

East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council

Joint Minerals Plan Proposed Submission (2016-2033)

Habitat Regulations Assessment Stage 1 Screening Report

East Riding of Yorkshire Council

April 2018



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1. Introduction

1.1. Background to this Assessment

This amended Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) 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 Local Plan Document, referred to as 'the Plan' for the purpose of this report, and relates to the Joint Minerals Plan Proposed Submission (2016-2033). The previous draft of the HRA Stage 1 - Screening assessment was completed in 2015. This updated screening assessment has been undertaken to reflect the sites taken forward by the Proposed Submission version of the Plan.

The Plan covers the administrative areas of the East Riding of Yorkshire and Kingston upon Hull, and is a development plan document containing policies, including development management policies and the locations of proposed mineral extraction in identified Preferred Areas for mineral extraction.

A Habitat Regulations Assessment Stage 1 (Screening) was completed on the three previous iterations of the adopted Local Plan:

- Habitats Regulations Assessment, Screening Report, Joint Minerals Development Plan Document (DPD), East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull Council April 2010;
- 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, Joint Minerals Local Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment: Stage 1 - Screening Report, Amended for Revised Preferred Approach, 2015.

This HRA screening report therefore assesses the Proposed Submission East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council Joint Minerals Plan Proposed Submission (2016-2033).

1.2. Background to Habitat Regulations Assessment

HRA is required by Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (known as the Habitats Regulations) for all plans and projects which may have likely significant effects on an international site and are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the international site.

International sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and listed Wetlands of international Importance (Ramsar sites). HRA is also required, as a matter of UK Government policy, for potential SPAs (pSPA), candidate SACs (cSAC) and proposed Ramsar sites (pRamsar) for the purposes of considering plans and projects, which may affect them. Hereafter, all the above-designated nature conservation sites are referred to as '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,

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- **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.

This report comprises the Stage 1 – Screening of the Plan.

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 of management processes. This should ensure that developments are not permitted which could have likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on international sites.

1.3. Outline of this 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 Local Plan Document, Joint Minerals Plan Proposed Submission (2018-2033) (the Plan) is a policy document with site specific proposals.

The Plan includes eight identified sites for mineral extraction (sand, gravel and crushed rock):

- SG-A Land off A1035 Leven By-pass, Leven (formerly SG18);
- SG-B Land at Pollington West (formerly SG7);
- SG-C Brook Farm, North Cave (formerly SG15);
- SG-D The Outgang, North Cave (formerly SG16);
- SG-E Land East of B1249, Cruckley Lane, Brigham (formerly SG9);
- SG-F Leven and Brandesburton (formerly SG11);
- SG-G Gransmoor Lane and Lisset (formerly SG12);
- CR-A Greenwick Quarry, Huggate (formerly CR7).

The Plan defines the extent of mineral safeguarding areas and also safeguards wharves and rail depots used for importation of aggregates. There are 26 policies within the plan as listed below:

- AGG1: Supply of Sand and Gravel;
- AGG2: Site Allocations for Sand and Gravel Extraction;
- AGG3: Supply of Crushed Rock;
- AGG4: Area of Search for Crushed Rock;
- AGG5: Unallocated extensions to existing quarries;
- AGG6: Borrow pits;
- AGG7: Recycling and Secondary Aggregates at Existing Mineral Sites;
- AGG8: Safeguarding capacity for marine importation of mineral resources;
- AGG9: Safeguarding of Rail Facilities used for the Importation of Aggregates and Other Minerals;
- AGG10: Safeguarding of Mineral Infrastructure and Facilities;
- NAM1: Supply of Industrial Chalk;
- NAM2: Peat Working;
- NAM3: Supply of Silica Sand;
- NAM4: Building Stone
- EM1: Deep Coal Mining;
- EM2: Exploration Boreholes;

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- EM3: Appraisal Boreholes;
 - EM4: Oil and Gas Production and Distribution;
 - EM5: Coal Bed Methane;
 - EM6: Extraction of Shale Gas (Hydraulic Fracturing);
 - EM7: Underground Storage of Gas and Related Surface Development;
 - DM1: Impacts of Minerals Development;
 - DM2: Protecting Residential Amenity and Other Uses;
 - DM3: Restoration and Aftercare;
 - DM4: Best & Most Versatile Agricultural Land;
 - DM5: Public Rights of Way;
 - DM6: Transportation.

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.

As indicated in the section of the Plan entitled 'Habitats Regulations Assessment', (Chapter 7) any proposed development that may affect internationally important sites must be subject to the necessary stages of the HRA process by the Competent Authority. To adhere to this requirement, 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 management decisions. Any mitigation measures put forward as part of this plan level will therefore also need to be included in any of the individual proposed development planning applications.

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 'identified preferred areas of working' and 'identified area of search' respectively) for sand and gravel (sites with the prefix SG), and crushed rock (site with the prefix CR). Mineral development is regulated by the Mineral Planning Authority and all new extraction sites are assessed for environment impacts. There is a suite of 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 identified preferred areas to avoid and effectively mitigate off-site impacts. Any mitigation measures implemented as part of this plan would not negate the necessity to potentially introduce mitigation measures to remove any impacts associated with an individual site. This would need to be considered as part of an individual site's EIA and HRA processes. It has been recognised that 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 previously shared for the earlier versions of the JMLP by Natural England officers for the international sites.

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

The next step is to gather the information on the international sites to be included in the HRA. This includes contacting Natural England for the conservation objectives and favourable conditions tables for each international site.

The conservation objectives³ and favourable conditions tables for the International sites have been obtained from Natural England for the purpose of this assessment.

There are nineteen 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 within 20 km of their boundaries. 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:

- Ellers Wood and Sand Dale SAC;
- Flamborough and Filey Coast pSPA;
- Greater Wash pSAC;
- Humber Estuary Ramsar site;

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/>

³ <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/5758332488908800>

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- 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;
 - Southern North Sea cSAC; and
 - Hornsea Mere SPA.

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

- Strensall Common SAC is located approximately 6.5 km north west of the East Riding of Yorkshire border and is at least 18 km from the nearest identified area of search (CR-A) 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. For the previous iterations of the JMLP 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 14 km from the nearest identified area of search (SG-B) 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. For the previous iterations of the JMLP this view is shared by Natural England officer Tim Kohler (pers. comm. 2009).
- Flamborough Head SAC, Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs SPA and Flamborough and Filey Coast pSPA are located over 6 km from the nearest identified area of search (SG-G) and as such it is considered very unlikely to be affected by the Plan. In the previous iteration of the plan, the closest site was over 14 km away and in 2009, the Natural England officer for the site (Robbie Fisher) 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).
- Ellers Wood and Sand Dale SAC is located over 18 km from the East Riding of Yorkshire border and over 34 km from the nearest area of search (SG-G). The site has been eliminated from the HRA screening given the distance from any future development and because it is considered unlikely that likely significant effects to the SAC will arise as a result of the Plan.

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- Southern North Sea cSAC is located over 15 km from the East Riding of Yorkshire border and over 34 km from the nearest area of search (SG-F). The site has been eliminated from the HRA screening given the distance from any future development and because it is considered unlikely that likely significant effects to the SAC will arise as a result of the Plan.

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.

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'. 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.

The assessment was updated in June 2014 by a review of planning applications registered since the previous edition of the HRA document. As the potential for cumulative impacts has been ruled out at for all except the Humber International Designations and Hornsea Mere SPA, this search was restricted to the following four planning authorities:

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- East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
 - Kingston upon Hull City Council;
 - North East Lincolnshire Council; and
 - North Lincolnshire Council.

The assessment was updated in March 2018 by a review of planning applications registered since the previous edition of the HRA document. An internet search of the following organisations has been undertaken for details of other projects and plans which have the potential for adverse effects upon the international sites.

- East Riding of Yorkshire Council;
- Kingston upon Hull City Council;
- North East Lincolnshire Council;
- North Lincolnshire Council.
- 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; and
- North East Lincolnshire Council;

Results are presented in Section 5 (below).

3.4. Assessing the Impacts of the Plan ‘Alone’ and ‘In Combination’

Following the gathering of information on the international sites an assessment has been undertaken to predict the likely significant effects of the Project ‘alone’ on the international sites. In order to inform this

process, all parts of the Project were assessed to see whether they could result in likely significant effects on the international site.

The potential for likely significant effects of the Project 'in combination' with other projects and plans for each international site has also been considered in this HRA. As part of this process all HRAs that have been completed due to possible impacts on the international sites included in this HRA were reviewed in order to determine whether there is the potential for in combination effects (see Section 4).

Likely significant effects are assessed by reference to the conservation objectives of the qualifying feature (interest feature) of the international site. Any plan or project that causes the cited interest features of a site to fall into unfavourable condition can be considered to have a likely significant effect on the site.

Projects can adversely affect a site by:

- Causing delays in progress towards achieving the conservation objectives of the site;
- Interrupting progress towards achieving the conservation objectives of the site;
- Disrupting those factors that help to maintain the favourable conditions of the site; and
- Interfering with the balance, distribution and density of key species that are the indicators of the favourable condition of the site.

HRA is an iterative process; where necessary, suggestions can be made of how to amend the Project to avoid likely significant effects on an international site.

In order to inform this HRA Stage 1 screening process, all parts of the Plan were assessed to see if they would result in likely significant effects on the international sites. This HRA assesses the 26 policies contained in the Plan and also takes into account the supporting text, identified preferred areas, and identified areas of search.

