

**Eden District Council**  
**Local Plan 2014-32**  
**Habitats Regulations Assessment**  
**Proposed Submission Draft**

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# 1 Introduction

- 1.1 Eden District Council has produced a proposed Submission Draft (Publication) Local Plan, (referred to throughout this document as the 'Local Plan'. The Local Plan contains strategic policies for growth, policies for development management and allocations of land for future development. When adopted, the Local Plan will provide the statutory policy framework for decision making and will shape and guide future development until 2031.
- 1.2 The Local Plan must undergo a number of statutory environmental assessments. This ensures that the Plan provides for environmental protection and contributes positively, embedding environmental considerations into the Plan. The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is required by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the Habitats Regulations). The Habitats Regulations places a general duty on competent Authorities (ie the Council in regards to the production of the Local Plan), in the exercise of any of their functions, to have regard to the European Commission Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Flora and Fauna). The aim of the HRA is to assess the policies and proposals within the Local Plan to determine whether they would adversely affect the integrity of any European Site with relevance to the Plan area. This is judged using potential implications of the Plan on any qualifying features and identified conservation objectives as defined by Natural England.
- 1.3 The Local Plan has evolved from an allocations document building on the Core Strategy which was adopted in 2010 to a Plan covering the full suite of policies and allocations. A screening for HRA purposes has taken place at every stage to determine the implications for European Sites. Although not required to be undertaken at every stage, it is considered that the approach taken represents best practice and the iterative process undertaken has allowed the implications of the Plan to be understood and mitigated as necessary to result in policies and proposals which do not result in significant effects.
- 1.4 In order to ensure that the Local Plan meets the statutory tests for 'soundness' it has been prepared to meet the following:
  - It has been positively prepared - based on a strategy which seeks to meet the objectively assessed needs for development and infrastructure;
  - It has been justified - reasonable alternatives to the plan have been considered based on the evidence to ensure that the policies and proposals within the Plan represent the most appropriate way forward;
  - It is effective - the Local Plan has been based on deliverable proposals and in conjunction with discussions with neighbouring Authorities in order to assess any cross boundary issues and ensure they are considered appropriately; and

- It is considered to be consistent with National Policy and the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework.

## **2 Consultation**

- 2.1 The HRA has been an ongoing process throughout the development of the Local Plan. Each stage of development, the Local Plan has been assessed and this has in turn informed the next stage of policy formation. The HRA has been made available for comment alongside the Preferred Options Document and an HRA was previously carried out in relation to employment land allocations.
- 2.2 The aim of this report is to show that the Local Plan complies with the Habitats Directive and that any policies and proposals that are likely to have a significant effect on European Sites are noted and fully considered with the aim of ensuring that the Plan will avoid any significant effects.
- 2.3 The Habitats Regulations require that the appropriate nature conservation is consulted which is considered to be Natural England. The HRA is also made available for wider public consultation. Any responses will be made available and submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to enable any comments to be taken into account during an examination by an appointed Inspector. Details of any responses will be made publically available.
- 2.4 Comments on the HRA can be made as follows:

By e-mail to [loc.plan2015@eden.gov.uk](mailto:loc.plan2015@eden.gov.uk)

By post to: Planning Policy Team  
Eden District Council  
Mansion House  
Penrith  
CA11 7YG

### 3 Methodology

3.1 The HRA has been undertaken in the following stages:

- **Evidence gathering phase:** collection of information on the European Sites both within and outside the Plan area as appropriate where linkages are present, and other relevant plans and projects;
- **Screening:** this stage has been repeated throughout the Plan making process to reflect changes to policies throughout the period in response to comments received;
- **Appropriate Assessment (as required):** this stage is to be carried out where it is considered that any policy or part of the Plan will have likely significant effects for a European site in relation to the site's conservation objectives;
- **Mitigation measures and alternative options:** if any part of the Plan is considered to be found to have likely significant effects, the policy/proposal will be modified in order to achieve no likely significant effect.

If identified impacts are not considered to have a likely significant impact on European sites, Appropriate Assessment and the following stage will not be necessary.

