amec Foster Wheeler (2018). Local Plan for Bolsover District Publication Draft: Habitats Regulations Assessment. Report for Bolsover District Council, Ref. B36792cbri050ir. Available at: https://www.bolsover.gov.uk/images/LIVE/P/Plan\_HRA\_Report\_Publ.PfBD\_1804.pdf. Wood (2019). Bolsover District Local Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment: Review of Publication Draft Local Plan Modifications and HRA Conclusions. Report for Bolsover District Council, Ref. B36792cbri008ir. Available at: https://www.bolsover.gov.uk/images/localplan/Plan\_HRA\_MMreview\_1906.pdf.

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
		a) Sufficient land to accommodate the delivery of a minimum of 5,168 dwellings (272 new homes per year) to meet the Council's Housing Objectively Assessed Need across the period 2014 to 2033 b) An additional housing land supply buffer of 10% for site flexibility applied across the period 2014 to 2033 (up to a planned scale of housing provision of 5,700 dwellings) c) Sufficient land to accommodate 92 hectares of employment land across the period 2015 to 2033	Local Plan concluded it would have no adverse effects on the integrity of any Habitats sites, alone or in combination. It looked at impacts upon both Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA alongside other Habitats sites.	area. There is potential for incombination public access and disturbance LSEs.
Ashfield District Council	Ashfield District Council resolved at its meeting on 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 to withdraw the Local Plan 2016 and commence development of a New Local Plan immediately (Ashfield Draft Local Plan 2020 to 2038) which was consulted on (Regulation 18) in late 2021 <sup>14</sup> . The current Local Plan (Adopted 2002) set out a development framework for the	The objectives of the Ashfield Draft Local Plan 2020 – 2038 include the delivery of:  • a minimum of 8,226 new homes over the Plan period;  • approximately 13ha of employment land; and  • 3 Gypsy and Traveller pitches.	The evidence base does not include HRA work to date. This will be kept under review as this HRA progresses.	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Ashfield District Council (2021) Ashfield Draft Local Plan 2020 - 2038. Available at: <a href="https://www.ashfield.gov.uk/media/imjbbq1y/ashfield-draft-local-plan-2020-2038.pdf">https://www.ashfield.gov.uk/media/imjbbq1y/ashfield-draft-local-plan-2020-2038.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

LC-815 NSDC HRA Appendix A 2 020822SC.docx

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
	Plan Period 1991 to 2011.			
Gedling Borough Council	The Council adopted the Aligned Core Strategy (Part 1 Local Plan) on 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2014. The Local Planning Document (Part 2 Local Plan) was adopted 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2018 <sup>15</sup> .	The objectives of the adopted plan include: 7,250 new homes over the Plan period. Gedling Borough is also to provide 10 hectares of industrial/warehousing land and 23,000sqm of office space over the Plan period to 2028.	Gedling Borough Council Habitats Regulations Assessment (May 2016) <sup>16</sup> Outcome: The HRA concluded that there are no LSEs on the Sherwood Forest ppSPA, and therefore an Appropriate Assessment is not required.	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.
	Gedling Borough Council is preparing the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan with Broxtowe Borough Council, Nottingham City Council and Rushcliffe Borough Council to help guide future development across their combined areas. This Strategic Plan will form Part 1 of Gedling Borough Council's Local Plan			

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Gedling Borough Council (2018) Local Planning Document Part 2 Local Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.gedling.gov.uk/media/gedlingboroughcouncil/documents/planningpolicy/acsandlpd/LPD.pdf">https://www.gedling.gov.uk/media/gedlingboroughcouncil/documents/planningpolicy/acsandlpd/LPD.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Gedling Borough Council (2016) Habitat Regulations Assessment. Available at: <a href="https://www.qedling.gov.uk/lpdexamination/media/documents/planningbuildingcontrol/localplanningdocument/HRA-May2016.pdf">https://www.qedling.gov.uk/lpdexamination/media/documents/planningbuildingcontrol/localplanningdocument/HRA-May2016.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
	and replace the Aligned Core Strategy adopted in 2014.			
Greater Nottinghamshire Planning Partnership	The Partnership includes: the Councils of Broxtowe, Erewash, Gedling, Nottingham City and Rushcliffe together with the Hucknall part of Ashfield District, and the two associated County Councils of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire.  The aim of the partnership is to prepare statutory strategic development plans which are consistent and provide a coherent policy framework across Greater Nottingham.	The Partnership is currently working on a single joint evidence base spanning the whole of Greater Nottingham, to ensure a consistent approach to strategic policies.  Consultation was undertaken on growth options and blue-green infrastructure strategy in 2021.	The evidence base does not include HRA work to date. This will be kept under review as this HRA progresses.	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.
West Lindsey District Council	The West Lindsey Local Plan was formally replaced by the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan on 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2017.	Central Lincolnshire covers the combined areas of the City of Lincoln, North Kesteven and West Lindsey. The adopted plan is currently being reviewed. Consultation on the Regulation 19	Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (Regulation	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality,

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
North Kesteven District Council	The North Kesteven Local Plan was formally replaced by the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan on 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2017.	Proposed Submission Local Plan closed on the 9 <sup>th</sup> of May 2022 <sup>17</sup> .  Objectives of the Proposed Submission Local Plan include:  The housing requirement for Central Lincolnshire is a minimum of 1,060 dwellings per year, which would result in 23,320 dwellings between 2018 and 2040.	Outcome: The Appropriate Assessment concluded that the Local plan is compliant with the Habitats Regulations and will not result in likely significant effects on the integrity of any of the Habitat Sites identified, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, provided that the mitigation and recommendations made in the report are implemented. The HRA screening identified the following Habitat Sites as potentially at risk of significant effect:  Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar; The Wash SPA/Ramsar; The Wash and Norfolk Coast SPA	fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.
South Kesteven District Council	The South Kesteven Local Plan was	Objectives: 16,125 dwellings across the period 2011 to 2036 9 plots for Gypsy and Traveller accommodation from 2016 - 2036.	South Kesteven District Council Local Plan 2011-2036 Habitat Regulations Assessment <sup>20</sup>	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for in-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Central Lincolnshire (2021) Local Plan Review. Available at: <a href="https://central-lincs.inconsult.uk/CLLP.Draft.Local.Plan/consultationHome">https://central-lincs.inconsult.uk/CLLP.Draft.Local.Plan/consultationHome</a> [Date Accessed: 02/08/21]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (Regulation 19). Main Report. Available at: <a href="https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/central-lincolnshire/local-plan-review/">https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/central-lincolnshire/local-plan-review/</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> South Kesteven District Council, Habitats Regulations Assessment. Available at: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=24252&p=0">http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=24252&p=0</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
	adopted in January 2020 <sup>19</sup> .	179.2 hectares of employment land.	Outcome: This HRA concluded that the policies within the South Kesteven Local Plan are not likely to have any LSEs on any Natura 2000 sites.	combination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.
			South Kesteven District Council Local Plan 2011-2036. Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum (September 2019) <sup>21</sup>	
			Outcome: The report took into consideration the Sweetman Ruling and concluded that the Main Modifications will not have an LSE on the Natura 2000 sites, either alone, or in combination with other plans and projects.	
Melton Borough Council	The Melton Local Plan 2011 -2036 was adopted on the 10 <sup>th</sup> October 2018 <sup>22</sup> .  Melton Borough Council announced in April 2022 that a Local Plan Review will be taking place and that	Objectives: 6,125 new homes over the plan period from 2011-2036. 20 hectares of employment land as part of the Melton South Sustainable Neighbourhood, 10 hectares as extensions to the Asfordby Business Park and 1 hectare of office-based employment at Melton Mowbray.	Melton Local Plan: Submission (Publication) Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (October 2016) Outcome: The HRA concluded that a number of the policies may result in LSEs on Habitat sites, in relation to offsite damage/disturbance to habitats and non-physical	Yes. This plan will trigger change or development adjacent to the Plan area. There is potential for incombination air quality, fragmentation and public access and disturbance LSEs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> South Kesteven District Council (January, 2020) South Kesteven District Council Local Plan 2011 - 2036. Available at: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=26202">http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=26202</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> South Kesteven District Council (2019) Habitats regulations Assessment Addendum. Available at: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=25269">http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=25269</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Melton Borough Council Local Plan. Available at: <a href="https://www.meltonplan.co.uk">https://www.meltonplan.co.uk</a> [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

LC-815 NSDC HRA Appendix A 2 020822SC.docx

This plan will trigger change or

area. There is potential for in-

access and disturbance LSEs.

development adjacent to the Plan

combination air quality, and public

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
	a desk-based study should currently be ongoing.		disturbance, increased air pollution and increased recreational pressures.	
			Habitats Regulations Assessment - Technical Note (June 2017) <sup>23</sup>	
			Outcome: All findings of the HRA AA of the pre-submission Local Plan remain valid and it was concluded that the Local Plan would not have an adverse effect upon the integrity of the Natura 2000 Network.	
Rushcliffe Borough Council	Rushcliffe Borough Council adopted the	Objectives: 13.150 new homes between 2011-2028.	Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 2: Land and Planning Policies. Habitats	Yes. This plan will trigger change or

Regulations Assessment (April

combination, on the Sherwood

Forest ppSPA, and therefore an

Appropriate Assessment is not

Outcome: The HRA concluded that

there are no LSEs, either alone, or in

2018)<sup>24</sup>

required.

13,150 new homes between 2011-2028.

will be identified.

Minimum of 20 hectares of employment land

<sup>23</sup> LUC (2017) Habitats Regulations Assessment Technical Note. Available at: https://40598510-d83b-48fe-b4fd-63400f103e39.filesusr.com/ugd/d246bd 859aadc50e8e40628c3cac3b16ccfa6e.pdf [Date Accessed: 16/05/221]

Local Plan Part 1: Core

Strategy on the 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Rushcliffe Local

Plan Part 2: Land and

Planning Policies was

formally adopted on

the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

Broxtowe Borough, Gedling Borough, Nottingham City and

December 2014.

https://www.rushcliffe.gov.uk/media/1rushcliffe/media/documents/pdf/planningandbuilding/planningpolicy/lp2examination/SUB13%20Habitats%20Regulation%20Assessment%20Screening%20of%20Likely%20Significant %20Effect.pdf [Date Accessed: 16/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Rushcliffe Borough Council (2018) Local Plan Part 2 Habitat Regulations Assessment. Available at:

LC-815\_NSDC\_HRA\_Appendix A\_2\_020822SC.docx

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Proposed development – Key elements of the Plan that could cause in-combination effects	Summary of HRA findings	Potential in-combination Likely Significant Effect (LSE)
	Rushcliffe Borough Councils are developing the Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan which sets out the policies to help guide future development up to 2038. Details in			
	relation to this plan are set out above.			

# Appendix B: Habitat Site Conservation Objectives, Threats and Pressures

# Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC1

#### Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely

#### **Qualifying Features:**

H9190. Old acidophilous oak woods with *Quercus robur* on sandy plains; Dry oak-dominated woodland

#### Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD<sup>2,3,4:</sup>

- Air pollution impact of nitrogen deposition and acidification; and
- Public access and disturbance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Natural England (2018) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6070092765069312">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6070092765069312</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Other threats / pressures identified in the SIP are not considered likely to be influenced by the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Natural England (2015) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC SIP. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5351066822508544">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5351066822508544</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Natural England (2016) Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6318128569516032 [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

#### Humber Estuary SAC<sup>5</sup>

#### Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species;
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats;
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species rely:
- The populations of qualifying species; and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

#### Qualifying features:

H1110. Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all of the time; Subtidal sandbanks

H1130. Estuaries

H1140. Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats

H1150. Coastal lagoons\*

H1310. Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand

H1330. Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) H2110. Embryonic shifting dunes

H2120. Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes"); Shifting dunes with marram

H2130. Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes"); Dune grassland\* H2160. Dunes with *Hippophae rhamnoides*; Dunes with sea-buckthorn

S1095. Petromyzon marinus; Sea lamprey

S1099. Lampetra fluviatilis; River lamprey

S1364. Halichoerus grypus; Grey seal

Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD<sup>6,7</sup>:

Water pollution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Natural England (2018) Humber Estuary SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5009545743040512 [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Other threats / pressures identified in the SIP are not considered likely to be influenced by the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Natural England (2015) Humber Estuary SIP. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5730884670980096">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5730884670980096</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

#### **Humber Estuary SPA<sup>8</sup>**

#### Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely;
- The population of each of the qualifying features: and
- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

#### Qualifying features:

A021 Botaurus stellaris; Great bittern (Non-breeding)

A021 Botaurus stellaris; Great bittern (Breeding)

A048 Tadorna tadorna; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)

A081 Circus aeruginosus; Eurasian marsh harrier (Breeding)

A082 Circus cyaneus; Hen harrier (Non-breeding)

A132 Recurvirostra avosetta; Pied avocet (Non-breeding)

A132 Recurvirostra avosetta; Pied avocet (Breeding)

A140 Pluvialis apricaria; European golden plover (Non-breeding)

A143 Calidris canutus; Red knot (Non-breeding)

A149 Calidris alpina alpina; Dunlin (Non-breeding)

A151 Philomachus pugnax; Ruff (Non-breeding)

A156 Limosa limosa islandica; Black-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)

A157 Limosa lapponica; Bar-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)

A162 Tringa totanus; Common redshank (Non-breeding)

A195 Sterna albifrons; Little tern (Breeding)

Waterbird assemblage

Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD<sup>9,10</sup>:

Water pollution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Natural England (2019) Humber Estuary SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5382184353398784 [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Other threats / pressures identified in the SIP are not considered likely to be influenced by the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Natural England (2015) Humber Estuary SIP. Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5730884670980096">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5730884670980096</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

# Humber Estuary Ramsar 11

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in JNCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented in the table below.

Ramsar Criterion	Justification for the application of each criterion
1	The site is a representative example of a near-natural estuary with the following component habitats: dune systems and humid dune slacks, estuarine waters, intertidal mud and sand flats, saltmarshes, and coastal brackish/saline lagoons. It is a large macro-tidal coastal plain estuary with high suspended sediment loads, which feed a dynamic and rapidly changing system of accreting and eroding intertidal and subtidal mudflats, sandflats, saltmarsh and reedbeds. Examples of both strandline, foredune, mobile, semi-fixed dunes, fixed dunes and dune grassland occur on both banks of the estuary and along the coast. The estuary supports a full range of saline conditions from the open coast to the limit of saline intrusion on the tidal rivers of the Ouse and Trent. Wave exposed sandy shores are found in the outer/open coast areas of the estuary. These change to the more moderately exposed sandy shores and then to sheltered muddy shores within the main body of the estuary and up into the tidal rivers. The lower saltmarsh of the Humber is dominated by common cordgrass Spartina anglica and annual glasswort Salicornia communities. Low to mid marsh communities are mostly represented by sea aster Aster tripolium, common saltmarsh grass Puccinellia maritima and sea purslane Atriplex portulacoides communities. The upper portion of the saltmarsh community is atypical, dominated by sea couch Elytrigia atherica (Elymus pycnanthus) saltmarsh community. In the upper reaches of the estuary, the tidal marsh community is dominated by the common reed Phragmites australis fen and sea club rush Bolboschoenus maritimus swamp with the couch grass Elytrigia repens (Elymus repens) saltmarsh community. Within the Humber Estuary Ramsar site there are good examples of four of the five physiographic types of saline lagoon.
3	The Humber Estuary Ramsar site supports a breeding colony of grey seals <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> at Donna Nook. It is the second largest grey seal colony in England and the furthest south regular breeding site on the east coast. The dune slacks at Saltfleetby-Theddlethorpe on the southern extremity of the Ramsar site are the most north-easterly breeding site in Great Britain of the natterjack toad <i>Bufo calamita</i> .
5	Assemblages of international importance: 153,934 waterfowl, non-breeding season (5 year peak mean 1996/97-2000/2001)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> JNCC (2007) Ramsar Information Sheet: Humber Estuary. Available at: <a href="https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/files/RISrep/GB663RIS.pdf">https://rsis.ramsar.org/RISapp/files/RISrep/GB663RIS.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

6	Species/populations occurring at levels  Qualifying species/populations (as ide	·		
	Species with peak counts in winter:			
	Common shelduck, <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> , NW Europe	4464 individuals, representing an average of 1.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1)		
	Eurasian golden plover, <i>Pluvialis apricaria altifrons</i> subspecies, NW Europe, W Continental Europe, NW Africa population	30,709 individuals, representing an average of 3.3% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1)		
	Red Knot, <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i> subspecies	28165 individuals, representing an average of 6.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1)		
	Dunlin, <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> , Europe	22222 individuals, representing an average of 1.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1)		
	Black-tailed godwit, <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> subspecies	1,113 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 3.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1)		
	Bar-tailed godwit, <i>Limosa lapponica lapponica</i> subspecies	2,752 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 2.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1)		
	Common redshank, <i>Tringa totanus</i> totanus	4632 individuals, representing an average of 3.6% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7- 2000/1)		
8		ant migration route for both river lamprey stromyzon marinus between coastal water		

Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD:

• Water pollution (domestic sewage).

# The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC<sup>12</sup>

#### Conservation objectives:

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:

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species;
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats;
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely;
- The populations of qualifying species; and
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

#### **Qualifying Features:**

H1110. Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all of the time; Subtidal sandbanks

H1140. Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats

H1150. Coastal lagoons\*

H1160. Large shallow inlets and bays

H1170. Reefs

H1310. Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand

H1330. Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae)

H1420. Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (Sarcocornetea fruticosi);

Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub

S1355. Lutra lutra; Otter

S1365. Phoca vitulina: Common seal

\* Priority natural habitats or species

# Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD<sup>13,14</sup>:

Water levels.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Natural England (2018) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5213489320951808 [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Other threats / pressures identified in the SIP are not considered likely to be influenced by the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Natural England (2014) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SIP (to cover Gibraltar Point SPA, N Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC and The Wash SPA). Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

#### The Wash SPA<sup>15</sup>

#### Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely;
- The population of each of the qualifying features; and
- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

#### **Qualifying Features:**

A037 Cygnus columbianus bewickii; Bewick's swan (Non-breeding)

A040 Anser brachyrhynchus; Pink-footed goose (Non-breeding)

A046a Branta bernicla bernicla; Dark-bellied brent goose (Non-breeding)

A048 Tadorna tadorna; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)

A050 Anas penelope; Eurasian wigeon (Non-breeding)

A051 Anas strepera; Gadwall (Non-breeding)

A054 Anas acuta; Northern pintail (Non-breeding)

A065 Melanitta nigra; Black (common) scoter (Non-breeding)

A067 Bucephala clangula; Common goldeneye (Non-breeding)

A130 Haematopus ostralegus; Eurasian oystercatcher (Non-breeding)

A141 Pluvialis squatarola; Grey plover (Non-breeding)

A143 Calidris canutus; Red knot (Non-breeding)

A144 Calidris alba; Sanderling (Non-breeding)

A149 Calidris alpina alpina; Dunlin (Non-breeding)

A156 Limosa limosa islandica; Black-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)

A157 Limosa lapponica; Bar-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)

A160 *Numenius arquata*; Eurasian curlew (Non-breeding)

A162 Tringa totanus; Common redshank (Non-breeding)

A169 Arenaria interpres; Ruddy turnstone (Non-breeding)

A193 Sterna hirundo; Common tern (Breeding)

A195 Sterna albifrons; Little tern (Breeding)

Waterbird assemblage

# Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD<sup>16,17</sup>:

Water levels.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Natural England (2019) The Wash SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4748062010638336 [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Other threats / pressures identified in the SIP are not considered likely to be influenced by the DPD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Natural England (2014) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SIP (to cover Gibraltar Point SPA, N Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC and The Wash SPA). Available at: <a href="http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904">http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

# The Wash Ramsar<sup>18</sup>

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in INCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented in the table below.