The findings of this assessment are given in Section 4 and in Table 15 in Appendix B.1 and Table 16 in Appendix C. In Table 15, 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;
- 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 Section 5. 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.

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

Areas that have been identified as being used by species that the international site has been designated for, but are situated outside of a SAC, SPA or 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 the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar sites have been designated for require areas up to approximately 7 km from the designated sites 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. Screening Assessment Criteria: Humber Estuary International Sites

The following section summarises the screening assessment for each of the international sites.

4.1. Greater Wash pSAC

Site Designation Status	Greater Wash pSAC
Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site	<p>The following identified areas of search and preferred areas have the potential to have significant effects on the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site: SG-F and SG-G.</p> <p>SG-F (formerly SG11) was previously located approximately 4km from the Greater Wash pSAC (at its closest point). East Riding of Yorkshire Council have undertaken three boreholes to assess the catchment of Hornsea Mere SPA which was determined to extend up to Seaton in the west. The SG-F boundary was subsequently amended and moved approximately 760 m to the west of Seaton and over 6 km from the Greater Wash pSAC.</p> <p>SG-G (formerly SG12) is located approximately 1.6 km from the Greater Wash pSAC. SG-G. However, within the search area there is a windfarm, existing quarries and is relatively heavily farmed. A lot of the search area is small agricultural fields with boundary features, including trees, ditches, and hedges providing cover for bird predators. However, as there is uncertainty over the precise details and timing of any planning applications the site brief for this allocation therefore notes these uncertainties and makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage.</p>
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 or indirect impacts associated with any of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or the policies to the Greater Wash pSAC.
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 Greater Wash pSAC as a result of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or policies set out in the Plan.

4.2. Humber Estuary SPA, Ramsar site and SAC

Site Designation Status	Humber Estuary SPA, Ramsar site and SAC
Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to	The following identified areas of search and preferred areas have the potential to have significant effects on the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar

<p>impacts on the International Site</p>	<p>site: SG-C and SG-D.</p> <p>Following consultation with Natural England East Riding of Yorkshire Council undertook an additional assessment⁵ of those sites which could have an impact on the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site. This assessment concluded:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SG-C: The presence of these boundary features, including trees, ditches, and hedges at regular intervals within the allocation, combined with the presence of three farm complexes bordering the allocation, results in plenty of places for bird predators to hide. It means the site is unlikely to support favourable conditions for its use by estuary birds. Therefore, it has been concluded that the site offers no value as functional land to the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SAP and Ramsar site. • SG-D: the presence of boundary features within the allocation combined with the presence of two farm complexes, a busy dual carriageway, watersports centre, and motorway services, mean there are plenty of places for bird predators to hide. This includes active/noisy uses that will cause disturbance to birds. It means the site is unlikely to support favourable conditions for its use by estuary birds. Therefore, it has been concluded that the site offers no value as functional land to the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SAP and Ramsar site. <p>However, as there is uncertainty over the precise details and timing of any planning applications the site brief for this identified preferred area of working therefore notes these uncertainties and makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage. The long term after use of the site would be the creation of wetland habitat which would be of value to the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site.</p> <p>None of the policies are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on the Humber Estuary international sites. No likely significant effects (alone or in combination) are anticipated on the Humber Estuary SPA, Ramsar site and SAC.</p>
<p>Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts of the Plan on the International Site</p>	<p>For the reasons outlined above there are no likely direct or indirect impacts associated with any of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or the policies to the Humber Estuary SPA, Ramsar site and SAC.</p>
<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>	<p>For the reasons outlined above there are no likely changes to the Humber Estuary SPA, Ramsar site and SAC as a result of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or policies set out in the Plan.</p>

⁵ East Riding & Hull Joint Mineral Local Plan, Natural Environment Background Paper, January 2017

4.3. Thorne Moor SAC & Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA

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 identified areas of search and preferred areas are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on the Thorne and Hatfield Moors international Sites given the 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 Moor SAC and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA). 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 JMLP 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 Moor SAC and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA) in the southeast to Goole in the north and Rawcliffe and Cowick in the west.</p> <p>Policies EM1 – EM7 will not directly lead to coal mining, oil and gas exploration, unconventional hydrocarbons or underground storage of natural gas but set out how the framework for determining applications for these activities will be determined.</p> <p>The Plan makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an International site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage.</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 preferred areas, identified areas of search, or the policies to the Thorne Moor SAC and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA.</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 Thorne Moor SAC and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA as a result of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or policies set out in the Plan.</p>

4.4. River Derwent SAC, Lower Derwent Valley SPA, Ramsar site and SAC

Site Designation Status	River Derwent SAC Lower Derwent Valley SPA Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar site Lower Derwent Valley SAC
Describe the individual elements of the Plan likely to give rise to impacts on the International Site	<p>None of the preferred areas, identified areas of search and policies are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on the Derwent international Sites given the distances to the sites.</p> <p>There is currently no coal working in the JMLP 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.</p> <p>Policies EM1 – EM7 will not directly lead to coal mining, oil and gas exploration, unconventional hydrocarbons or underground storage of natural gas but set out how the framework for determining applications for these activities will be determined.</p> <p>The Plan makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage.</p>
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 identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or the policies to the River Derwent SAC, Lower Derwent Valley SPA, Ramsar site and 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 the River Derwent SAC, Lower Derwent Valley SPA, Ramsar site and SAC as a result of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or policies set out in the Plan.

4.5. 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	<p>None of the identified preferred areas or identified areas of search are considered to have the potential to lead to significant effects on Skipwith Common SAC given the distances to the sites.</p> <p>There is currently no coal working in the JMLP 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</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>Policies EM1 – EM7 will not directly lead to coal mining, oil and gas exploration, unconventional hydrocarbons or underground storage of natural gas but set out how the framework for determining applications for these activities will be determined.</p> <p>The plan makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage.</p>
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 identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, 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 preferred areas, identified areas of search, or policies set out in the Plan.

4.6. 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>SG-F (formerly SG11) was previously located 200 m from Hornsea Mere SPA (at its closest) point and concern was raised over the hydrological connectivity of SG-F to the SPA. East Riding of Yorkshire Council have undertaken three boreholes to assess the catchment of Hornsea Mere SPA which was determined to extend up to Seaton in the west. The SG-F boundary was subsequently amended and moved approximately 760 m to the west of Seaton and 1.9 km from Hornsea Mere SPA.</p> <p>None of the other identified areas of search, or the identified preferred areas 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	For the reasons outlined above there are no likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts associated with any of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or the policies to Hornsea Mere SPA.
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	For the reasons outlined above there are no likely changes to Hornsea Mere SPA as a result of the identified preferred areas, identified areas of search, or policies set out in the Plan.

density, changes in key indicators of conservation value (e.g. water quality) and climate change	
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5. In Combination Impacts

There are 21 HRAs that have been carried out due to the possibility of significant effects on the international sites included in this HRA Screening report.

The details of each HRA, a summary of their findings and the potential for in-combination effects are given in Table 1 below.

Table 1. HRAs Undertaken for Other Policies and Plans Included in this HRA Screening Report

Statutory Body	Title of HRA	Findings of HRA	In Combination Effects
York Unitary Authority	HRA of Plan Allocations, Habitats Regulations Assessment of the City of York Council, Local Plan, September 2017	The HRA of the Local Plan submission has reviewed the available data and the draft plan. The assessment concluded that the Local Plan will have no significant effects (alone or in combination) on Kirk Deighton SAC, Skipworth Common SAC, the Humber Estuary SAC, the Humber Estuary SPA or the Humber Estuary Ramsar. Potential significant effects as a result of increased recreational pressure were identified for Strensall Common SAC and the Lower Derwent Valley SAC, Lower Derwent Valley SPA and Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	City of York Council, Poppleton Neighbourhood Plan, Habitat Regulation Screening, Report, (May 2017)	The HRA concluded that there would be no likely significant effect alone or in combination.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	Rufforth with Knapton, Neighbourhood Plan, Submission Version, Habitat Regulation Assessment, Screening Report, (February 2018)	The HRA concluded that there would be no likely significant effect alone or in combination.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
Ryedale District Council	Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment Sites Consultation (Local Plan Sites Document) May 2015	Not all site identified would be taken forward and that with the exception of Malton and Norton there would be no likely significant effects. It was also noted that all sites would be subject to further HRA.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment of Sites and Policies (2015 and Updated 2016) Publication of Local Plan Sites Document (November 2017) 2015 and updated 2016 September 2017	Not all site identified would be taken forward and that with the exception of Malton and Norton there would be no likely significant effects. It was also noted that all sites would be subject to further HRA.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment Sites choices at Malton and Norton Publication of Local Plan Sites Document November 2017	The assessment concluded that with the implementation of the mitigation measures identified there would be no effects on the international sites.	The assessment was for sites at Malton and Norton which are located sufficient distance from the allocations and policies for the Joint Minerals Plan. Therefore, there is no potential for in-combination effects.
Selby District Council	Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment Selby Local Plan Possible Site Allocations February 2018	This assessment found that none of the individual possible allocations would result in LSE' alone. However, because of uncertainties regarding the anticipated need for increased wastewater disposal and the impact of recreational pressure from the cluster of possible allocations in and around the north of Selby, it was impossible to rule out significant effects in combination on Skipwith Common and the Lower Derwent Valley from possible allocations in Barlby, Escrick, Hemingbrough, North Duffield, Osgodby, Riccall and Selby. Recommendations were made to mitigate these potential impacts.	The assessment for the Joint Minerals Plan has concluded that there will be no likely significant effects including water and recreation therefore no in-combination effects are anticipated.
Scarborough Borough Council	Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Scarborough Borough Local Plan Proposed Modifications September 2016	As the Modifications are fairly minor, the conclusions are the same as the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Local Plan in that they would not lead to a likely significant effect on Natura 2000 sites.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
North Lincolnshire Unitary Authority	Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan – Submission (Publication Draft) Habitats Regulations Assessment October 2014	The assessment concluded that the Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan would have not likely significant effect alone or in-combination.	The assessment for the Joint Minerals Plan has concluded that there will be no likely significant effects and therefore based on the inclusion of the recommendation for the Lincolnshire Lakes Area Action Plan no in-combination effects are anticipated.
	Housing and Employment Allocation Land Development Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment Stage 1 Significance Test and Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment, December 2014	The assessment concluded that there would be no likely significant effect provided the following measures were implemented: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimising the impact of light overspill, visual and noise disturbance on SPA/ Ramsar water birds within the International Nature Conservation Site. Clarifying that Allocation SHBE-1 does not itself permit or promote port development that would impact on intertidal or subtidal habitat. Ensuring that adequate wetland habitat is available to accommodate currently observed numbers of feeding and roosting waterbirds within the SHG, prior to the loss of the currently used habitat. This further ensures that loss	Owing to the distance of the allocations within the Joint Minerals Plan from the international sites there is no potential for in-combination effects.