## **4 Determining the Parameters**

- 4.1 Regulation 102 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the Habitats Regulations) requires local planning authorities to undertake a Habitats Regulations Appraisal for all land use plans of which the Local Plan is. As such the Local Plan is subject to the requirements for an Assessment to be carried out.
- 4.2 The Regulations require that impacts on European sites as a result of the implementation of the Local Plan are considered from the early stages of plan-making, in an iterative, informing process. The purpose of the HRA is to ensure that sites identified under the Natura 2000 network (sites of exceptional importance for rare/endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species). These sites are designated as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) or Special Protection Areas (SPA). In addition, RAMSAR sites (wetlands of international importance) are given the same level of importance.
- 4.3 The HRA is to ensure that the policies and proposals within the Local Plan, or the cumulative effect of the policies and proposals in association with any other plans or projects, will not adversely affect any European (or Ramsar) site. This will enable the designated sites to continue to sustain the habitat and species for which it was designated.
- 4.4 Where a plan would be likely to have a significant effect on a European Site, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, it is required under Article 6(3) of the habitats Directive to be subject to an 'appropriate assessment'. This will consider the implications for the European Site in view of its conservation objectives.
- 4.5 The purposes of the HRA therefore are to determine whether or not significant effects are likely and to suggest ways in which these could be mitigated or avoided. Effects are considered significant if they could adversely affect the integrity of a European Site in relation to its conservation objectives. This appraisal has therefore been carried out in due regard of the conservation objectives for each potentially affected Site.

## 5 Sites Considered in the HRA

5.1 The following table provides a summary of European and Ramsar Sites which are considered to have a linkage with the Local Plan area and therefore could potentially be affected by the plans and policies therein. The Sites included within the Assessment are therefore as follows:

Table 1 - Sites

Site Name	Location	Type
Asby Complex	Within LP area	SAC
Borrowdale Woodland Complex	Within LP area	SAC
Clints Quarry	Within LP area	SAC
Cumbria Marsh Fritillary Site	Within LP area	SAC
Esthwaite Water	Within 15km of Plan area	Ramsar
Helbeck and Swindale Woods	Within LP area	SAC
Lake District High Fells	Within LP area	SAC
Moor House - Upper Teasdale	Within LP area	SAC
Morecambe Bay Pavements	Over 15km from Plan area	SAC
Naddle Forest	Within 15km	SAC
North Pennines Meadows	Within LP area	SAC
North Pennines Moors	Within LP area	SAC
North Pennines Moors	Within LP area	SPA
River Derwent and Bassenthwaite Lake	Within 5km	SAC
River Eden	Within LP area	SAC
River Kent	Within 5km	SAC
Solway Firth	30km from Plan area	SAC
Tarn Moss	Within 5km	SAC
Tyne and Nent	Within LP area	SAC
Tyne and Allen River Gravels	Within LP area	SAC



Ullswater Oakwoods	Within 15km of Plan area	SAC
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes	Over 15km from Plan area	Ramsar
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes	Over 15km from Plan area	SPA

Definitions:

SAC - A Special Area of Conservation, an area which has been given special protection under the European Union's Habitats Directive. SACs provide increased protection to a variety of wild animals, plants and habitats and area a vital part of global efforts to conserve the world's biodiversity.

