

**East Riding of Yorkshire Council and
Kingston upon Hull City Council**

**Joint Minerals Development Plan
Document**

**Habitats Regulations Assessment:
Stage 1 - Screening Report**

January 2011

East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council

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1. Introduction and Background

1.1 Background to this Assessment Report

This Habitats Regulations Assessment Stage 1 - Screening assessment has been carried out by Atkins Limited (Atkins) on behalf of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council for the Joint Minerals Development Plan Document (DPD). The DPD is referred to as 'the Plan' for the purpose of this report, and relates to the Summer 2010 Consultation Preferred Approach draft. The first draft of the screening assessment was completed in April 2010 for comment by Natural England. This updated screening assessment has been completed in light of Natural England's comments and six new sites that are nominations sites under consideration as additional 'areas of search'.

The Plan covers the administrative areas of the East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull, and is a strategic level document containing core policies, development management policies and the locations and broad details of proposed mineral extraction in candidate preferred areas for sand and gravel extraction.

Within the Plan potential future sites of mineral extraction are also identified where information about mineral deposits is less certain. These areas are referred to as candidate areas of search and nomination sites for working sand and gravel, crushed rock and clay.

Safeguarding areas are identified. These are areas where mineral extraction and associated activities are not currently planned. However, should any development be proposed in the future, the mining interests will be taken into account in these areas as part of the development management process.

Reserves of oil, gas and coal (including coal bed methane) are also identified in the Plan.

1.2 Background to Habitats Regulations Assessment

A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is required by Regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the Habitats Regulations) for all plans and projects which are (a) likely to have a significant effect on a European site and (b) not directly connected with or necessary to the management of that site. European sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA). HRA is also required, as a matter of UK Government policy for potential SPAs (pSPA), candidate SACs (cSAC) and listed Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites) for the purposes of considering plans and projects, which may affect them (Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation, ODPM, August 2005). Hereafter all of the above designated nature conservation sites are referred to as 'international sites'.

Local development plans include general policies or proposals that often do not relate to specific development proposals but provide an overall strategy for development which is desirable within the boundary of the Plan. If the policies/proposals do not relate to a specific development proposal then it can be difficult to assess their impacts on an international site. For instance an area of search may identify a wide area that may provide opportunities for mineral extraction in the future but does not include specific extraction proposals. If there is uncertainty in concluding whether there is a likely significant effect (alone or in combination) on an international site (given the lack of information about the design and location of any extraction/ development proposal

within the area of search) then a precautionary approach must be taken regarding the conclusion (Habitats Regulations Guidance Note 1, English Nature 1997).

Furthermore, the local development plan can be written in such a way that ensures international sites are given consideration. For instance, the Plan can state that any proposed developments under the Plan must have regard to and consider any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) upon international sites. When a local authority considers a development proposal they must have regard to the whole plan including the introductory text and supporting text to the policies/proposals. Therefore the Plan may include text which states that consideration of international sites must be given in the development control process. This should ensure that developments are not permitted which could have likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.

The stages of HRA process are:

- **Stage 1 – Screening:** To test whether a plan or project either alone or in combination with other plans and projects is likely to have a significant effect on an international site;
- **Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment:** To determine whether, in view of an international site's conservation objectives, the plan (either alone or in combination with other projects and plans) would have an adverse effect (or risk of this) on the integrity of the site with respect to the site structure, function and conservation objectives. If adverse impacts are anticipated, potential mitigation measures to alleviate impacts should be proposed and assessed;
- **Stage 3 – Assessment of alternative solutions:** Where a plan is assessed as having an adverse impact (or risk of this) on the integrity of an international site, there should be an examination of alternatives (e.g. alternative locations and designs of development); and
- **Stage 4 – Assessment where no alternative solutions remain and where adverse impacts remain:** In exceptional circumstance (e.g. where there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest), compensatory measures to be put in place to offset negative impacts.

1.3 Outline of this Review Report

Following this introduction:

- Section 2 of this report sets out the details of the Plan and provisions within the document to protect the international sites;
- Section 3 outlines the methodology used for this HRA screening;
- Section 4 details the results of the HRA screening for the Humber Estuary International Sites;
- Section 5 details the results of the HRA screening for the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites;
- Section 6 details the results of the HRA screening for the Derwent International Sites;
- Section 7 details the results of the HRA screening for Skipwith Common SAC;
- Section 8 details the results of the HRA screening for Hornsea Mere SPA;
- Section 9 details the results of the in combination impacts of the Plan with other projects and plans; and
- Section 10 provides the conclusions of the HRA screening.

2. Plan Details

2.1 Proposed Plan

The East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council Joint Minerals DPD (the Plan) is a policy document with some site specific proposals.

The Plan includes three 'candidate preferred areas' of mineral extraction for sand and gravel, and clay. There are eight 'candidate areas of search' and six 'nomination sites' for extraction of sand and gravel and/ or chalk and crushed rock. At this time, the nomination sites are only being assessed for their suitability to be included in the Plan.

The exact locations of potential sites for mineral extraction within 'areas of search' are not known at this stage, but within these areas minerals are likely to occur and development is expected if environmentally acceptable proposals are brought forward and there are no significant effects to international sites.

The Plan identifies mineral safeguarding areas in two of the 19 core policies. There are 11 development management policies for the areas of East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull City.

2.2 Provisions within the Plan that Protect International Sites

When planning applications are determined by East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull City Councils all of the relevant policies and supporting text in the Plan are taken into account and used as the basis for decision-making.

There is text present within the section of the Plan entitled 'Habitats Regulations Assessment', Chapter 1 that states that any proposed development that may affect internationally important sites will be subject to the necessary stages of the HRA process by the Competent Authority. This text will be strengthened for the Submission Draft of the Plan to ensure that the Competent Authority (in this case East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council in consultation with Natural England) will give consideration to international sites in order to inform development control decisions.

Where it cannot be demonstrated that a development proposal will not have a likely significant effect (in combination or alone) on a site of international importance to nature conservation, such development will not be supported by the submission draft of the Plan and will not be permitted. However, where there are imperative reasons of over-riding public interest and the Competent Authority, through the necessary stages of the HRA process, is unable to conclude no adverse effect on the integrity of an international site, the authority will notify the Secretary of State and allow them to call in the application for determination. In these situations compensatory measures to protect the international site must be implemented.

3. Methodology

3.1 Determination of the International Sites included in the HRA

An initial review of the Plan in light of the Habitats Regulations has been undertaken by Atkins as part of the HRA screening process. This initial review looked at the geographic extent or zone of influence of any impacts which could arise as a result of the Plan and therefore which international sites should be included within the assessment. International sites located over 20 km¹ from the East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull City Council boundaries are not considered likely to be affected by the Plan and have not been considered further.

The Plan contains the locations of proposed or potential extraction sites (hereafter referred to as 'candidate preferred areas of working' and 'candidate areas of search' respectively) for sand and gravel, crushed rock and clay. Mineral development is regulated by the Mineral Planning Authority and all new extraction sites are assessed for environment impacts. There is a suite of standard and effective mitigation measures for regulating the impacts that extend beyond the site in the air and water, such as the generation of dust, noise, vibration, traffic, lighting, changes to surface and ground water hydrology and water pollution². It is not within the scope of the Plan to define all the potential mitigation measures that may be required in each of the candidate preferred areas to avoid and effectively mitigate off-site impacts. However it is recognised that these impacts can be mitigated and that off-site impacts are not expected to impact beyond 5 km of any mineral development site, unless there is hydrological connectivity to an international site (as a precaution international sites up to 20 km were included in the analysis but could be filtered out on a site by site basis). This view was also shared by Natural England officers for the international sites.

3.2 Obtaining Information on International Sites with the Potential to be Affected

Natural England was contacted for the Conservation Objectives and Favourable Conditions Tables for each international site. This information is summarised in Appendix A.

There are fifteen internationally important sites for nature conservation, which have been designated as Ramsar sites, Special Protection Areas (SPAs), and/ or Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) that fall within East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull City or up to 20 km from their boundaries. In particular Strensall Common SAC, Skipwith Common SAC and Hatfield Moor SAC are the international sites that are within the 20 km search zone but fall outside of the East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull City boundaries: :

¹ The Environment Agency Integrated Pollution Control (IPC) and Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) guidance notes that a proposal to construct a coal or oil fired power station should consider impacts on European sites up to 15 km away (Page 4 of the *Habitats Directive – Work Instruction: Appendix 7 Technical and Procedural Issues Specific to IPC and PPC* produced by the Environment Agency in July 2004). The most recent England Leisure Visits report states that people will travel up to 17.3 km to a countryside destination (*England Leisure Visits: Summary of the 2005 Leisure Visits Survey*, Natural England, 2005). These distances have been rounded up to 20 km on a precautionary basis to ensure that all sites that may be impacted by a new development are considered as part of the HRA process even though impacts arising from mineral extraction are not considered likely to reach this far.

² http://www.bgs.ac.uk/Planning4Minerals/WaterResource_2.htm, <http://www.goodquarry.com/> and <http://www.afterminerals.com/>

- Humber Estuary Ramsar site;
- Humber Estuary SPA;
- Humber Estuary SAC;
- Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA;
- Thorne Moor SAC;
- Hatfield Moor SAC;
- Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs SPA;
- Flamborough Head SAC;
- Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar site;
- Lower Derwent Valley SPA;
- Lower Derwent Valley SAC;
- River Derwent SAC;
- Strensall Common SAC;
- Skipwith Common SAC; and
- Hornsea Mere SPA.