		of terrestrial habitat within the SHG will not lead to loss or displacement of bird populations from the functionally related areas of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site.	
	APPLEBY PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Opinion and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report May 2017	The assessment concluded that the Appleby Parish Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to result in significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites.	The Appleby Parish Neighbourhood Plan concluded that there are no international sites within Appleby Parish and due to the local nature of proposals in the Plan, it will not impact on internationally designated wildlife sites. Therefore, there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	North Lincolnshire Flood Risk Management Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Scoping and Screening Report March 2016	The assessment concluded that the detailed proposal of flood defence and alleviation projects are not considered to likely to effect any Natura 2000 sites included within the screening assessment, given the distance from the sites and/or the nature of the proposals (i.e. monitoring or small scale works) and the assumed mitigation (i.e. adherence to relevant PPG).	Owing to the localised nature of the proposed works which are located there is no potential for in-combination effects.
North Yorkshire County Council	Mineral and Joint Waste Plan, Sustainability Appraisal Habitats Regulations Assessment October 2016	The assessment concluded no likely significant effect, however, owing to some uncertainty the policies relating to the Natura 2000 sites was strengthened.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and both the Joint Mineral Plan and the North Yorkshire Mineral and Joint Waste Plan have policies to protect international sites therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	Waste and Minerals Joint Plan – Addendum to the Habitat Regulations Assessment November 2017	Changes P48 and P49 required that the HRA was updated in respect to the assessment for site MJP14 but the conclusion of the original HRA was not altered i.e. concluded no significant negative effect either alone or in combination.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and both the Joint Mineral Plan and the North Yorkshire Mineral and Joint Waste Plan have policies to protect international sites therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	Mineral and Joint Waste Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum, February 2018	It is concluded that there is no LSE, alone or in combination, on any designated sites as a result of air pollution from increased traffic.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and both the Joint Mineral Plan and the North Yorkshire Mineral and Joint Waste Plan have policies to protect international sites therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
East Lindsey District Council	East Lindsey District Council Local Plan Stage 1 Habitats Regulation Assessment July 2017	The assessment concluded that the 'Policies within the Core Strategy which relate to the natural environment ensure that any potential impacts on international sites are suitably assessed and mitigated'.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and both the Joint Mineral Plan and the East Lindsey District Council Local Plan have policies to protect international sites therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.
North East Lincolnshire Council	North East Lincolnshire Pre-submission Draft Local Plan Habitat Regulations Assessment Plan January 2016	The assessment concluded that there would be not likely significant effects through Physical loss or damage to habitat, both onsite and offsite, Noise/vibration and light pollution, Recreation or Changes to water quality or quantity. However, this could not be concluded for air quality.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and air quality was not identified as cause for concern. Therefore, there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	North East Lincolnshire Pre-submission Draft Local Plan HRA Addendum in Respect of the Effects of Recreational Pressures and Water Quality and Quantity on the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar Site Prepared by LUC April 2017	Recreation A multi-faceted approach including the provision of alternative open space and green infrastructure, site management and monitoring at the sensitive parts of the SPA outlined in this report, and education of local residents and visitors to increase awareness of key issues and responsibilities. These measures will be delivered as part of the development of the Cleethorpes Habitat Management Plan, and/or an equivalent mitigation strategy which is adaptive and able to respond to updated monitoring results, thereby ensuring that the measures provided continue to successfully mitigate any impacts identified or predicted, before they are able to result in adverse effects on the integrity of the Humber Estuary SPA/Ramsar site. Providing this mitigation is implemented recreation will have no likely significant effects on the international sites. Water Quality and Quantity Provided the mitigation and avoidance measures built in to the local plan are considered sufficient robust to avoid likely significant effects.	The Joint Minerals Plan will not have any impacts on recreation or water related issues therefore, there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	North East Lincolnshire Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment July 2014	The assessment concluded that it would not be possible to fully assess these measures without the detail which presently remains unknown. As a means of mitigation the wording of these measures was altered to strengthen the requirement for any actions to comply with the Habitats Regulations.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and includes reference to protection of the international sites and therefore there is no potential for in-combination effects.

Other	Hull Local Plan, Hull City Council, August 2016	The assessment has concluded that with mitigation, adverse effects from policies and site allocations can be avoided for all European sites.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and provided the mitigation measures identified are implemented there is no potential for in-combination effects.
	Eggborough CCGT Appendix 10H: Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Matrices Signposting Eggborough Power Limited Project Number: 60506766 May 2017	The HRA concluded that best practice measures will be implemented during construction to avoid pollution related impacts and that the Environmental Permit regime for the Proposed Development will ensure that abstraction and discharge to the River Aire is carefully managed to avoid any adverse effects on the water quality of the river and downstream habitats.	The Joint Minerals Plan identified no likely significant effects and provided the measures identified in the Eggborough CCGT are implemented there is no potential for in-combination effects.

6. Conclusion

Is the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Kingston upon Hull City Council Joint Minerals Local Plan (JMLP) 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?

6.1. Identified Sites

The Plan identifies eight sites for extraction of sand and gravel and/ or crushed rock.

The potential for these sites to have impacts on the international sites (alone or in combination) is summarised in Chapter 4 and 5 and detailed in Table 14 in Appendix B.

The sites are not considered to lead to significant effects (alone or in combination) on the international sites. This information is summarised in Table 2 below

Table 2. Identified sites assessed for likely significant effects on International designated sites

Identified sites in Joint Minerals Local Plan	Designated Site Potentially Impacted	Likely Significant Effect?	Comments/Actions
SG-A Land off A1035 Leven By-pass, Leven (formerly SG18)	Hornsea Mere SPA	No	None
SG-B Land at Pollington West (formerly SG7)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5km)	No	None
SG-C Brook Farm, North Cave (formerly SG15)	Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.	No	None
SG-D The Outgang, North Cave (formerly SG16)	Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.	No	None
SG-E Land East of B1249, Cruckley Lane, Brigham (formerly SG9)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5km)	No	None
SG-F Leven and Brandesburton (formerly SG11)	Hornsea Mere SPA	No	None
SG-G Gransmoor Lane and Lisset (formerly SG12)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5km)	No	None
CR-A Greenwick Quarry, Huggate (formerly CR7)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5km)	No	None

6.2. Policies

The Plan includes 26 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 potential for these policies and sites to have impacts on the international sites (alone or in combination) is summarised in Chapter 4 and 5 and detailed in Table 16 in Appendix C.1.

It can be concluded that these policies will have no Likely Significant Effects on the international sites, alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.

Appendices

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:

- Greater Wash pSAC (Table 3);
- Humber Estuary SPA (Table 4);
- Humber Estuary Ramsar site (Table 5);
- Humber Estuary SAC (Table 6);
- Thorne Moor SAC (Table 7);
- Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA (Table 8);
- Lower Derwent Valley SPA, (Table 9);
- Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar site (Table 10);
- Lower Derwent Valley SAC (Table 11);
- River Derwent SAC (Table 12);
- Skipwith Common SAC (Table 13); and
- Hornsea Mere SPA (Table 14).

Table 3. Information about the Greater Wash Potential Special Area of Conservation

Site Designation Status	Greater Wash Potential Special Area of Conservation
Location of International Site	Greater Wash pSPA is located in the mid-southern North Sea between Bridlington Bay in the north and the Outer Thames Estuary SPA in the south. To the north, off the Holderness coast in Yorkshire, seabed habitats primarily comprise coarse sediments, with occasional areas of sand, mud and mixed sediments. Subtidal sandbanks occur at the mouth of the Humber Estuary, primarily comprising sand and coarse sediments. Offshore, soft sediments dominate, with extensive areas of subtidal sandbanks off The Wash and north and east Norfolk coasts. Closer inshore at The Wash, sediments comprise a mosaic of sand, muddy sand, mixed sediments and coarse sediments, as well as occasional Sabellaria reefs. Close to shore along the north Norfolk Coast seabed habitats are primarily intertidal mudflats composed of sand and mud, with occasional mussel bed reefs.
Brief Description of the International Site	The site qualifies under Article 4 of the Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The site regularly supports more than 1% of the GB breeding populations of three species, and the non-breeding populations of two species listed in Annex I of the EC Birds Directive. Therefore, the site qualifies for SPA Classification in accordance with the UK SPA selection guidelines (stage 1.1, 1.4). • The site supports a regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I of the EC Birds Directive extending the (currently insufficient) range coverage of the current suite of SPAs for this species. Therefore, the site qualifies for SPA Classification in accordance with the UK SPA selection guidelines (stage 1.4)
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features • The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features • The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely • The population of each of the qualifying features, and, • The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.
Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site	No information available.