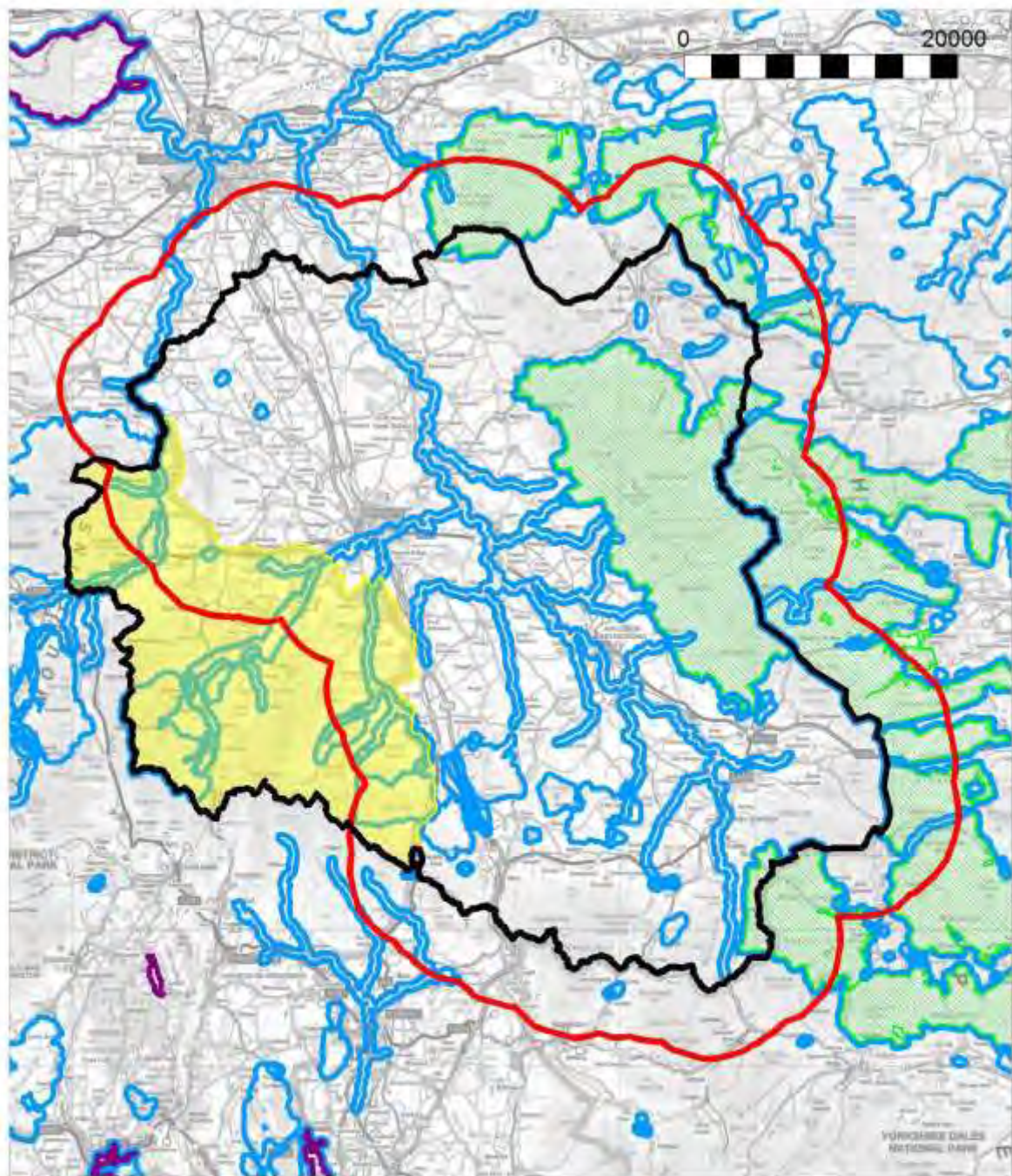
SPA - A Special Protection Area, an area which can include land, water or sea, which has been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, over wintering or migration of rare or vulnerable species of birds found within the European Union.

Ramsar - A wetland area of international importance designated under the Ramsar convention.

5.2 Conservation objectives are published by Natural England. Currently, conservation objectives are broadly the same for all sites. Therefore as an overview the following constitutes broad conservation objectives:







- Avoid the deterioration of the qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of any qualifying species, and the significant disturbance of those qualifying species ensuring the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes a full contribution to achieving Favourable Conservation Status of each of the qualifying features;
- Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:
  - 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 the habitats of qualifying species;
  - The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats of qualifying species rely;
  - The populations of qualifying species; and
  - The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

5.3 Information on the specific European sites including interest features and site vulnerabilities and sensitivities is provided within Appendix 1 of this report.



*Eden*  
District Council  
Department of Communities

**Key**

-  Special Protection Areas (SPA)
-  Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
-  RamSar
-  Lake District National Park Boundary
-  5km Buffer from EDC Planning Boundary
-  Eden District Council Boundary



Habitats Regulations Assessment  
**Eden District**

Geocode: NY 350170, 530571  
Scale: 1:400,000 @ A4  
Date: 17th July 2014  
Drawn by: RL/AD

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## 6 Assessment and Screening