Strensall Common SAC, Hatfield Moor SAC, Flamborough Head SAC and Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs SPA have been eliminated from the Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening for the reasons set out below:

- Strensall Common is located approximately 6.5 km north west of the East Riding of Yorkshire border and is at least 18 km from the nearest candidate area of search (AOS5) for crushed rock. The site has been eliminated from the HRA screening because of the nature of the proposals in the Plan and the distance from any future mining development. As such that it is considered unlikely that there will be any likely significant effects to Strensall Common. This view is shared by Natural England officer Emma Leighton (pers. comm. 2009).
- Hatfield Moor SAC is located 8.7 km south of the East Riding of Yorkshire border and is at least 15 km from the nearest candidate area of search (AOS8) for sand and gravel. The site has been eliminated from the HRA screening given the distance from any future mining development and because it is considered unlikely that likely significant effects to the SAC will arise as a result of the Plan. This view is shared by Natural England officer Tim Kohler (pers. comm. 2009).
- Flamborough Head SAC and Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs SPA are located over 8.8 km from the nearest candidate area of search (AOS2) for sand and gravel and as such it is considered very unlikely to be affected by the Plan. This opinion is shared by the Natural England officer for the site (Robbie Fisher) who agreed that there is no hydrological continuity between potential mineral extraction sites and that the birds for which it is designated do not use inland sites and would not be affected by off-site disturbances at such a distance (pers. comm. 2009).

This screening report is a record of the assessment of likely significant effects (alone or in combinations) of the Plan on the other eleven international sites.

For the purpose of this HRA Stage 1 screening report all designations relating to the Humber Estuary are referred to as the Humber Estuary International Sites. Designations relating to Thorne and Hatfield Moors will be referred to as the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites.

Designations relating to the Lower Derwent Valley and River Derwent sites will be referred to as the Derwent International Sites.

3.3 Obtaining Information on Other Projects and Plans

In accordance with the Habitats Regulations, there is a need to consider the potential for likely significant effects of the Plan 'in combination' with other projects and plans.

The organisations listed below were contacted in January and February 2009 for details of other projects and plans which have the potential for likely significant effects upon the international sites to enable an analysis of 'in combination impacts' (see Chapter 9). These organisations will be contacted again prior to the submission of the Plan, to ensure the most recent information is taken into consideration. In addition the following organisations will also be contacted: Associated British Ports, the Yorkshire Wildlife Trust, Central Government departments, the Marine Management Organisation and the Infrastructure Planning Commission.

- Bassetlaw District Council;
- Doncaster Metropolitan Council;
- East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
- Nottinghamshire County Council;
- York Unitary Authority;
- Ryedale District Council;
- Selby District Council;
- Scarborough Borough Council;
- Hambleton District Council;
- North Lincolnshire Unitary Authority;
- North Yorkshire County Council;
- East Lindsey District Council;
- Kingston upon Hull City Council;
- Lincolnshire County Council;
- West Lindsey District Council;
- North East Lincolnshire Council;
- Natural England;
- RSPB; and
- Environment Agency.

3.4 Assessing the Impacts of the Plan

Following the gathering of information on the Plan and the international sites, an assessment was undertaken to predict the likely significant effects (alone and in combination) of the Plan on the international sites. Likely significant effects is any effect that may reasonably be predicted as a consequence of a plan or project that may affect the conservation objectives of the features for which the site was designated, but excluding trivial or inconsequential effects. Likely significant effect is defined within the Habitats Regulations Guidance Note 3, English Nature 1999 and would include any of the following:

- Causing change to the coherence of the site or to the Natura 2000³ series (eg presenting a barrier between isolated fragments, or reducing the ability of the site to act as a source of new colonisers);
- Causing reduction in the area of habitat or of the site;
- Causing direct or indirect change to the physical quality of the environment (including the hydrology) or habitat within the site;
- Causing ongoing disturbance to species or habitats for which the site is notified;
- Altering community structure (species composition);
- Causing direct or indirect damage to the size, characteristics or reproductive ability of populations on the site;
- Altering the vulnerability of populations etc to other impacts;
- Causing a reduction in the resilience of the feature against external change (for example its ability to respond to extremes of environmental conditions); and
- Affecting restoration of a feature where this is a conservation objective.

In order to inform this HRA Stage 1 screening process, all parts of the Plan were assessed to see if they could result in likely significant effects on the Humber Estuary International Sites, Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites, River Derwent International Sites, Skipwith Common SAC and Hornsea Mere SPA. This HRA assesses the 30 policies contained in the Plan and also takes into account the supporting text, candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search and nomination sites.

The findings of this assessment are given in Sections 4 to 8 and Table B-1 and B-2 in Appendix B. An Atkins Senior Hydrogeologist was consulted for information relating to hydrological connectivity between proposed mineral excavation sites and international sites, where relevant. In Tables B-1 and B-2, policies that have been found to have no likely significant effect on an international site have been categorised into one of five different types. This has been based on *The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents (Revised Draft Guidance)* produced by Natural England in February 2009:

- **Policy Type A1:** Policies that will not themselves lead to development (e.g. because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria for development, or they are not a land use planning policy);
- **Policy Type A2:** Policies intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity;

³ Natura 2000 sites are 'international sites' as defined earlier in this report.

- **Policy Type A3:** Policies intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, where enhancement measures will not be likely to have any negative effect on an international site;
- **Policy Type A4:** Policies that positively steer development away from international sites and associated sensitive areas; and,
- **Policy Type A5:** Policies that would have no effect because no development could occur through the policy itself, the development being implemented through later policies in the same plan, which are more specific and therefore more appropriate to assess for their effects on international sites and associated sensitive areas.

The potential for likely significant effects of the Plan on the international sites 'in combination' with other projects and plans is summarised in Chapter 9. Although impacts from an individual project or plan may have no likely significant effect on an international site, cumulative impacts from other plans and projects may result in an 'in combination' effect on one or more interest features of the international site⁴. Likely significant effects by these means must also be considered. The information regarding other projects or plans, for the in combination analysis of impacts to the international sites will be updated prior to the submission draft of the Plan.

Areas that have been identified as being used by species that the site has been designated for, but are situated outside of a SPA/ Ramsar site boundary will also be taken into account with respect to each of the policies/ proposals outlined in the Plan. In particular, certain bird species for which Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar sites have been classified require areas up to approximately 7 km from the designated site for feeding to maintain their populations at a favourable conservation status (pers. comm. Tim Page, Natural England, 2009).

HRA is an iterative process. Further amendments will be made to the next iteration of the Plan (the submission draft of the Plan) as a result of this HRA Stage 1 screening assessment.

The precautionary principle has been taken into account during this HRA. The precautionary principle is used when an HRA cannot objectively demonstrate that there will be no likely significant effects on the international sites. If this occurs the subsequent stages of HRA must be completed for the project or plan.

⁴ Habitat Regulations Guidance Note 4: Alone or in combination, English Nature, May 2001.

4. Screening Assessment Criteria: Humber Estuary International Sites

Site Designation Status Humber Estuary SAC

Humber Estuary SPA

Humber Estuary Ramsar site

Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site

The following candidate areas of search and nomination sites have the potential to have significant effects on the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site: AOS3, AOS4, AOS6, AOS7 and NOM19. A Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment of the HRA process will be undertaken of the Plan to take in to account detailed site and species specific information and detail any necessary mitigation that will ensure any mineral extraction will not lead to negative impacts to the Humber Estuary International Sites.

None of the remaining candidate areas of search and nomination sites nor the candidate preferred areas, core policies and development management policies are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on the Humber Estuary International Sites given the long distances to the estuary. Candidate preferred areas PA02 and PA03 are subject to a separate assessment.

No likely significant effects (alone or in combination) are anticipated on the Humber Estuary SAC.

Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the Plan on the International Site by virtue of:

- Size and scale;
- Land take;
- Resource requirements (i.e. water extraction etc);
- Emissions (disposal to land, water or air);
- Excavation requirements;
- Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning etc.; and
- Other.

Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar Site: AOS3, AOS4, AOS6, AOS7 and NOM19

These areas of search and nomination site fall within 7 km of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site which may result in the loss of areas of agricultural land or grassland, habitats that qualifying birds from the SPA and Ramsar site will potentially use. Mineral development within these candidate areas of search and nomination site is likely to result in direct loss of this habitat. Loss of habitats being used by internationally important populations of qualifying birds has the potential to cause significant effects on the SPA and Ramsar site.

Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:

- Reduction of habitat area;
- Disturbance to key species;
- Habitat or species fragmentation;
- Reduction in species density;
- Changes in key indicators of conservation value (e.g. water quality); and
- Climate change

Likely changes to the Ramsar site and SPA include:

- Disturbance to the internationally important populations of birds using the international site (through increased noise during construction and operation of an extraction site): This may reduce the suitability of the SPA/Ramsar site to support these qualifying species, thus having likely significant effects on the sites; and/or
 - Displacement of qualifying birds from key foraging or high tide roost sites: This may cause the birds to be forced to move to other areas of habitat including those that are less suitable (i.e. areas where disturbance is greater meaning that birds are not able to rest or forage adequately, thus having a negative impact on their migration and breeding ability).
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5. Screening Assessment Criteria: Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites

Site Designation Status	Thorne Moor SAC Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA
Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site	<p>None of the candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites, core policies or development management policies are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites given the long distances to the sites.</p> <p>There is an existing permission for the extraction of peat and coal within Goole Moor (which is located within the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites). It is understood that at present there is no mining within the designated site, but if it was to take place in the future, despite the existing planning permission, as stated in Policy NAM2 a Habitats Regulations Assessment would be necessary to prove there would be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to International Sites.</p> <p>There is currently no coal working in the Joint Area, but permission for deep mining associated with the Selby Coalfield in North Yorkshire extends right up to the East Riding of Yorkshire boundary along the River Derwent, and workable seams are known to continue under the river. The permission for deep mining also extends over the area extending from Goole Moor (which falls within the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites) in the south-east to Goole in the north and Rawcliffe and Cowick in the west. Policy EM1 may lead to coal mining in the future in proximity to the international sites. Should this occur the Plan commits to a Habitats Regulations Assessment to prove there would be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites.</p>
Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the Plan on the International Site	<p>For the reasons outlined above there are no likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts associated with any of the candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites or the policies to the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International sites.</p>

Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of reduction of habitat area, disturbance to key species, habitat or species fragmentation, reduction in species density, changes in key indicators of conservation value (e.g. water quality) and climate change

For the reasons outlined above there are no likely changes to the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International sites as a result of the identified candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites or policies set out in the Plan.

6. Screening Assessment Criteria: Derwent International Sites

Site Designation Status	River Derwent SAC Lower Derwent Valley SAC, SPA and Ramsar site
Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site	<p>None of the candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites, core policies and development management policies are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on the Derwent International Sites given the long distances to the sites.</p> <p>There is currently no coal working in the Joint Area, but permission for deep mining associated with the Selby Coalfield in North Yorkshire extends right up to the East Riding of Yorkshire boundary along the River Derwent, and workable seams are known to continue under the river. The permission for deep mining also extends over the area extending from Goole Moor in the south-east to Goole in the north and Rawcliffe and Cowick in the west. This falls within the River Derwent International Sites. Policy EM1 may lead to coal mining in the future (and any associated utilisation of coal bed methane for energy) in proximity to the international sites. Should this occur the Plan commits to a Habitats Regulations Assessment to prove there would be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the Derwent International Sites.</p>
Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the Plan on the International Site	<p>For the reasons outlined above there are no likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts associated with any of the candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites or the policies to the Derwent International Sites.</p>
Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of reduction of habitat area, disturbance to key species, habitat or species fragmentation, reduction in species density, changes in key indicators of conservation value (e.g. water quality) and climate change	<p>For the reasons outlined above there are no likely changes to the Derwent International sites as a result of the identified candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites or policies set out in the Plan.</p>

7. Screening Assessment Criteria: Skipwith Common SAC

Site Designation Status

Skipwith Common SAC

Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site

None of the candidate preferred areas or candidate areas of search are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on Skipwith Common SAC given the long distances to the sites.

There is currently no coal working in the Joint Area, but permission for deep mining associated with the Selby Coalfield in North Yorkshire extends right up to the East Riding of Yorkshire boundary along the River Derwent, and workable seams are known to continue under the river. The permission for deep mining also extends over the area extending from Goole Moor in the south-east to Goole in the north and Rawcliffe and Cowick in the west. The coal seam occurs within Skipwith Common SAC. Policy EM1 may lead to coal mining in the future, within the international site. Should this occur the Plan commits to a Habitats Regulations Assessment to prove there would be no likely significant effects (alone or in combinations) to Skipwith Common SAC.

Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the Plan on the International Site

For the reasons outlined above there are no likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts associated with any of the candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites or the policies to Skipwith Common SAC.

Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of reduction of habitat area, disturbance to key species, habitat or species fragmentation, reduction in species density, changes in key indicators of conservation value (e.g. water quality) and climate change

For the reasons outlined above there are no likely changes to Skipwith Common SAC as a result of the identified candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search, nomination sites or policies set out in the Plan.

8. Screening Assessment Criteria: Hornsea Mere SPA

Site Designation Status	Hornsea Mere SPA
Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site	<p>One element of the Plan, candidate area of search AOS1, has the potential to lead to likely significant effects on Hornsea Mere SPA</p> <p>None of the other candidate areas of search, or the candidate preferred areas or nomination sites are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on Hornsea Mere SPA given the long distances to the sites and/ or lack of hydrological connectivity. None of the policies have the potential for significant effects on Hornsea Mere.</p>
Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the Plan on the International Site	<p>At some point in the lifetime of the Plan an area of mineral development may be proposed in AOS1. It is not known when or if a proposal will come forward.</p> <p>Given the proximity to Hornsea Mere (200 m at its closest point, though much of the area of search includes land up to 9 km to the west of Hornsea Mere), size and scale as well as resource requirements, Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment of the HRA process will be undertaken on the Plan for any proposed mineral extraction within 5 km of Hornsea Mere. Mineral development within 5 km of Hornsea Mere SPA is considered likely to result in likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the international site as a result of changes to water quality or quantity and/or disturbance of the birds for which the site is designated.</p>
Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of reduction of habitat area, disturbance to key species, habitat or species fragmentation, reduction in species density, changes in key indicators of conservation value (e.g. water quality) and climate change	<p>Likely changes to the SPA as a result of mineral extraction taking place within certain areas of the AOS1 candidate area of search include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Disturbance to the internationally important populations of qualifying birds using the international site (through increased noise during the operation of an extraction site): This may reduce the suitability of the SPA to support these qualifying species thus having an impact on the sites; and/or• Changes in the hydrology of the site (such as water level or water quality) leading to a reduction or deterioration in the habitats that support the birds for which the site is designated.

9. In Combination Impacts

This Habitats Regulations Assessment screening report has identified likely significant effects on the Humber Estuary International Sites and Hornsea Mere SPA arising from potential future mineral extraction within 'areas of search' (AOS1, AOS3, AOS4, AOS6 and AOS7) and a nomination site (NOM19).

Key potential effects on the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar Site are due indirect habitat loss on land in proximity of these international sites and potential disturbance and displacement of birds for which the sites are designated.

Possible effects have been identified with respect of changes in the water quality/quantity of Hornsea Mere SPA as well as disturbance of the birds for which it is designated.

Impacts to other international sites from future mineral development are not anticipated and as such 'in combination' impacts are not expected to occur.

Humber Estuary International Sites

Natural England have identified that land within approximately 7 km of the Humber Estuary may support estuary birds and as such this land contributes to the integrity of the Humber Estuary International Sites. Loss of habitats in these areas may lead to displacement of estuary birds from these off-site areas. This impact is identified as the most important potential impact of the Plan (see Sections 4 to 8) and in particular extraction within candidate areas of search AOS3, AOS4, AOS6 and AOS7 and nomination site NOM19 may lead to significant effects on the Humber Estuary International Sites. Mineral extraction may be undertaken simultaneously within these sites and therefore 'in combination' impacts arising from mineral extraction within these candidate areas of search and nomination site may arise. Further information about the use of these sites by birds and the habitats present within them will allow a more accurate assessment of potential 'in combination' impacts, as part of the Stage 2 Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Other HRAs have identified land take within 7 km of the Humber Estuary include:

- Humber Quays Phase 2 - in combination impacts may arise between the Plan and this project;
- Energy from Waste facility, Saltend - in combination impacts may arise between the Plan and this project;
- North Yorkshire Core Waste Strategy - the HRA screening identified one waste site that may lead to significant effects on the Humber Estuary but it is located 12 km from the Humber Estuary International Sites and will not lead to displacement of estuary birds. The potential impact related to air emissions and further work was recommended to model potential air emissions to quantify any adverse impacts to the Humber Estuary International Sites. No 'in combination' impacts are expected.
- Kingston upon Hull and East Riding of Yorkshire Joint Waste DPD - the HRA screening identified the requirement for a Stage 2 HRA to be undertaken for waste sites in Hull/ near the Humber given the proximity to the Humber Estuary International Sites and potential impacts to water quality, land take, disturbance (noise and predation). It is possible that 'in combination' impacts will arise from the minerals and the waste DPDs in East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull.
- The Environment Agency's Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy will seek to replace lost habitats in the vicinity of the Humber Estuary as sea levels rise, in response to climate

change and new sea defences. The strategy seeks to ensure no net loss of habitat and therefore no 'in combination' impacts are expected.

Recent HRAs relating to indirect habitat loss impacts on the southern bank of the Humber Estuary will tie in with a strategic bird plan. A *South Humber Gateway Conservation Mitigation Strategy Delivery Plan* has been written to describe how to deliver strategic mitigation⁵ for the whole South Humber Bank. This has been developed through discussions with appropriate conservation bodies (including Natural England and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds), developers and councils to agree the approach to secure and deliver areas of land which will adequately mitigate against the loss of habitats that provide roosting, loafing and foraging resources for qualifying bird species. This document is a work in progress and to date there are no pieces of land allocated for management as high tide roost sites. HRAs relating to development on the south of the Humber may 'in combination' with the Plan lead to significant effects to birds that are qualifying features of the international sites.