Table 4. Information about the Humber Estuary Ramsar Site

Site Designation Status	Humber Estuary Ramsar Site
Location of International Site	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. 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.
Brief Description of the International Site	The Humber Estuary is the largest macro-tidal estuary on the British North Sea coast. It drains a catchment of some 24,240 square kilometres and is the site of the largest single input of freshwater from Britain into the North Sea. It has the second-highest tidal range in Britain (max 7.4 m) and approximately one-third of the estuary is exposed as mud or sand flats at low tide. The inner estuary supports extensive areas of reedbed with areas of mature and developing saltmarsh backed in places by limited areas of grazing marsh in

the middle and outer estuary. On the north Lincolnshire coast the saltmarsh is backed by low sand dunes with marshy slacks and brackish pools. The Estuary regularly supports internationally important numbers of waterfowl in winter and nationally important breeding populations in summer.

The site qualifies as a Ramsar under criteria 1, 3, 5, 6 and 8.

Ramsar criterion 1

The site is a representative example of a near-natural estuary with the following component habitats:

- dune systems and humid dune slacks, estuarine waters, intertidal mud and sand flats, saltmarshes, and
- coastal brackish/saline lagoons.

It is a large macro-tidal coastal plain estuary with high suspended sediment loads, which feed a dynamic and rapidly changing system of accreting and eroding intertidal and subtidal mudflats, sandflats, saltmarsh and reedbeds. Examples of both strandline, foredune, mobile, semi-fixed dunes, fixed dunes and dune grassland occur on both banks of the estuary and along the coast. The estuary supports a full range of saline conditions from the open coast to the limit of saline intrusion on the tidal rivers of the Ouse and Trent. Wave exposed sandy shores are found in the outer/open coast areas of the estuary. These change to the more moderately exposed sandy shores and then to sheltered muddy shores within the main body of the estuary and up into the tidal rivers. The lower saltmarsh of the Humber is dominated by common cordgrass *Spartina anglica* and annual glasswort *Salicornia* communities. Low to mid marsh communities are mostly represented by sea aster *Aster tripolium*, common saltmarsh grass *Puccinellia maritima* and sea purslane *Atriplex portulacoides* communities. The upper portion of the saltmarsh community is atypical, dominated by sea couch *Elytrigia atherica* (*Elymus pycnanthus*) saltmarsh community. In the upper reaches of the estuary, the tidal marsh community is dominated by the common reed *Phragmites australis* fen and sea club rush *Bolboschoenus maritimus* swamp with the couch grass *Elytrigia repens* (*Elymus repens*) saltmarsh community. Within the Humber Estuary Ramsar site there are good examples of four of the five physiographic types of saline lagoon.

Ramsar criterion 3

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*.

Ramsar criterion 5

Assemblages of international importance: 153,934 waterfowl, non-breeding season (5 year peak mean 1996/97-2000/2001).

Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

- Eurasian golden plover, *Pluvialis apricaria altifrons* subspecies NW Europe, W Continental Europe, NW Africa population 17,996 individuals, passage, representing an average of 2.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996-2000).
- Red knot, *Calidris canutus islandica* subspecies 18,500 individuals, passage, representing an average of 4.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996-2000).
- Dunlin, *Calidris alpina alpina* subspecies – Western Europe (non-breeding) population 20,269 individuals, passage, representing an average of 1.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996-2000)
- Black-tailed godwit, *Limosa limosa islandica* subspecies 915 individuals, passage, representing an average of 2.6% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996-2000)
- Common redshank, *Tringa tetanus brittanica* subspecies 7,462 individuals, passage, representing an average of 5.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996-2000)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common shelduck, <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> Northwestern Europe (breeding) population 4,464 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 1.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) • Eurasian golden plover, <i>Pluvialis apricaria altifrons</i> subspecies – NW Europe, W Continental Europe, NW Africa population 30,709 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 3.8% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) • Red knot, <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i> subspecies 28,165 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 6.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) • Dunlin, <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> subspecies – Western Europe (non-breeding) population 22,222 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 1.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) • Black-tailed godwit, <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> subspecies 1,113 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 3.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) • Bar-tailed godwit, <i>Limosa lapponica lapponica</i> subspecies 2,752 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 2.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) • Common redshank, <i>Tringa totanus britannica</i> subspecies 4,632 individuals, wintering, representing an average of 3.6% of the population (5 year peak mean 1996/7-2000/1) <p>Ramsar criterion 8 The Humber Estuary acts as an important migration route for both river lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> and sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> between coastal waters and their spawning areas.</p>
<p>Vulnerabilities of the International Site</p>	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disturbance to vegetation through cutting / clearing; • Vegetation succession; • Water diversion for irrigation/domestic/industrial use; • Overfishing; • Pollution – domestic sewage; • Pollution – agricultural fertilisers; • Recreational/tourism disturbance (unspecified); <p>Other factor (Coastal squeeze causing loss of intertidal habitats and saltmarsh due to sea level rise and fixed defences. The Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy has been developed and is being implemented.).</p>

Table 5. Information about the Humber Estuary SPA

Site Designation Status	Humber Estuary Special Protection Area
<p>Location of International Site</p>	<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>
<p>Brief Description of the International Site</p>	<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 the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> (Europe - breeding) - 10.5% of the population in Great Britain 2000-2002;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> - 6.3% of the population in Great Britain 1998-2002; • <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding) - 8.6% of the population in Great Britain 1998-2002; • <i>Sterna albifrons</i> (Eastern Atlantic - breeding) - 2.1% of the population in Great Britain 1998-2002. <p>Over winter the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> (Europe - breeding) - 4% of the population in Great Britain 1998/9 to 2002/3; • <i>Circus cyaneus</i> - 1.1% of the population in Great Britain 1997/8 to 2001/2; • <i>Limosa lapponica</i> (Western Palearctic - wintering) - 4.4% of the population in Great Britain 1996/7 to 2000/1; • <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (North-western Europe - breeding) - 12.3% of the population in Great Britain 1996/7 to 2000/1; • <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding) - 1.7% of the population in Great Britain 1996/7 to 2000/1. <p>On passage the area regularly supports:</p> <p><i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (Western Africa - wintering) - 1.4% of the population in Great Britain 1996-2000</p> <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> <p>Over winter the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa) - 1.7% of the population 1996/7 to 2000/1; • <i>Calidris canutus</i> (North-eastern Canada/Greenland/Iceland/ Northwestern Europe) - 6.3% of the population 1996/7 to 2000/1; • <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> (Iceland - breeding) - 3.2% of the population 1996/7 to 2000/1; • <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (North-western Europe) - 1.5% of the population 1996/7 to 2000/1; • <i>Tringa tetanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering) - 3.6% of the population 1996/7 to 2000/1. <p>On passage the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Northern Siberia/Europe/Western Africa) - 1.5% of the population 1996-2000; • <i>Calidris canutus</i> (North-eastern Canada/Greenland/Iceland/ Northwestern Europe) - 4.1% of the population 1996-2000; • <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> (Iceland - breeding) - 2.6% of the population 1996-2000; • <i>Tringa tetanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering) - 5.7% of the population 1996-2000. <p>Internationally important assemblage of birds</p> <p>In the non-breeding season the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 153934 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1996/7 to 2000/1). <p>Including:</p> <p><i>Anas crecca , Anas penelope , Anas platyrhynchos , Arenaria interpres , Aythya ferina , Aythya marila , Botaurus stellaris , Branta bernicla bernicla , Bucephala clangula , Calidris alba , Calidris alpina alpina , Calidris canutus , Charadrius hiaticula , Haematopus ostralegus , Limosa lapponica , Limosa limosa islandica , Numenius arquata , Numenius phaeopus , Philomachus pugnax , Pluvialis apricaria , Pluvialis squatarola , Recurvirostra avosetta , Tadorna tadorna , Tringa nebularia , Tringa totanus , Vanellus vanellus</i></p>
<p>Conservation Objectives of the International Site</p>	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features

	<p>rely;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The populations of the qualifying features; • The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.
Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The Humber Estuary is subject to the impacts of human activities (past and present) as well as ongoing processes such as sea level rise and climate change. Management intervention is therefore necessary to enable the estuary to recover and to secure the ecological resilience required to respond to both natural and anthropogenic change. Key issues include coastal squeeze, impacts on the sediment budget, and geomorphological structure and function of the estuary (due to sea level rise, flood defence works, dredging, and the construction, operation and maintenance of ports, pipelines and other infrastructure), changes in water quality and flows, pressure from additional built development, and damage and disturbance arising from access, recreation and other activities.</p> <p>Coastal squeeze is being addressed through the development and implementation of the Humber Flood Risk Management Strategy. All proposals for flood defence, development, dredging, abstractions and discharges which require consent from any statutory body, and land use plans which may have impacts upon the site are subject to assessment under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (the "Habitats Regulations"). Diffuse pollution will be addressed through a range of measures including implementation of the Waste Water Framework Directive and Catchment Sensitive Farming initiatives.</p> <p>Other issues are addressed via a range of measures including regulation of on-site land management activities and implementation of the Humber Management Scheme, developed by all relevant statutory bodies to assist in the delivery of their duties under the Habitats Regulations.</p>