Ramsar Criterion	Justification for the application of each criterion				
1	Ramsar criterion 1  The Wash is a large shallow bay comprising very extensive saltmarshes, major intertidal banks of sand and mud, shallow water and deep channels.				
3	Ramsar criterion 5  Qualifies because of the inter-relationship between its various components including saltmarshes, intertidal sand and mud flats and the estuarine waters. The saltmarshes and the plankton in the estuarine water provide a primary source of organic material which, together with other organic matter, forms the basis for the high productivity of the estuary.				
5	Ramsar criterion 5  Assemblages of international importance: Species with peak counts in winter:  292541 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)				
6	Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.  Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation):				
	Eurasian oystercatcher , Haematopus ostralegus ostralegus, Europe & NW Africa -wintering  15616 individuals, representing an average of 1.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)				
	Grey plover , <i>Pluvialis</i> squatarola, E Atlantic/W Africa - wintering  13129 individuals, representing an average of 5.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3 - spring peak)				
	Red knot , <i>Calidris</i> canutus islandica, W & Southern Africa (wintering)  68987 individuals, representing an average of 15.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)				

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> JNCC. 2008. The Wash Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. The Wash Ramsar <a href="https://incc.gov.uk/incc-assets/RIS/UK11072.pdf">https://incc.gov.uk/incc-assets/RIS/UK11072.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22].

Sanderling , Calidris alba, Eastern Atlantic  Eurasian curlew , Numenius arquata arquata, N. a. arquata Europe (breeding)	3505 individuals, representing an average of 2.8% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)  9438 individuals, representing an average of 2.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Common redshank , Tringa totanus totanus,	6373 individuals, representing an average of 2.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Ruddy turnstone ,  Arenaria interpres  interpres, NE Canada, Greenland/W Europe & NW Africa	888 individuals, representing an average of 1.7% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9- 2002/3)

Species with peak count	Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:					
Pink-footed goose , <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> , Greenland, Iceland/UK	29099 individuals, representing an average of 12.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)					
Dark-bellied brent goose, <i>Branta bernicla</i> <i>bernicla</i> ,	20861 individuals, representing an average of 9.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)					
Common shelduck , <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> , NW Europe	9746 individuals, representing an average of 3.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)					
Northern pintail , <i>Anas</i> <i>acuta</i> , NW Europe	431 individuals, representing an average of 1.5% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9- 2002/3)					
Dunlin , <i>Calidris alpina</i> <i>alpina</i> , W Siberia/W Europe	36600 individuals, representing an average of 2.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)					
Bar-tailed godwit , <i>Limosa lapponica</i> <i>lapponica</i> , W Palearctic	16546 individuals, representing an average of 13.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)					

Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6.

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:

Ringed plover , <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> , Europe/Northwest Africa	1500 individuals, representing an average of 2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9- 2002/3)
Black-tailed godwit , <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> , Iceland/W Europe	6849 individuals, representing an average of 19.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Species with peak count	s in winter:
European golden plover , <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> <i>apricaria</i> , <i>P. a. altifrons</i> Iceland & Faroes/E Atlantic	22033 individuals, representing an average of 2.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)
Northern lapwing ,  Vanellus vanellus,  Europe - breeding	46422 individuals, representing an average of 1.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Threats and Pressures at Habitat site which may be affected by DPD:

None identified in Ramsar Information Sheet.

### **Sherwood Forest ppSPA**

No conclusion has been reached about the possible future classification of parts of Sherwood Forest as a SPA for its breeding bird interest. Natural England advises<sup>19</sup>:

"a precautionary approach should be adopted by LPAs which ensures that reasonable and proportionate steps have been taken in order to minimise, as far as possible, any potential adverse effects from development on the breeding populations of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest area".

#### Bird species listed on Annex 1 of the European Wild Birds Directive:

European nightjar (Breeding) *Caprimulgus europaeus;* and Woodlark (Breeding) *Lullula arborea.* 

#### Threats and Pressures at the site which may be affected by DPD:

- Disturbance to breeding birds from people, their pets and traffic;
- Loss, fragmentation and/or damage to breeding and/or feeding habitat;
- Bird mortality arising from domestic pets and/or predatory mammals and birds;
- Bird mortality arising from road traffic and/or wind turbines; and
- Pollution and/or nutrient enrichment of breeding habitats.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Natural England (2014) Advice note to Local Planning Authorities regarding the consideration of likely effects on the breeding population of nightjar and woodlark in the Sherwood Forest region. Available at: <a href="https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014">https://www.mansfield.gov.uk/downloads/file/329/natural-england-s-advice-notes-on-the-sherwood-ppspa-2014</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22]

# Appendix C: Habitats Sites and Corresponding SSSI Conservation Status

Habitats Site <sup>1</sup>	No. of SSSIs	Conservation Status of SSSIs <sup>2</sup>	Reason for unfavourable status where applicable.
Birkland and Bilhaug	h SAC		
		9 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Birkland and Bilhaugh SSSI	12	3 Unfavourable – no	Forestry and woodland management (Unit 8) No evidence of positive management being undertaken.
		change	Public access and disturbance (Unit 12) Replacement of the characteristic woodland and heathland with areas of hardstanding, buildings and surfaced walkways.
Sherwood Forest pp	SPA		
		11 Favourable	n/a
Clumber Park SSSI	29	18 Unfavourable - recovering	The high cover of non-native trees and shrubs, bracken and scrub has been reduced by positive management.
	6	5 Favourable	n/a
Welbeck Lake SSSI		1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Thoresby Lake	5	2 Unfavourable – declining	n/a
SSSI		3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
		9 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Birkland and Bilhaugh SSSI	19	3 Unfavourable - no	Forestry and woodland management (Unit 8) No evidence of positive management being undertaken.
			Public access and disturbance (Unit 12) Replacement of the characteristic woodland and heathland with areas of hardstanding, buildings and surfaced walkways.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sites within a 15km of the Newark and Sherwood District boundary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Natural England. IRX <a href="https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/">https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/</a> [Date Accessed: 09/05/22].

Habitats Site <sup>1</sup>	No. of SSSIs	Conservation Status of SSSIs <sup>2</sup>	Reason for unfavourable status where applicable.
Birklands West and Ollerton Corner SSSI	6	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Strawberry Hill Heaths SSSI	3	1 Unfavourable - recovering	Scrub levels too high and woodland structure poor.
Rainworth Heath SSSI	1	1 Unfavourable - recovering	Scrub levels too high and woodland structure poor.
The Wash and North	Norfolk Coast	SAC	
Gibraltar Point SSSI		2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	5	1 Unfavourable – declining	Air pollution
		2 Favourable	n/a
North Norfolk Coast SSSI	70	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	70	67 Favourable	n/a
The Wash SSSI		48 Favourable	n/a
	60	1 Unfavourable – declining	n/a
		10 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
The Wash SPA and T	he Wash Rams	sar	
The Wash SSSI		48 Favourable	n/a
	60	1 Unfavourable – declining	n/a
		10 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
The Humber Estuary	SAC		
		130 Unfavourable - recovering	Good range of habitats. Could be improved with targeted management.
Humber Estuary	187	7 Unfavourable - no change	Unit is overrun with bramble, nettle and hawthorn.
SSSI	107	36 Unfavourable - declining	Pollution, agriculture/run-off
		14 Favourable	n/a
The Humber Estuary	SPA and The H	Humber Estuary Ramsar	
Humber Estuary	130 Unfavoura recovering		Good range of habitats. Could be improved with targeted management.
SSSI	187	7 Unfavourable - no change	Unit is overrun with bramble, nettle and hawthorn.

Habitats Site <sup>1</sup>	No. of SSSIs	Conservation Status of SSSIs <sup>2</sup>	Reason for unfavourable status where applicable.
		36 Unfavourable - declining	Pollution, agriculture/run-off
		14 Favourable	n/a
North Killingholme	2	1 Unfavourable - no change	n/a
Haven Pits SSSI	2	1 Favourable	n/a
Saltfleetby –		1 Favourable	n/a
Theddlethorpe Dunes SSSI	2	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
The Lagoons SSSI	1	1 Unfavourable - no change	Coastal squeeze

# Appendix D: DPD Pre-Screening to inform the Test of Likely Significance

The Regulation 19 DPD polices have been screened using the DTA HRA pre-screening categories<sup>1</sup> presented in **Table D.1**.

**Table D.1:** Assessment and reasoning categories from Part F of the DTA Handbook

Assessment and reasoning categories from Chapter F of The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (DTA Publications, 2013):

- A. General statements of policy / general aspirations.
- B. Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals.
- C. Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan.
- D. General plan-wide environmental protection / site safeguarding / threshold policies
- E. Policies or proposals that steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects.
- F. Policies or proposals that cannot lead to development or other change.
- G. Policies or proposals that could not have any conceivable or adverse effect on a site.
- H. Policies or proposals 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).
- I. Policies or proposals with a likely significant effect on a site alone.
- J. Policies or proposals unlikely to have a significant effect alone.
- K. Policies or proposals unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in combination.
- L. Policies or proposals which might be likely to have a significant effect in combination.
- M. Bespoke area, site or case-specific policies or proposals intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (September) (2013) edition UK: DTA Publications Limited. Available at: www.dtapublications.co.uk

Policy Name	Policy Number	Policy Wording	Screening Category	Screening Conclusion and HRA Recommendations
Core Strategy				
Affordable Housing	Core Policy 1	For all qualifying new housing development proposals, the District Council will require the provision of Affordable Housing, as defined in national planning policy, which is	F	Screen out
Provision		provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market.  A Thresholds		
		The qualifying thresholds for Affordable Housing provision are:		
		All housing proposals of 10 units or more or those that have a site area of 0.5 hectares or more.		
		B Tenure Requirements		
		On qualifying schemes the District Council will seek to secure 30% Affordable Housing, which includes the national requirement to secure 10% of new dwellings as affordable home ownership product as set out in part D of this policy.		
		The District Council will seek to secure a tenure mix of Affordable Housing to reflect local housing need and viability on individual sites. Overall the tenure requirement in the District should reflect the following mix:		
		<ul> <li>60% social rented/affordable rented;</li> </ul>		
		<ul> <li>40% affordable home ownership product.</li> </ul>		
		The affordable home ownership product element of the contribution will comprise of 25% First Homes with the remainder made up of other affordable home ownership products based on an up-to-date assessment of local need. First Homes should secure a minimum discount of 30% against market value.		
		C Viability & Site Specific Implementation		
		In seeking affordable housing the District Council will consider:		
		The nature of the housing need in the local housing market;		
		<ul> <li>If the development will result in the bringing back into use of a vacant building in circumstances where the vacant building credit would apply;</li> </ul>		
		The cost of developing the site; and		
		<ul> <li>The impact of this on the viability of any proposed scheme.</li> </ul>		
		In circumstances where the viability of the scheme is in question, the developer will be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the District Council, that this is the case.		

Policy Name	Policy Number	Policy Wording	Screening Category	Screening Conclusion and HRA Recommendations
		Viability will be assessed in accordance with Policy DM3 – Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations.  The District Council's preferred approach would normally expect affordable housing provision to occur on site. However it is recognised that in some circumstances off site provision or contributions may be more appropriate, because of the characteristics of the scheme proposed or because it may help to deliver affordable housing provision more efficiently elsewhere in the locality. The District Council will require a financial contribution of equivalent value to that which would have been secured by on site contribution.  D Implementing the 10% Affordable Home ownership product target  National policy requires that 10% of dwellings on qualifying sites be affordable home ownership products. This should be provided unless;  It is identified that it would significantly prejudice the ability to meet the identified affordable housing needs of specific groups. This should be established using local housing need research; or  It meets one of the exceptions set out in national policy.  National policy does not allow an exemption on grounds of viability for the provision of the 10% affordable home ownership products.		
Entry-Level Exception	Core Policy 2A	Entry-level exception sites as set out in national planning policy will be supported in locations adjacent to the Urban Boundary/Village Envelopes of the Newark Urban Area, Service Centres and Principal Villages where it can be demonstrated that they are addressing a shortfall of the type of entry-level product being promoted in the proposal. Such proposals should also reflect the type of entry level product that is required in the locality of the proposal. They should not be larger than one hectare in size or exceed 5% of the size of the existing settlement and be in line with DM5b Design and the Sustainable Design SPD.  Entry-level exceptions sites are not acceptable in the Green Belt, on Main Open Areas, Open Breaks, Local Green Space, or areas at risk of flooding, or on designated nature conservation sites or that impact on the special character of heritage assets contrary to the provisions of Core Policy 14 Historic Environment.	L	Screen in. This policy supports entry-level sites. As the location of these sites is unknown due to their nature, they have the potential to have potential LSEs upon the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and the ppSPA in terms of increased public access and disturbance effects, air quality effects and impacts upon functionally linked habitat (ppSPA only). In addition, there is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitats site designations.

Policy Name	Policy Number	Policy Wording	Screening Category	Screening Conclusion and HRA Recommendations
Housing Mix, Type and Density	Core Policy 3	The District Council will expect good quality housing design in line with the provisions of Core Policy 9 Sustainable Design. Development densities in all housing developments should normally be no lower than an average 30 dwellings per hectare net. Development densities below this will need to be justified, taking into account individual site circumstances.  Average densities of between 30 - 50 dwellings per hectare are set in NAP2 (A/B/C) for the three Strategic Sites allocated in the Core Strategy around Newark Urban Area. Similarly, density requirements are set out in ShAP 4 for the Thoresby Colliery Strategic Site. Densities of 30 dwellings per hectare, or more, will be set for other locations and allocations in the Allocations & Development Management DPD.  The District Council will seek to secure new housing development which adequately addresses the housing need of the District, namely:	F	Screen out
		Emphasis on 2 and 3 bedroom family housing.		
		Greater provision of bungalows on appropriate large sites		
		• Support for specialist housing such as extra care and retirement housing.		
		On individual applications the mix will be dependent on the local circumstances of the site, the viability of the development and any localised housing need information including the sub area analysis in the most up to date Housing Needs Assessment.		
		Particular emphasis will be placed on considering the impact of physical disability and mental health when addressing housing needs.		
		On sites of 10 dwellings or more provision of 23% of new homes to M4(2) accessible and adaptable standard will normally be required. On sites of 50 dwellings or more 1% of new dwellings should meet the to M4(3) wheelchair accessible standard will normally be required and be provided amongst the affordable housing delivered on site.		
		The provision of M4(2) and M4(3) will be required unless site specific factors such as vulnerability to flooding, site topography, and other circumstances which may make a specific site less suitable for M4(2) and M4(3) compliant dwellings, particularly where step free access cannot be achieved or is not viable. Where step-free access is not viable, neither M4(2) and M4(3)should be applied.		
		The District Council will support proposals for self-build and custom build housing that help meet the needs of those on the Self Build and Custom Housebuilding Register, provided they are compliant with other relevant development plan policies.		

Allocation Policies					
Laxton	Policy ShA/L/1	In line with Core Policy 14 the District Council will work with partners to support the long term management of the historic open field system of farming in Laxton. Development which detrimentally impacts on the operation of the historic open field system of farming in Laxton will be refused.  In Laxton schemes which provide retirement housing for agricultural workers who have been engaged in the operation of the open field system will be supported provided that such schemes:  • demonstrate the retirement housing will enable the farms to return to active agricultural use as part of the open field system, to be secured through a legal agreement;  • do not impeded the ongoing operation of the open field system; and  • do not detrimentally impact on heritage assets and the special character of the Conservation Area.  Such sites should be in Laxton and meet the requirements set out in Spatial Policy 3 Rural Areas relating to Scale, Impact and Character of Development.	D	Screen out.	
Archaeology – Farndon and River Devon Ice Age Landscape	Policy NUA/AR/ 1	The Farndon and River Devon Ice Age Landscape is split into two areas as defined on the Policies Map;  Area A – Nationally Important Archaeological Remains  Area B – High Risk of Nationally Important Archaeological Remains  For development proposals within Area A, local and national planning policy towards designated heritage assets will apply.  For development proposals within Area B, an appropriate site evaluation from the earliest stages of predetermination site assessment will be required in order to allow for the significance and importance of archaeological remains to be proportionately treated in the planning process. All developments should include pre-application investigation comprising both non-intrusive and intrusive field evaluation undertaken in consultation with the relevant specialists. Where these investigations show comparable results with Area A, the policy approach would consider the proposed sites in terms of national and local planning policy towards designated heritage assets.	D	Screen out.	
Archaeology - Newark Civil War	Policy NUA/AR/ 2	For sites within Newark and its immediate environs containing known or potential Civil War archaeological interest, applications must be accompanied by an appropriate archaeological assessment of the impact of the development. A field evaluation prior to determination of the planning application may also be required. Where remains are of regional significance within the Civil War constraints as defined on the Policies Map,	D	Screen out.	

		detailed agreement on ground impacts should be secured before planning permission is granted.  Where necessary to secure the protection of the heritage asset or a programme of archaeological mitigation, conditions will be attached to permissions. These may include requirements for detailed agreement on ground impacts and programmes of archaeological investigation, building recording, reporting and archiving.  For development proposals within Newark, the Notts HER should be consulted which defines Areas of Archaeological Significance		
Archaeology - Southwell Roman Villa	Policy SO/AR/1	<ul> <li>The Southwell Roman Villa is identified in two areas, as defined on the Policies Map;</li> <li>the scheduled monument and;</li> <li>Area A (extended area of high archaeological potential).</li> <li>For development proposals within Area A, an appropriate site evaluation from the earliest stages of predetermination site assessment will be required in order to allow for the significance and importance of archaeological remains to be proportionately treated in the planning process. All developments should include pre-application investigation comprising both non-intrusive and intrusive field evaluation undertaken in consultation with the relevant specialists. Where these investigations show comparable results with the Scheduled Monument, the policy approach would consider the proposed sites in terms of national and local planning policy towards designated heritage assets.</li> </ul>	D	Screen out.
Newark Area – Main Open Areas	Policy NA/MOA	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land that play an important part in defining a settlements form and structure.  Within the following locations Main Open Areas have been defined on the Policies Map:  Besthorpe Coddington Cromwell North Clifton North Muskham Norwell South Muskham Within these Main Open Areas planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.	F	Screen out.
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 1	Policy NUA/Ho/ 1	Site De-allocated	F	Screen out.

Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 2	Policy NUA/Ho/ 2	Land south of Quibells Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 25 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  - The preparation of a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment by the applicant forming part of any planning application;  - Provision of an appropriate landscaping scheme submitted as part of any planning application to screen the site from the East Coast Main Line; and  - The investigation of potential archaeology on the site and any necessary post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent reflecting the high archaeological potential of the site.	L	Screen in.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  Half of the site is located within the proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA – recreational impacts are therefore screened in. Given the distance impacts are likely to be in-combination only.  In addition, there is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI, or within 400m of a Habitats site and given its location on the edge of Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 3	Policy NUA/Ho/ 3	Site De-allocated	F	Screen out.
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 4 - Yorke Drive Policy Area	NUA/Ho/ 4	Yorke Drive Estate and Lincoln Road Playing Fields have been identified in the Bridge Ward Neighbourhood Study as locations for regeneration and redevelopment. The area has been identified on the Policies Map as the NUA/Ho/4 - Yorke Drive Policy Area. The regeneration and redevelopment of the Yorke Drive Policy Area should be a comprehensive scheme, regenerating existing housing and developing new stock in a coordinated and sustainable manner. To achieve this, proposals in the Policy Area will be presented as part of a Master Plan which will:  - Include proposals for improved linkages between the policy area and the wider Bridge Ward including Lincoln Road and Northern Road Industrial Estate; - Include proposals for phasing and delivery methods for the redevelopment; - Meet the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to	L	Screen in.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  In addition, there is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.

		Policy DM 2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations; and  - Facilitate pre-determination archaeological evaluation and post-determination mitigation measures.  Within the existing Yorke Drive Estate the Master Plan will provide for the following:  - Removal of poorer quality housing and replacement with new dwellings;  - Change of housing type to increase mix of tenure and range of housing; and  - Improvements to the layout and public realm of the estate;  Within the Lincoln Road Playing Field the Master Plan will address the following:  - Suitable playing pitches are retained to meet the requirements of Spatial Policy 8; and  - Additional access is provided to the site via Lincoln Road.  In allocating this site for housing development it is anticipated that approximately 230 net additional dwellings will be developed.		It is not within any habitats site recreational ZOI, or within 400m of a Habitats site and given its urban location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 5	JA/Ho/	<ul> <li>Land north of Beacon Hill Road and the northbound A1 Coddington slip road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 200 dwellings.</li> <li>In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:         <ul> <li>Satisfactory access arrangements through the neighbouring site which has planning permission for residential dwellings;</li> <li>Provision of an appropriate landscaping scheme submitted as part of any planning application to screen the site from the A1 and long distance views into the site from the north;</li> <li>Proposals will need to demonstrate that any identified mineral resource is not needlessly sterilised and where this cannot be demonstrated, prior extraction may be sought where practical;</li> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required; and</li> <li>The preparation of a Master Plan as part of any planning application(s) setting out the broad location for development on the site and phasing of new development</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location on the edge of Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.

Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 6	Policy NUA/Ho/ 6	Land between 55 and 65 Millgate has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 10 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • The site lies in Newark Conservation Area in close proximity to Listed Buildings and the District Council will be preparing a development brief to guide development on the site, any proposals will have to meet the requirements of such a brief; and  • Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures, secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required, reflecting the high archaeological potential of the site.	i.	Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location on the edge of Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Bowbridge Road Policy Area	Policy NUA/Ho/ 7	Land between Bowbridge Road and Hawton Lane has been identified as the Bowbridge Road Policy Area on the Policies Map.  Within the Policy Area proposals to redevelop vacant brownfield sites will be encouraged. Such redevelopment should seek to ensure that the impact of neighbouring uses is fully taken into account. In particular residential development is allocated on the following sites:  • NUA/Ho/8  • NUA/Ho/9  The Council will work with stakeholders to seek appropriate regeneration within the area and seek to resolve existing environmental problems which exist in the Policy Area including by the redevelopment of Opportunity Site 1 the Tarmac site.	F	Screen out. This policy concerns encouraging brownfield regeneration. LSEs associated with NUA/Ho/8 and 9 are screened below.
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 8	Policy NUA/Ho/ 8	Land on Bowbridge Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 86 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the <u>Amended Core Strategy</u> and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the

		<ul> <li>Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:         <ul> <li>Addressing the requirements of NUA/Ho/7 Bowbridge Road Policy Area; and</li> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Development of this site will be phased to the latter stages of the plan period in order for the existing environmental issues to be resolved and the Southern Link Road constructed.</li> </ul>		Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 9	Policy NUA/Ho/ 9	Land on Bowbridge Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 150 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • Addressing the requirements of NUA/Ho/7 Bowbridge Road Policy Area; and • Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.  Development of this site will be phased to the latter stages of the plan period in order for the existing environmental issues to be resolved and the Southern Link Road constructed.	Ļ	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.

Newark Urban Area - Housing Site 10	Policy NUA/Ho/ 10	Land north of Lowfield Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 170 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • The preparation of an appropriate transport assessment by the applicant, including improvements to Manners Road/London Road Junction forming part of any planning application;  • An appropriate landscaping scheme, submitted as part of any planning application, providing buffering to the south and west of the site in relation to the adjacent LWS's and retention of existing hedgerows on site where possible;  • Proposals will need to demonstrate that any identified mineral resource is not needlessly sterilised and where this cannot be demonstrated, prior extraction may be sought where practical; and  • Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required. New development here should respect the plot shapes of the medieval field system.	į.	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Newark Showground Policy Area	Policy NUA/SPA /1	Within the area defined on the Policies Map as Newark Showground Policy Area new development which supports and complements the East Midlands Events Centre (Newark & Nottinghamshire Agricultural Society Showground) and other leisure and visitor economy uses on site will be supported. In addition, development proposals which result in provision of an appropriately located Livestock Market facility, proportionate complementary uses and an enhanced replacement Lorry Park within the Policy Area will be positively viewed. Subject to the wider requirements of the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7 being met.  The District Council will work with the County Council, the Highways Agency, Parish Councils and the various landowners to prepare a Master Plan for the whole policy area to secure appropriate enhancement and development of the site.  Within the Policy Area a new mixed use allocation has been made in the following location:  • NUA/MU/1 Land North of the A17  Within the Policy Area proposals must specifically address the following:	В	Screen out.  This policy sets out design requirements for development in the Newark Showground Policy Area. LSEs from NUA/MU/1 are assessed below.

		<ul> <li>The need to address access constraints relating to the A1/A46/A17 junctions, including the A46 Newark Northern Bypass dualling identified in the Road Investment Strategy 2;</li> <li>The need to achieve high quality sustainable building design and comprehensive integrated landscaping;</li> <li>The investigation of potential archaeology on the site and any necessary post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent reflecting the high archaeological potential of the site;</li> <li>Address any issues arising from the proposals which may adversely affect nearby residents.</li> </ul>		
Newark Urban Area - Mixed Use Site 1	Policy NUA/MU/ 1	Land North of the A17 has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate a Hotel/Conference Facility, restaurant facilities to support the wider showground uses, and employment uses.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • The requirements of the Newark Showground Policy Area;  • The preparation of a site specific Master Plan for the allocation setting out the location of various land uses and a phasing policy for new development;  • Until appropriate improvements have been made to the A1/A46/A17 Junction, employment development will not be considered appropriate. Any proposed development will need to demonstrate that it will not generate significant a.m. and p.m. peak traffic as part of any planning application.	L	Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Mixed Use Site 2	Policy NUA/MU/ 2	De-allocate site.	F	Screen out.
Newark Urban Area -	Policy NUA/MU/ 3	Reallocate as Opportunity Site	F	Screen out.

Mixed Use Site 3				
Newark Urban Area - Mixed Use Site 4	Policy NUA/MU/ 4	Land at Bowbridge Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 115 dwellings and a new leisure centre for Newark.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • The development of a Master Plan to address the relationship between the residential development and the new leisure centre and provide a context for any future incorporation of RHP Sports Ground within the management of leisure centre;  • Address issues relating to the adjacent operations of neighbouring employment sites; and  • Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.	I.	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Opportunity Sites	Policy NUA/OS	To ensure that the housing and employment needs of the District are delivered over the plan period, sufficient sites have been allocated to more than meet the requirements. In accordance with Amended Core Strategy Spatial Policy 5 - Delivering the Strategy, the following opportunity sites have also been identified:  • NUA/OS/1 - Tarmac Site, Hawton Lane/Bowbridge Road, Newark (around 270 dwellings)  • NUA/OS/2 - Land North of Beacon Hill Road (former NUA/Ho/5), Newark (around 200 dwellings)  • NUA/OS/3 - NSK Factory (former NUA/MU/3) Northern Road, Newark (around 150 dwellings)  These sites all lie within the Urban Boundary and where it becomes clear through the monitoring process that delivery is not taking place at the rates required, the Council will actively seek to bring forward opportunity sites by working with landowners and developers to release sites earlier in the plan period.	Ļ	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. They are not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely.

		The Council will keep these opportunity sites under review and may identify additional opportunity sites within the settlements central to delivering the Spatial Strategy though the annual Monitoring process.		They are not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given their location in Newark on Trent they do not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Newark Industrial Estate Policy Area	Policy NUA/E/1	Within the area defined on the Policies Map as NUA/E/I Newark Industrial Estate Policy Area, new employment development will be encouraged. Newark Industrial Estate is a strategic Major Employment Site (as defined on the Newark Key Diagram); development which is not of a B2/ B8/ E(g) use class will be expected to meet the requirements in Core Policy 6.  Within the Policy Area new employment allocations have been made in the following locations:  • NUA/E/2 Land West of the A1 an  • NUA/E/3 Land off Telford Drive  The Bridge Ward Neighbourhood Study identified key concerns with traffic flow and parking within the Policy Area. The District Council will work with the County Council, the owners and businesses located within the Policy Area to resolve existing traffic issues and seek to secure additional connectivity to the wider Bridge Ward including Newark Northgate Station.  In promoting new development in the Policy Area the District Council expects:  i. Appropriate boundary treatment and screening of open storage areas;  ii. Satisfactory provision of access for parking and servicing;  iii. Development should not impact on adjacent residential areas; and  iv. Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out design requirements for development in the Newark Industrial Estate Policy Area. It does not trigger any change or development. Allocations NUA/E/2 and NUA/E/3 are screened below.
Newark Urban Area - Employment Site 2	Policy NUA/E/2	Land west of the A1 on Stephenson Way has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development. The site is 12.24 hectares in size.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  i. The requirements of NUA/E/1 Newark Industrial Estate Policy Area;  ii. An appropriate landscaping scheme submitted as part of any planning application providing screening of the site from the A1; and	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands &

		iii. An appropriate assessment of access issues arising from the proposal on the wider industrial estate submitted as part of any planning application.		Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Employment Site 3	Policy NUA/E/3	Land off Telford Drive has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development. The allocation is in three parcels, a total of 0.99 hectares in size.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  i. The requirements of NUA/E/1 Newark Industrial Estate Policy Area; ii. Appropriate landscaping scheme, submitted as part of any planning application, providing appropriate boundary treatment to respect the Middleton Road area; and iii. An appropriate assessment of access issues arising from the proposal on the wider industrial estate submitted as part of any planning application.	L	Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI or proposed Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are unlikely. It is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely. Given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Employment Site 4	Policy NUA/E/4	Land at the former Nottinghamshire County Council Highways Depot on Great North Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development. The site is 2.07 ha in size and B2/B8/E(g) is appropriate in this location.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.

		<ul> <li>Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:         <ul> <li>Appropriate design which addresses the site's gateway location and manages the transition into Newark Urban Area including retention and enhancement of existing boundary planting on the Great North Road/Kelham Road boundary;</li> <li>The preparation of a Site Specific Flood Risk Assessment by the applicant forming part of any planning application; and</li> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Proposals for non B2/B8/E(g) uses should demonstrate that they meet the requirements of Core Policy 6.</li> </ul>		Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  It is not within the proposed SAC ZOI. Whilst half of the site is located within the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA, as the site is allocated for employment there will be no recreational impacts associated with development. The site is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and given its location in Newark on Trent it does not provide FLL.
Newark Urban Area - Phasing Policy	Policy NUA/Ph/1	In Newark Urban Area the following sites will include phasing within any Master Plan to accompany any planning application:  • NUA/Ho/4 • NUA/Ho/5 • NUA/MU/3 • NUA/MU/4  In the following sites, phasing will be required to address infrastructure/environmental issues: • NUA/Ho/8 • NUA/Ho/9 • NUA/Ho/9 • NUA/MU/1  Phasing in all cases must be appropriate to the size of the development, reflect on site and infrastructure provision and constraints and not be unviable for the developer to implement.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out phasing for development in the Newark Urban Area. It does not trigger any change or development. Housing and mixed-use allocations themselves are screened in other sections of this appendix.
Newark Urban Area - Newark Town Centre	Policy NUA/TC/ 1	To help promote Newark Town Centre as the major focus for new and improved shopping, leisure and tourism facilities, a town centre boundary which illustrates the extent of the primary shopping area has been defined on the Policies Map.  The future management of the Centre will be provided for through the development and implementation of the Newark-on-Trent Town Investment Plan and subsequent Town Centre Strategy. Consideration of development proposals for retail and other Main Town	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out a town centre boundary for Newark. It does not trigger any change or development.

		Centre uses within and beyond Newark Town Centre will be made against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Main Town Centre Uses.		
Balderton - Local Centre North	Policy NUA/LC/ 1	To promote the strength of Balderton as a local shopping destination, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out.  This policy defines a local centre for Balderton. It does not trigger any change or development.
Northgate Station Policy Area	Policy NUA/Tr/1	<ul> <li>The District Council will work with Network Rail, the Train Operating Companies,         Nottinghamshire County Council and the various landowners, transport and amenity         stakeholders to prepare a comprehensive regeneration scheme for the area on the         Policies Map defined as the Northgate Station Policy Area. Any scheme will contain the         following element:             <ul> <li>Proposals to improve the physical environment of the Policy Area to recognise                  its important gateway role</li> <li>Proposals to preserve and enhance heritage assets, including the Grade II listed                        station and the adjoining conservation area;</li> <li>Proposals to improve the linkages between the site and Newark Industrial</li></ul></li></ul>	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out an area for the regeneration of Northgate Station. It does not trigger any change or development.
Newark Urban Area - Open Breaks	Policy NUA/OB/ 1	In order to ensure that existing settlements retain their separate identities and characteristics, the District Council has identified certain areas that are under pressure for development which provide an open break between settlements.  i. Newark and Farndon; ii. Newark and Winthorpe; and iii. Newark and Coddington.  Within land allocated on the Policies Map as Open Breaks in Newark Urban Area, planning permission will not normally be granted for development. Exceptions to this will include development which does not unacceptably harm the openness of the Open Break, and falls within the following categories:  a) Proportionate development ancillary to existing domestic development within or adjoining the Open Break; and	F	Screen out. This policy sets out urban open break areas between settlements. It does not trigger any change or development.

		b) Redevelopment and replacement or change of use of existing development which does not have a greater impact on the openness of the designation than the existing development.		
Collingham - Mixed Use Site 1	Policy Co/MU/1	Land in between Swinderby Road and Station Road, to the west of the railway line has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development providing around 80 dwellings, allotments, up to 0.75ha of employment uses in the north eastern part of the site, public open space and the potential for a station car park.  Land to the east of the allocation has been identified for future development within Use Classes B1 and C2 under designation CO/RL/1 on the Policies Map. This area will be considered for development, as part of any planning application, subject to a confirmation of demand for B1 and/or C2 development use that cannot be accommodated within Co/MU/1, and a demonstration that the proposed development will not create unacceptable local environmental, highway and amenity impacts.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  - A Master Plan, forming part of any planning application(s) setting out the broad locations for the different types of development and their phasing, taking account of infrastructure provision, constraints and the need to ensure that the delivery of the range of uses is not prejudiced; - Provision of access points off both Station Road and Swinderby Road, linked by vehicular access through the site suitable to accommodate the vehicle movements associated with the sites development and established farm traffic in the area. Provision should also be made for pedestrian access to existing residential development to the west; - Design and layout of development to preserve the amenity of established dwellings to the west of the site; - Appropriate easements to the watercourses running along the northern and western boundaries of the site included as part of the site layout; - Design and layout of new development to respect t	L.	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is not within the proposed SAC ZOI. It is however located within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and given the location and nature of the site within an existing urban setting on the edge of Collingham it does not provide FLL.

Collingham - Local Centre	Policy Co/LC/1	To promote the strength of Collingham as a Principal Village, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the <a href="Amended Core">Amended Core</a> Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out a Local Centre for Collingham. It does not trigger any change or development.
Collingham - Main Open Areas	Policy Co/MOA	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land within Collingham that play an important part in defining its form and structure.  Within land allocated on the Policies Map as Main Open Areas, planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out Main Open Areas within Collingham. It does not trigger any change or development.
Sutton on Trent - Mixed Use Site 1	Policy ST/MU/1	Land to the east of Hemplands Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 37 dwellings, retail and additional car parking for the adjacent doctor's surgery.  Consideration will be given to a comprehensive mixed use scheme of development on the site extending into the Main Open Area to the east where it can be demonstrated that this is necessary to deliver community facilities within the site and provide public access to other parts of the Main Open Area.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended_Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  - A master plan, forming part of any planning application(s) setting out the broad locations for the different types of development and their phasing, taking account of infrastructure provision, constraints and the need to ensure that the delivery of the range of uses is not prejudiced;  - Developer funded localised upsizing of sewer network as required;  - Assessment of impact of local surface water flooding as part of any planning application including provision of safe access and egress and flood resilient construction;  - Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required; and  - Consideration of the impact on the character and appearance of the Sutton on Trent Conservation Area.	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is not within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and given the location and nature of the site within an existing residential setting on the edge of Sutton on Trent, it does not provide FLL.

Southwell - Housing Site 2	Policy So/Ho/2	Land south of Halloughton Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 45 dwellings.	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination
Southwell - Housing Site 1	Policy So/Ho/1	Development now completed	F	
Southwell Area - Main Open Areas	Policy SoA/MO A	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land that play an important part in defining a settlements form and structure.  Within the following locations Main Open Areas have been defined on the Policies Map;  Bleasby;  Edingley;  Fiskerton; and  Upton  Within these Main Open Areas planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out Main Open Areas within the Southwelll area. It does not trigger any change or development.
Sutton on Trent - Main Open Areas	Policy ST/MOA	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land within Sutton on Trent that play an important part in defining its form and structure.  Within land allocated on the Policies Map as Main Open Areas, planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.  On the Main Open Area to the east of site ST/MU/1 consideration will be given to allowing development where it forms part of a comprehensive mixed use scheme that demonstrates it is necessary to deliver community facilities within the site and provide public access to other parts of the Main Open Area.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out Main Open Areas within Sutton on Trent. It does not trigger any change or development.
Sutton on Trent - Existing Employment Policy Area	Policy ST/EA/1	Planning permission will be granted for employment development on land identified as the Existing Employment Policy Area on the Policies Map subject to its compatibility with established dwellings and assessment against relevant Core and Development Management Policies.  Within this area, new dwellings will not normally be permitted due to the likely conflict with the proliferation of employment uses.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out an Employment Area in Sutton on Trent. It does not trigger any change or development.
Sutton on Trent - Local Centre	Policy ST/LC/1	To promote the strength of Sutton on Trent as a Principal Village, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out. This policy sets out a Local Centre for Sutton on Trent. It does not trigger any change or development.

Southwell - Policy Housing Site 3	F	water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is not within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site within an existing residential setting on the edge of Sutton on Trent, it does not provide FLL.
Southwell - Housing Site 4	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the

development on this site will be subject to the Allocations Policies of the Southwell Neighbourhood Plan and:

- i. Cooperate with the infrastructure provider to carry out an assessment of the drainage infrastructure required to serve the development, the impact on the local drainage network serving the site and the identification of appropriate mitigating measures to ensure that there is adequate capacity in the local drainage network to serve the development;
- ii. Appropriate design, density and layout which addresses the sites gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area. In order to assimilate the development and limit the impact of the development on the character of the area provision should be made for landscape buffering on the sites northern and western extents within the design and layout of any planning application. In considering such buffering this should be particularly extensive to the south of The Vineries to help retain the semi-rural character of this section of Kirklington Road;
- iii. The provision of suitable access off Lower Kirklington Road as part of the design and layout of any planning application. This should be informed by the preparation of an appropriate Transport Assessment to identify the impact of the development on the highway network, and specifically include the impacts on Lower Kirklington Road and the Kirklington Road / Lower Kirklington Road junction and the provision of appropriate mitigating measures;
- **iv.** The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;
- V. The provision of appropriate pedestrian access as part of the design and layout of any planning application which utilises the existing Right of Way to the south of the site;
- Vi. The undertaking of a Tree Survey by the applicant, assessing and informing the retention of the best specimens into public and private amenity space within the design and layout of any planning application; and
- vii. Pre-determination evaluation and any necessary post determination archaeological mitigation measures secured by condition on any

Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.

Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.