The mineral extraction within PA02 and PA03 (which already have planning permission) may lead to significant effects to birds that are qualifying features of the international sites in combination with the Plan if mined simultaneously.

The data gathering of other projects and plans that may lead to in combination impacts with the Plan will be updated prior to the HRA screening report of the Submission Draft of the Plan.

Hornsea Mere SPA

Hornsea Mere SPA may be negatively affected by mineral extraction proposals within the eastern end of the candidate area of search (AOS1). An HRA screening has been undertaken of any significant effects to Hornsea Mere arising from Environment Agency consents for water extraction. No likely significant effects were found and no 'in combination' impacts are expected.

Summary

There may be likely significant effects 'in combination' with the Plan and other projects to the Humber Estuary, but not to other international sites.

⁵ South Humber Gateway Conservation Mitigation Strategy Delivery Plan. *Aligning industrial development and the EU Birds and Habitats Directives. 2008*

10. Conclusions

Is the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council Joint Mineral DPD likely to have a significant effect 'alone or in combination' on Humber Estuary International Sites, the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International sites, the Derwent International Sites, Skipwith Common SAC or Hornsea Mere SPA?

The Plan includes three 'candidate preferred areas' of mineral extraction for sand and gravel, and clay. There are eight 'candidate areas of search' and six 'nomination sites' for extraction of sand and gravel and/ or chalk and crushed rock.

The candidate preferred areas identified in the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council Joint Mineral DPD are not considered likely to lead to significant effects to any of the international sites (alone or in combination) (see Chapters 4 to 8 and Appendix B, Tables B-1 and B-2, for assessment details).

There is the potential for likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the following five candidate areas of search and one nomination site:

- the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site as a result of four of the eight areas of search and one of the six nomination sites (AOS3, AOS4, AOS6, AOS7 and NOM19);
- Hornsea Mere SPA as a result of one area of search (AOS1).

The other three candidate areas of search and five nomination sites are not considered to lead to significant effects (alone or in combination) to the international sites.

The Plan includes 30 policies, 19 of which are core policies and 11 are development management policies. These policies either do not lead to development (mineral extraction) or if they do, they do not state exact details of development or when it may take place. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will be no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed. As no or insufficient details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan. Therefore, the policies are not considered likely to lead to significant effects (alone or in combination) to the international sites.

The five candidate areas of search and one nomination site that may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites as a result of mineral excavation, a Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment of the HRA process will be undertaken. This will give detailed consideration of the species and site specific conditions of these areas and identify any necessary mitigation.

The assessment of 'in combination' impacts with other projects and plans will be updated prior to the Submission Draft of the Plan. It is considered that there may be likely significant effects 'in combination' with the Plan and other projects to the Humber Estuary, but not to other international sites.

The Plan is at a strategic level (i.e. the development that may arise in the areas of search and safeguarding areas is unknown at this stage) and as such the Stage 1 - Screening has also been carried out at a strategic level. Any specific development proposals will need to accord with the text within the 'Habitats Regulations Assessment' section of the Plan and will need to satisfy East Riding of Yorkshire Council and/ or Kingston upon Hull City Council in consultation with Natural

England, through the necessary stages of the HRA process, that there will either be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) from the development on the international sites or that any significant effects can be effectively mitigated or compensated. Where it cannot be demonstrated that a development proposal will not have a likely significant effect (alone or in combination) on a site of international importance to nature conservation, such development is not supported by the Plan and will not be permitted. Where there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest for a development and the Competent Authority is unable to conclude no likely significant effects and/or no adverse effect on the integrity of an international site, the authority will notify the Secretary of State and allow them to call in the application for determination. In these situations compensatory measures to protect the international site would be implemented.

Appendix A

The Internationally Important Sites

A.1 The Internationally Important Sites

This appendix includes information about the eleven international sites, taken from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee website and information provided by Natural England (2009), as follows:

- Humber Estuary SPA (Table A.1);
- Huber Estuary Ramsar Site (Table A.2);
- Humber Estuary SAC (Table A.3);
- Humber Estuary International Site Conservation Objectives (Table A.4);
- Thorne Moor SAC and the Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA (Table A.5);
- Lower Derwent Valley SPA, Ramsar site and SAC (Table A.6);
- River Derwent SAC (Table A.7);
- Skipwith Common SAC (Table A.8); and
- Hornsea Mere SPA (Table A.9).

Table A.1: Information about the Humber Estuary SPA

Site Designation Status	Humber Estuary Special Protection Area
Location of International Site	<p>The Humber is the second largest coastal plain estuary in the UK and is fed by three rivers including the Ouse, Trent and Kingston upon Hull. The SAC incorporates sections of the Rivers Ouse and Trent and the entire Humber Estuary, extending south from the mouth of the Humber to near Saltfleet on the east coast.</p> <p>The Humber Estuary comprises extensive wetland and coastal habitats. The inner estuary supports extensive areas of reedbed, with areas of mature and developing saltmarsh backed by grazing marsh in the middle and outer estuary. On the northern part of the coast in Lincolnshire, the saltmarsh is backed by low sand dunes with marshy slacks and brackish pools.</p>
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>The Humber Estuary SPA qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:</p> <p>During the breeding season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avocet (<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>): 8.6% of the population in Great Britain; • Bittern (<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>): 10.5% of the population in Great Britain; • Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>): 51 pairs representing at least 2.1% of the breeding population in Great Britain; and, • Marsh harrier (<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>), 10 pairs representing at least 6.3% of the breeding population in Great Britain. <p>Over winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>): 2,752 individuals representing at least 4.4% of the wintering population in Great Britain; • Bittern (<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>): 4 individuals representing at least 4.0% of the wintering population in Great Britain; • Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>): 30,709 individuals representing at least 12.3% of the wintering population in Great Britain; • Avocet (<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>): 59 individuals representing 1.7% of the population in Great Britain; and, • Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>): 8 individuals representing at least 1.1% of the wintering population in Great Britain <p>On passage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruff (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>): 128 individuals representing 1.4% of the population in Great Britain <p>This site also qualifies under Article 4.2 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following migratory species:</p>

On passage:

- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*): 7,462 individuals representing at least 5.7% of the Eastern Atlantic - wintering population
- Black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa islandica*): 915 individuals representing at least 2.6% of the population
- Knot (*Calidris canutus*): 18,500 individuals representing at least 4.1% of the population
- Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*): 20,269 individuals representing at least 1.5% of the population
- Sanderling (*Calidris alba*): 1,767 individuals representing at least 1.8% of the Eastern Atlantic/Western & Southern Africa - wintering population

Over winter:

- Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*): 22,222 individuals representing at least 1.7% of the wintering western Europe population
- Knot (*Calidris canutus*): 28,165 individuals representing at least 6.3% of the wintering western Europe population;
- Black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa islandica*): 1,113 individuals representing at least 3.2% of the population;
- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*): 4,632 individuals representing at least 3.6% of the; and,
- Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*): 4,464 individuals representing at least 1.5% of the wintering North western Europe population.

Assemblage qualification:

The site qualifies under article 4.2 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) as it is used regularly by over 20,000 waterbirds (waterbirds as defined by the Ramsar Convention) in any season:

In the non-breeding season, the area regularly supports 153,934 individual waterbirds (five year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01), including: dark-bellied brent goose (*Branta bernicla bernicla*), shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*), wigeon (*Anas penelope*), teal (*Anas crecca*), mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), pochard (*Aythya ferina*), scaup (*Aythya marila*), goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*), bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*), oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*), avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*), ringed plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*), grey plover (*P. squatarola*), lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), knot (*Calidris canutus*), sanderling (*C. alba*), dunlin (*C. alpina*), ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*), black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa*), bar-tailed godwit (*L. lapponica*), whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*), curlew (*N. arquata*), redshank (*Tringa totanus*), greenshank (*T. nebularia*) and turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*).

Non-qualifying species of interest: The SPA is used by non-breeding merlin (*Falco columbarius*), peregrine (*F. peregrinus*) and short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*) and breeding common tern (*Sterna hirundo*) and kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) (all species listed in Annex I to the EC Birds Directive) in

numbers of less than European importance (less than 1% of the GB population).

Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site The Humber Estuary SPA is vulnerable to impacts on the geomorphological structure and function of the estuary (including impacts on the sediment budget) from the following:

- Coastal squeeze (e.g. sea level rise and climate change);
- Flood defence works;
- Loss of high tide roosting and foraging areas for the SPA birds;
- Dredging;
- Construction, operation and maintenance of ports, pipelines and other infrastructure; and,
- Changes in water quality and flows.

In addition the site is sensitive from damage and disturbance arising from access, recreation and other activities.