Table 6. 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> <p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuaries; • Atlantic salt meadows; • Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand; • coastal lagoons; • river lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>); • sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; • Coastal lagoons * Priority feature; • Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand; • Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>);

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embryonic shifting dunes; • Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (‘white dunes’); • Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (‘grey dunes’) * Priority feature; • Dunes with (<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>). • Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection • Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>); • River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>); • Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>).
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species; • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species; • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species rely; • The populations of qualifying species; • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p>In addition, the site is sensitive from damage and disturbance arising from access, recreation and other activities.</p>

Table 7. Information about the Thorne Moor SAC

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	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration Thorne Moor is England’s largest area of raised bog, lying a few kilometres from the smaller Hatfield Moors, both within the former floodplain of the rivers feeding the Humber estuary (Humberhead Levels), and includes the sub-components Goole Moors and Crowle Moors. Although recent management has increased the proportion of 7110 active raised bog at Thorne Moors, the inclusion of Goole Moors, where peat-extraction has now ceased, means that the site is still predominantly degraded raised bog. The restored secondary surface is rich in species of 7110 Active raised bogs with bog-mosses <i>Sphagnum</i> spp., cottongrasses (<i>Eriophorum angustifolium</i>) and (<i>E. vaginatum</i>), heather (<i>Calluna vulgaris</i>), cross-leaved heath (<i>Erica tetralix</i>), round-leaved sundew (<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>), cranberry (<i>Vaccinium oxycoccos</i>) and bog-rosemary (<i>Andromeda polifolia</i>).
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural

	habitats, and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely
Vulnerabilities of the International Site	Thorne Moor SAC is sensitive to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biocenotic evolution, succession; • Invasive non-native species; • Other human intrusions and disturbances; • Soil pollution and solid waste (excluding discharges)

Table 8. Information on the Thorne and the Hatfield Moors SPA

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	The Thorne and Hatfield Moors 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: During the breeding season the area regularly Supports <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> 1.9% of the GB breeding population 5 count peak mean 1993, 1995-1998
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely; • The population of each of the qualifying features, and, • The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.
Vulnerabilities of the International Site	Thorne Moor SPA is sensitive to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities; • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities.

Table 9. Information about the Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar Site

Site Designation Status	Lower Derwent Valley 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>Ramsar criterion 1 The site represents one of the most important examples of traditionally managed species-rich alluvial flood meadow habitat remaining in the UK. The river and flood meadows play a substantial role in the hydrological and ecological functioning of vthe Humber Basin.</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 2 The site has a rich assemblage of wetland invertebrates including 16 species of dragonfly and damselfly, 15 British Red Data Book wetland invertebrates as well as a leafhopper, <i>Cicadula ornate</i> for which Lower Derwent Valley is the only known site in Great Britain.</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 4 The site qualifies as a staging post for passage birds in spring. Of particular note are the nationally important numbers of Ruff, (<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>) and Whimbrel, (<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>).</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 5 Assemblages of international importance:</p>

	<p>Species with peak counts in winter: 31942 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.</p> <p>Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation): Species with peak counts in winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eurasian wigeon, (<i>Anas Penelope</i>), NW Europe 8350 individuals, representing an average of 2% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3); • Eurasian teal, (<i>Anas crecca</i>), NW Europe 4200 individuals, representing an average of 1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3).
Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water diversion for irrigation/domestic/industrial use; • Reservoir/barrage/dam impact: flooding.

Table 10. Information about the Lower Derwent Valley SPA

Site Designation Status	Lower Derwent Valley Special Protection Area
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 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over winter the area regularly supports: <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (Western Siberia/North-eastern & North-western Europe).7% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96; • <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (Western Africa - wintering) 19% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96; • <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [North-western Europe - breeding] 2.4% of the GB population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96. <p>ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC)</p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anas clypeata</i> (North-western/Central Europe) 5% of the population in Great Britain 5 year mean 1986/7-1990/1 <p>Over winter the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anas crecca</i> (North-western Europe) 1.5% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96 • <i>Anas penelope</i> (Western Siberia/North-western/North-eastern Europe) 0.7% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96 <p>ARTICLE 4.2 QUALIFICATION (79/409/EEC): AN INTERNATIONALLY IMPORTANT ASSEMBLAGE OF BIRDS</p> <p>Over winter the area regularly supports:40616 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96) Including: <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>, <i>Anas penelope</i>, <i>Anas crecca</i>, <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [North-western Europe - breeding], <i>Philomachus pugnax</i></p>
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely; • The population of each of the qualifying features, and, • The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.
Vulnerabilities of the	The Lower Derwent SPA is vulnerable to:

International Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biocenotic evolution, succession; • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities; • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions; • Invasive non-native species; • Grazing.
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Table 11. Information about the Lower Derwent Valley SAC

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 site is designated for:</p> <p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site <i>Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)</i></p> <p>The Lower Derwent Valley in north-east England 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>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site <i>Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)</i></p> <p>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</p>
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species; • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats; • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species; • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely; • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The Lower Derwent SAC is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air pollution, air-borne pollutants; • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities; • Invasive non-native species; • Biocenotic evolution, succession; • Grazing.

Table 12. 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 site is designated for:</p> <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site</p>

	<p>Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation</p> <p>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <p>River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) The Derwent is one example of river lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> populations which inhabit the many rivers flowing into the Humber estuary in eastern England. Only the lower reaches of the Derwent are designated, reflecting the spawning distribution of the species in the Derwent system.</p> <p>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection</p> <p>Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</p> <p>Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>)</p> <p>Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</p>
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species; • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats; • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species; • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely; • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions; • Invasive non-native species; • Modification of cultivation practices; • Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources).

Table 13. 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>The site is designated for:</p> <p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <p><u>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i></u></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> – Sphagnum compactum 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 4030 European dry heaths and other habitats. The site has great ornithological and entomological importance.</p> <p><u>European dry heaths</u></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>
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats and, • The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely
Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biocenotic evolution, succession; • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions; • Air pollution, air-borne pollutants; • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities.

Table 14. 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>The Thorne and Hatfield Moors 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 the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cygnus olor</i> (Britain) 0.7% of the population in Great Britain 5 year mean, 1988-1992 <p>Over winter the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Anas strepera</i> (North-western Europe) 1% of the population 5 year peak mean 1991/92-1995/96
Conservation Objectives of the International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features; • The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely; • The population of each of the qualifying features, and, • The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.
Key Vulnerabilities of the International Site	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions; • Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources); • Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities

Appendix B. Identified Sites Screening

The Plan proposes eight sites for extraction of sand and gravel and/ or chalk and crushed rock.

The potential for these sites to have impacts on the international sites (alone or in combination) is summarised in Chapter 4 and detailed in Table 15 below.

Table 15. Identified Sites Screening Assessment

Identified sites in Joint Minerals Local Plan	Designated Site Potentially Impacted	Likely Significant Effect?	Comments/Actions
SG-A Land off A1035 Leven By-pass, Leven (formerly SG18)	Hornsea Mere SPA	No	The site is located approximately 4.7 km from Hornsea Mere SPA. East Riding of Yorkshire Council have undertaken a groundwater investigation to assess if the proposed allocation is hydrologically linked with the Hornsea Mere SPA catchment. This investigation has shown that Hornsea Mere SPA catchment only extends as far west as Seaton. Therefore, the SG-F has been changed and moved further west away from Seaton. This site is considered to have no likely significant effects on the international sites.
SG-B Land at Pollington West (formerly SG7)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5 km)	No	None
SG-C Brook Farm, North Cave (formerly SG15)	Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.	No	The site is located approximately 5.2 km from the Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site. The site is considered to be sufficient distance to not have any impacts on the features for which the Humber Estuary SAC is designated. There is the potential for development of the site to have impacts on functional land associated with the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site. However, the Natural Environment: Background Paper ⁶ completed for the plan has shown the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrounds the Brook Farm complex of farm buildings and adjacent belt of trees; • Is bordered by further farm buildings along its eastern side; • Is bisected by the former Hull to Barnsley railway line which is bordered by lines of hedgerows and trees; and • Contains arable fields which are bordered by hedgerows and trees. The longest stretch of field without a boundary feature in any direction measures around 280 m. The presence of these boundary features, including trees, ditches, and hedges at regular

⁶ East Riding & Hull Joint Minerals Local Plan Natural Environment: Background Paper, January 2017