This allocation is not within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site within an existing residential setting on the edge of Southwell, it does not provide FLL.

		planning consent reflecting the medium archaeological interest of the site.			
Southwell - Housing Site 5	Policy So/Ho/5	Land off Lower Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 60 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the Allocations Policies of the Southwell Neighbourhood Plan and:  i. Cooperation with the infrastructure provider to carry out an	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands &	
			i. Cooperation with the infrastructure provider to carry out an assessment of the drainage infrastructure required to serve the development, the impact on the local drainage network serving the site and the identification of appropriate measures to ensure that there is adequate capacity in the local drainage network to serve the development;		Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is not within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however within the suggested
		ii. Appropriate design, density and layout which addresses the sites gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area. In order to assimilate the development, provision should be made, in accordance with the landscape character, for the retention and enhancement of the sites existing landscape screening;		Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation	
		iii. Preparation of an appropriate Transport Assessment as part of any planning application to identify the impact of the development on the highway network. This assessment should specifically include the impact of the sites access on the Lower Kirklington Road / Kirklington Road junction, the achievement of acceptable visibility and the provision of appropriate mitigating measures;		impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site within an existing residential setting on the edge of Southwell, it does not provide FLL.	
		iv. The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impac in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;			
		<ul> <li>Provision of appropriate landscape buffering to the Southwell Trail within the design and layout of any planning application;</li> </ul>			
		vi. Development will be required to seek to maintain and enhance the current provision of Right of Ways which traverse the site; and			
		vii. Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely			

		to be required reflecting the high archaeological potential of the site.		
Southwell - Housing Site 6	Policy So/Ho/6	Development now completed	F	Screen out
Southwell - Housing Site 7	Policy So/Ho/7	Southwell Depot has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 18 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations development on this site will be subject to the following:  i. The extent of the sites eastern boundary being defined by the safeguarded line of the Southwell Bypass;  ii. Appropriate design, density and layout which addresses the sites:  1 Gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area; and the  2 Adjacent location to the Southwell Conservation Area respecting its character and appearance.  In order to assimilate the development, provision should therefore be made for the retention and enhancement of existing landscape screening in the south and west of the site.  The investigation of potential archaeology on the site and any necessary post determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent. Predetermination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.	L	Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is not within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site within an existing residential setting on the edge of Southwell, it does not provide FLL.
Southwell - Mixed Use Site	Policy So/MU/1	Allocation deleted	F	Screen out
Southwell Housing Need	Policy So/HN/1	Allocation deleted	F	Screen out

Southwell - Crew Lane Industrial Estate Policy Area	Policy So/E/1	Within the area defined on the Policies Map as So/EA/1 Crew Lane Industrial Estate Policy Area, new employment development will be encouraged and in order to provide for the expansion of the Industrial Estate an employment allocation has been made:  • So/E/2 - Land to the east of Crew Lane - 2.25ha  Development proposals within the Policy Area will be required to address the following:  1. Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse  The Crew Lane Industrial Estate Policy Area adjoins the area defined on the Policies Map as the Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse's Immediate Surroundings. As a result development proposals within the Policy Area should ensure that they do not detrimentally impact upon the Immediate Surroundings of the Workhouse and that the opportunities for enhancements are secured. Those proposals which have the potential to negatively impact on the setting of the Workhouse will not normally be acceptable. The District Council will therefore expect development proposals to:  • Demonstrate an appropriate design, layout and scale which respects and enhances the immediate surroundings of the Workhouse taking account of the need for suitable height and massing and the provision of appropriate mitigating measures such as landscape screening.  Where possible the District Council will also work with partners to secure improvements to the existing Crew Lane Policy Area environment  2. General Development Requirements  In addition to the above, development proposals within the Employment Area will also be subject to the following:  • Development proposals which are not of a BI/B2/B8 use class will need to meet the requirements within Core Policy 6;  • Satisfactory provision of access for parking and servicing; and	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out requirements for development in the Crew Lane Industrial Estate Policy Area. It does not trigger any change or development.  Allocation So/E/2 has been screened separately below in this appendix.
Southwell - Land to the east of Crew Lane	Policy So/E/2	<ul> <li>Development should not impact on adjacent residential areas.</li> <li>Land east of Crew Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development. The site is 2.25ha in size.</li> <li>In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:         <ul> <li>The requirements of the Crew Lane Industrial Estate Policy Area (So/E/1) and;</li> <li>Development will be required to seek to maintain and enhance the current provision of Right of Ways along the eastern boundary of the site.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.

		Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.		As this allocation is for employment development there will not be recreational impacts. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site within an agricultural setting on the edge of Southwell, it does not provide FLL.
Southwell - Land to the south of Crew Lane	Policy So/E/3	Deallocated	F	Screen out
Southwell - Reserved Land to the south of Crew Lane	So/RL/1	Land to the South of Crew Lane has been identified on the Policies Map and this land will be reserved to ensure that at the next round of plan making allows for a comprehensive approach to address development needs in this area. Development proposals which prejudice this approach will not normally be considered appropriate.	F	This policy does not allocate or trigger development in this plan period.
Southwell - Southwell District Centre	Policy So/DC/1	The future management of the Centre will be provided for through the development and implementation of a District Centre Strategy, and the consideration of development proposals for retail and other town centre uses within and beyond Southwell District Centre, as defined on the Policies Map, made against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM11 Retail and Main Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out. This policy identifies the Southwell District Centre. It does not trigger any change or development.
Southwell - Main Open Areas	Policy So/MOA	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land within Southwell that play an important part in defining its form and structure.  Within land allocated on the Policies Map as Main Open Areas in Southwell, planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.	F	Screen out. This policy identifies the Main Open Areas in Southwell. It does not trigger any change or development.
Southwell Protected Views	Policy So/PV	The District Council will seek to protect views of and across the principal heritage assets of the Minster, Holy Trinity church, Archbishop's Palace and Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse including the view cones identified on the Policies Map. Therefore:  • Development proposals within the view cones, as defined on the Policies Map, will be required to demonstrate that they do not negatively impact on the views of these heritage assets. Those	D	Screen out. This policy identifies protected views in Southwell. It does not trigger any change or development.

		<ul> <li>proposals which do detrimentally impact on the views of these heritage assets will not be acceptable; and</li> <li>Beyond the areas defined within the view cones, as defined on the Policies Map, development proposals which have the potential to negatively impact on the views of these heritage assets will not normally be acceptable. The level of potential impact will be dependent on factors such as scale, height, location and the scope for mitigation.</li> </ul>		
Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse	Policy So/Wh	<ul> <li>The District Council will seek to protect and enhance the setting of Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse. Therefore:</li> <li>Development proposals within the area defined as the immediate surroundings of the Workhouse on the Policies Map should ensure that they do not negatively impact on these surroundings. Those proposals which do detrimentally impact on the setting of the Workhouse will not be acceptable;</li> <li>Development proposals to the south of the immediate setting within the Crew Lane Industrial Estate should address the requirements above and of policy So/E/1; and</li> <li>Beyond the boundary of the immediate surroundings of the Workhouse, as defined on the Policies Map, development proposals which have the potential to negatively impact on the setting of the Workhouse will not normally be acceptable. The level of potential impact will be dependant on factors such as scale, height and location and the scope for mitigation.</li> </ul>	F	Screen out. This policy identifies requirements for development proposals in Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse. It does not trigger any change or development.
Farnsfield - Housing Site 1	Policy Fa/Ho/1	Development now complete	F	Screen out
Farnsfield – Mixed Use Site 1	Policy Fa/MU/1	Development now complete	F	Screen out
Farnsfield - Local Centre	Policy Fa/LC/1	To promote the strength of Farnsfield as a Principal Village, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out. This policy identifies the Local Centre for Farnsfield. It does not trigger any change or development.
Lowdham - Housing Site 1	Policy Lo/Ho/1	Site De-allocated	F	Screen out

Lowdham - Housing Site 2	Policy Lo/Ho/2	Development now completed	F	Screen out
Lowdham Housing Need	Policy Lo/HN/1	Policy removed	F	Screen out
Lowdham - Local Centre		The Lowdham Local Centre, as defined on the Policies map, will be used in conjunction with Development Management Policy 11 – Retail and Town Centre uses to assess retail proposals.	F	Screen out.  This policy identifies the Local Centre for Lowdham. It does not trigger any change or development.
Lowdham - Transport Site 1	Policy Lo/Tr/1	Land at the junction of Caythorpe Road and Gunthorpe Road, has been allocated on the Policies Map for parking facilities in association with the adjacent Railway Station.	F	Screen out.  This policy allocates land for parking. It does not trigger any change or development.
Sherwood Area - Main Open Area	Policy ShA/MO A	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land that play an important part in defining a settlement's form and structure.  Within the following locations Main Open Areas have been defined on the Policies Map;  Budby  Eakring  Perlethorpe  Wellow  Within these Main Open Areas planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.	F	Screen out. This policy identifies the Main Open Areas in Sherwood. It does not trigger any change or development.
Ollerton & Boughton - Housing Site 1	Policy OB/Ho/1	Development now completed	F	Screen out
Ollerton & Boughton - Housing Site 2	Policy OB/Ho/2	Development now completed	F	Screen out
Ollerton & Boughton - Housing Site 3	Policy OB/Ho/3	Development now completed	F	Screen out

Ollerton &
Boughton -
Mixed Use
Site 1

## Policy OB/MU/1

Land at the rear of Petersmith Drive has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 225 dwellings, enhanced Strategic Sports Infrastructure and Open Space, the latter of which will be located in the south of the site. Proposals for development of the site will be presented as part of a Master Plan which will:

- Meet the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM 2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations;
- Set out the broad location for development on the site including a phasing strategy. This should ensure that no flood sensitive development takes place in areas identified as being within Flood Zones 2 and 3:
- Incorporate sensitive design to respect and enhance the setting of the nearby Boughton Pumping Station Conservation Area and Listed Buildings;
- Provision of a landscaping scheme in order to help assimilate the development into the surrounding countryside in accordance with the landscape character; and
- The identification of measures which maximise opportunities to protect and enhance features of biodiversity value and species within and adjoining the site, including the River Maun, and mitigate or compensate for any potential adverse impacts.

In addition development will be subject to the following:

- Preparation of an appropriate Transport Assessment as part of any
  planning application(s) to identify any negative impact of the development
  on the highway network including Ollerton roundabout, and the provision
  of appropriate mitigating measures;
- The provision of on-site strategic sports facilities as part of any planning application(s) to enhance the existing provision within Ollerton & Boughton;
- Preservation and enhancement of the River Maun and associated footpaths, walkways and cycle facilities through the design and layout of any planning application
- Developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development;

## Screen in.

There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.

Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.

This allocation is located within the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA. Recreational impacts are therefore likely and have been screened in for further assessment.

The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely.

The allocation is located on the edge of Boughton approx. 470m from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 1.4km from the SAC, adjacent to residential development, a review of aerial photography indicates that it is unlikely to provide FLL.

		<ul> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas, or the existing drainage regime;</li> <li>Provision of a drainage strategy as part of any planning application to ensure that the development does not flood during low annual probability rainfall events or exacerbate the flood risk off-site;</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Ollerton &amp; Boughton and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures.</li> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and any necessary post-determination mitigation measures, secured by conditions attached to any planning permission including LIDAR survey, to reflect the medium to very high archaeological potential of the site; and</li> <li>Appropriate phasing of residential and strategic sports infrastructure and open space uses.</li> </ul>	
Ollerton & Boughton – Mixed Use Site 2	Policy OB/MU/2	The land between Kirk Drive, Stepnall Heights and Hallam Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 120 dwellings and enhanced Open Space. It also offers the opportunity to realise the potential of enhancing the housing offer of the two predominantly Council housing estates, Retford Road and Hallam Road, adjacent to the land through wider scale regeneration of the area to create a sustainable identity for the locality.  In addition to general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • The preparation of a comprehensive Master Plan to:  • Identify an appropriate mix of market and affordable housing to enhance the quality of the housing and sustainability of the area;  • Identify the retail capacity of the area to enhance the present offer;  • Set out the broad location for development on the site, including how this will be integrated with the existing residential areas;  • Set out the phasing of new development; and  • Ensure community consultation is undertaken  The continued provision and enhancement of existing open space and community facilities on the site;	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is located within the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA. Recreational impacts are therefore likely and have been screened in for further assessment. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site

		<ul> <li>The provision of on-site strategic open space facilities as part of any planning application to enhance the existing provision within Ollerton &amp; Boughton;</li> <li>Design should take account of overhead power lines which run across the site and not infringe the statutory safety clearances between overhead lines, the ground and built structures;</li> <li>Development will be required to seek to maintain and enhance the current provision of public footpaths that traverse the site and which provide linkages between both the adjoining Retford Road and Hallam Road estates along with community uses within and adjoining the site;</li> <li>Developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Ollerton and Boughton and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures;</li> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and any necessary post-determination mitigation measures, secured by condition on any planning consent; and</li> <li>Preparation of an appropriate Transport Assessment as part of any planning application(s) to identify any negative impact of the development on the highway network, including Ollerton roundabout, and the provision of</li> </ul>		and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely.  The allocation is located on edge of Boughton approx. 500m from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 2.4km from the SAC, surrounded by residential development, a review of aerial photography indicates that it is unlikely to provide FLL.
		appropriate mitigating measures.	_	
Ollerton & Boughton - Phasing Policy	Policy OB/Ph/1	In Ollerton & Boughton the following sites will include phasing within any Master Plan to accompany any planning application:  OB/MU/1  OB/MU/2  Phasing in all cases must be appropriate to the size of the development, reflect the need for associated on site and off site infrastructure provision and constraints and not be unviable for the developer to implement.	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out phasing for development in Ollerton & Boughton. It does not trigger any change or development.  Mixed-use allocations themselves are screened above.
Ollerton & Boughton - Boughton Industrial	Policy OB/E/1	Within the area defined on the Policies Map as OB/E/1 Boughton Industrial Estate North Policy Area, new employment development will be encouraged. Boughton Industrial Estate is a long established employment area located on a former army camp to the	F	Screen out. This policy sets out requirements for new employment development in the Boughton

Estate (North) Policy Area 1		<ul> <li>East of Ollerton &amp; Boughton. Development in this policy area will be considered against relevant Amended Core Strategy and Development Management policies.</li> <li>In promoting new development in the Policy Area the District Council expects:         <ul> <li>Appropriate boundary treatment and screening of open storage areas through the design and layout of any planning application(s);</li> <li>The incorporation of satisfactory landscaping as part of the design and layout of any planning application(s) to minimise the impact of development on the LWS which is located within and adjoining the industrial estate;</li> <li>Satisfactory provision of access, car parking and servicing as part of the design and layout of any planning applications;</li> <li>Provision of a drainage strategy as part of any planning application(s) to ensure that the development does not flood during low annual probability rainfall events or exacerbate the flood risk off-site;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime.</li> <li>No flood sensitive development should take place in areas identified as being within Flood Zones 2 and 3; and</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Ollerton and Boughton and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Industrial Estate (North) Policy Area 1. It does not trigger any change or development.
Ollerton & Boughton – Boughton Industrial Estate (South) Policy Area 2	Policy OB/E/2	Within the area defined on the Policies Map as OB/E/2 Boughton Industrial Estate South Policy Area, new employment development will be encouraged. Boughton Industrial Estate is a long established employment area located on a former army camp to the East of Ollerton & Boughton. Development in this policy area will be considered against relevant Core Strategy and Development Management policies.  In promoting new development in the policy area the District Council expects:  - Appropriate boundary treatment and screening of open storage areas through the design and layout of any planning application(s);  - The incorporation of satisfactory landscaping as part of the design and layout of any planning application(s) to minimise the impact of development on the LWS which is located within and adjoining the industrial estate;  - Satisfactory provision of access, car parking and servicing as part of the design and layout of any planning application(s);	F	Screen out. This policy sets out requirements for new employment development in the Boughton Industrial Estate (South) Policy Area 2. It does not trigger any change or development.

	<ul> <li>Provision of a drainage strategy as part of any planning application(s) to ensure that the development does not flood during low annual probability rainfall events or exacerbate the flood risk off-site;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;</li> <li>No flood sensitive development should take place in areas identified as being within Flood Zones 2 and 3;</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Ollerton and Boughton and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures; and</li> <li>The investigation of potential archaeology on the site and any necessary post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent reflecting the medium archaeological potential of the site.</li> </ul>		
Policy OB/E/3	<ul> <li>Land to the south of Boughton Industrial Estate has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development.</li> <li>In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following: <ul> <li>The incorporation of suitable access to the adjoining Boughton Industrial Estate South Policy Area as part of the design and layout of any planning application(s);</li> <li>The incorporation of satisfactory landscaping as part of the design and layout of any planning application(s) to minimise the impact of development on the LWS which is located within and adjoining the industrial estate;</li> <li>No flood sensitive development should take place in areas identified as being within Flood Zones 2 and 3;</li> <li>Provision of a drainage strategy as part of any planning application to ensure that the development does not flood during low annual probability rainfall events or exacerbate the flood risk off-site;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime; and</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Ollerton &amp; Boughton and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is for employment and therefore recreational impacts can be screened out. The allocation is located within 400m the closest component of the ppSPA and urbanisation impacts are therefore likely. It is however more than 400m from the SAC. The allocation is located on edge of Boughton approx. 180m from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 3.6km from the SAC. A review of aerial photography indicates that it is

				contiguous with blocks of deciduous woodland habitat which join with the ppSPA area. The site comprises a grassed field with a wooded boundary. Impacts upon FLL associated with the ppSPA are possible and as such have been screened in.
Ollerton District Centre & Boughton Local Centre	Policy OB/DC/1 & OB/LC/1	To promote the strength of Ollerton & Boughton as a Service Centre, District and Local Centres have been defined on the Policies Map.  The future management of Ollerton District Centre will be provides for through the development and implementation of a District Centre Strategy. Development of retail and other town centre uses within and beyond the District and Local Centres will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Main Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out. This policy identifies the Ollerton District Centre & Boughton Local Centre. It does not trigger any change or development.
Ollerton & Boughton – Retail Allocation 1	Policy OB/Re/1	Land at Rufford Avenue has been allocated on the Policies Map for the development of retail and town centre uses.  Development of this site will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses and appropriate contributions to infrastructure provision in the Developer Contributions SPD.  Development should be of a size commensurate to the settlements retail definition as a District Centre.	Ļ	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is for retail and therefore recreational impacts can be screened out. The allocation is located within 400m the closest component of the ppSPA and urbanisation impacts are therefore likely. It is however more than 400m from the SAC. The allocation is located within the centre of Boughton surrounded by urban

				development. Impacts upon FLL associated with the ppSPA are therefore unlikely.
Ollerton & Boughton - Retail Allocation 2	Policy OB/Re/2	Site now complete	F	Screen out
Ollerton & Boughton – Transport Allocation 1	Policy OB/Tr/1	To allow for the potential reopening of the Dukeries railway line, a general area of search for a new station and car park has been identified on the Policies Map at Sherwood Energy Village in Ollerton.  Development on or around this site will not be permitted where it would prejudice this scheme coming forward.	F	Screen out.  This policy allocates land for a new station and car parking. It does not trigger any change or development.
Edwinstowe - Housing Site 1	Policy ED/Ho/1	Development now complete	F	Screen out
Edwinstowe - Housing Site 2	Policy ED/Ho/2	<ul> <li>Land to the north of Mansfield Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 50 dwellings.</li> <li>In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on the site will be subject to the following:         <ul> <li>Public open space within the site or at alternative locations within the village, provided in accordance with Policy DM3, Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, which shall be designed to reflect the need to provide SANGS to relieve pressure on the Birklands &amp; Billhaugh SAC;</li> <li>Appropriate design which addresses the site's gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area. In order to protect the setting of the Sherwood Forest Country Park, appropriate buffering in accordance with the landscape character of the area should be included within the northern part of the site;</li> <li>Developer funded localised sewer capacity improvements as required; and</li> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required to reflect the medium archaeological potential of the site.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is located with the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA.  Recreational impacts are therefore screened in.  The allocation is not located within 400m the closest component of the ppSPA or the SAC and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely.