- 6.1 The key element of the HRA is the screening of policies and proposals. The Plan carries out a wide range of functions, setting out a spatial understanding of the District in terms of how it currently performs and identifying key economic, social and environmental elements. It sets the Council's planning policies in relation to:
- Strategic policies;
  - Area objectives for the four main towns;
  - Housing;
  - Infrastructure;
  - Economy;
  - Environment; and Communities.
- 6.2 In addition to policies, the Plan also allocates land for employment and housing development. Details of the potential developments are not known at this stage but will be guided by the policies within the Plan, therefore an assessment of risk is undertaken in this knowledge.
- 6.3 This screening will assess whether elements of the Plan require further consideration as this would be likely to have a significant effect on one or more European sites, taking into account mitigation measures which may be required through the Plan as part of the planning appraisal process. Likely significant effect is an effect which cannot be ruled out on the basis of objective information.
- 6.4 If a policy is therefore considered to be likely to affect the conservation objectives of the features for which a designated site is noted, this will be considered as a likely significant effect. The identification of a likely effect does not mean that ultimately it will be found that such an effect will occur.
- 6.5 The following provides a list of a number of policies which were initially screened out at the start of the process for one or more of the following reasons:
- They have no influence over the quantum or location of development but over aspects such as design standards or requirements for the provision of, for example, affordable housing which is a requirement of development but has no part in governing distribution or location;
  - The policy has built in wording which will ensure that Natura 2000 sites have protection from development which may come forward: or
  - The policy is related to the protection of or providing mitigation for Natura 2000 sites.

Policies which are considered to have no **influence over the quantum or location of development** and are therefore not considered are:

Table 2: Policies screened out

<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>No Likely Effects - no influence over quantum or location of development</b>
PEN2	Penrith Masterplans
DEV1	General Approach to New Development
DEV2	Water Management and Flood Risk
DEV3	Transport, Accessibility and Rights of Way
DEV4	Infrastructure and Implementation
DEV5	Design of New Development
HS1	Affordable Housing
HS4	Housing Type and Mix
HS5	Accessible and Adaptable Homes
EC5	Advertising/Signposting
EC7	Town Centres
ENV3	The North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
ENV4	Green Infrastructure Networks and Recreational Land
ENV5	Environmentally Sustainable Design
ENV8	Air Pollution
ENV9	Land Contamination
ENV10	Other Forms of Pollution
ENV11	The Historic Environment
COM1	Principles for Services and Facilities
COM2	Open Space, Sport, Leisure and Recreation Facilities
COM3	Provision of New Open Space
COM4	Education and Health

<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Policies which protect the natural environment, including biodiversity</b>
ENV1	Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Geodiversity
ENV2	Protection and Enhancement of Landscapes and Trees

<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Policies which are too general to be able to predict any impacts as it cannot be predicted where, when or how this aspect of the Plan may occur</b>
---	All visions and objectives
LS1	Locational Strategy
LS2	Housing Targets and Distribution
RUR1	New Agricultural Buildings
HS2	Housing to Meet Local Needs
HS3	Essential Dwellings for Workers in the Countryside
HS6	Community Land Trusts
HS7	Gypsy and Traveller Sites
EC2	Protection of Employment Sites
EC4	Tourism Accommodation and Facilities

<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Policies with adequate safeguards included</b>
AL2	Renovation on Alston Moor Point 6 “.....it can be demonstrated that there is no significant impact on local biodiversity, including on protected habitats and species”
RUR2	Re-use of Existing Buildings in Rural Areas Point 5 “....it can be demonstrated that there is no significant impact on local biodiversity, including on protected habitats and species”

RUR3	Employment Development and Farm Diversification Point 6 “.....not cause harm to the natural environment”
EC1	Employment Land Provision Cross references to EC3 which includes environmental safeguards
EC3	Employment Development in Existing Settlements Point 3 “.....development would not cause harm to local amenity, landscape, ecology, historic environment or other environmental and cultural heritage”
EC6	Telecommunications Infrastructure Point 3 “.....equipment should not harm sensitive areas....areas designated for their nature conservation interests”
ENV6	Low Carbon Energy Generation Point 5 “.....it can be demonstrated that the natural environment, including designated sites, will not be adversely affected”
ENV7	Wind Energy Development Point 5 “.....development should not adversely impact upon international sites such as SACs and SPAs”

Policies screened in which require further consideration:

<b>Policy Number</b>	<b>Potential Effects</b>
PEN1	A Town Plan for Penrith
PEN3	Newton Rigg Campus
AL1	A Town Plan for Alston
AP1	A Town Plan for Appleby
KS1	A Town Plan for Kirkby Stephen