			<p>intervals within the allocation, combined with the presence of three farm complexes bordering the allocation, results in plenty of places for bird predators to hide. It means the site is unlikely to support favourable conditions for its use by estuary birds.</p> <p>Therefore, it has been concluded that the site offers no value as functional land to the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site. However, as there is uncertainty over the precise details and timing of any planning applications the site brief for this allocation therefore notes these uncertainties and makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an International site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage. The long term after use of the allocation would be the creation of wetland habitat which would be of value to the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site.</p> <p>This site is considered to have no likely significant effects on the international sites.</p>
SG-D The Outgang, North Cave (formerly SG16)	Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site.	No	<p>The site is located approximately 3.8 km from the Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar site. The site is considered to be sufficient distance to not have any impacts on the features for which the Humber Estuary SAC is designated.</p> <p>There is the potential for development of the site to have impacts on functional land associated with the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site. However, the Natural Environment: Background Paper completed for the plan has shown the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electricity pylons pass through the middle of the allocation along an existing field boundary; • Home Farm and Everthorpe Hall complex of buildings, as well as HM Wolds Prison and an electricity pylon, is located to the east; • Becks Farm, alongside former quarry workings, is located to the north of the site; • Eight Acre Lake is sited to the west of the allocation. This is used by Scuba Dream Ltd as a scuba diving training centre; and • To the south is the very busy A63 dual carriageway route between Hull and the M62, and a motorway services, including petrol station and Motel. <p>The presence of boundary features, including trees, ditches, and hedges at regular intervals within the allocation, combined with the presence of two farm complexes, a busy dual carriageway, watersports centre, and motorway services, mean there are plenty of places for bird predators to hide. This includes active/noisy uses that will cause disturbance to birds. It means the site is unlikely to support favourable conditions for its use by estuary birds.</p> <p>Therefore, it has been concluded that the site offers not value as functional land to the bird</p>

			<p>assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site. However, as there is uncertainty over the precise details and timing of any planning applications the site brief for this allocation therefore notes these uncertainties and makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage. The long term after use of the allocation would be the creation of wetland habitat which would be of value to the bird assemblages of the Humber Estuary SPA and Ramsar site.</p> <p>This allocation is considered to have no likely significant effects on the international sites.</p>
SG-E Land East of B1249, Cruckley Lane, Brigham (formerly SG9)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5 km)	No	None
SG-F Leven and Brandesburton (formerly SG11)	Hornsea Mere SPA & Great Wash pSAC.	No	<p>SG-F (formerly SG11) was previously located 200m from Hornsea Mere SPA (at its closest point) and concern was raised over the hydrological connectivity of SG-F to the SPA. East Riding of Yorkshire Council have undertaken three boreholes to assess the catchment of Hornsea Mere SPA which was determined to extend up to Seaton in the west. The SG-F boundary was subsequently amended and moved approximately 760m to the west of Seaton and 1.9km from Hornsea Mere SPA.</p> <p>This allocation is considered to have no likely significant effects on the international sites.</p>
SG-G Gransmoor Lane and Lisset (formerly SG12)	None – Great Wash pSAC.	No	<p>SG-G (formerly SG11) is located approximately 1.6 km (at its closest point) from the Great Wash pSAC. However, within the search area there is a windfarm, existing quarries and is relatively heavily farmed. A lot of the search area is small agricultural fields with boundary features, including trees, ditches, and hedges providing cover for bird predators. However, as there is uncertainty over the precise details and timing of any planning applications the site brief for this allocation therefore notes these uncertainties and makes reference to the East Riding Local Plan Policy ENV4 Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which state that 'Proposals that would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site will be considered in the context of the statutory protection which is afforded to them'. Therefore, should development arise the need for HRA will be highlighted and will be undertaken at the development management stage.</p> <p>This allocation is considered to have no likely significant effects on the international sites.</p>
CR-A Greenwick Quarry, Huggate (formerly CR7)	None – No designated sites within range of impact (5 km)	No	None

Appendix C. HRA Policy Screening Results Table

This appendix contains Table B.2 (see below) which details each of the proposed policies within the Plan and whether each policy is considered to have a likely significant effect on the international sites.

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

- **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;
- **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;
- **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 based on The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents (Revised Draft Guidance) produced by Natural England in February 2009

Where possible, policies have then categorised into the sub policy types as summarised in Table 16 below.

Table 16. Policy Categories

Category	Sub Category	Description
Policy Type 1	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.
	A2	Policies intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity.
	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.
	A4	Policies that positively steer development away from international sites and associated sensitive areas.
	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.
Policy Type 2	N/A	Policies that could have a negative effect but would not be likely to have a significant effect on an international site alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
Policy Type 3	C1	The policy could directly effect an international site because it provides for, or steers, a quantity or type of development onto an international site, or adjacent to it.
	C2	The policy could indirectly effect an international site e.g. because it provides for or steers, a quantity or type of development that may be very close to it, or ecologically, hydrologically or physically connected to it or it may increase

		disturbance as a result of increased recreational pressures.
	C3	Proposals for a magnitude of development that no matter where it was located, the development would be likely to have a significant effect on an international site.
	C4	A policy that makes provision for a quantity / type of development but the effects are uncertain because the detailed location of the development is to be selected following consideration of options at a later, more specific plan .
	C5	Policies for developments or infrastructure projects that could block options or alternatives for the provision of other development or projects in the future which will be required in the public interest that may lead to adverse effects on international sites, which would otherwise be avoided.
	C6	Policies which depend on how the policies are implemented in due course. There is a theoretical possibility that if implemented in one or more particular ways the proposals could possibly have a significant effect on an international site.
	C7	Any policies that would be vulnerable to failure under the Habitat Regulations at project assessment stage to include them in the plan would be regarded by the EC as 'faulty planning'.
	C8	Any other proposal that may have an adverse effect on an international site which might try to pass the tests of the Habitat Regulations at project assessment stage by arguing that the plan provides the imperative reasons of overriding public interest to justify its consent despite a negative assessment.
Policy Type 4	D1	The policy alone would not be likely to have significant effects but if its effects are combined with the effects of other policies or proposals provided for or coordinated by the LDD (internally) the cumulative effects would be likely to be significant.
	D2	Policies that alone would not be likely to have significant effects but if their effects are combined with the effects of other plans or projects and possibly the effects of other developments provided for in the LDD as well the combined effects would be likely to be significant.
	D3	Policies that are or could be part of a programme or sequence of development delivered over a period where the implementation of the early stages would not have a significant effect on the location, timing of the whole project, the later stages of which could have an adverse effect on such sites.

C.1. Initial HRA Screening Results

Table 17. Policies and Development Control Policies Screening Results

Policy Reference	Policy Title	Policy Details	Policy Changed	Likely Significant Effects on international site	Justification of Findings
AGG1:	Supply of Sand and Gravel	<p>A. Provision will be made for an adequate and steady supply of locally extracted sand and gravel by allocating Preferred Areas and Areas of Search sufficient to maintain a landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves equivalent to at least 7 years' worth of supply over the period to 2033 at 0.81 million tonnes per annum.</p> <p>B. During the plan period, maintenance of the landbank will be achieved from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remaining reserves at existing permitted sites; and 2. New sand and gravel sites, including extensions to existing permitted sites, as listed in Policy AGG2. <p>C. Permission will be granted for the extraction of sand and gravel from new quarry sites outside the Preferred Areas and Areas of Search listed in Policy AGG2 if it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a need to maintain the landbank that cannot be met within the identified Preferred Areas and Areas of Search; or 2. Resources would otherwise be sterilised; or 3. The proposals would result in important benefits to the environment or local communities without significantly increasing the size of the landbank; or 4. The proposal is a borrow pit; and 5. Such development would not prejudice the delivery of allocated areas. 	Yes	No	Policy Type A5: no development will occur through the policy itself, the development being implemented through later policies in the plan.
AGG2:	Site Allocations for Sand and Gravel Extraction	<p>A. Planning applications for the extraction of sand and gravel in the Preferred Area Allocations listed below will be supported provided the proposals meet the requirements of the development management policies (DM1 to DM6) and identified area site briefs set out for each site.</p> <p>Sand and Gravel Preferred Areas</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SG-A: Land off A1035 Leven By-pass, Leven b. SG-B: Land at Pollington West c. SG-C: Brook Farm, North Cave d. SG-D: The Outgang, North Cave e. SG-E: Land East of B1249, Cruckley Lane, Brigham <p>B. Planning applications for the extraction of sand and gravel in the Areas of Search listed below will be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a need for sand and gravel reserves in order to maintain the landbank; and 2. The proposals meet the requirements of the development management policies (DM1 to DM6) and identified area site briefs set out for each site. <p>Sand and Gravel Areas of Search</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. SG-F: Leven and Brandesburton b. SG-G: Gransmoor Lane and Lisset 	Yes	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 (e.g. 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> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy</p>
AGG3:	Supply of Crushed Rock	<p>A. Provision will be made for an adequate and steady supply of locally extracted crushed rock by allowing sites to come forward where necessary. A landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves equivalent to at least 10 years' worth of supply over the period to 2033 at 0.13million tonnes per annum will be maintained.</p>	Yes	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</p>