				The allocation is located on the edge of Edwinstowe approx. 640m from the closest component of the ppSPA and also the SAC. A review of aerial photography indicates that the site comprises an agricultural field, however given its location immediately adjacent to a residential area (on two sides) it is unlikely to provide FLL.
Edwinstowe - District Centre	Policy ED/DC/1	To promote the strength of Edwinstowe as a Principal Village, a District Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the District Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out. This policy defines the District Centre in Edwinstowe. It does not trigger any change or development.
Edwinstowe - Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre	Policy ED/VC/1	Visitor Centre Completed	F	Screen out
Edwinstowe - Rail Station	Policy ED/St/1	To allow for the potential reopening of the Dukeries railway line, land has been allocated on the Policies Map for a station and associated infrastructure.  Development on or adjacent to this site that may prejudice the implementation of this proposal will be resisted.	F	Screen out.  This policy allocates land for a new station and associated infrastructure. It does not trigger any change or development.
Edwinstowe - Main Open Areas	Policy Ed/MOA	Main Open Areas represent those areas of predominantly open land within Edwinstowe that play an important part in defining its form and structure.  Within land allocated on the Policies Map as Main Open Areas, planning permission will not normally be granted for built development.	F	Screen out. This policy allocates Main Open Areas in Edwinstowe. It does not trigger any change or development.
Bilsthorpe - Housing Site 1	Policy Bi/Ho/1	Site de-allocated	F	Screen out
Bilsthorpe - Housing Site 2	Policy Bi/Ho/2	Land to the north of Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 136 dwellings.	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination

		In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on the site will be subject to the following:  • Appropriate design which addresses the site's gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area; and • Proposals will need to demonstrate that any identified mineral resource is not needlessly sterilised and where this cannot be demonstrated, prior extraction may be sought where practical.		water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is located with the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA.  Recreational impacts are therefore screened in.  The allocation is not located within 400m the closest component of the ppSPA or the SAC and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely.  The allocation is located on the edge of Bilsthorpe approx. 2.8km from the closest component of the ppSPA and over 8km from the SAC. A review of aerial photography indicates that the site comprises a grassed field with intermittent hedgerow and is therefore unlikely to provide FLL.
Bilsthorpe - Mixed Use Site 1	Policy Bi/MU/1	Land to the east of Eakring Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development providing around 75 dwellings and retail development In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on the site will be subject to the following:  • Appropriate design which addresses the site's gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area;	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands &

		<ul> <li>Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required;</li> <li>Appropriate phasing of retail and residential uses.</li> </ul>		Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is located with the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA. Recreational impacts are therefore screened in.  The allocation is not located within 400m the closest component of the ppSPA or the SAC and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely.  The allocation is located on the edge of Bilsthorpe approx. 1.5km from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 6.5km from the SAC. A review of aerial photography indicates that the site comprises a grassed field with a woodland strip to its east. It is unlikely to provide FLL.
Bilsthorpe - Employment Site 1	Policy Bi/E/1	2.67 hectares of land on the southern side of Brailwood Road have been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development.  Development proposals on the site will be required to address the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, and make appropriate contributions to infrastructure provision in accordance with the Developer Contributions SPD.	L	Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is for employment and therefore recreational impacts can be screened out.  The allocation is not located within 400m the closest

				component of the ppSPA or the SAC and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely.  The allocation is located on the edge of Bilsthorpe approx. 2.1km from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 7.2km from the SAC. A review of aerial photography indicates that the site comprises a grassed field with a woodland strip to its east. It is unlikely to provide FLL.
Bilsthorpe - Employment Site 2	Policy Bi/E/2	Development now completed	F	Screen out
Bilsthorpe - Phasing Policy	Policy Bi/Ph/1	In Bilsthorpe the following sites will include phasing within any Master Plan to accompany any planning application(s):  • Bi/Ho/1  • Bi/Ho/2  • Bi/Mu/1  Phasing in all cases must be appropriate to the size of the development, reflect on site and infrastructure provision and constraints and not be unviable for the developer to implement.	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out phasing for development in Bilsthorpe. It does not trigger any change or development. Housing and mixed-use allocations themselves are screened in other sections of this appendix.
Bilsthorpe - Local Centres	Policy Bi/LC/1	To promote the strength of Bilsthorpe as a Principal Village, 2 Local Centres have been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centres will be considered against the general policy requirements in the <a href="Amended">Amended</a> Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out.  This policy promotes the strength of Bilsthorpe as a Principal Village, 2 Local Centres. It does not trigger any change or development.
Rainworth - Housing Site 1	Policy Ra/Ho/1	Development now completed	F	Screen out
Rainworth - Housing Site 2	Policy Ra/Ho/2	Land to the East of Warsop Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 190 dwellings. Consequently this site has been removed from the Nottingham - Derby Green Belt.	L	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination

		In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on the site will be subject to the following:  • The preparation of a comprehensive Master Plan for the whole of the site setting out the broad location for development on the site and the phasing of new development. This should include appropriate design which addresses the sites gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area including the provision of strategic buffer landscaping to the south and west of the site to maintain a physical and visual break between Rainworth and Blidworth and to minimise the impact of development on the Green Belt. Phasing in all cases must be appropriate to the size of the development, reflect on site and infrastructure provision constraints and not be unviable for the developer to implement.  • Preparation of an appropriate Transport Assessment as part of any planning application to identify the impact of the development on the highway network and the provision of appropriate mitigating measures;  • Main entrance to the site via Warsop Lane. Any secondary access should not be via existing estate roads to the north and east.  • The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;  • Designed to incorporate new, enhanced strategic open space which shall form an addition to the existing Preston Road facilities to the north of site and be provided commensurate with all phases of the sites development;  • Developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development;  • The investigation of phential impact arising from the legacy of former coal		water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is not within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site within an existing residential setting on the edge of Rainworth, it does not provide FLL.
Rainworth - Mixed Use Site 1	Policy Ra/MU/1	Land at Kirklington Road has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site will accommodate around 6 dwellings and retail and town centre uses.	ı	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the

		In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on the site will be subject to the following:  • Preparation of an appropriate Transport Assessment as part of any planning application to identify the impact of the development on the highway network and the provision of appropriate mitigating measures;  • Entrance being via Colliery Lane which will require access to Third Party land;  • The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;  • Provision of a drainage strategy as part of any planning application to ensure that the development does not flood during low annual probability rainfall events or exacerbate the flood risk off-site;  • No flood sensitive development should take place in areas identified as being within Flood Zone 2;  • Developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development;  • The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Rainworth and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures; and  • Appropriate phasing of residential, retail and town centre uses.		Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is located within the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA. Recreational impacts are therefore likely and have been screened in for further assessment.  The allocation is located within 400m of the closest component of the ppSPA and urbanisation impacts are therefore possible. It is not within 400m of the SAC.  The allocation is located on the edge of Rainworth approx. 278m from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 8.7km from the SAC, surrounded by existing urban development. In addition to being close to an urban area, this site is also separated from the ppSPA by the A617, and is therefore unlikely to provide FLL.
Rainworth - Employment Site 1	Policy Ra/E/1	Land West of Colliery Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for Employment Development. The site is 5.5ha in size and B1/B2/B8 is appropriate.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the <u>Amended</u> Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:	ı	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands &

		<ul> <li>The provision of suitable vehicular access from the A617 Rainworth bypass as part of the design and layout of any planning application;</li> <li>No flood sensitive development should take place in areas identified as being within Flood Zones 2 and 3;</li> <li>The provision of suitable pedestrian access from the site to the village taking account of known flood risk constraints as part of the design and layout of any planning application;</li> <li>Provision of a drainage strategy as part of any planning application to ensure that the development does not flood during low annual probability rainfall events or exacerbate the flood risk off-site;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime</li> <li>Developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development;</li> <li>The incorporation of satisfactory buffer landscaping to minimise the impact of development on LWS's which are located both within adjoining the site; and</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Rainworth and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures.</li> </ul>		Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is for employment and therefore recreational impacts can be screened out.  The allocation is located within 400m of the closest component of the ppSPA and urbanisation impacts are therefore possible. It is not within 400m of the SAC.  The allocation is located on the edge of Rainworth approx. 30m from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 8.4km from the SAC. The site comprises scattered trees with more dense woodland around its boundary, with urban development to its south. Based on a review of aerial photography, in addition to being close to an urban area, this site is also separated from the ppSPA by the A617, and is therefore unlikely to provide FLL.
Rainworth – Local Centre Boundary	Policy Ra/DC/1	To promote the strength of Rainworth as a Service Centre and support its regeneration, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the District Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out.  This policy defines the Local Centre for Rainworth. It does not trigger any change or development.
Clipstone – Mixed Use Site 1	Policy CI/MU/1	Land at the former Clipstone Colliery has been allocated on the Policies Map for mixed use development. The site currently accommodates the Grade II listed headstocks and powerhouse to which national planning controls continue to apply in terms of their conservation. An options appraisal is currently under preparation to assess the future of this listed building. Assuming the retention of the headstocks and powerhouse, the site will accommodate around 120 dwellings, 12 hectares of employment provision, retail and enhanced Public Open Space. The retail element will be of a size and scale which helps facilitate the wider delivery of the scheme and may include a small supermarket and	l	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.

		<ul> <li>other complementary facilities to help to meet the needs of the site and the wider settlement.</li> <li>In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following: <ul> <li>A Master Plan, forming part of any planning application(s) setting out the broad locations for the different types of development and their phasing, taking account of infrastructure provision, constraints and the need to ensure that the delivery of the range of uses is not prejudiced;</li> <li>Responding to the conclusions of the options appraisal for the future of the listed former colliery headstocks and powerhouse;</li> <li>The implementation of suitable measures to address legacy issues such as openings within the site which relate to its former use as a colliery;</li> <li>No residential development shall take place in areas identified as being within Flood Zones 2 &amp; 3;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;</li> <li>Developer funded improvements to ensure sufficient capacity within the public foul sewer system and wastewater treatment works to meet the needs of the development;</li> <li>The incorporation of buffer landscaping as part of the design and layout of any planning application to minimise the impact of development on the adjoining Local Wildlife Site and Vicar Water Country Park; and</li> <li>Green Infrastructure provision through the partial restoration of the site and connections to the Sherwood Forest Pines Park, Vicar Water Country Park and Sustrans Route 6 through the design and layout of any planning application.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is located within the suggested ZOI for the SAC and also the suggested ZOI for Clumber Park SSSI which underpins part of the ppSPA. Recreational impacts are therefore likely and have been screened in for further assessment.  The allocation is located within 400m of the closest component of the ppSPA and urbanisation impacts are therefore possible. It is not within 400m of the SAC. The allocation is located on the edge of Clipstone approx. 160m from the closest component of the ppSPA and approx. 3.6km from the SAC. The site comprises grassed fields with woodland around its boundary, with urban development to its west. Based on a review of aerial photography it has the potential to provide FLL for the ppSPA.
Clipstone – Local Centre Boundary	Policy CI/LC/1	To promote the strength of Clipstone as a Service Centre and support its regeneration, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out.  This policy defines the Local Centre for Clipstone. It does not trigger any change or development.

Blidworth - Housing Site 1	Policy BI/Ho/1	Land at Dale Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing around 55 dwellings. Consequently this site is no longer part of the Nottingham - Derby Green Belt.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime.  • Appropriate design which addresses the site's gateway location and manages the transition into the main built up area. To support this approach landscape buffering will be required along the eastern edge of the allocation; and  • Pre-determination archaeological evaluation submitted as part of any planning application and post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent are likely to be required.	1	Screen in.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.  This allocation is not located within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however located within the suggested Vac ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site (arable fields) on the edge of Blidworth, it is not considered to provide FLL.
Blidworth - Housing Site 2	Policy BI/Ho/2	Development now complete	F	Screen out
Blidworth - Housing Site 3	Policy BI/Ho/3	Land south of New Lane has been allocated on the Policies Map for residential development providing up to a maximum of 81 dwellings.  In addition to the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations, development on this site will be subject to the following:  • Preparation of a Transport Assessment as part of any planning application to identify the impact of the development on the highway network. This assessment should specifically include the impact on New Lane and the New	I	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA.

		<ul> <li>Lane and Mansfield Road Junction and the provision of appropriate mitigating measures;</li> <li>The preparation of a Master Plan, forming part of any planning application(s) setting the broad location of new development on the site, and the phasing of new development and the details of an appropriate landscaping scheme which seeks to retain and enhance boundary treatments, with particular emphasis on the southern boundary with the Blidworth Conservation Area. Phasing in all cases must be appropriate to the size of the development, reflect on site and infrastructure provision constraints and not be unviable for the developer to implement;</li> <li>The positive management of surface water through the design and layout of development to ensure that there is no detrimental impact in run-off into surrounding residential areas or the existing drainage regime;</li> <li>The investigation of the potential impact arising from the legacy of former coal mining activities within Blidworth and the implementation of any necessary mitigation measures; and</li> <li>The investigation of potential archaeology on the site and any necessary post-determination mitigation measures secured by condition on any planning consent.</li> </ul>		This allocation is not located within the suggested SAC ZOI. It is however located within the suggested Clumber Park SSSI ZOI which underpins part of the ppSPA and therefore recreational impacts are possible. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the location and nature of the site (arable fields) on the edge of Blidworth, it is not considered to provide FLL.
Blidworth - Housing Site 4	Policy BI/Ho/4	De-allocate	F	Screen out
Blidworth - Employment Site 1	Policy BI/E/1	Land on Blidworth Industrial Park has been allocated on the Policies Map for employment development. The allocation is 0.33 hectare in size.  Development Proposals will be assessed against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to Policy DM2 Allocated Sites, and Policy DM3 Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations.	I	Screen in. There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations. Potential in-combination air quality impacts at the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Sherwood Forest ppSPA. This allocation is for employment and there will therefore be no recreational effects. The allocation is not located within 400m of a Habitats site and urbanisation impacts are therefore unlikely. Given the

				location and nature of the site (developed sites) on the edge of Blidworth, it is not considered to provide FLL.
Blidworth Local Centre	Policy BI/LC/1	To promote the strength of Blidworth as a Principal Village and support its regeneration, a Local Centre has been defined on the Policies Map.  Development of retail and other town centre uses within the Local Centre will be considered against the general policy requirements in the Amended Core Strategy and the Development Management Policies in Chapter 7, with particular reference to DM Policy 11 Retail and Town Centre Uses.	F	Screen out.  This policy defines the Local Centre for Blidworth. It does not trigger any change or development.
Development M	1anagement	Policies		
Development within Settlements Central to Delivering the Spatial Strategy	Policy DM1	Within the Urban Boundaries of the Sub-Regional Centre and Service Centres and the Village Envelopes of the Principal Villages, as defined on the Policies Map, proposals will be supported for housing, employment, community, retail, cultural, leisure and tourism development appropriate to the size and location of the settlement, its status in the settlement hierarchy and in accordance with the Amended Core Strategy and other relevant Development Plan Documents.	F	Screen out. This policy does not trigger development.
Development on Allocated Sites	Policy DM2	Within sites allocated in the Allocations & Development Management Development Plan Document (A&DM DPD), proposals will be supported for the intended use that comply with the relevant Core and Development Management Policies, the site specific issues set out in the A&DM DPD and make appropriate contributions to infrastructure provision in accordance with the Developer Contributions & Planning Obligations SPD.  It is anticipated that allocated sites will be developed comprehensively with an accompanying site masterplan to reflect phasing and infrastructure provision. Where comprehensive development proposals cannot be prepared proposals should be developed to ensure that the sites do not prejudice the proper overall delivery of the whole allocation. Development proposals which prejudice proper overall delivery will be refused.  In addition to national and local submission requirements, proposals on allocated sites should be accompanied by transport, flood risk and other appropriate assessments sufficient to address the site specific issues identified in the A&DM DPD.	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out requirements for development on allocated sites, it does not trigger development.

		Development proposals within the Strategic Sites at Newark and Edwinstowe will be assessed against Area Policies NAP 2A, 2B, & 2C, ShAP4 and the other considerations set out above.		
Developer Contributions and Planning Obligations	Policy DM3	Identified infrastructure needs will be met through a combination of Community Infrastructure Levy, planning conditions and obligations and, where appropriate, funding assistance from the Council.  The Council will work with Nottinghamshire County Council, neighbouring Local Authorities and infrastructure partners to ensure that development is supported by the timely, and where appropriate phased, provision of necessary physical, social and green/blue infrastructure and where appropriate its maintenance.  Delivery of the planned growth set out in the Amended Core Strategy requires provision of appropriate infrastructure to ensure the development of sustainable communities.  Development that does not adequately address its impact will not be regarded as sustainable development.  Planning applications will be expected to demonstrate consideration of identified site-	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out the requirements of new development to make contributions to infrastructure. It does not trigger development.
		based infrastructure needs and make clear how these needs will be met, guided by the Council's Planning Obligations and Developer Contributions SPD. The SPD provides the methodology for the delivery of appropriate infrastructure and the calculation of financial contributions.  Where on-going maintenance and management of infrastructure is required, a management plan will be required to ensure the quality of the provision remains in the long term. This will be agreed through a S106 agreement or any other suitable mechanism.		
Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Generation	Policy DM4	In order to achieve the commitment to carbon reduction set out in Core Policy 10, planning permission will be granted for renewable and low carbon energy generation development, as both standalone projects and part of other development, its associated infrastructure and the retro-fitting of existing development, where its benefits are not outweighed by detrimental impact from the operation and maintenance of the development and through the installation process upon:  1. The landscape character or urban form of the district or the purposes of including land within the Green Belt arising from the individual or cumulative impact of proposals;	ı	Screen in.  Whilst this policy does not set out locations and details for renewable and low carbon energy generation schemes, such schemes (depending on their nature and location) have the potential for likely significant effects on the ppSPA in terms of loss of functionally linked land.

		<ol> <li>Southwell Views as defined in Policy So/PV or the setting of the Thurgarton Hundred Workhouse, as defined in Policy So/Wh;</li> <li>Heritage Assets and or their settings;</li> <li>Amenity, including noise pollution, shadow flicker and electro-magnetic interference;</li> <li>Highway safety;</li> <li>The ecology of the local or wider area; or</li> <li>Aviation interests of local or national importance.</li> <li>Applications to develop new wind energy schemes involving turbines of sufficient size to require planning permission will only be considered acceptable:         <ul> <li>In areas identified set away from sensitive receptors and identified as suitable for wind energy development in the Development Plan;</li> <li>Where it is demonstrated that the local community has been consulted and are supportive; and</li> <li>Where the planning impacts identified by the affected local community have been fully addressed.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>		
The Design Process	Policy DM5a	The District Council will expect the following design process to be adopted for all proposed development (with the exception of householder development). Such development proposals shall be informed by, and respond to, a robust site and contextual appraisal that will involve identifying constraints and opportunities.  New residential development will also need to perform positively against Building for a Healthy Life (or any successor version of the tool) and the National Design Guide.  The Design Process  Design Stage 1: Understanding the site and its context; identifying and responding to opportunities and constraints.  Design Stage 2: Creating a vision for the development.  Design Stage 3: Exploring ideas and options.  Design Stage 4: Developing detailed designs.  Development will be supported where the application material demonstrates that the site and its context has been understood and respected; with opportunities and constraints identified, considered and responded to appropriately. Applications should provide evidence of each stage from the outset (where appropriate) and whilst there is	В	Screen out. This policy lists criteria for testing the design process. It does not trigger development.

	flexibility for schemes to evolve as part of this process, it is important that design and layout is not retrofitted.		
	For all developments (with the exception of householder developments and those otherwise identified by the Council), opportunities and constraints will be encouraged to be validated through robust and meaningful engagement with the local planning authority (pre-application discussion).		
	Developers are strongly encouraged to engage with local communities and other stakeholders at any early stage of the process, enabling them the opportunity to shape development proposals.		
	The information required in support of applications is set out in the Council's Planning Application Local Validation Checklist.		
Design Policy DM5b	In accordance with the Requirements of Core Policy 9 of the Amended Core Strategy, all proposals for new development shall be assessed against the following criteria:  1	B and D	Screen out. This policy sets out a number of criteria (a number which relate to environmental protection) against which development will be assessed. It does not trigger development.

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Development proposals should have regard to their impact on the amenity or operation of surrounding land uses and where necessary mitigate for any detrimental impact.

Proposals resulting in the loss of amenity space will require justification.

The presence of existing development which has the potential for a detrimental impact on new development should also be taken into account and mitigated for in proposals. New development that cannot be afforded an adequate standard of amenity or creates an unacceptable standard of amenity will be resisted.

#### 4 Local Distinctiveness and Character

The rich local distinctiveness of the District's landscape and character of built form should be reflected in the scale, form, mass, layout, design, materials and detailing of proposals for new development.

In accordance with Core Policy 13 of the Amended Core Strategy, all development proposals will be considered against the assessments contained in the Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Planning Document.

Proposals creating backland development will only be approved where they would be in-keeping with the general character and density of existing development in the area, and would not set a precedent for similar forms of development, the cumulative effect of which would be to harm the established character and appearance of the area. Inappropriate backland and other uncharacteristic forms of development will be resisted.

Where local distinctiveness derives from the presence of heritage assets, proposals will also need to satisfy Policy DM9.

#### 5 Public Realm

New development should create new or strengthen existing street and public space networks; where appropriate assisting in the delivery of the Council's Open Space Assessment & Strategy.

New development shall contribute positively towards creating a well-defined, well-used, safe and attractive public realm, including tree lined streets where possible. The interface between buildings and the public realm is of critical importance and should have strong boundary treatments or well resolved threshold spaces with opportunities for natural surveillance required.

The quality of the public realm will be negatively affected where threshold design (and in particular, the storage of recycling and waste containers) has been poorly considered. The District Council will seek to ensure that the quality of the public realm is safeguarded through carefully considered solutions relating to:

- boundary demarcations
- · changes in level

- utility boxes and flues
- recycling and waste storage, and
- car parking.