6.6 Policy ENV1 provides a general protection for any development coming forward which is assessed by the Local Plan as all new development will be required to avoid any net loss of biodiversity and geodiversity and where possible should enhance existing assets, protecting international, European, national and local sites. However, as a matter of good practice, policies which have the potential to have an impact on SACs, SPAs or Ramsar sites have been further considered. These considerations are expanded in the following table (a more detailed table is provided in Appendix 1):

Table 4: Policies requiring further consideration

Policies within the Local Plan which require further consideration	Potential impacts on European Sites	Information to allow policy to be screened out or required mitigation	Screened Out/In
<p>PEN1 - A Town Plan for Penrith</p> <p>This policy allocates 14 sites providing 1,503 homes within Penrith for housing and 2 for employment.</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC runs adjacent to Penrith due to the River Eamont which is a tributary to the Eden. The Eamont reaches the Eden 4.82km to the west of Penrith. All other European sites are over 5km away</p>	<p>Individual sites are considered below with required site specific mitigation.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>PEN3 - Newton Rigg Campus</p> <p>This policy supports the expansion of the site and the location of knowledge based and digital enterprises</p>	<p>Development could potentially bring with it increased surface water run off</p>	<p>The Newton Rigg campus lies 2.88km from the nearest SAC which is the River Eamont as a tributary of the River Eden.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>It is considered that the distance of 2.88km is sufficient to ensure that the integrity of the SAC would not be adversely affected.</p>	<p>Out</p>



<p>AL1 - A Town Plan for Alston.</p> <p>This policy allocates 6 sites within Alston for housing providing 87 new homes and 2 for employment</p>	<p>The Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC lies approximately 1.5km upstream of Alston with the Moor House SAC, Upper Teasdale SPA and North Pennines SPA lying approximately 3km from the settlement. All other European Sites are over 5km away and are not considered to have any direct pathways which could cause impact on them.</p>	<p>Individual sites are covered below with site specific comments.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>AP1 - A Town Plan for Appleby.</p> <p>This policy allocates 2 sites within Appleby for housing providing 155 new homes and 2 for employment</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC is the closest European site to affected land within Appleby and lies under 1km from proposed allocations.</p> <p>Moor House SAC, Upper Teasdale SPA and North Pennines Moors SPA are approximately 4km from allocation sites with no direct impact pathways and it is</p>	<p>Individual sites are covered below with site specific comments.</p>	<p>Out</p>

	<p>considered that as such they are not likely to be affected by any development. All other European sites are over 5km from the settlement and are again not considered to be linked by any direct pathways therefore there is not considered to be any potential significant effects on these sites.</p>		
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<p>KS1 - A Town Plan for Kirkby Stephen</p> <p>This policy allocates 6 sites within Kirkby Stephen for housing providing 187 new homes and 1 site for employment</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC is the closest European site to affected land within Kirkby Stephen and lies under 1km from proposed allocations.</p> <p>The North Pennines Moors SPA is approximately 4km from allocation sites with no direct impact pathways and it is considered that as such they are not likely to be affected by any development. All other European sites are over 5km from the settlement and are again not considered to be linked by any direct pathways therefore there is not considered to be any potential significant effects on these sites.</p>	<p>Individual sites are covered below with site specific comments.</p>	<p>Out</p>
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Site Reference	Use and Site Character	Summary of Potential Effects on European Sites Due to Location and Mitigation	Screened Out/In
TC1, London Road Penrith	Housing, Brownfield	<p>The closet European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.4km to the south of the site. The re-use of this brownfield site, with the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage surface to ensure controls are in place to prevent adverse impacts are in place to prevent any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out
E1, Carleton, Penrith	Housing, Greenfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC is approximately 994m to the south of the site. There is a current planning application (08/0291) on this site which details appropriate mitigation measures in order to prevent any adverse impacts on the SAC. These include walkways, SUDS, construction phase SUDS, and a construction management plan. This site has been considered in relation to the cumulative impact with other sites at this side of town. It is considered that subject to these mitigation measures being implemented</p>	Out

		<p>there are sufficient controls in place to prevent any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	
E3, Carleton Penrith	Housing, Carleton	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC is approximately 237m to the south of the site. It is considered that the mitigation measures as detailed for E1 would be appropriate for inclusion in E3. These include walkways, SUDS, construction phase SUDS, and a construction management plan. This site has been considered in relation to the cumulative impact with other sites at this side of town. It is considered that subject to these mitigation measures being implemented there are sufficient controls in place to prevent any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p>	Out