		<p>B. During the plan period, maintenance of the landbank will be achieved from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Remaining reserves at existing permitted sites; and 2. If necessary, new or extended crushed rock sites. <p>C. Permission will be granted for the extraction of crushed rock outside the Area of Search listed in Policy AGG4 if it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a need to maintain the landbank that cannot be met within the area of search listed in policy AGG4; or 2. Resources would otherwise be sterilised; or 3. the proposals would result in important benefits to the environment or local communities without significantly increasing the size of the landbank; or 4. The proposal is a borrow pit, and 5. Such development would not prejudice the delivery of the identified Area of Search. 			<p>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>
AGG4	Area of Search for Crushed Rock	<p>A. Planning applications for the extraction of crushed rock in the Area of Search listed below will be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a need for crushed rock reserves in order to maintain the landbank; and 2. The proposals meet the requirements of the Development Management Policies (DM1 to DM6) and the identified area site brief set out for the Area of Search. <p><u>Crushed Rock Area of Search</u> CR-A Greenwick Quarry, Huggate</p>	Yes	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>
AGG5:	Unallocated extensions to existing quarries	<p>A. Proposals for extensions to existing minerals extraction sites on land not allocated as a Preferred Area or Area of Search will be supported where it is demonstrated that it:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Would not compromise delivery of the overall strategy for the supply and use of minerals, including encouraging the use of alternatives to primary minerals set out in this plan; and 2. Meets the requirements of the development management policies. 	Yes – new policy	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>
AGG6:	Borrow pits	<p>A. Proposals for borrow pits to serve construction projects will be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The site lies on or close to the project footprint so that material can be transported to its point of use without significant impact on the highway network; 2. Material from the pit is only used in connection with the specific project with which it is associated and its life is limited to that of the development project in question; 3. Extraction from the site will cause less environmental damage than would result from using material from a permitted source of supply, taking into account the availability of secondary and recycled aggregates; 	Yes – previously Policy AGG5	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>4. The pit is sited and operated so as to minimise environmental damage; and</p> <p>5. Provision is made for the prompt restoration of the pit following extraction, preferably using only materials from elsewhere on the construction site.</p>			Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.
AGG7:	Recycling and Secondary Aggregates at Existing Mineral Sites	<p>A. Processing of recycled and secondary aggregates at existing active minerals sites will be supported where it does not:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prolong or materially increase environmental impacts at the site, including from transport; and 2. Prejudice any restoration scheme. 	Yes – previously AGG6	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>
AGG8:	Safeguarding capacity for marine importation of mineral resources	<p>A. The retention of capacity to land at least 300,000 tonnes per year of marine-won aggregates, as well as land other mineral resources, at the Port of Hull is supported. It forms an important part of having an adequate and steady supply of aggregate to the construction industry.</p> <p>B. Proposals to redevelop parts of the Port of Hull used for the importation of aggregates and other mineral resources for non-port related development will only be supported if equivalent aggregate handling capacity serving the same market is provided elsewhere.</p> <p>C. Marine aggregates development associated with the landing, storing and transporting of marine won or imported aggregates will be supported provided it will not:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adversely impact on the Humber Estuary SPA, SAC, Ramsar site and SSSI; and 2. Have a severe impact on the local transport network; and 3. Adversely impact on the amenity or operation of existing land uses. 	Yes – and also combines two previous Policies AGG7 and AGG8	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.</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>
AGG9:	Safeguarding of Rail Facilities used for the Importation of Aggregates and Other Minerals	<p>A. Proposals that would increase the capacity of the rail network to transport aggregates and other mineral resources will be supported.</p> <p>B. Proposals for the redevelopment of existing, planned and potential rail facilities, and associated storage, handling and processing facilities as shown on the Policies Map, which would preclude their use for the importation of aggregates and other minerals, will only be supported provided that equivalent capacity is provided elsewhere in a manner which does not interrupt the supply of mineral material, including aggregates.</p> <p>C. Proposals for development close to rail facilities, and associated storage, handling and processing facilities used for the importation of aggregates and other minerals, which would prejudice their operation by reason of its sensitivity to impacts on amenity arising from such use of the facilities, will not be supported.</p>	Yes	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.</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>
AGG10:	Safeguarding of Mineral Infrastructure and Facilities	<p>A. Existing infrastructure supporting the minerals industry will be safeguarded from inappropriate development, unless it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Replacement provision of equal or greater capacity and quality will be provided in an alternative location serving the same market(s); or 	Yes – new policy	No	Policy Type A1: the policy will not lead to development.

		<p>2. Sufficient facilities already exist in the area serving the same market(s).</p> <p>B. Sensitive or inappropriate development that would conflict with the use of such sites for these purposes will be prevented.</p>			
NAM1:	Supply of Industrial Chalk	<p>A. Planning applications for the extraction of chalk for industrial purposes will be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a need for the resources in order to supply an existing processing plant in the local area; and 2. The proposal would be appropriate in nature, scale, and intensity to character of the local area. 	Yes	No	Policy Type A5: no development will occur through the policy itself, the development being implemented through later policies in the plan.
NAM2:	Peat Working	<p>A. Peat working and associated development outside the areas already with planning permission will only be supported where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It can be demonstrated that the land is of insignificant nature conservation, archaeological or paleo-ecological value; 2. No adverse impacts on any adjacent peatland habitats (including degraded sites) through hydrological effects of peat extraction would result; and 3. The proposal would be appropriate in nature, scale, and intensity to the character of the local area. <p>B. Any proposals for future peat working will be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment.</p>	Yes	No	<p>This policy may lead to development 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.</p> <p>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>
NAM3:	Supply of Silica Sand	<p>A. Proposals for the extraction of silica sand will be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence indicates the presence of economically viable resources suitable for specialist uses; and 2. The proposal would be appropriate in nature, scale, and intensity to the character of the local area. 	Yes	No	<p>This policy may lead to development 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.</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>
NAM4	Supply of Building Stone	<p>A. Proposals for the extraction of building stone will be supported where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evidence demonstrates the contribution it would make to the quality of the built and/or historic environment within the Plan area, or to meeting important requirements for building stone outside the area; 2. The proposed scale of extraction is consistent with the identified needs for the stone, and 3. The proposal would be appropriate in nature, scale, and intensity to the character of the local area. 	Yes	No	<p>This policy may lead to development 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.</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	<p>A. Proposals for the extraction of coal by deep coal mining, including any surface development, will only be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The level and likely incidence of subsidence can be monitored and controlled to effectively minimise impact on the environment and local communities; 2. The potential for transport of coal and spoil by non-road transport has been fully explored, and where possible these modes are fully utilised; 	Yes	No	<p>This policy may lead to development, 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.</p> <p>Therefore, there are no likely significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Arrangements exist on-site to support the maximum practicable reuse of colliery spoil as secondary aggregate, and for the disposal of all residual spoil likely to be generated over the lifetime of the operation; 4. The potential for capture and utilisation of coal mine methane has been fully explored, and measures put in place to achieve the maximum practicable capture and use of such emissions; and 5. The impacts on nature conservation interests, heritage, the landscape, ground water, surface water drainage and flood risk, and local communities can be mitigated to an acceptable degree and are outweighed by benefits to the local economy. 			the international sites from this Policy.
EM2:	Exploration Boreholes	<p>A. Proposals for exploration boreholes will only be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They are located in the environmentally least sensitive part of the geological prospect as practically possible, minimising impacts to designated heritage, geological and biodiversity assets; 2. Mitigation, including the possibility of directional drilling, is provided to ensure that they do not cause unacceptable disturbance to the occupiers of residential properties, or other land uses and their users nearby; 3. They include measures to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies; 4. Site selection takes account of impacts as a result of the proposed lifetime of the borehole including the potential for it to be retained for long term appraisal and development; and 5. It makes full assessment and provides information to the satisfaction of the authority for mitigation of any adverse environmental impacts if the borehole is retained for long term appraisal and development. 	Yes	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.</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	<p>A. Proposals for the drilling of appraisal boreholes will only be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is required to determine the quality, extent and characteristics of the deposit; 2. They are located in the environmentally least sensitive part of the geological prospect avoiding impacts to designated heritage, geological and biodiversity assets; 3. Adequate mitigation, and the possibility of directional drilling, is provided to ensure that they do not cause unacceptable disturbance to the occupiers of residential properties, or other land uses and their users nearby; 4. They include measures to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies; 5. Site selection takes account impacts as a result of the proposed lifetime of the borehole, and the potential for it to be retained for long term development; and 6. It makes full assessment and provides information to the satisfaction of the authority for mitigation of any adverse environmental impacts if the borehole is retained for long term development. 	Yes	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.</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	<p>A. Proposals for oil and gas production and distribution will only be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It can be demonstrated that both surface development and the routing of associated pipelines are located in the least environmentally sensitive part of the geological prospect as practically possible, minimising impacts to designated heritage, geological and biodiversity assets; 	Yes	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</p>

		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Mitigation is provided to ensure that operational processes and gas flaring, or other arrangements for the disposal of unwanted gas, do not cause unacceptable disturbance to the occupiers of residential properties, or other land uses and their users nearby; 3. They include measures to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies; and 4. Arrangements are made for the control of all traffic generated by the development, and the potential for transport of oil or gas for export by non-road transport has been fully explored, and where possible these modes are fully utilised. 			<p>resulting from the proposed works.</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:	Coal Bed Methane	<p>Exploration Phase</p> <p>A. Proposals for the exploratory drilling for coal bed methane and appraisal of the deposit will only be supported where it;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is accompanied by a description of options and impacts for the further development of the deposit if found to be commercially viable; 2. Would be appropriate in nature, scale, and intensity to character of the local area; and 3. It includes measures to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies. <p>B. On completion of the exploratory phase, if gas is not found in commercially viable quantities, installations should be removed and the site restored as close as practical to its previous state. Installations should be retained where they are needed to keep pumping water in order to protect production from an adjoining gas area.</p> <p>Commercial production:</p> <p>C. Proposals for the commercial production of coal bed methane, or for the establishment of related plant, will be determined strictly on their merits in terms of the balance of need against environmental impact, subject to meeting the requirements of criteria A2 and A3 above.</p> <p>D. All applications for coal bed methane development must be accompanied by details of how the site would be restored back to its original use once the relevant operation is completed, subject to it not being approved for further stages of exploitation. The retention of haul roads and hard standing will be permitted only where there are clear agricultural or other benefits of doing so. Schemes should provide details of the timescale for both operational activity and restoration.</p>	Yes	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.</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>
EM6:	Extraction of Shale Gas (Hydraulic Fracturing)	<p>Exploration Phase</p> <p>A. Proposals for onshore shale gas exploration will only be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Environmental risks have been considered by the submission of a robust environmental risk assessment, and measures will be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts on the environment and the local amenity to acceptable levels; 2. It can be demonstrated that the proposals are located in the least environmentally sensitive part of the geological prospect as practically possible, minimising impacts on heritage, geological and biodiversity assets; 3. They include measures to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies; 4. They include measures to avoid unacceptable adverse impacts as a result of vibration and induced seismicity; 5. They include measures to avoid air pollution; and 6. It can be demonstrated that arrangements can be made for the 	Yes	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.</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>