Development proposals which affect, or add to, the public realm should create a well-defined, easily navigable and accessible network of streets and spaces and ensure that convenient access is provided for all users whilst prioritising the needs of pedestrians, cyclists, public transport users, and people with a range of disabilities, and emergency and service vehicles.

#### 6 Trees, Woodland, Biodiversity and Green and Blue Infrastructure

In accordance with Core Policy 12 of the Amended Core Strategy, all natural features within or adjacent to development sites should not be unnecessarily adversely impacted and development should first seek to respect existing features before the Council will consider removal of such features. The starting point should be through integration and connectivity of Green Infrastructure to deliver multi-functional benefits and should be incorporated into a landscaping scheme that mitigates any loss and / or the effects of the development on the local landscape.

A holistic approach shall be adopted with respect to the design and integration of green and blue infrastructure into new development, creating opportunities for habitat creation, water management and attractive and memorable places.

#### 7 Ecology

Where it is apparent that a site may provide a habitat for protected species, development proposals should be supported by an up-to-date ecological assessment, including a Habitat Survey and a survey for species listed in the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Plan. Significantly harmful ecological impacts should be avoided through the design, layout and detailing of the development with mitigation, and as a last resort, compensation (including off-site measures), provided where significant impacts cannot be avoided.

New Development should deliver an evidenced net gain in biodiversity appropriately integrated into design and layout in accordance with Policy DM7.

#### 8 Crime & Disorder

The potential for creation or exacerbation of crime, disorder or antisocial behaviour should be taken into account in formulating development proposals. Appropriate mitigation through the layout and design of the proposal and / or off-site measures should be included as part of development proposals.

#### 9 Unstable Land

Development proposals within the current and historic coal mining areas of the District should take account of ground conditions, land stability and mine gas, and where necessary include mitigation measures to ensure they can be safely implemented.

#### 10 Flood Risk and Water Management

The Council will, in line with Policy DM5(c)aim to steer new development away from areas at highest risk of flooding. Development proposals within Environment Agency Flood Zones 2 and 3 and areas with critical drainage problems will only be considered where it constitutes appropriate development and it can be demonstrated, by application of the Sequential Test, that there are no reasonably available site in lower risk Flood Zones.

Where development is necessary within areas at risk of flooding it will also need to satisfy the Exception Test by demonstrating it would be safe for the intended users without increasing flood risk elsewhere and where possible, pursue opportunities to reduce flood risk overall.

All application for new development shall demonstrate that all surface water discharges have been carried out in accordance with the principles laid out within the drainage hierarchy, in such that a discharge to the public sewerage systems are avoided, where possible.

All major developments shall ensure that Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for the management of surface water run-off are put in place unless demonstrated to be inappropriate.

All schemes for the inclusions of SuDS should demonstrate they have considered all four aspects of good SuDS design, Quantity, Quality, Amenity and Biodiversity, and the SuDS and development will fit into the existing landscape.

The completed SuDS schemes should be accompanied by a maintenance schedule detailing maintenance boundaries, responsible parties and arrangements to ensure that the SuDS are maintained in perpetuity.

Where possible, all non-major development should look to incorporate these same SuDS principles into their designs.

#### 11 Health and Wellbeing

Development that supports improvements to health and wellbeing will be supported. This should ensure that new development:

- Are age friendly, inclusive, safe and attractive, and easily accessible on foot or by bicycle. Where appropriate this should integrate dementia friendly design principles;
- Have strong sense of place which encourages social interaction;

		<ul> <li>Are designed to promote active travel and other physical activity through the arrangement of buildings and uses, access to open space and landscaping;</li> <li>Through the arrangement of buildings and uses, promote access to open space and landscaping, and the provision of facilities to support walking.</li> <li>Waste &amp; Recycling</li> <li>Waste and recycling storage and collection must be carefully considered to be both functional and appropriately integrated into the design of all buildings. There should be sufficient space / access for the storage of all bins to be away from the front elevation of the property so as not to have a negative visual impact on street amenity.</li> <li>Advertisements</li> <li>Proposals requiring advertisement consent will be assessed in relation to their impact on public safety, the appearance of the building on which they are sited or the visual amenity of the surrounding area.</li> <li>Design SPD</li> <li>Further guidance will be set out within a SPD to be prepared by the Council in accordance with the NPPF and the National Model Design Code Requirement</li> </ul>		
Sequential Test	Policy DM5(c)	In-line with Core Policy 10 of the Amended Core Strategy, the Council will follow a sequential approach to development and flood risk, seeking to steer new development away from those areas at highest risk. Development will not be permitted if there are reasonably available sites appropriate for the proposed development in areas at lower risk of flooding.	D	Screen out.  This is a positive policy designed to provide environmental protection.
		The area of search within which to undertake the Test will normally be District-wide, unless it is appropriate for this to be further refined having had regard to relevant policy objectives within the Development Plan and/or any valid functional requirements of the proposed use. With specific regard to housing development, the presence of a settlement-level housing needs assessment will not normally justify restricting application of the test to that location. To depart from this approach will require robust justification on the part of the applicant.		
		Where the undertaking of the Test is necessary then applicants are encouraged to positively engage with the District Council at an early stage in order to agree appropriate parameters.		
Water Efficiency Measures in	Policy DM5(d)	Proposals for new dwellings should meet the Building Regulation optional higher water efficiency standard of 110 litres per person per day, or relevant successor standard, as set out through the Building Regulations.	D	Screen out.

New Dwellings				This is a positive policy designed to provide environmental protection.
Householder Development	Policy DM6	<ol> <li>Planning permission will be granted for the alteration and extension of dwellings, erection and conversion of curtilage buildings, including the formation of annexes and means of enclosure providing that:         <ol> <li>Provision for safe and inclusive access and parking provision can be achieved and there is no adverse impact on the highway network as a result of the proposal;</li> <li>There is no adverse impact on the amenities of neighbouring users including loss of privacy, light and overbearing impact;</li> <li>The layout of development within the site and separation distances from neighbouring development are sufficient to ensure that neither suffers from an unacceptable reduction in amenity by virtue of overlooking and loss of privacy or overbearing impacts.</li> <li>The host dwelling retains a reasonable amount of amenity space relative to its size;</li> <li>The proposal respects the design, materials and detailing of the host dwelling, and;</li> <li>The proposal respects the character of the surrounding area including its local distinctiveness, the significance and setting of any heritage assets, landscape character and the open character of the surrounding countryside.</li> </ol> </li> <li>The methods by which these criteria will be assessed will be set out in a Supplementary Planning Document.</li> </ol>	F	Screen out.  This policy does not trigger development but provides guidance for new development.
Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure	Policy DM7	New development, in line with the requirements of Core Policy 12, should protect, promote and enhance green infrastructure to deliver multi-functional benefits and contribute to the ecological network both as part of on site development proposals and through off site provision. As set out in Core Policy 12 public open space provided in connection within allocations in settlements within a 5km radius of Birklands & Billhaugh Special Area of Conservation, (provided in accordance with the Developer Contributions SPD) shall be designed to reflect the need to provide SANGS in perpetuity to relieve pressure on the SAC. Where SANGS are proposed, their quantity and quality shall be developed and agreed in conjunction with the District Council and Natural England.	M	Screen in. This policy contains Habitats site specific wording intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a Habitats site.

		Planning permission will not be granted for development proposals on, or affecting, Special Areas of Conservation or Special Protection Areas (European Sites) unless it is directly related to the management of the site for nature conservation and public access and does not significantly harm the integrity of the site.		
		For development proposals on, or affecting, Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), planning permission will not be granted unless the justification for the development clearly outweighs the nature conservation value of the site.		
		Loss or harm to ancient woodland and to ancient, veteran, protected or significant trees will not normally be acceptabl Proposals resulting in such loss or harm should only be permitted where these impacts are clearly outweighed by the public benefit of the development.		
		Development proposals in all areas of the District should seek to enhance biodiversity. Except for exempt development proposals, the enhancement should be a net gain of at least 10%, or if different, the relevant percentage set out in the Environment Act, as measured by the applicable DEFRA metric or any successor document. These gains must be guaranteed for a period of at least 30 years. On 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2023 a two year transition period will end; after which biodiversity net gain of the relevant percentage becomes a legal requirement on developments where it is applicable.		
		On sites of regional or local importance, including Local Wildlife Sites, previously developed land of biodiversity value, sites supporting priority habitats or contributing to ecological networks, or sites supporting priority species, planning permission will only be granted where it can be demonstrated that the need for the development outweighs the need to safeguard the nature conservation value of the site.		
		All development proposals affecting the above sites should be supported by an up-to date ecological assessment, involving a habitat survey and a survey for protected species and priority species listed in the UKBAP. On SSSI's and sites of regional or local importance, for proposals where the presumption against development can be overcome, significantly harmful ecological impacts should be avoided through the design, layout and detailing of the development, with mitigation, and as a last resort, compensation (including off-site measures), provided where they cannot be avoided.		
Development in the Open Countryside	Policy DM8	In accordance with the requirements of Spatial Policy 3, development away from villages or settlements, in the open countryside, will be strictly controlled and limited to the following types of development;  1 Agricultural and Forestry Development Requiring Planning Permission	В	Screen out.  This policy provides design criteria for development in the countryside. It does not trigger development.

LC-815 NSDC HRA Appendix D 5 120922SC.docx

Proposals will need to explain the need for the development, it's siting and scale in relation to the use it is intended to serve.

2 New and Replacement Rural Workers Dwellings, the Extension of Existing Rural Workers Dwellings, and the Removal of Occupancy Conditions Attached to Existing Dwellings.

Proposals for new dwellings will be required to demonstrate an essential functional and financial need for a rural worker to live permanently at, or near, the relevant rural operation. The scale of new and replacement dwellings and extensions to those existing should be commensurate with the needs, and the ability of the operation they serve to fund them. Where a new or replacement dwelling is justified, its siting will be influenced by its functional role and the visual impact on the surrounding countryside should also be taken into account. Other than for the most minor of proposals, applications to extend dwellings subject to occupancy conditions will be assessed in the same way.

Extensions to existing rural workers dwellings will only be permitted where the extension does not undermine the retention of any occupancy condition.

Where existing dwellings are subject to conditions restricting occupancy, applications to remove such conditions will not be permitted unless it can be clearly demonstrated that:

- The essential need which originally required the dwelling to be permitted no longer applies in relation to the land holding of the original source of employment; and
- b) The long term needs in the locality no longer warrants the dwelling's reservation for that purpose with reasonable attempts having been made to dispose of the dwelling for the occupation as a rural worker's dwelling.

#### 3 New and Replacement Dwellings

Planning permission will not be granted for isolated new dwellings unless they are of outstanding quality or innovative nature of design, reflecting the highest standards of architecture. Proposals will also need to significantly enhance their immediate setting and be sensitive to the defining characteristics of the local area.

Notwithstanding the above, planning permission will be granted for replacement dwellings were it can be demonstrated that the existing dwelling is in lawful residential use and is not of architectural or historical merit. In the interests of minimising visual impact on the countryside and maintaining a balanced rural housing stock, replacement dwellings should enhance their immediate setting and normally be of a similar size, scale and siting to that being replaced. The appropriate subdivision of existing residential dwellings in lawful use, to create additional new dwellings will also be supported.

Proposals for residential development which is demonstrated to represent the optimal viable use of a heritage asset, or which would constitute appropriate enabling development in order to secure the future of a heritage asset, will be positively viewed.

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#### 4 Replacement of Non Residential Buildings

Where they are related to established uses or proposed uses enabled by other criteria of this policy, planning permission will be granted for the replacement of non-residential buildings. Proposals will need to demonstrate that the buildings to be replaced originated from a permanent design and construction, are not of architectural or historical merit, have not been abandoned and are not suitable for conversion to other uses. The replacement building should be located within the curtilage of the site it is intended to serve.

#### 5 Conversion of existing buildings

In the interests of sustainability, consideration should be given to the conversion of existing buildings before proposing replacement development. Proposals should investigate and assess alternative uses for buildings in accordance with the aims of the Spatial Strategy and present a case for the most beneficial use. Redevelopment proposals, which significantly expand the existing form of the building, will not be considered under this element of the policy, but will instead be assessed as new development in open countryside under other relevant provision of this policy.

Planning permission will only be supported for the conversion to new residential uses of buildings of architectural or historical merit of the buildings where it warrants their preservation, and they can be converted without significant re-building, alteration or extension. Further guidance over how proposals for the conversion of traditional rural buildings will be considered is provided in the Conversion of Traditional Rural Buildings Supplementary Planning Document.

Proposals for the re-use of barns and other associated agricultural buildings will be required to submit a protected species survey and proposed mitigation alongside the planning application (i.e. a pre-determination protected species survey).

Proposals for residential development will also need to demonstrate that the enhancement of their immediate setting has been provided for.

#### 6 Rural Diversification

Proposals to diversify the economic activity of agricultural and rural businesses will be supported where it can be shown that they can contribute to the local economy. Proposals should be complimentary and proportionate to the existing business in their nature and scale and be accommodated in existing buildings wherever possible.

Proposals for development which helps sustain existing agricultural and other rural enterprises such as small scale farm shops selling local produce will be supported. To represent appropriate rural diversification, Farm Shops will be expected to source a reasonable proportion of their produce from the farm and / or local area. This would be secured by way of condition.

Planning applications should be supported by a statement that demonstrates the proposed development forms part of an appropriate rural diversification scheme which will contribute to making the existing business viable.

#### 7 Equestrian Uses

New commercial equestrian uses and the expansion of existing uses that contribute to the local economy will be supported were it can be demonstrated that the particular rural location is required. Proposals for new development should investigate the re-use of existing buildings and sites within and adjacent to settlements. In assessing such proposals, the Council will have regard to their cumulative impact. Proposals for dwellings in connection with equestrian uses will be assessed in accordance with criterion 2.

Proposals for domestic equestrian uses and associated buildings will be assessed against the criteria of Policy DM5.

#### 8 Employment uses

Small scale Employment development should be small in scale unless a larger scale can be justified and will only be supported where it can demonstrate the need for a particular rural location and a contribution to providing or sustaining rural employment to meet local needs in accordance with the aims of Core Policy 6. Proposals for the proportionate expansion of existing businesses will be supported where they can demonstrate an ongoing contribution to local employment. Such proposals will not require justification through a sequential test.

Proposals to expand existing businesses or construct buildings for new businesses in the open countryside are more likely to be appropriate in areas such as industrial estates where the principle of such development is established. Where it is demonstrated that it is necessary, expansion into adjacent areas could be considered appropriate if the impacts are judged to be acceptable. The proportionality of such developments should be assessed individually and cumulatively, and impacts on both the immediate vicinity and the wider setting should be considered. It should be demonstrated that location on existing employment allocations or on employment land within urban boundaries or village envelopes is not more appropriate.

#### 9 Community and Leisure Facilities

Community and recreational uses requiring land in the countryside will be supported on sites in close proximity to settlements. In accordance with Spatial Policy 8, proposals will be required to demonstrate they meet the needs of communities and in particular any deficiencies in current provision. Associated built development should be restrained to the minimum necessary to sustain the use.

#### 10 Roadside Services

		Proposals for roadside services in the countryside will not normally be supported unless a justified need for the particular location can be demonstrated. The scale of development should be restrained to the minimum necessary to serve the need and be designed to avoid an adverse impact on the surrounding landscape.  11 Visitor Based Tourism Development and Tourist Accommodation  In accordance with Core Policy 7, the benefits of sustainable tourism and visitor based development (including tourist accommodation) are recognised and proposals which help to realise the tourism potential of the District, support the meeting of identified tourism needs, complement and enhance existing attractions or that address shortfalls in existing provision will be positively viewed. Core Policy 7 details the approach which will be taken towards the determination of proposals for tourism development in the open countryside.		
Protecting and Enhancing the Historic Environment	Policy DM9	In accordance with the requirements of Core Policy 14, all development proposals concerning heritage assets will be expected to conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance, contribute to the wider vitality, viability and regeneration of the areas in which they are located (including its contribution to economic vitality), reinforce a strong sense of place and be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of existing and future generations.  1 Listed Buildings  Proposals for the change of use of listed buildings and development affecting or within the curtilage of listed buildings requiring planning permission will be required to demonstrate that the proposal is compatible with the fabric and setting of the building. Any harm to, or loss of, the special architecture or historical significance of the building will require clear and convincing justification set out in full in the heritage impact assessment in accordance with the aims of Core Policy  14.	D	Screen out. This is a positive policy designed to provide environmental protection.
		2 Conservation Areas  Development proposals should take account of the distinctive character and setting of individual conservation areas including open spaces and natural features and reflect this in their layout, design, form, scale, mass, use of materials and detailing. Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of Conservation Areas (including character and appearance) will require clear and convincing justification set out in full in the heritage impact assessment in accordance with the aims of Core Policy 14.  3 Historic Landscapes  Development proposals should respect the varied historic landscapes of the district (including registered parks and gardens and Stoke Field registered battlefield) through their setting and design. Appropriate development that accords with the Amended Core Strategy, other Development Plan Documents and facilitates a sustainable future for Laxton will be supported. Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of historic landscapes		

will require clear and convincing justification set out in full in the heritage impact assessment in accordance with the aims of Core Policy 14.

#### 4 Archaeology

Development proposals should take account of their effect on sites and their settings with the potential for archaeological interest. Where development proposals include, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, an appropriate archaeological impact / desk-based assessment will be required and where necessary, accompanied by a field evaluation which may include both non-intrusive and intrusive archaeological investigation. This will then be used to inform the need for further evaluation or a range of archaeological mitigation measures, if required, for preservation by record and more occasionally preservation in situ. Planning permission will not normally be granted for development proposals which would lead to the substantial harm (or total loss of significance of) Scheduled Ancient Monuments or other sites of demonstrable national significance such as Farndon Fields.

Within Newark's Historic Core, as defined on the Policies Map, archaeological evaluation will usually be required prior to the determination of planning applications.

#### 5 All Heritage Assets

This criterion concerns all heritage assets, including non-designated assets which meet the Council's criteria. All development proposals affecting heritage assets and their settings, including new operational development and alterations to existing buildings, where they form or affect heritage assets should utilise appropriate siting, design, detailing, materials and methods of construction. Particular attention should be paid to reflecting locally distinctive styles of development and these should respect traditional methods and natural materials wherever possible. Where development proposals requiring planning permission involve demolition, the resulting impact on heritage assets will be assessed under this policy. All planning applications for development proposals which affect heritage assets should include a description of the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. Where there is evidence of deliberate neglect of, or damage to, a heritage asset, the deteriorated state will not be taken into account in any planning decision.

#### 6 Shopfronts

Shopfronts of high architectural or historical value should be retained and preserved wherever possible. Proposals for new shopfronts should respect the character, scale, proportion and detailing of the host building. Detailed assessment of proposals will be made in accordance with a Shopfronts and Advertisements Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document.