Table A.2: Information about the Humber Estuary Ramsar Site

Site Designation Status	Humber Estuary Ramsar Site
Location of International Site	<p>The Humber is the second largest coastal plain estuary in the UK and is fed by three rivers including the Ouse, Trent and Kingston upon Hull. The SAC incorporates sections of the Rivers Ouse and Trent and the entire Humber Estuary, extending south from the mouth of the Humber to near Saltfleet on the east coast.</p> <p>The Humber Estuary comprises extensive wetland and coastal habitats. The inner estuary supports extensive areas of reedbed, with areas of mature and developing saltmarsh backed by grazing marsh in the middle and outer estuary. On the northern part of the coast in Lincolnshire, the saltmarsh is backed by low sand dunes with marshy slacks and brackish pools.</p>
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>The site qualifies under Criterion 1 because it contains a representative, rare, or unique example of a natural or near-natural wetland type:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The lower saltmarsh of the Humber is dominated by common cordgrass (<i>Spartina anglica</i>) and annual glasswort (<i>Salicornia</i>) communities. Low to mid marsh communities are mostly represented by sea aster (<i>Aster tripolium</i>), common saltmarsh grass (<i>Puccinellia maritime</i>) and sea purslane (<i>Atriplex portulacoides</i>) communities. The upper portion of the saltmarsh community is atypical, dominated by sea couch <i>Elytrigia atherica</i> (<i>Elymus pycnanthus</i>) saltmarsh community. In the upper reaches of the estuary, the tidal marsh community is dominated by the common reed (<i>Phragmites australis</i>) fen and sea club rush (<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>) swamp with the couch grass <i>Elytrigia repens</i> (<i>Elymus repens</i>) saltmarsh community. Within the Humber Estuary Ramsar site there are good examples of four of the five physiographic types of saline lagoon.</p> <p>The site qualifies under Criterion 3 because it supports populations of animal species important for maintaining the biological diversity of the</p>

biogeographic region:

The Humber Estuary Ramsar site supports a breeding colony of grey seals (*Halichoerus grypus*) 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 (*Bufo calamita*).

The site qualifies under **Criterion 5** because it regularly supports 20,000 or more waterbirds: In the non-breeding season, the area regularly supports 153,934 individual waterbirds (5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01).

The site qualifies under **Criterion 6** because it regularly supports 1% of the individuals in the populations of the following species or subspecies of waterbird in any season:

Species	Count and season	Period	% of subspecies/ population
Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	4,464 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	1.5% North western Europe (breeding)
Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	30,709 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	3.8% <i>altifrons</i> , NW Europe, W Continental Europe, NW Africa
Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	28,165 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	6.3% <i>islandica</i>
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	22,222 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	1.7% <i>alpina</i> , Western Europe (non-breeding)
Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>	1,113 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	3.2% <i>islandica</i>
Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	2,752 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	2.3% <i>lapponica</i>
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	4,632 individuals – wintering	5 year peak mean 1996/97 – 2000/01	3.6% <i>britannica</i>
Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	17,996 individuals – passage	5 year peak mean 1996 – 2000	2.2% <i>altifrons</i> , NW Europe, W Continental Europe, NW Africa
Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>	18,500 individuals – passage	5 year peak mean 1996 – 2000	4.1% <i>islandica</i>
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina</i>	20,269 individuals – passage	5 year peak mean 1996 – 2000	1.5% <i>alpina</i> , Western Europe (non-breeding)
Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i>	915 individuals – passage	5 year peak mean 1996 – 2000	2.6% <i>islandica</i>
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	7,462 individuals – passage	5 year peak mean 1996 – 2000	5.7% <i>britannica</i>

The site qualifies under **Criterion 8** because it is a migration path on which fish stocks, either within the wetland or elsewhere, depend: The Humber Estuary acts as an important migration route for both river lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*) and sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*) between coastal waters and their spawning areas.

Non-qualifying species of interest:

The Ramsar site supports nationally important non-breeding numbers of hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) (based on five year peak mean 1997/98 – 2001/02), and nationally important breeding numbers of marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*), avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*), little tern (*Sterna albifrons*) (based on five year means 1998 – 2002) and bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*) (based on three year mean 2000 – 2002).

Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site

The Humber Estuary Ramsar is vulnerable to impacts on the geomorphological structure and function of the estuary (including impacts on the sediment budget) from the following:

- Coastal squeeze (e.g. sea level rise and climate change);
- Flood defence works;
- Loss of high tide roosting and foraging areas for the Ramsar birds;
- Dredging;
- Construction, operation and maintenance of ports, pipelines and other infrastructure; and,
- Changes in water quality and flows.

In addition the site is sensitive from damage and disturbance arising from access, recreation and other activities.

Table A.3: Information about the Humber Estuary SAC

Site Designation Status	Humber Estuary Special Area of Conservation
Location of International Site	<p>The Humber is the second largest coastal plain estuary in the UK and is fed by three rivers including the Ouse, Trent and Kingston upon Hull. The SAC incorporates sections of the Rivers Ouse and Trent and the entire Humber Estuary, extending south from the mouth of the Humber to near Saltfleet on the east coast.</p> <p>The Humber Estuary comprises extensive wetland and coastal habitats. The inner estuary supports extensive areas of reedbed, with areas of mature and developing saltmarsh backed by grazing marsh in the middle and outer estuary. On the northern part of the coast in Lincolnshire, the saltmarsh is backed by low sand dunes with marshy slacks and brackish pools.</p>
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>Humber Estuary SAC qualifies for European protection due to the Annex I habitats it supports including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal lagoons; • Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (‘grey dunes’); • Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>); • Dunes with <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>; • Embryonic shifting dunes; • Estuaries; • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; • <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; • Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; and, • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (‘white dunes’) <p>The site is also designated as it hosts the following Annex II species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>); • River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>); and, <p>Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>).</p>
Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The Humber Estuary SAC is vulnerable to impacts on the geomorphological structure and function of the estuary (including impacts on the sediment budget) from the following:</p>

-
- Coastal squeeze (e.g. sea level rise and climate change);
 - Flood defence works;
 - Dredging;
 - Construction, operation and maintenance of ports, pipelines and other infrastructure; and,
 - Changes in water quality and flows.

In addition the site is sensitive from damage and disturbance arising from access, recreation and other activities.

Table A.4: Conservation Objectives for the Humber Estuary International Site

Conservation Objectives of the International Site The Conservation Objectives for this site are, subject to natural change, to maintain the following habitats and geological features in favourable condition (*), with particular reference to any dependent component special interest features (habitats, vegetation types, species, species assemblages etc.) for which the land is designated (SAC, SPA, Ramsar).

Habitat Types represented (Biodiversity Action Plan categories)

- Estuary;
- Inshore sublittoral sediment;
- Littoral rock;
- Inshore littoral rock;
- Littoral sediment (mudflat, sandflat and saltmarsh);
- Saline lagoons;
- Sand dunes; and,
- Standing open water and canals.

Species features

- Breeding bird assemblage;
- Passage and wintering waterfowl species;
- Grey seal;
- River lamprey;
- Sea lamprey;
- Vascular plants assemblages; and,
- Invertebrate assemblages.

(*) or restored to favourable condition if features are judged to be unfavourable.

In relation to the SPA and Ramsar site specifically: To maintain the designated species (the aggregation of breeding birds) in favourable condition, which is defined in part in relation to their population attributes including:

- habitat extent: No decrease in extent of listed habitats from established baselines, subject to natural change, as defined in the conservation objectives for these habitats;
- habitat condition: No decrease in extent of suitable habitat for breeding species from established baselines, subject to natural change, as defined in the conservation objectives for these habitats;

-
- bird population size (five year mean counts for each species is the main measure of the population size): Maintain the population within acceptable limits; and,
 - disturbance and displacement: No significant reduction in bird numbers either on the site, or from one part of the site to another attributable to anthropogenic factors.

Table A.5: Information about the Thorne Moor SAC and Thorne and the Hatfield Moors SPA

Site Designation Status	Thorne Moor Special Area of Conservation
Location of International Site	The site is located along the south-western edge of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council boundary. Most of the SAC is located within the Metropolitan Borough of Doncaster but small sections are located within the East Riding of Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>Thorne Moor SAC is the largest remaining area of raised bog in England. Despite extensive operations of peat excavation there are still large areas of Sphagnum bog as well as many heathland habitats. The degraded raised bog still capable of natural regeneration is the Annex I habitat that is the primary reason for the site's allocation as a SAC.</p> <p>The range of habitats present within the site are inland water bodies (standing water, running water); bogs, marshes, water fringed vegetation and fens; heath, scrub, maquis, garrigue and phygrana; broad-leaved deciduous woodland and other land (including towns, villages, roads, waste places, mines, industrial sites).</p>
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	The conservation objective for this site is to restore to favourable condition the area currently notified as degraded raised bog.
Site Designation Status	Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA
Location of International Site	The site is located along the south-western edge of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council boundary. Most of the SPA is located within the Metropolitan Borough of Doncaster but small sections are located within the East Riding of Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>The composite site of Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA qualifies for European protection due to the breeding population of nightjars that use the site for nesting and feeding. The sixty-six pairs of nightjar breeding on the Thorne and Hatfield Moors represent 1.9% of the breeding population in Great Britain.</p> <p>The European nightjar is a Species of European Concern, as the global population is concentrated in Europe, although it currently has an unfavourable conservation status within the continent. Nightjars are a ground nesting species, preferring well-drained, open ground with vegetation such as open young woodland or heather moors. It is thought that human disturbance has negative impacts on the success of breeding in this species (Murison 2002).</p>
Vulnerabilities of the International Sites	The Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA forms an extensive lowland raised mire system. Outside of the areas that are currently being worked for peat, the main threats to the nightjar's habitat come from:

-
- lack of management; and
 - re-wetting operations.