		All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.	
E4, Carleton, Penrith	Housing, Greenfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC is approximately 84m to the south of the site. It is considered that the mitigation measures as detailed for E1 would be appropriate for inclusion in E4. These include walkways, SUDS, construction phase SUDS, and a construction management plan. This site has been considered in relation to the cumulative impact with other sites at this side of town. It is considered that subject to these mitigation measures being implemented there are sufficient controls in place to prevent any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out
N1, Salkeld Road, Penrith	Housing, Greenfield	The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 2.6km to the south-east of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development	Out

		<p>would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	
N1a, Salkeld Road Reserve Site, Penrith	Housing, Greenfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 3.7km to the south-east of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out

<p>N2, White Ox Farm, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 3.2km to the south-east of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	<p>Out</p>
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<p>N3, Raiselands, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 2.8km to the south of the site. A planning application has been made on this site (ref 14/0405). SUDS systems are proposed as part of this development. It is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>P71, Brent Road Garages, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Brownfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.4km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this small brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p>	<p>Out</p>

		All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.	
P2, Gilwilly Road, Penrith	Housing, Brownfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 2km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this modest brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out

<p>P8, Myers Lane, Norfolk Road, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Brownfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.4km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this modest brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>P61, Garage at Roper Street, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Brownfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.3km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this modest brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p>	<p>Out</p>

		All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.	
P93, Barn and Yard at Brunswick Road, Penrith	Housing, Brownfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.9km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this modest brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out

<p>P94, QUEGS Annex, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Brownfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.3km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this modest brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>P115, Car Park off Brentfield Way, Penrith</p>	<p>Housing, Brownfield</p>	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 1.5km to the south of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development of this modest brownfield site would not be likely to have any impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p>	<p>Out</p>

		All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.	
Lake View Caravan Park, Penrith	Gypsy and Traveller Site, Greenfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 3.2km to the south-east of the site. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out

2a, Emp Site adjacent Gilwilly	Employment, Greenfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC, approximately 2.6km away to the east of Penrith. It is assumed that surface water drainage systems are already in place to ensure that site run off is approximately controlled to prevent any adverse effects on the SAC. Future phases are unlikely to result in significant effect on European sites.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy EC3 requires that employment development would not cause harm to [...] ecology.....or other environmental...considerations.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	Out
MPC - Land Adjacent Skirsgill Depot, Penrith	Employment, Greenfield	<p>The closest European Site is the River Eden SAC approximately 0.2km to the south of the site. The boundaries have been amended following the last iteration of the HRA to lessen the site and allow for room for SUDS etc. It is concluded that the site will be able to accommodate surface water drainage systems and also there is the opportunity to use existing systems in the adjacent employment area.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy EC3 requires that employment development would not cause harm to [...] ecology.....or other</p>	Out

		<p>environmental...considerations.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	
AL1 Land at Jollybeard Lane, Alston	Housing, Greenfield	<p>A greenfield site to the east of Alston the closest European Site is the Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 0.7km upstream. The interest feature of the site is Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and the North Pennines Moors SPA are approximately 3km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered likely that the allocation would affect the interest features.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	
AL11 Land South of Primary School, Alston	Housing, Greenfield	<p>A greenfield site to the south of Alston the closest European Site is the Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 1.5km upstream. The interest feature of the site is</p>	Out



		<p>Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and the North Pennines Moors SPA are approximately 3km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered likely that the allocation would affect the interest features.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	
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AL12, High Mill, Alston	Housing, Brownfield	<p>A small brownfield site in the centre of Alston. The closest European site is the Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 1.5km upstream. The interest feature of the site is the Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and the North Pennines SPA are approximately 3km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered likely that the allocation would affect the interest feature.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are further than 5km away and not connected by any direct pathways.</p>	Out
AL13 Land at Clitheroe. Alston	Housing, Greenfield	<p>The closest European site is the Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 0.7km upstream. The interest feature of the site is the Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and the North Pennines SPA are approximately 2.5km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered likely that the allocation would affect the interest feature.</p>	Out