		<p>management or disposal of any returned water from the development.</p> <p>Appraisal Phase</p> <p>B. Where the existence of shale gas is discovered, proposals to appraise, drill and test the resource will be supported provided that they are consistent with an overall scheme for the appraisal and description of the resource and meet criteria A1 to A6 above.</p> <p>Production Phase</p> <p>C. The production phase of the extraction of shale gas can only take place once a full exploration and appraisal programme has been completed and the proposed location has been shown to be the most suitable, taking into account environmental, geological and technical factors.</p> <p>D. Proposals for the extraction of shale gas will be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They include adequate provision for the supply of water and disposal of waste water without adverse impacts on surface and groundwater flows, quantity and quality; 2. They include measures to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies; 3. They include measures to avoid unacceptable adverse impacts as a result of vibration and induced seismicity; 4. It can be demonstrated that arrangements can be made for the management or disposal of any returned water from the development; 5. They will not generate unacceptable adverse impacts on the environment and local amenity; 6. Environmental risks have been considered by submission of a robust environmental risk assessment, and measures will be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts on the environment and the local community to acceptable levels; 7. It includes measures to avoid air pollution; 8. A full appraisal programme for the shale gas resource is included, completed to the satisfaction of the Mineral Planning Authority; and 9. A development framework for the site, incorporating or supplemented by a comprehensive economic assessment is included. <p>E. All applications for shale gas development must be accompanied by details of how the site would be restored back to its original use once the relevant operation is completed, subject to it not being approved for further stages of exploitation. The retention of haul roads and hard standing will be permitted only where there are clear agricultural or other benefits of doing so. Schemes should provide details of the timescale for both operational activity and restoration.</p> <p>F. Where proposals for shale gas extraction coincide with areas containing other underground mineral resources, evidence must be provided to demonstrate that their potential for future exploitation will not be compromised.</p>			
EM7:	Underground Storage of Gas and Related Surface Development	<p>A. The formation of caverns for the underground storage of gas and related surface development will only be supported where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The integrity of the geological structure and proposed works will ensure there is no possibility of gas escape or land instability; 2. Arrangements are in place to minimise the impacts of construction on the local road network; 3. Environmental risks have been considered by submission of a robust environmental risk assessment, and measures will be taken to mitigate any adverse impacts on the environment and 	Yes	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.</p> <p>As no locations or quanta of development are provided within the policy. Therefore, there are no likely</p>

		<p>the local community to acceptable levels;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. It can be demonstrated that both surface development (including well heads) and the routing of associated pipelines are located in the least environmentally sensitive part of the geological prospect as practically possible, avoiding impacts to designated heritage, geological and biodiversity assets; 5. It can be demonstrated that the location of the well heads and gas processing facility do not raise any implications for coastal defence during their expected lifetime; 6. Mitigation is provided to ensure that operational processes and gas flaring, or other arrangements for the disposal of unwanted gas, do not cause unacceptable disturbance to the occupiers of residential properties, or other land uses and their users nearby; and 7. Measures are included to avoid pollution of ground water, aquifers, and potable water supplies. 			significant effects (alone or in combination) on the qualifying features of the international sites from this Policy.
DM1:	Impacts of Minerals Development	<p>A. Minerals development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a clear need for the development proposed; 2. The impacts on communities and the environment can be mitigated to within acceptable levels, both individually and cumulatively with other existing and proposed mineral and other forms of development; and 3. Enhancement opportunities are taken as part of development or its restoration. <p>B. In determining applications for minerals development , including the proposed order and method of working, the overall programme of extraction and the proposed restoration and aftercare of the site, the following will be considered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Carbon emissions reduction and resource efficiency. Proposals that reduce overall carbon emissions and improve resource efficiency during construction, operation, and restoration will be supported. 2. noise, dust, fumes, illumination and visual intrusion; 3. Surface and groundwater pollutant emissions. Proposals that do not have an unacceptable adverse impact on water quality or achieving the targets of the Water Framework Directive will be supported; 4. Effects of climate change, including flood risk; 5. Character, quality, distinctiveness, sensitivity and capacity of the landscape and any features which contribute to these attributes; 6. Green infrastructure, biodiversity (including protected habitats and species) and geodiversity assets. Proposals that promote these, including to create carbon sinks, will be supported; 7. Historic landscape, sites or structures of existing or potential archaeological, architectural or historic interest and their settings; 8. Land stability, contamination, and soil resources; 9. Open space, public rights of way, and outdoor recreational facilities; and. 10. The local economy. 	Yes	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	<p>A. Minerals development will be supported provided it does not generate unacceptable adverse effects from noise, dust, vibration, odour, emissions, illumination, visual intrusion or traffic, to adjacent</p>	Yes	No	Policy Type A1: the policy will not lead to development.

	Other Uses	land uses and their users. B. Development should provide adequate mitigation, in particular additional landscaping, screening and planting, to ensure that impacts can be controlled to within acceptable levels. Where necessary, this should be provided in advance of development.			
DM3:	Restoration and Aftercare	A. Proposals for mineral development will be supported where it can be demonstrated that an appropriate restoration scheme would follow. This should be agreed with the MPA to achieve a high standard of restoration and aftercare for an appropriate period of time that: 1. Ensures the site is restored in a manner which is sympathetic to the character, appearance and setting of the locality, and contribute to the delivery of local objectives for biodiversity and community use; 2. Is carried out at the earliest opportunity and be progressive during operation of the site where possible; and 3. Sustainable over the long-term and maintains healthy soils. B. The restoration and aftercare of minerals sites should seek to meet at least one or more of the following planning objectives: 1. The creation, improvement or re-instatement of high quality agricultural or forestry land; 2. meet designated site conservation objectives or support existing biodiversity initiatives, and are in line with Biodiversity Action Plan priorities for that area 3. improve the strategic network of green infrastructure; 4. The creation or improvement of geo-diversity; 5. The enhancement of landscape character and where relevant the setting of; designated local landscapes, and heritage assets especially in terms of better revealing their significance and access; 6. The provision of leisure and recreation facilities in the countryside; 7. The improvement of public access to the natural environment; and 8. Taking opportunities to reduce flood risk, in particular through the creation of flood water storage areas.	Yes	No	Policy Type A1: the policy will not lead to development.
DM4:	Best & Most Versatile Agricultural Land	A. Proposals which would result in the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land will only be supported if: 1. The loss is temporary and there would be no overall loss of soil quality following final restoration; or 2. Other beneficial after uses can be secured, which would not sterilise the soil resource; or 3. There is a need for the mineral which cannot be met in a suitable, alternative location of lower quality agricultural land.	Yes	No	Policy Type A1: the policy will not lead to development.
DM5:	Public Rights of Way	A. Where a proposed minerals development would have an impact upon a public right of way, the applicant will be required to demonstrate how the affected route will be safeguarded to ensure that public access can continue through a temporary or permanent public path diversion. B. All minerals proposals should assess and implement options for improving the public rights of way network.	Yes	No	Policy Type A1: the policy will not lead to development.
DM6:	Transportation	A. Minerals development involving transportation by road will be supported where: 1. There is no practical alternative to road transport which would have a lower impact on local communities and the environment; and 2. The highway network is able to accommodate the traffic that would be generated and would not have an unacceptable impact on the environment or local communities.	Yes – previously DM11	No	Policy Type A1: the policy will not lead to development.

		<p>B. Where site access roads and junction improvements are required to serve a mineral site, these should use the least environmentally damaging route as far as practically possible. Any modifications to the highway network should avoid any unacceptable impacts upon the highway safety or the environment.</p> <p>C. Where highway improvements are required to accommodate the proposed development, these will be secured by planning conditions or legal agreements. Such improvements will normally be required to be in place before any operations commence, or in accordance with an agreed timetable for implementation.</p> <p>D. The transportation of minerals on the Strategic Road Network should be minimised wherever possible and the transfer of materials by non-road based forms of transportation, such as by rail and water, should be utilised where feasible.</p> <p>E. A Transport Statement or Transport Assessment will be required if significant levels of traffic are proposed. Each site should also be accompanied by a Traffic Management Plan which can be referred to in the monitoring of successful applications.</p>			
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Atkins Limited
Chadwick House
Birchwood Park
Warrington
Cheshire
WA3 6AE

Contact: ecology@atkinsglobal.com

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