The Thorne and Hatfield Moors SAC raised peat bog is vulnerable to:

- Peat cutting;
 - water abstraction from the underlying aquifer and surrounding agricultural drainage; and
 - Scrub invasion following drainage and peat cutting.
-

Conservation Objectives of
the International Site

The conservation objectives for this site are:

- to restore to favourable condition the area currently notified as degraded raised bog; and
- to maintain, in favourable condition, the habitats for the populations of Annex 1 species of European importance (nightjar), with particular reference to degraded bog capable of natural regeneration as a precursor of active raised bog.

Please note: the word 'maintain' used in the context above implies restoration if the feature is not currently in favourable condition.

Table A.4: Information about the Lower Derwent Valley SAC, SPA and Ramsar

Site Designation Status	Lower Derwent Valley Special Area of Conservation
Location of International Site	The site is located in the mid-west of the East Riding of Yorkshire.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>The Lower Derwent Valley comprises a series of flood meadows, pastures and woodlands supporting a rich diversity of plant species and outstanding populations of breeding and wintering birds.</p> <p>The site has been declared an SAC as it contains a greater area of high-quality examples of lowland hay meadows than any other UK site and encompasses the majority of this habitat type occurring in the Vale of York. The abundance of the rare narrow-leaved water-dropwort <i>Oenanthe silaifolia</i> is a notable feature. Traditional management has ensured that ecological variation is well-developed, particularly in the transitions between this grassland type and other types of wet and dry grassland, swamp and fen vegetation.</p> <p>In addition the Annex I habitat alluvial forest with alder and ash and a population of otters, an Annex II species, occur within the SAC.</p>
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	The conservation objective for this site is to restore/maintain to favourable condition the habitats/ species for which the site is designated. This is achieved through management of the water quality/ levels/ flow and recreational pressure at and adjacent to the site.
Site Designation Status	Lower Derwent Valley Special Protection Area and Ramsar Site
Location of International Site	The site is located in the mid-west of the East Riding of Yorkshire.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>The Lower Derwent Valley is part of a major floodplain system located in East and North Yorkshire in eastern England. The valley holds a series of neutral alluvial flood meadows, fens, swamps, valley mires, Alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> woodlands and other freshwater habitats lying adjacent to the River Derwent, Pocklington Canal and The Beck. The Lower Derwent Valley is one of the largest and most important examples of traditionally managed species-rich alluvial flood meadow habitat remaining in the UK. These grasslands, which were formerly widespread in the UK, are now very restricted in distribution due to agricultural intensification. The character and species composition of the grassland, fen and swamp communities is largely controlled by topography, differences in the extent of winter flooding and by the type of agricultural management. The site is of outstanding importance for a diverse range of waterbirds throughout the year. In winter the site supports large numbers of swans, ducks and waders, as well as Bittern <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>, whilst in summer the floodplain holds breeding waders, Corncrake <i>Crex crex</i> and Spotted Crake <i>Porzana porzana</i>.</p>

The SPA also includes the subsumed SPA of Derwent Ings, a site that was subject to separate classification

Key Vulnerabilities of the International Sites

The Lower Derwent Valley SAC is vulnerable to:

- Future extraction of coal by deep mining; and
- Changes to water levels.

The Lower Derwent Valley SPA and Ramsar site is vulnerable to:

- Eutrophication due to agricultural run-off and domestic sewage residues
- Water abstraction and the associated tidal barrage affecting water levels and qualities
- Coal mining currently underway; and
- Recreational disturbance

Conservation Objectives of the International Site

The conservation objective for this site is to restore/maintain to favourable condition the habitats/ species for which the site is designated. This is achieved through management of the water quality/ levels/ flow and recreational pressure at and adjacent to the site.

Table A.5: Information about the River Derwent SAC

Site Designation Status	River Derwent Special Area of Conservation
Location of International Site	The site is located along the western edge of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council boundary.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>The River Derwent SAC is designated primarily for the populations of Annex II species, the river lamprey that it supports.</p> <p>Qualifying features that are not a primary reason for its designation include the presence of Annex II species sea lamprey, bullhead and otter, and the Annex I habitat water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitans and Callitriche-Batachion vegetation.</p>
Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The River Derwent SAC is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water level changes and flooding of adjacent agricultural land and flooding of urban areas; and • water quality changes.
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	The conservation objective for this site is to restore to favourable condition the habitats supporting the Annex II species river lamprey, and the habitats and species that are not the primary reason for its designation.

Table A.6: Information about the Skipwith Common SAC

Site Designation Status	Skipwith Common Special Area of Conservation
Location of International Site	The site is located 3 km west of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council western boundary.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>Skipwith Common SAC is designated primarily for the Annex I habitats Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> and European dry heaths.</p> <p>The northern Atlantic wet heath at Skipwith Common is the most extensive of its type in the north of England. The (M16) <i>Erica tetralix</i> – <i>Sphagnum compactum</i> wet heath is dominated by cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i> and purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i>. There is a small population of marsh gentian <i>Gentiana pneumonanthe</i>. The wet heath is part of transitions from open water, fen, reed and swap to European dry heaths and other habitats. The site has great ornithological and entomological importance.</p> <p>Skipwith Common is one of the only two extensive areas of open heathland remaining in the Vale of York, the other being Strensall Common. The dry heath element is an example of (H9) <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> – <i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i> heath dominated by heather <i>Calluna vulgaris</i>. The area has entomological and ornithological importance, with nearly 80 species of birds recorded, including European nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>.</p>
Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>Skipwith Common SAC is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lack of management and scrub encroachment in heathland communities; and • deep coal mining.
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	The conservation objective for this site is to maintain/ restore to favourable condition the Annex I habitats.

Table A.7: Information about the Hornsea Mere SPA

Site Designation Status	Hornsea Mere Special Protection Area
Location of International Site	Hornsea Mere is on the east coast of Yorkshire, midway between Flamborough Head to the north and Spurn Head to the south.
Brief Description of the International Site	<p>Hornsea Mere is on the east coast of Yorkshire, midway between Flamborough Head to the north and Spurn Head to the south. It is the largest freshwater lake in Yorkshire. It is less than 1 km from the North Sea and covers an area of 141 hectares. The lake is of glacial origin, shallow (in general only 1 m to 2 m deep), enriched with nutrients and fringed with reedbeds, fen and carr.</p> <p>The mere supports breeding and wintering water birds, which feed on the open water and use the marginal vegetation for feeding and roosting. It is designated as a SPA because it regularly supports an internationally important wintering population of Gadwall, a dabbling duck. The site also supports nationally important wintering populations of a further four species, goldeneye, pochard, tufted duck and shoveler. Mute swans also visit the site in nationally important numbers to moult after breeding.</p>
Key Vulnerabilities of the Site	<p>Hornsea Mere SAC is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to water level; • Changes to water quality; and • Lack of habitat management
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	The conservation objective for this site is to restore the habitat (standing water) to favourable condition to support the internationally important wintering populations of gadwall.

Appendix B

Initial HRA Screening Results Table

B.1 Initial HRA Screening Results Table

This appendix contains Table B-1 which lists the proposed extraction sites and Table B-2 which lists the policies within the Plan. Each of these has been assessed for any likely significant effect on the international sites. The assessment takes into account the measures in the Plan which seek to protect the international sites.

Where possible, policies that have been found to have no likely significant effect on an international site have been categorised into one of five different types:

- **Policy Type A1:** Options/policies that will not themselves lead to development (e.g. because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria for development, or they are not a land use planning policy);
- **Policy Type A2:** Options/policies intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity;
- **Policy Type A3:** Options/policies intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, where enhancement measures will not be likely to have any negative effect on an international site;
- **Policy Type A4:** Options/policies that positively steer development away from international sites and associated sensitive areas; and,
- **Policy Type A5:** Options/policies that would have no effect because no development would occur through the policy itself, the development being implemented through later policies in the same plan (which are more specific and therefore more appropriate to assess for their effects on international sites and associated sensitive areas)

This has been taken from *The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents (Revised Draft Guidance)* produced by Natural England in February 2009.