		<p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are further than 5km away and not connected by any direct pathways.</p>	
AL15, St Paul's Mission, Alston	Housing, Brownfield	<p>This is a modest site within Alston. The closest European Site is the Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 1.5km upstream. The interest feature of the site is Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and North Pennines Moors SPA are approximately 3km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered that the allocation would affect the interest features.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are further than 5km away and not connected by any direct pathways.</p>	Out

AL16, Land adjacent to the Primary School	Housing, Greenfield	<p>The closest European site is the Tyne and Nent Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 0.8km upstream. The interest feature of the site is the Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and the North Pennines SPA are approximately 2.5km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered likely that the allocation would affect the interest feature.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are further than 5km away and not connected by any direct pathways.</p>	Out
24, Skelgillside Workshops, Alston	Employment, Greenfield	<p>This is a modest site to the east of Alston, adjacent to an existing site. The closest European site is the Nent and Gravels SAC of which the closest area is approximately 1.5km upstream. The interest feature of the site is Calaminarian grasslands which are unlikely to be affected by the proposed site.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and North Pennines Moors SPA are approximately 3km from the site. There are no direct impact pathways to the site and it is not considered likely that the allocation would affect the</p>	Out

		<p>interest features.</p> <p>All other European sites are further 5km and not connected by any direct pathways.</p>	
<p>AP10, Land to the South of Station Road, Appleby</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC is the closest European site, approximately 510m away. Direct effects are unlikely and appropriately designed surface water drainage systems would ensure surface water run-off was successfully controlled to prevent any impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and North Pennines Moors SPA within 4km of the allocation site although the interest features are unlikely to be affected by the proposed development use.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away and are not connected by a direct impact pathway.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>AP11, Fields adjacent to the Coal Yard, Station Yard, Appleby</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC is the closest European site, approximately 502m away. Direct effects are unlikely and appropriately designed surface water drainage systems would ensure surface water run-off is successfully controlled to prevent any impact on the SAC.</p>	<p>Out</p>

		<p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SPA and North Pennines SPA are within 4km of the allocation site although the interest features are unlikely to be affected by the proposed development use.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are at least 5km away and not connected by a direct impact pathway.</p>	
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<p>19, Land adjacent Cross Croft Industrial Estate, Appleby</p>	<p>Employment, Greenfield</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC is the closest European site approximately 700m away. Direct effects are unlikely and appropriately designed surface water drainage systems would ensure surface water run-off was successfully controlled to prevent any impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SAC and North Pennines Moors SPA are within 4km of the allocation site although the interest features are unlikely to be affected by the proposed development use.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy EC3 requires that employment development would not cause harm to [...] ecology.....or other environmental...considerations.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	<p>Out</p>
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<p>21, The Old Creamery, Appleby</p>	<p>Employment, Greenfield</p>	<p>The River Eden SAC is the closest European site, approximately 500m away. Direct effects are considered to be unlikely and appropriately designed surface water drainage systems will ensure surface water run-off is successfully controlled to prevent any impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Moor House, Upper Teasdale SAC and North Pennines Moors SPA are within 4km of the allocation site although the interest features are unlikely to be affected by the proposed development use.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy EC3 requires that employment development would not cause harm to [...] ecology.....or other environmental...considerations.</p> <p>All other European Sites are at least 5km away from the allocation site and are no connected by direct impact pathways.</p>	
<p>KS13, Land to West of Faraday Road, Kirkby Stephen</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The closest European site is the River Eden which is approximately 450m away to the east of Kirkby Stephen. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>The next nearest site is the North Pennines Moors SPA, approximately 4km from the site. It is unlikely that the development would have any adverse impact on the</p>	<p>Out</p>



		<p>interest features of this site.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are at least 5km away and not connected by a direct impact pathway.</p>	
KS15, Land adjacent to Croglam Lane, Kirkby Stephen	Housing, Greenfield	<p>The closest European site is the River Eden which is 520m away to the east of Kirkby Stephen. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>The next nearest site is the North Pennines Moors SPA, approximately 4km from the site. It is unlikely that the development would have any adverse impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are at least 5km away and not connected by a direct impact pathway.</p>	Out