_Appendix L			
Policy DM10	Development proposals involving hazardous materials or the potential for pollution should take account of and address their potential impacts in terms of health, the natural environment and general amenity on:  1. Neighbouring land uses; 2. The wider population; 3. Ground and surface water, water courses and water quality; 4. Air quality; and 5. Biodiversity  Proposals for potential point source polluters and other activities that have potential to lead to increased deposition of nitrogen should, as part of any planning application, consider the potential for effects on European sites and the scope for avoiding or mitigating these.  A conceptual site model should be prepared with an investigation report for the potential development site. A site investigation to confirm the conceptual site model should then be undertaken and dependent upon findings of such a remediation/mitigation plan with subsequent validation should then be agreed with the planning authority.  Any impact should be balanced against the economic and wider social need for the development. Proposals should include necessary mitigation as part of the development or through off site measures where necessary. Harmful development which cannot be made acceptable will be resisted.  Development proposals near hazardous substance installations, as defined on the Policies Map, or near development with the potential for significant pollution should take account of and address the potential risk arising from them. Any risk should be balanced against the economic and wider social need for the development. Development that would be put at an unacceptable risk from its proximity to such installations will be resisted.  Development proposals should identify opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts, such as through traffic and travel management, green infrastructure provision	D	Screen out. This is a positive policy designed to provide environmental protection.
	resisted.  Development proposals should identify opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate		
	Policy	Policy DM10  Development proposals involving hazardous materials or the potential for pollution should take account of and address their potential impacts in terms of health, the natural environment and general amenity on:  1. Neighbouring land uses; 2. The wider population; 3. Ground and surface water, water courses and water quality; 4. Air quality; and 5. Biodiversity  Proposals for potential point source polluters and other activities that have potential to lead to increased deposition of nitrogen should, as part of any planning application, consider the potential for effects on European sites and the scope for avoiding or mitigating these.  A conceptual site model should be prepared with an investigation report for the potential development site. A site investigation to confirm the conceptual site model should then be undertaken and dependent upon findings of such a remediation/mitigation plan with subsequent validation should then be agreed with the planning authority.  Any impact should be balanced against the economic and wider social need for the development. Proposals should include necessary mitigation as part of the development or through off site measures where necessary. Harmful development which cannot be made acceptable will be resisted.  Development proposals near hazardous substance installations, as defined on the Policies Map, or near development with the potential for significant pollution should take account of and address the potential risk arising from them. Any risk should be balanced against the economic and wider social need for the development. Development that would be put at an unacceptable risk from its proximity to such installations will be resisted.  Development proposals should identify opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts, such as through traffic and travel management, green infrastructure provision and enhancement. Account should be taken of the Air Quality Strategy for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire 2020-2030, Issues around air quality will be discussed	Policy DM10  Development proposals involving hazardous materials or the potential for pollution should take account of and address their potential impacts in terms of health, the natural environment and general amenity on:  1. Neighbouring land uses; 2. The wider population; 3. Ground and surface water, water courses and water quality; 4. Air quality; and 5. Biodiversity Proposals for potential point source polluters and other activities that have potential to lead to increased deposition of nitrogen should, as part of any planning application, consider the potential for effects on European sites and the scope for avoiding or mitigating these.  A conceptual site model should be prepared with an investigation report for the potential development site. A site investigation to confirm the conceptual site model should then be undertaken and dependent upon findings of such a remediation/mitigation plan with subsequent validation should then be agreed with the planning authority.  Any impact should be balanced against the economic and wider social need for the development. Proposals should include necessary mitigation as part of the development or through off site measures where necessary. Harmful development which cannot be made acceptable will be resisted.  Development proposals near hazardous substance installations, as defined on the Policies Map, or near development with the potential for significant pollution should take account of and address the potential risk arising from them. Any risk should be balanced against the economic and wider social need for the development. Development that would be put at an unacceptable risk from its proximity to such installations will be resisted.  Development proposals should identify opportunities to improve air quality or mitigate impacts, such as through traffic and travel management, green infrastructure provision and enhancement. Account should be taken of the Air Quality Strategy for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire 2020-2030. Issues around air quality will be discussed i

		proposal for re-development. Where contamination comes to light as part of the development process, the proposal will be determined in light of this.  Development proposals within and with the potential to impact on the Groundwater Source Protection Zone, as defined on the Policies Map, should address the potential risk through mitigation as part of the development or through off site measures where necessary. Proposals that present an unacceptable risk to the Groundwater Source Protection Zone will be resisted  All proposals will be required to address the Landscape Character of the District, in accordance with Core Policy 13 and satisfy the criteria of other relevant Development Plan Documents.		
Retail and Main Town Centre Uses	Policy DM11	Retail and Main Town Centre Uses  Within defined Centres, proposals for new development or changes of use which require planning permission, should prioritise uses which will contribute towards the vitality and viability of the Centre ahead of the consideration of other uses. For the purposes of implementation, this will involve the prioritisation of uses defined through National Policy as 'Main Town Centre Uses' and those falling within the E use-class, and following this, other uses which would contribute towards this objective.  In addition to the above, the design and layout of in-Centre schemes should, wherever possible, seek to:  Secure active frontages;  Realise opportunities to improve pedestrian permeability, for all users, within the Centre; and  Where a mix of uses is proposed given careful consideration to their distribution in order to ensure that vitality and viability is optimised.  In accordance with the Retail Hierarchy set out in Core Policy 8, retail development and other Main town centre uses will be assessed as follows:  1. Newark  New and enhanced retail development and other Main town centre uses that consolidate or enhance the composition of the town centre will be supported within the Town Centre Boundary, as defined on the Policies Map.  To promote the continued vitality and viability of the Town Centre, support will be provided for schemes which will assist with the implementation of the Newark-on-Trent Town Investment Plan and subsequent Town Centre Strategy.  2. District Centres	F	Screen out. This policy sets out retail uses by area. It does not trigger development.

LC-815 NSDC HRA Appendix D 5 120922SC.docx

New and enhanced retail development and other Main Town Centre uses consistent with the size and role of the centre, will be supported within the District Centres of Edwinstowe. Ollerton and Southwell, as defined on the Policies Map.

#### 3. Local Centres

Within the Local Centres of Balderton (North and South), Bilsthorpe (North and South), Bildworth, Boughton, Clipstone, Collingham, Farnsfield, Lowdham and Rainworth as defined on the Polices Map, and the new Local Centres at Land South of Newark (NAP 2A), Land east of Newark (NAP 2B), Land at Fernwood (NAP 2C) and Sutton-on-Trent (ST/LC/1) – new and enhanced retail development and other non-retail Main Town Centre uses, consistent with the size and role of the centre, will be supported.

#### 4. Edge and Out of Centre Locations

#### Retail

In line with Core Policy 8 'Retail & Town Centres', retail development in edge and out-of-centre locations will be controlled through application of the Sequential Test, with proposals requiring justification through a proportionate application of the Test – which has prioritised centre and then edge-of-centre locations ahead of considering out-of-centre sites. Where there is no commercial or functional necessity for different elements of a scheme to be located alongside one another and there could be the potential for them to be delivered separately or in a different form, then the scope for disaggregation should be considered.

Edge and out-of-centre retail proposals should be acceptable in terms of their impact on the vitality and viability of centres, existing, committed and planned investment and on in-centre trade as well as, where applicable, trade in the wider area. Therefore proposals exceeding the thresholds in Amended Core Strategy Core Policy 8 should be accompanied by a robust assessment of impact which addresses, but is not limited to, the following considerations:

- Current and forecast expenditure capacity. With the capacity to support additional convenience and comparison retail floorspace being forecast to be drive by increases in residual expenditure as a result of population growth. This capacity is anticipated to arise towards the end of the Plan period, with the delivery of housing growth being a particularly importance influence;
- The impact on the range and quality of the comparison and convenience retail offer; and
- The impact of the proposal on allocated sites outside town centres being developed in accordance with the Development Plan.

In addition, for proposals that may impact on Newark Town Centre, the following should also be taken into account:

- The function of the town centre as a market town and the viability of the market:
- The effect of development on independent retailers having regard to their role within the town centre; and
- The impact of development on the town centre in catering for tourism.

Small scale retail proposals below the thresholds in Core Policy 8 which are located within the Main Built-up Area, but beyond the centre boundary of the Sub-Regional Centre, Service Centre's and Principal Villages will be supported providing that they fulfil a 'local needs' function (by virtue of the scale and type of retail floorspace proposed). Such proposals will not be required to demonstrate satisfaction of the Sequential Test, and where below the local thresholds in Core Policy 8, the Impact Test.

#### Non-retail Main Town Centre Uses

Proposals for non-retail Main Town Centre Uses in edge and out-of-centre locations will be subject to the sequential approach outlined in Core Policy 8. Justification will be required through the undertaking of a proportionate Sequential Test, which has prioritised centre and then edge-of-centre locations ahead of considering out-of-centre sites. Where there is no commercial or functional necessity for different elements of a scheme to be located alongside one another, and there could be the potential for them to be delivered separately or in a different form, then the scope for disaggregation should be considered.

Leisure and office development outside of Centres exceeding 2,500sqm and not in accordance with the Development Plan, must be acceptable in terms of impact on the vitality and viability of centres, on existing, committed and planned investment and where appropriate on in-centre trade and trade in the wider area. Such proposals should therefore be accompanied by a robust assessment of impact.

#### 5. Rural Areas

Within villages beyond the principal village level of the Settlement Hierarchy, small scale retail proposals, where they fulfil a 'local needs' function (by virtue of the scale and type of retail floorspace proposed), and enhance the sustainability of the settlement will be supported, in line with Spatial Policy 3 'Rural Areas' and Core Policy 11 'Rural Accessibility'. Where there is no existing provision in the settlement, then such proposals will not be required to demonstrate satisfaction of the Sequential Test, and where below the local thresholds in the Core Policy 8, the Impact Test.

Small-scale rural diversification schemes which include appropriate forms of retail provision, small-scale rural offices and / or the other small-scale rural development will not be required to demonstrate satisfaction of the Sequential Test. Retail floorspace

		within such schemes falling below the local thresholds in Core Policy 8 will also be exempt from the Impact Test. Rural diversification schemes should be consistent with the approach set out in Policy DM8 'Development in the Open Countryside'.		
Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	Policy DM12	A positive approach to considering development proposals will be taken that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. Where appropriate, the Council will work pro-actively with applicants jointly to seek solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions within the district.	В	Screen out.  This is a positive policy designed to achieve sustainable development.
		The Development Plan is the statutory starting point for decision making. Planning applications that accord with the policies in the Development Plan for Newark and Sherwood (including, where relevant, policies in Neighbourhood Development Plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The Development Plan also includes the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan which identifies Minerals Safeguarding Areas. Within these areas consideration of the impact of the proposed development on minerals resources may be required in line with the provisions of that Plan. The Minerals Safeguarding Areas are shown on the Policies Map.		
		Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision, then permission will be granted unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:		
		<ul> <li>Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the National Planning Policy Framework taken as a whole. Where adverse impacts do not outweigh benefits consideration should be given to mitigation where harm would otherwise occur; or</li> </ul>		
		• Specific policies in that Framework indicate that development should be restricted.		
Regeneration Programmes and Schemes	Policy DM13	Newark Urban Area The Council will work proactively to deliver the aims and objectives of the Newark-on-Trent Town Investment Plan (TIP), Newark Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Newark High Street Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ), their successor documents and related strategies. Development proposals which will assist in achieving this outcome will therefore be supported. This will include the bringing forward of appropriate regeneration schemes on sites in and around the Newark Urban Area. Any development proposals that, in the opinion of the Local Planning Authority, undermine the delivery of identified outcomes will be resisted.	F	Screen out.  This policy sets out the Council's support of regeneration programmes and schemes but does not trigger development itself.
		The wider Newark & Sherwood District		

		The Council will pursue available opportunities to deliver regeneration programmes and schemes in locations across the District. Development proposals will arise as a result of recognised regeneration programmes and strategies will therefore be positively reviewed.		
Pitch Requirements	Policy GRT/1	The locally identified pitch requirement for planning definition traveller households equates to 118 pitches between 2013 and 2033. This figure represents the local new pitch target for Newark & Sherwood District, and will provide the basis for the five year land supply requirement. Proposals to address this need will be expected to be supported by sufficient information to allow their contribution to be assessed.  Where households within the undetermined category of need, as identified through the 2019 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment, can demonstrate that they meet the planning definition of traveller in national planning policy, then this will be treated as an additional component of the planning definition need.  Windfall proposals to address the needs of non-planning definition Traveller households on Traveller pitches will be assessed against the criteria in Core Policy 5 of the Amended Core Strategy.  No requirements for travelling showpeople or for transit pitches have been identified between 2013 and 2033.  The review of current pitch requirements and a new assessment of need will be carried out within 5 years of the publication of the current Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment.	I	Screen in.  Whilst this policy does not itself set out the locations for new gypsy and traveller pitches, it does set out the number of new pitches required for delivery over the plan period. The location of sites is set out in policies GRT2 – 5. Locational specific impacts are set out below.
Additional Provision on Existing Sites	Policy GRT2	Proposals on the following existing Gypsy Roma Traveller sites, as defined on the Policies Map, which would deliver additional pitches and address the locally identified accommodation needs for the site from the 2019 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment will be supported, subject to the detail of schemes being acceptable.  Site layouts should recognise on-site capacity constraints with new pitches; being capable of meeting the needs of occupants, supporting an acceptable level of residential amenity for occupants and neighbouring sites and be capable of providing for a safe standard of occupation.  Where these sites have areas at flood risk (all forms) then the Sequential Test should be applied at site level so that layouts, where possible, accommodate pitches within those areas at least flood risk. Following this the Exceptions Test, as defined through national planning policy, should be applied to ensure that the site itself can be made safe and that flood risk is not increased elsewhere.  Site Accommodation Needs Indicative Site Capacity		Screen in.  This policy sets out the locations of existing Gypsy Roma Traveller sites at which additional provision will be provided for gypsy and travellers.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  In-combination air quality impacts (when looking at the plan cumulatively) are also possible at both the SAC and ppSPA.

NUA/GRT/1 - Park	8 pitches to meet planning definition	13 pitches (full need)
View, Tolney Lane,	need and 5 pitches to meet non-	
<u>Newark</u>	planning definition needs	
NUA/GRT/2 -	3 pitches to meet undetermined need	3 pitches (full need)
Bowers Caravan Site,		
Tolney Lane, Newark		
NUA/GRT/3 - Hose	3 pitches to meet planning definition	9 pitches (full need)
Farm, Tolney Lane,	need, 2 pitches to meet undetermined	
<u>Newark</u>	need and 4 pitches to meet non-	
	planning definition needs	
NUA/GRT/4 - Land	1 pitch to meet planning definition need	3 pitches (full need)
opposite Ropewalk	and 2 pitches to meet undetermined	
Farm (Farm View),	<u>need</u>	
<u>Tolney Lane, Newark</u>		
NUA/GRT/5 -	13 pitches to meet planning definition	11 pitches (partial need)
Sandhill Sconce,	need, 4 pitches to meet undetermined	
<u>Tolney Lane, Newark</u>	need and 3 pitches to meet non-	
	planning definition needs	
NUA/GRT/6 - The	3 pitches to meet planning definition	3 pitches (full need)
Paddocks, Tolney	<u>need</u>	
<u>Lane, Newark</u>		
NUA/GRT/7 -	5 pitches to meet planning definition	7 pitches (full need)
<u>Hirram's Paddock,</u>	need, 1 pitch to meet undetermined need	
Tolney Lane, Newark	and 1 pitch to meet non-planning	
	<u>definition needs</u>	
NUA/GRT/8- Taylor's	1 pitch to meet planning definition need	1 pitch (full need)
Paddock, Tolney		
Lane, Newark		
NUA/GRT/9 – Price's	1 pitch to meet undetermined need	1 pitch (full need)
Paddock, Tolney		
Lane, Newark		
OB/GRT/1 – Shannon	5 pitches to meet planning definition	9 pitches (full need)
Caravan Site, Wellow	need and 4 pitches to meet non-planning	
Road, Ollerton	definition needs	
OB/GRT/2- The	6 pitches to meet planning definition	3 pitches (partial need)
Paddock, Wellow	need	
Road, Ollerton		

Site GTR/5 can accommodate 11 pitches. Site GTR/4 can accommodate 3 pitches. Site GTR/1 can accommodate 13 pitches. Site GTR/2 can accommodate 3 pitches. These are located within the ZOI for both Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and Clumber Park SSSI. As such recreational impact are likely. All sites are also located within 400m of Sherwood Forest ppSPA and therefore urbanisation impacts are likely. As these sites are already functioning gypsy and traveller sites, it is unlikely that functionally linked habitat will be impacted.

		OB/GRT/3 – The Stables. Wellow	4 pitches to meet planning definition need	4 pitches (full need)		
		Road, Ollerton				
		OB/GRT/4 – Dunromin, Wellow Road, Ollerton	8 pitches to meet planning definition need	5 pitches (partial need)		
		OB/GRT/5 – Greenwood, Wellow Road, Ollerton	1 pitch to meet undetermined need	1 pitch (full need)		
				73 pitches		
		to be met will be re is no longer nec OB/GRT/4 where met, then propos	ould compromise the ability for a esisted, unless robust demonstra- essary. In the case of sites the need associated with the si- eals should place an emphasis r needs within the first five year	tion is provided as to why thing the NUA/GRT/5, OB/GRT/2 and the can likely only partially bon ensuring that planning.	s d e g	
			Planning Defini I Sconce, Tolney Lane, 5 pitches	tion Need (Years 0-5)		
		Newark  OB/GRT/2 - The Pa	addock, Wellow Road, 3 pitches			
		OB/GRT/4 – Dunromin	Wellow Road, Ollerton 5 pitches			
		location which could	RT/2 and 4 the Shannon (OB/GRT 1) contribute toward meeting need w shown on the Policies Map under th	ithin the 10 and 15 year tranche	5.	
Sites to be Brought Back into Gypsy Roma Traveller Use	Policy GRT3	Proposals on the fol sites back into use identified accommod the detail of scheme	o be Brought Back into Gypsy Romalowing sites, as defined on the Police for planning definition Traveller Idation needs, as outlined in Policy Gas being acceptable. This includes the eds of occupants, support an accept	cies Map, which would bring the nouseholds and address locall RT1, will be supported subject to requirements that; new pitche	y o es	Screen in. This policy gives the locations of Gypsy Roma Traveller sites which will be brought back into action.

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		for occupants and neighbouring sites and be capable of providing for safe standard of occupation.  The Sequential Test should be applied at site level so that layouts, where possible, accommodate pitches within those areas at least flood risk (all forms). Following this the Exceptions Test, as defined through national planning policy, should be applied to ensure that the site itself can be made safe and that flood risk is not increased elsewhere. Schemes should seek to, as a minimum, accommodate the number of pitches detailed below. Proposals falling below these levels will need to be robustly justified.  Site  Pitches  NUA/GRT/10 - Church View, Tolney Lane, 10  Newark  NUA/GRT/11 - Riverside Park, Tolney Lane, 9  Newark  19  Proposals that would compromise the ability for the locally identified needs of planning definition households to be met will be resisted, unless robust demonstration is provided as to why this is no longer necessary.			In-combination air quality impacts (when looking at the plan cumulatively) are possible at both the SAC and ppSPA.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  Neither site is located within the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC or Clumber Park SSSI recreational ZOI and therefore recreational impact are unlikely.  Neither site is located within 400m of the SAC or ppSPA and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely.  As these sites have previously functioned as gypsy and traveller sites, it is unlikely that functionally linked habitat will be impacted.
Site Allocations	Policy GRT4	The following sites, as defined on the Policies Map, have Traveller accommodation. They are protected for this identified planning definition traveller needs, outlined Proposals which would deliver the sites in line with the good below will be supported, subject to the detail of schemes Site  NUA/GRT/12 – Land at Chestnut Lodge Barnby Road, Barnby-in-the-Willows  NUA/GRT/13 – Former Belvoir Ironworks, Bowbridge Lane, Newark  NUA/GRT/14 – The Old Stable Yard, Land North of Winthorpe Road, Newark  NUA/GRT/15 – Land at Appleby Lodge, Barnby Road, Newark  Part A	purpose to ensure that locally in Policy GRT1, can be met. general and site specific criteria	l	Screen in. This policy gives the locations of sites which allocated for Gypsy Roma Traveller accommodation. In-combination air quality impacts (when looking at the plan cumulatively) are also possible at both the SAC and ppSPA. Site NUA/GRT/14 is located within the Clumber Park SSSI ZOI and recreational impacts upon the ppSPA are therefore possible. No other allocation is located

#### General Criteria

Schemes should seek, as a minimum, to accommodate the number of pitches detailed above. Proposals falling below these levels will need to be robustly justified. Where schemes would compromise the ability for the locally identified needs of planning definition households to be met then they will be resisted, unless robust demonstration is provided as to why this is no longer necessary.

Site layouts should recognise on-site capacity constraints with; new pitches being capable of meeting the needs of occupants; supporting an acceptable level of residential amenity for occupants and neighbouring uses; and be capable of providing for a safe standard of occupation.

Positive management of surface water will need to ensure that the site itself is safe in flood risk terms and risk is not increased elsewhere.