Table B-1: Initial HRA Screening Results – Candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search and nomination sites

Key:

- No likely significant effect
- The Plan will be amended to protect international sites should development take place
- Stage 2 Habitats Regulations Assessment is required
- Subject to a separate assessment

Site Reference	Location	Proposed Use	Proposed Allocations Details	Potential for Individual Sites to have Likely significant effects on the International Sites?	Locations of International Site(s) (distance to nearest point)	Justification of Finding
Candidate Preferred Areas						
PA01	Willowcroft Farm	Sand and gravel extraction	18 ha Extension to existing site, utilise existing access onto A165	No	Hornsea Mere is 5 km to the east The Humber Estuary is over 15 km south All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>With the exception of Hornsea Mere which is discussed below, the distances of all international sites to PA01 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>The extraction of sand and gravel within this candidate preferred area may lead to potential negative effects to Hornsea Mere SPA as a result of changes to water quality and quantity (Denise Coverdale, Natural England, concurs with this view, pers. comm. 2009). Therefore the hydrological connectivity of the site to Hornsea Mere SPA was investigated. Sarah Scott, Senior Technical Specialist (Hydrogeology) of the Environment Agency says "the sites all fall outside the surface water catchment for Hornsea Mere, the divide between surface flow to Hornsea and flow west wards is to the eastern edge of Seaton Village. For this reason and also given the distance between the sites and the Mere...it is unlikely that extraction of minerals from the sites would impact Hornsea Mere. Each site would still need to be assessed to determine impact to any water features in the vicinity and from October this year any dewatering activity will require an abstraction licence prior to commencement" (pers. comm.. Feb 2009).</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this candidate preferred area. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
PA02	Dryham Lane	Sand and gravel extraction	77 ha Western extension to Dryham Lane, access to the site will be gained from Crosslands Lane which leads to Newport Road (B1230)	No	Humber Estuary International Sites are 6.5 km to the south The Derwent International Sites are over 16 km to the west All other international sites are approximately 20 km or further	<p>Planning permission has been granted for the extraction of sand and gravel. All environmental impacts will have been considered prior to this HRA assessment and as such this site will only be considered further within this Habitats Regulations Assessment screening report in terms of any 'in combination impacts' with other mining proposals within the plan, or with other projects and plans.</p>
PA03	Land south of existing extraction area in Broom Fleet	Clay and sand extraction	83 ha Extension to existing site, existing access from Tongue Lane	No	Humber Estuary International Sites are 1.6 km to the south Thorne and Hatfield Moor International Sites are over 15 km to the south Derwent International Sites are over 17 km to the north west All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>Planning permission has been granted for the extraction of clay and sand. All environmental impacts will have been considered prior to this HRA assessment and as such this site will only be considered further within this Habitats Regulations Assessment screening report in terms of any 'in combination impacts' with other mining proposals within the plan, or with other projects and plans.</p>

Table B-1: Initial HRA Screening Results – Candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search and nomination sites

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Site Reference	Location	Proposed Use	Proposed Allocations Details	Potential for Individual Sites to have Likely significant effects on the International Sites?	Locations of International Site(s) (distance to nearest point)	Justification of Finding
Candidate Areas of Search						
AOS1	Leven and Brandesburton	Sand and gravel extraction	1621 ha Existing operational sites within area of search	Yes Hornsea Mere SPA	Hornsea Mere is approximately 200 m east of the most easterly point of AOS1 Humber Estuary International Sites are approximately 15 km to the south All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>With the exception of Hornsea Mere which is discussed above (PAO1) and in the paragraphs below (AOS1), the distances of all international sites to AOS1 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>The allocation of a candidate area of search does not lead directly to development. However, at some point in the lifetime of the Plan an area of mineral development may be proposed within AOS1. Given the proximity to Hornsea Mere (200 m at its closest point, despite much of the area of search including land up to 9 km to the west of Hornsea Mere), a Stage 2 Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Plan will need to be undertaken. Mineral development within 5 km⁶ of Hornsea Mere is considered to have potential for likely significant effects to birds for which the site is designated and/ or water levels that are key to maintaining the features for which the site is designated (alone or in combination, if several locations within this area of search are mined simultaneously) to the international site.</p> <p>Further assessment as part of the Stage 2 Habitats Regulations Assessment will be undertaken to look at site specific impacts within the area of search, and detailed mitigation will be provided if necessary.</p> <p>Any mineral development that takes place within AOS1 in the future is not considered to lead to 'in combination' likely significant effects with other mineral development in the Plan, or with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
AOS2	Gransmoor and Lissett	Sand and gravel extraction	1843 ha Existing operational sites within area of search	No	Hornsea Mere is 12 km to the south All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to AOS2 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this area of search, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
AOS3	North Cave	Sand and gravel extraction	49 ha Agricultural land, adjacent in part to the North Cave Wetlands	Yes: Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site	Humber Estuary International Sites are 4.2 – 6.5 km to the south The Derwent International Sites are over 18 km to the west The Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites are over 19 km to the south All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>With the exception of the Humber Estuary which is discussed below, the distances of all international sites from AOS3 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on these international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>Land take is considered to be an issue for the Humber Estuary international sites for development within approximately 7 km of it (Natural England have confirmed that birds from the Humber Estuary International Sites will travel up to approximately 7 km for foraging and for high tide roost sites). RSPB were consulted for records of birds using the area of search. The RSPB have no data relating to the area of search. In their opinion there is potential for the estuary birds to use the habitats present for feeding, such as wintering golden plover and pink footed geese (Nicola Melville, pers. comm. 2009). Furthermore the North Cave Wetlands are adjacent to the north of this area of search. The North Cave Wetlands site description indicates several bird species are present that are qualifying species for which the Humber Estuary International Site has been designated. These species may be disturbed and/ or displaced by any excavation and dewatering could reduce the habitat available for these species within the wetlands, without mitigation. A Stage 2 HRA assessment will be completed on the Plan.</p>

⁶ As discussed in Chapter 3, there is a suite of standard and effective mitigation measures for regulating the impacts that extend beyond the site in the air and water, such as the generation of dust, noise, vibration, traffic, lighting, changes to surface and ground water hydrology and water pollution. It is not within the scope of the Plan to define all the potential mitigation measures that may be required in each of the candidate preferred areas to avoid and effectively mitigate off-site impacts. However it is recognised that these impacts can be mitigated and that off-site impacts are not expected to impact beyond 5 km of any mineral development site, unless there is hydrological connectivity to an International Site. This view was also shared by Natural England officers for the international sites.

Table B-1: Initial HRA Screening Results – Candidate preferred areas, candidate areas of search and nomination sites

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Site Reference	Location	Proposed Use	Proposed Allocations Details	Potential for Individual Sites to have Likely significant effects on the International Sites?	Locations of International Site(s) (distance to nearest point)	Justification of Finding
						<p>Further information regarding the hydrogeology of the area of search that will help inform any mitigation for the potential mineral extraction, which will be detailed in a Stage 2 HRA.</p> <p>Any mineral development that takes place within AOS3 in the future may lead to 'in combination' likely significant effects with mineral development in AOS4, AOS6, AOS7, NOM19, PA02 and PA03, as well as other projects and plans, (see details in Chapter 9) to the Humber Estuary International Sites. The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
AOS4	Preston Road, Sproatley	Sand and gravel extraction	14 ha Existing site access from the B1240	Yes: Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site	Humber Estuary International Sites are 6.5 km to the south Hornsea Mere is 13 km to the north All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>With the exception of the Humber Estuary International Sites which are discussed below, the distances of all international sites to AOS4 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on these international sites.</p> <p>Land take is considered to be an issue for the Humber Estuary international sites for development within approximately 7 km of it (Natural England has confirmed that birds from the Humber Estuary International Sites will travel up to approximately 7 km for foraging and for high tide roost sites). RSPB were consulted for records of birds using the area of search. The RSPB have no comments on this area of search (Nicola Melville, pers. comm. 2009). However further data may be available with regard to birds that use this area of search (from the Wildlife Trust, RSPB, the biological records centre or local bird recorders) and the habitats present within this area of search. A Stage 2 HRA assessment will be completed on the Plan. This additional information can be gathered as part of a Stage 2 HRA, and will enable a determination of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the qualifying birds of the Humber Estuary International Sites and any mitigation that may be necessary.</p> <p>Any mineral development that takes place within AOS4 in the future may lead to 'in combination' likely significant effects with mineral development in AOS3, AOS6, AOS7, NOM19, PA02 and PA03, as well as with other projects and plans, (see details in Chapter 9) to the Humber Estuary International Sites. The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
AOS5	Greenwick Quarry, Huggate	Chalk extraction	2.5 ha Extension area to existing quarry. Accessed via existing operations	No	Derwent International Sites are over 14 km to the south All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to AOS5 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this area of search, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
AOS6	Riplingham and Swinescalf, South Cave	Chalk extraction	2.5 ha Extension to existing quarry. Access is via a long access track from Brick Dyke Lane	Yes Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar	Humber Estuary International Sites are over 5.8 km to the south All other international sites are over 20 km away	<p>With the exception of the Humber Estuary International Sites which are discussed below, the distances of all international sites to AOS6 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on these international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>Land take is considered to be an issue for the Humber Estuary international sites for development within approximately 7 km of it (Natural England has confirmed that birds from the Humber Estuary International Sites will travel up to approximately 7 km for foraging and for high tide roost sites). RSPB were consulted for records of birds using the area. The RSPB have no comments on this 'candidate area of search' (Nicola Melville, pers. comm. 2009). However further data may be available with regard to birds that use this area of search (from the Wildlife Trust, RSPB, the biological records centre or local bird recorders) and the habitats present within this area of search. A Stage 2 HRA assessment will be completed on the Plan. This additional information can be gathered as part of a Stage 2 HRA, and will enable a determination of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the Humber Estuary International Sites and any mitigation that may be necessary.</p> <p>Any mineral development that takes place within AOS6 in the future may lead to in combination likely significant effects with mineral development in AOS3, AOS4, AOS7, NOM19, PA02 and PA03, as well as with other projects and plans, (see details in Chapter 9) to the Humber Estuary International Sites. The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>

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Site Reference	Location	Proposed Use	Proposed Allocations Details	Potential for Individual Sites to have Likely significant effects on the International Sites?	Locations of International Site(s) (distance to nearest point)	Justification of Finding
AOS7	Castle Farm and Drewton Farm, North Cave	Oolitic limestone extraction	100 ha, to be excavated sequentially and subject to advanced screening planting (Table A.3, Appendix A of the Plan) New site, which sits either side of the B1230	Yes Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar	Humber Estuary International Sites are 6.3 km to the south All other international sites are over 20 km away	<p>With the exception of the Humber Estuary International Sites which are discussed below, the distances of all international sites to AOS7 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on these international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>Land take is considered to be an issue for the Humber Estuary international sites for development within approximately 7 km of it (Natural England has confirmed that birds from the Humber Estuary International Sites will travel up to approximately 7 km for foraging and for high tide roost sites). RSPB were consulted for records of birds using the area of search. The RSPB have no comments on this 'candidate area of search' (Nicola Melville, pers. comm. 2009). However further data may be available with regard to birds that use this area of search (from the Wildlife Trust, RSPB, the biological records centre or local bird recorders) and the habitats present within this area of search. A Stage 2 HRA assessment will be completed on the Plan. This additional information can be gathered as part of a Stage 2 HRA and will enable a determination of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the Humber Estuary International Sites and any mitigation that may be necessary.</p> <p>Any mineral development that takes place within AOS7 in the future may lead to in combination likely significant effects with mineral development in AOS3, AOS4, AOS6, NOM19, PA02 and PA03, as well as with other projects and plans, (see details in Chapter 9) to the Humber Estuary International Sites. The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
AOS8	Land at Pollington	Sand and gravel extraction	14 ha Excavation within existing quarry, the adequacy of existing access will be considered at the time of development	No	Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites are over 10 km to the east and south The Humber Estuary International Sites are over 14 km to the east Derwent International Sites are over 16 km to the north All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to AOS8 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>The hydrological connectivity of the area of search (AOS8) to the nearest international site (Thorne and Hatfield Moors) is not expected (geological maps and the Ordnance Survey map were consulted by a Senior Hydrogeologist, and there are various water courses separating the site including a canal). Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution to international sites.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this area of search, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
Nomination Sites						
NOM15	Land to the south side of A166 at Garton on the Wolds	Sand and gravel extraction	360 ha Agricultural land	No	All international sites are over 20 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to NOM15 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this nomination site, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>

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NOM16	Land to the west side of the B1249 near Langtoft	Chalk extraction	29.45 ha Agricultural land adjacent to existing quarry	No	All international sites are over 17 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to NOM16 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this nomination site, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
NOM17	Land to the north side of the B1249 near Brigham	Sand and gravel extraction	48.24 ha Part of site is former landfill, currently used for agriculture	No	All international sites are over 12 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to NOM17 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this nomination site, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
NOM18	Land to the west side of Wold Road near Nafferton	Chalk extraction	12.5 ha Agricultural land, adjacent to quarry	No	All international sites are over 15 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to NOM18 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this nomination site, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>
NOM19	Land to the west side of the A1034 near South Cave	Silica sand extraction	61 ha Agricultural land	Yes	<p>Humber Estuary International Sites are over 6 km to the south</p> <p>All other international sites are over 20 km away</p>	<p>With the exception of the Humber Estuary International Sites which are discussed below, the distances of all international sites to NOM19 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on these international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development. Land take is considered to be an issue for the Humber Estuary international sites for development within approximately 7 km of it.</p> <p>Natural England has confirmed that birds from the Humber Estuary International Sites will travel up to approximately 7 km for foraging and for high tide roost sites. Data may be available with regard to birds that use this nomination site (from the Wildlife Trust, RSPB, the biological records centre or local bird recorders) and the habitats present within this nomination site. A Stage 2 HRA assessment will be completed on the Plan. This additional information can be gathered as part of a Stage 2 HRA and will enable a determination of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to the Humber Estuary International Sites and any mitigation that may be necessary.</p> <p>Any mineral development that takes place within NOM19 in the future may lead to in combination likely significant effects with mineral development in AOS3, AOS4, AOS6, AOS7, PA02 and PA03, as well as with other projects and plans, (see details in Chapter 9) to the Humber Estuary International Sites. The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>

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Site Reference	Location	Proposed Use	Proposed Allocations Details	Potential for Individual Sites to have Likely significant effects on the International Sites?	Locations of International Site(s) (distance to nearest point)	Justification of Finding
NOM20	Land to the north side of the Leven Canal at Leven	Sand and gravel extraction	85 ha Agricultural land	No	Hornsea Mere is over 7 km to the east All other international sites are over 20 km	<p>The distances of all international sites to NOM20 are great enough for there to be no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. Development sites over 5 km from international sites are unlikely to result in impacts to water quality or quantity, or noise/ air pollution. There will be no increase in recreational pressure as a result of mineral development.</p> <p>It is not anticipated that there will be any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) to international sites as a result of mineral development within this nomination site, given the distances to the nearest international sites. There are not considered to be in combination impacts with other projects and plans (see Chapter 9). The assessment of in combination impacts will be updated prior to the submission of the Plan.</p>

Table B-2: Initial HRA Screening Results – Core Policies and Development Control Policies

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Policy number	Policy Title	Will policy have Likely Significant Effects on the International Sites?	Justification of Finding
OBJ1	The Core Minerals Objective	No	<p>This policy may lead to development (mineral extraction). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
COR ERY and Core Minerals Objective	Vision for sustainable minerals development within East Riding of Yorkshire	No	<p>This policy may lead to development (mineral extraction). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place. Future minerals works within preferred areas and areas of search are dealt with in Table B-1 above.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
COR HULL and Core Minerals Objective	Vision for sustainable minerals development within Kingston upon Hull	No	<p>This policy may lead to development (mineral extraction). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
AGG1	Preferred areas for sand and gravel	No	Policy type A5. The policy relates to preferred areas of sand and gravel extraction, these are dealt with in Table B-1 above.
AGG2	Areas of search for sand and gravel	No	Policy type A5. The policy relates to areas of search for sand and gravel, these are dealt with in Table B-1 above.
AGG3	Areas of search for crushed rock	No	Policy type A5. The policy relates to areas of search for crushed rock, these are dealt with in Table B-1 above.
AGG4	Borrow pits	No	<p>This policy may lead to development (mineral extraction). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works (eg. if borrow pits are located within approximately 7 km of Humber there may be likely significant effects to this international site, due to lost foraging opportunities or roosting sites for estuary birds). The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p>

Table B-2: Initial HRA Screening Results – Core Policies and Development Control Policies

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AGG5	Recycling and secondary aggregates	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within existing mineral sites. However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place and includes wording to protect against environmental impacts of development.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
AGG6	Safeguarding of wharves	No	<p>This policy may lead to development in proximity to the Humber Estuary International Sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
AGG7	Marine aggregates development	No	<p>This policy may lead to development in proximity to the Humber Estuary International Sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
AGG8	Safeguarding of rail depot	No	<p>This policy may lead to development in proximity to the Humber Estuary International Sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
NAM1	Areas of search for industrial chalk	No	Policy type A5. The policy relates to areas of search for crushed rock, these are dealt with in Table B-1 above.

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NAM2	Peat working	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within the Thorne and Hatfield Moors International Sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
EM1	Deep coal mining, including utilisation of coal bed methane reserves for energy production	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within or near to the Thorne and Hatfield Moors, River Derwent and Skipwith Common International Sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no details of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
EM2	Exploration boreholes	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within or near to international sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations or quanta of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
EM3	Appraisal boreholes	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within or near to international sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations or quanta of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
EM4	Oil and gas production and distribution	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within or near to international sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for</p>

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			<p>decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations or quanta of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
EM5	Underground storage of gas and related surface development	No	<p>This policy may lead to development within or near to international sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p> <p>As no locations or quanta of development are provided within the policy, this approach to the HRA process will not affect the deliverability of the plan.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.</p>
DM1	Impacts of mineral development	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM2	Protecting residential amenity and other residential uses	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM3	Restoration and aftercare	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM4	Best and most versatile agricultural land	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM5	Public rights of way	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM6	Sites with national designations	No	Policy type A2. This policy does not lead to development and is intended to protect international sites. It will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM7	Impact on landscape and townscape	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM8	Water resources	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM9	Flooding	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM10	Transportation	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
DM11	Planning obligations	No	Policy type A1. This policy does not lead to development and will not have any likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.
SA1	Non-mineral development in buffer zones	No	<p>This policy may lead to development in proximity to the Humber Estuary International Sites which may lead to likely significant effects (alone or in combination). However, the policy does not state exact details of development or when it may take place, and it seeks to protect mineral development from encroachment by other non-mineral development.</p> <p>Should any planning applications arise as a result of this policy, all other policies and supporting text within the Plan will be taken into account and used as the basis for decision making to determine the application. Therefore, any planning application would also have to take into account the possibility of likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites resulting from the proposed works. The Plan commits to an HRA at the development control stage. The HRA of any proposed development will have to prove that the work will not have adverse effects on the international sites, or that adverse effects can be adequately mitigated. If it cannot be proven that there will no adverse effects on this international site and/or it is not possible to mitigate for these effects the Council will not allow the development to be constructed.</p>

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