#### Part B

#### Site Specific Criteria

#### NUAGRT/12 - Land at Chestnut Lodge

The site is allocated for around 20 pitches, a new dwelling in order to assist with the management and operation of the new pitches and creation of an additional new vehicular access to serve the pitches. In addition to the content outlined in Part A of this policy, new proposals will also be required to positively address the following:

- The appropriate siting of the new pitches and dwelling within the overall site, to ensure that they are acceptable in landscape and visual terms, with the impact on the open countryside being appropriately managed;
- Provision of the new vehicular access will need to be appropriate in highways terms, providing for a safe standard of access and having regard to the location and operation of other existing points of vehicular access in the immediate area; and
- The siting of the new pitches and dwelling should be kept outside of the easements to the underground gas pipelines, which pass through the site. This covers an area of 6 metres, each side of the pipelines.

#### NUA/GRT/13 - Former Belvoir Ironworks

The site is allocated for around between 15-27 pitches and a site office to assist with the management and operation of the new pitches. In addition to the content outlined in Part A of this policy, new proposals will also be required to positively address the following:

- Provision of suitable management arrangements, to ensure that pitches are made available on a public basis in perpetuity – unless this is demonstrated to no longer be required;
- Application of the Sequential Test at site-level so that layouts, where possible, accommodate pitches within those areas at least flood risk (all forms). Following this the Exceptions Test, as defined through national planning policy, should be

within the recreational ZOI for either the SAC or ppSPA.

There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.

Neither site is located within 400m of the SAC or ppSPA and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely.

Given the location of these sites in/on the edge of Newark on Trent and the distance from the ppSPA and SAC it is unlikely that they will provide functionally linked land.

- applied to ensure that the site itself can be made safe and that flood risk is not increased elsewhere;
- The relationship between the pitches and the adjoining cottages, ensuring that
  acceptable levels of residential amenity for both sets of occupants can be
  achieved; and
- Remediation of the site, informed by its phased investigation in line with best practice, which addresses the effects of the lands previous contaminative use and enables residential occupation to safely occur. Post-remediation validation will also be required prior to the commencement of development, to ensure that the remediation has been effective and the site is suitable for the proposed use.

#### NUA/GRT/14 - The Old Stable Yard

The site is allocated for around 14 pitches. In addition to the content outlined in Part A of this policy, new proposals will also be required to positively address the following:

- Application of the Sequential Test at site-level so that layouts, where possible, accommodate pitches within those areas at least flood risk (all forms). Following this the Exceptions Test, as defined through national planning policy, should be applied to ensure that the site itself can be made safe and that flood risk is not increased elsewhere:
- The appropriate siting of the new pitches within the overall site, to ensure that the impact on the openness of the Open Break designation is minimised, and restricted to that of a localised nature. In order to support this requirement planning application(s) for the above pitches should be supported by submission of a detailed landscaping strategy. The approved contents of this strategy should then be delivered as part of implementing planning consent. The landscape strategy should provide for the following:
  - Retention of the existing landscape planting (including tree belts) along the sites north, east and western boundaries. Where necessary existing planting should be reinforced; and
  - o Provision of additional tree and hedge planting along the southwestern boundary to help mitigate the visual impact of the site.
  - Integration of appropriate measures to reduce noise impact from the A1 and A46, informed through the undertaking of a robust acoustic survey. Any static or touring caravans proposed to provide permanent accommodation within the site should conform to British Standards (or relevant successor standard).

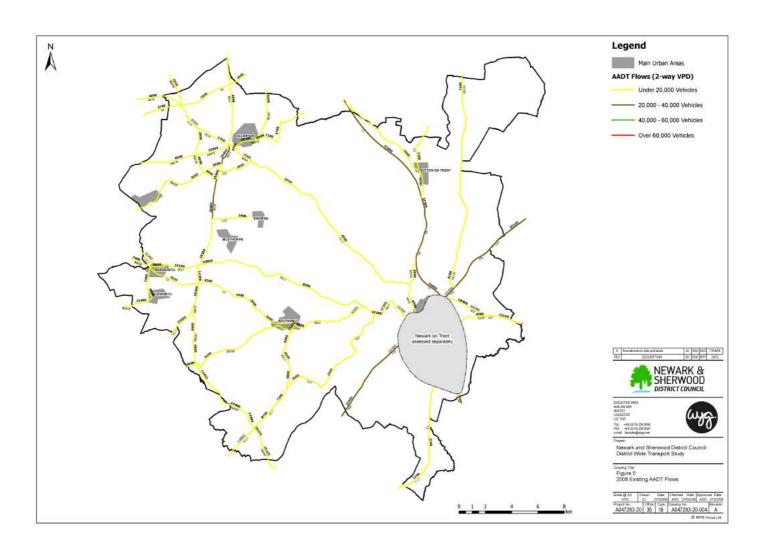
#### NUA/GRT/15 - Land at Appleby Lodge

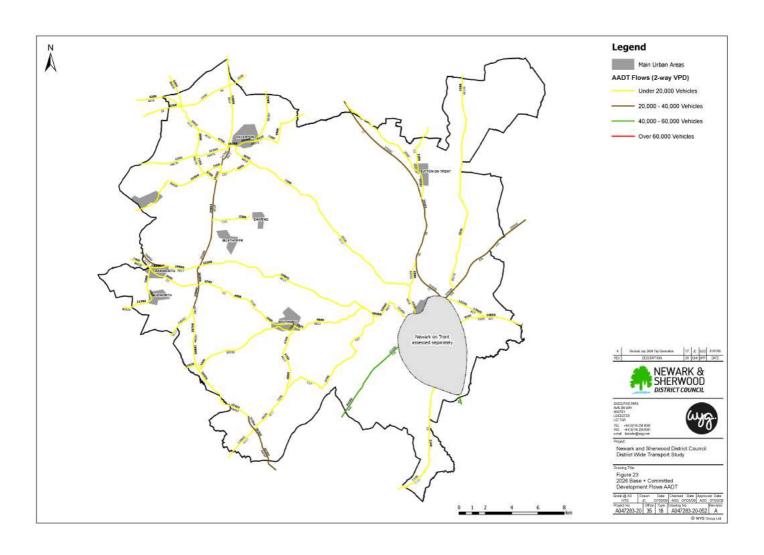
The site is allocated for around 6 pitches, of which 2 are for the purpose of meeting locally identified needs for planning definition traveller households. In addition to the content outlined in Part A of this policy, new proposals will also be required to positively address the following:

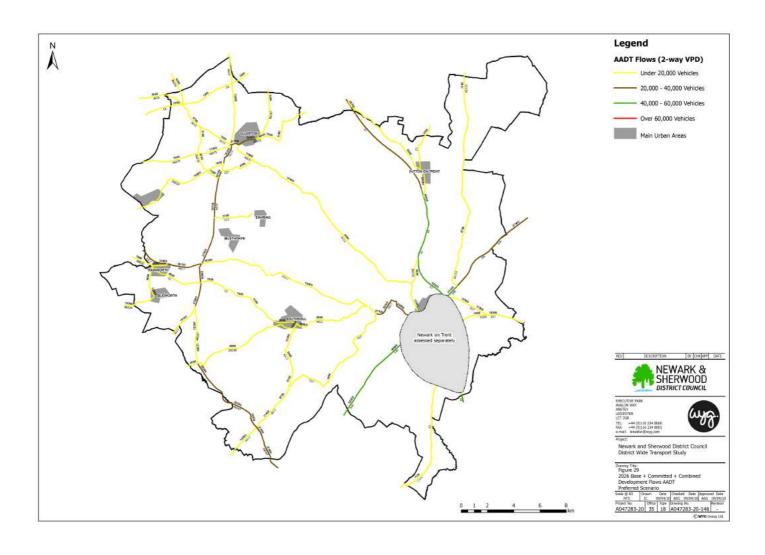
	<ul> <li>Provision of suitable vehicular access arrangements – to be taken from Barnby Road;</li> <li>The siting of the new pitches should be kept outside of the easements to the underground gas pipeline, which passes through the site; and</li> <li>The area identified as a 'broad location' for future additional pitches is reserved for the purposes of meeting locally identified needs for planning definition traveller households. Any proposals will need to demonstrate that they are sited beyond the easements to the gas pipeline, and that any onsite infrastructure is acceptable in terms of its impact on the pipeline.</li> </ul>	
Policy GRT5	<ul> <li>Land at Tolney Lane, Newark has been defined on the Policies Map as the Tolney Lane Policy Area, and within this Area support is provided for the following:         <ul> <li>Additional pitch provision on existing sites, in line with Policy GRT2, and the bringing back into Gypsy Roma Traveller use of two further sites, as outlined in Policy GRT3. Development beyond the Policy Area will be strictly controlled, and proposals for Gypsy Roma Traveller pitches resisted;</li> <li>Delivery of flood alleviation improvements to Tolney Lane, improving the flood risk resiliency of the area and its vehicular access to Great North Road. In addition support is also provided for separate site-level flood resiliency measures within the Policy Area, providing these would not increase the level of risk elsewhere;</li> <li>Ancillary forms of residential development which would allow the non-accommodation needs of residents to be met. Proposals should be acceptable in flood risk terms, and not lead to an increase in risk elsewhere. Where proposals are made for amenity buildings, including 'day rooms', then these should be proportionate in size and form, and provide for an efficient use of land. Ancillary development which would compromise the ability for the identified accommodation needs outlined in Policy GRT2 and GRT3 to be met will be resisted; and</li> <li>Non-residential forms of development, either where proposed individually or as part of a mix of uses, where this would not cause unacceptable harm to;</li></ul></li></ul>	Screen in.  This Policy Area provides a framework to support suitable ancillary forms of residential development, in order that residents can seek improvements to meet their needs, to allow additional pitch development where necessary and to ensure that sites remain fit for purpose.  There is potential for downstream in-combination water quality impacts upon the Humber Estuary Habitat site designations.  GRT5 is not located within the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC recreational ZOI but on very the edge of the Clumber Park SSSI ZOI. Recreational impact are unlikely.  This site is not located within 400m of the SAC or ppSPA and therefore urbanisation impacts are unlikely.  As this site currently functions as a Gypsy Roma Traveller settlement, it is unlikely that

functionally linked habitat will be impacted.
In-combination air quality impacts (when looking at the plan cumulatively) are also possible at both the SAC and ppSPA.

### Appendix E: 2010 Traffic Transport Study Map Extracts







## Appendix F: Review of habitat types within Habitats site and within 200m of A and B road network

Road Link within 200m	Description of Habitat Types within 200m of Road Link <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Comments		
Birklands &	Bilhaugh SAC			
B6034	Aerial photography indicates woodland habitat within 200m along length of road link.  Priority habitat data indicates that there is deciduous woodland within 200m which is comprised of Old <i>Acidophilous</i> Oak Woods With <i>Q. Robur</i> On Sandy Plains (H9190) (Annex 1 habitat) with other habitats comprising M03: Lowland heath; G05 and Lowland dry acid grassland.  The underpinning SSSI units within 200m Number 07 and 12. Both unit 07 and 12 are categorised as lowland, broadleaved mixed and yew woodland.  The RIA <sup>4</sup> habitat mapping (2021) indicates that areas within 200m of the road comprise broad-leaved woodland – ancient oak woodland and broad-leaved woodland birch high forest.	Potential SAC qualifying habitat present.		
Sherwood I	Sherwood Forest ppSPA			
A1	Aerial photography indicates dense (deciduous or conifer) woodland plantation within 200m along length of road link with mown highway verge immediately adjacent to the road.  This area is not part of a SSSI, there is no priority habitat inventory data and the RSPB HEaP data does not show any existing heathland in this area.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being		

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Natural England Designated Site Search. <a href="https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteSearch.aspx">https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/SiteSearch.aspx</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Priority Habitat Inventory Data. <a href="https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/">https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/</a> Note: not all areas of the ppSPA within 200m of road links assessed are mapped through the priority habitat inventory.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Clumber Park SSSI Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6838/622\_clumber\_park\_recreation\_impact\_assessment\_report\_080322\_final.pdf [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: <a href="https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf">https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6691/cd-016-birklandsbilhaugh-sac-draft-recreation-impact-assessment-report.pdf</a> [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

Road Link within 200m	Description of Habitat Types within 200m of Road Link <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Comments
		favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A57	Small section of dense (deciduous or conifer) woodland to the west of the roundabout which joins the A57. The majority of habitat within 200m of this road link is located within highway infrastructure land associated with junctions, bridge over the A1 and roundabouts and appears to be well mown.  There is no priority habitat mapping data or SSSIs within 200m.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A614	The A614 runs in a north south direction through NSDC administrative area, passing within 200m of the ppPSA at a number of points.  The aerial mapping illustrates that areas of habitat within 200m of the A614 which are coincident with the ppSPA predominantly comprise dense woodland.  Priority habitat mapping does not cover all areas within 200m of the A614. Those areas that are mapped within 200m are shown as deciduous woodland and lowland heath. This is reflected in the aerial photography for these areas. There is a small area of lowland heath within 200m of this road link at the roundabout with the B6075 and A616 which is reflected in the RSPB heathland mapping data.  Parts of the ppSPA area are underpinned by Clumber Park SSSI. The areas of this SSSI which are within 200m (and	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured.  In some areas along the A614 there are areas of heath and woodland habitat. However, this is at the junction of a number of road links and therefore is likely to be highly disturbed through traffic related noise, vibration and light spill.
	parts of the ppSPA area are underpinned by Clumber Park SSSI. The areas of this SSSI which are within 200m (and part of the ppSPA) of the A614 include some areas of SSSI unit 33 <sup>5</sup> . This area is categorised by Natural England as supporting lowland dwarf shrub heath habitat. Clumber Park SSSI (which coincides with ppSPA) was mapped in 2021 as part of the RIA <sup>6</sup> . This habitat mapping data shows the area within 200m to be lowland dry acrid grassland, lowland mixed deciduous woodland, broadleaved mixed and yew woodland and coniferous woodland.	

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Note: NE SSSI Unit 33 covers areas both within 200m of the A614 road link and also a wider area outside this buffer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Saunders, P., Lake, S. & Liley, D. (2021). Clumber Park SSSI Recreation Impact Assessment Report- a report prepared for Bassetlaw District Council in conjunction with Newark and Sherwood District Council. Available at: https://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/media/6838/622 clumber park recreation impact assessment report 080322 final.pdf [Date Accessed: 20/05/22]

Road Link within 200m	Description of Habitat Types within 200m of Road Link <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Comments
		Detailed habitat mapping data provided for other areas, e.g. those coincident with Clumber Park SSSI, indicate an absence of heath.  It is likely that areas close to the road link which are dominated by woodland are unlikely to provide the necessary mosaic of habitat types required by woodlark and nightjar.
B6034	Aerial photography indicates woodland habitat within 200m along length of road link.  Priority habitat data indicates that there is deciduous woodland within 200m which is comprised of Old <i>Acidophilous</i> Oak Woods With <i>Q. Robur</i> On Sandy Plains (H9190) (Annex 1 habitat) with other habitats comprising M03: Lowland heath; G05 and Lowland dry acid grassland.  The underpinning SSSI units within 200m Number 07 and 12. Both unit 07 and 12 are categorised as lowland, broadleaved mixed and yew woodland.  The RIA habitat mapping indicates that areas within 200m of the road comprise broad-leaved woodland – ancient oak woodland and broad-leaved woodland birch high forest.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A616	Aerial photography indicates woodland, scrub, grassland and agricultural habitat within 200m along length of road link.  The priority habitat inventory data indicates deciduous woodland and lowland heathland are present within 200m of this road link, with some small areas of acid grassland.  This road link passes through the Birklands & Bilhaugh SSSI (Units 1, 2 11 and 9) and the Birklands West and Ollerton Corner SSSI (Units 3, 6 and 5). A review of NE's site designation data indicates that habitat in these SSSI units includes lowland dwarf shrub heath and lowland broadleaved mixed and yew woodland. This is reflected in the RSPB's HEaP mapping data.	Potential for an open mosaic of habitats which would meet all lifecycle stages for woodlark and nightjar - with heathland and woodland (some open in nature) being present.
A6075	Aerial photography indicates woodland habitat within 200m along length of road link.  The priority habitat inventory data indicates deciduous woodland and lowland heathland are present within 200m of this road link.  This road link passes through the Birklands West and Ollerton Corner SSSI (Units 1 and 5). A review of NE's site designation data indicates that habitat in these SSSI units includes lowland dwarf shrub heath and lowland broadleaved mixed and yew woodland. This is reflected in the RSPB's HEaP mapping data.	Potential for an open mosaic of habitats which would meet all lifecycle stages for woodlark and nightjar - with heathland and

Road Link within	Description of Habitat Types within 200m of Road Link <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Comments
200m		
		woodland (some open in nature) being present.
B6387	There is only a small area of the ppSPA within 200m of this road link which is shown on aerial photography and the priority habitat inventory data to be deciduous woodland. This area is not part of a SSSI.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
B6030	The area of land within the ppSPA which is also within 200m of this road link hich is shown on aerial photography and the priority habitat inventory data to be deciduous woodland. This area is not part of a SSSI.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A6191	The area of land within the ppSPA which is also within 200m of this road link hich is shown on aerial photography to be deciduous woodland and urban areas. This area is not part of a SSSI and there is no priority habitat inventory data.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A617	Aerial photography indicates woodland and scrub habitat within 200m along length of road link.  The priority habitat inventory data indicates deciduous woodland, lowland heathland and acid grassland are present within 200m of this road link. This is reflected in the RSPB's HEaP mapping data.	Potential for an open mosaic of habitats which would meet all lifecycle stages for woodlark and

Road Link within 200m	Description of Habitat Types within 200m of Road Link <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Comments
	Part of the 200m buffer is coincident with the Rainworth Heath SSSI (Unit 1). NE site designation data indicates that this unit is comprised of lowland dwarf shrub heath.	nightjar - with heathland and woodland (some open in nature) being present.
A611	Aerial photography indicates woodland and scrub habitat within 200m along length of road link. This area is not part of a SSSI, there is no priority habitat inventory data and the RSPB HEaP data does not show any existing heathland in this area.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A60	Aerial photography indicates woodland and scrub habitat and urban development within 200m along length of road link.  This area is not part of a SSSI, there is no priority habitat inventory data and the RSPB HEaP data does not show any existing heathland in this area.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
B6139 and B6020	Aerial photography indicates woodland and scrub habitat, with some urban development, within 200m along length of road link. This area is not part of a SSSI and there is no priority habitat inventory data. The RSPB HEaP data does an existing area of heathland within 200m of both of these road links.	Potential for an open mosaic of habitats which would meet all lifecycle stages for woodlark and nightjar - with heathland and woodland (some open in nature) being present.
B683	Aerial photography indicates woodland and scrub habitat, with some urban development, within 200m along length of road link. This area is not part of a SSSI, there is no priority habitat inventory data and the RSPB HEaP data does not show any existing heathland in this area.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled

Road Link within 200m	Description of Habitat Types within 200m of Road Link <sup>1,2,3</sup>	Comments
		coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.
A611	Aerial photography indicates woodland and scrub habitat within 200m along length of road link.  This area is not part of a SSSI, there is no priority habitat inventory data and the RSPB HEaP data does not show any existing heathland in this area.	Woodlark and nightjar require an open mosaic of habitats to meet all lifecycle stages with heathland, open woodland, clearings and recently felled coniferous woodland being favoured. Aerial photography suggests that this diversity is not present within 200m of this link.

# Ecological Services Green Infrastructure Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment Landscape Character Assessment Habitats Regulations Assessment

Sustainability Appraisal

Strategic Environmental Assessment



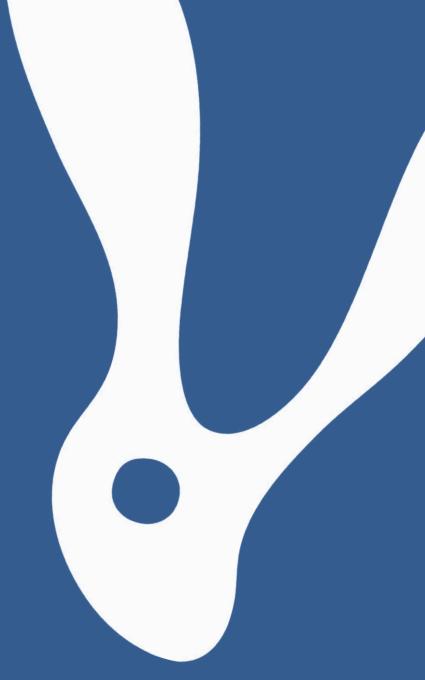
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