<p>KS17, Land behind Park Terrace, Kirkby Stephen</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The closest European site is the River Eden which is approximately 320m away to the east of Kirkby Stephen. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure that controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>The next nearest site is the North Pennines Moors SPA, approximately 4km from the site. It is unlikely that the development would have any adverse impact on the interest features of this site.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are at least 5km away and are not connected by a direct impact pathway.</p>	<p>Out</p>
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<p>KS18, Land adjacent Croglam Lane, Kirkby Stephen</p>	<p>Housing, Greenfield</p>	<p>The closest European site is the River Eden which is approximately 270m at its closest point. With the inclusion of appropriate surface water drainage systems to ensure that controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts, it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>The next nearest site is the North Pennines Moors SPA approximately 4km from the site. It is unlikely that the development would have any adverse impact on the interest features of this site.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p> <p>All other European sites are at least 5km away and are not connected by a direct impact pathway.</p>	<p>Out</p>
<p>33, Land adjacent to Kirkby Stephen Business Park, St Luke's Road, Kirkby Stephen</p>	<p>Employment, Greenfield</p>	<p>The closest European site is the River Eden which is approximately 360m away to the south of Kirkby Stephen. Within the inclusion of appropriate surface water systems to ensure controls are in place to prevent any adverse impacts it is considered that the development would not be likely to have any adverse impacts on the SAC.</p> <p>The next nearest site is the North Pennines Moors SPA approximately 4km from the site. It is unlikely that the development would have any adverse impact on the</p>	

		<p>interest features of this site.</p> <p>Policy DEV2 requires that new development must include Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems.</p> <p>Policy ENV1 requires proposals to ensure that no harm is caused to European Sites and that mitigation measures are provided.</p>	
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## **7 Mitigation and Avoidance**

- 7.1 There are potential general impacts of development which Local Plans will potentially result in. For example the Local Plan provides for growth and can therefore impact in terms of traffic, people (recreation), run-off, and air quality. The Submission Draft Local Plan has been written with policies embedded which seek to mitigate or avoid impacts as shown below.

### **Traffic and Air Quality**

- 7.2 Increases in housing and employment can lead to increased numbers of motorised road users. This can lead to air pollution which could affect European sites where plant, soil or water habitat forms the qualifying feature. The key pollutant which could impact upon sites, in particular the River Eden SAC through its tributary the River Eden, from car fumes is nitrous oxides as this can result in acidification of soils and waters.

- 7.3 There are 3 Air Quality Management Areas within Eden due to levels of nitrogen dioxide exceeding 40µg/m<sup>3</sup>. These areas are:

- Penrith Town Centre - Victoria Road
- Penrith Town Centre - Castlegate
- Eamont Bridge (where the road crosses the Eamont).

No planned new housing or employment development will directly affect these areas. Further, in general roads would be in excess of 200m from European sites. Mitigation measures to improve upon transport movements thus reducing congestion and air quality impacts are considered in the Penrith Transport Study.

- 7.4 Policy DEV3 - Transport Accessibility and Rights of Way requires sites to be able to connect to public transport which provides a further mitigation mechanism.

### **People Impacts**

- 7.5 Eden is a popular tourist destination with a robust network of public footpaths. The River Eden SAC is the most likely to be affected by increased recreation pressures that any increased population may bring. There are a number of existing footpaths and advertised tourist and recreation opportunities along the Eden from its source in the Mallerstang valley to its passage into the neighbouring Carlisle City Council authority.

- 7.6 There is limited data available on the use of public footpaths and rights of way and as a consequence it is difficult to quantify any increases which may be expected as a result of increased development within the District. However, within the proposed developments there are requirements for green infrastructure to encourage use of designated areas. The River Eden itself does not flow through Penrith but does through Appleby and Kirkby Stephen where footpaths and walks are already in place along the banks of the river.

- 7.7 The majority of all other European sites lie away from centres of population and proposed allocations. It is not possible to predict any increase in visitor numbers to protected sites which may occur as a result of the proposed increased development. Developments brought forward through the lifetime of the Local Plan will be expected to consider impacts on any European Sites which may be affected by development.

### **Water**

- 7.8 United Utilities have not raised any significant issues in relation to either water supply or waste water treatment. Water impacts are considered within the plan and this has been strengthened throughout the consultation stage of the development of the Local Plan.
- 7.9 Policy DEV2 requires that developments ensure there is no risk to water supply and that new development must incorporate Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) in order to manage surface water run-off.

### **Mitigating Policies**

- 7.10 The Local Plan includes measures which seek to mitigate or avoid, where possible, impacts on European sites. This provides a framework for decision making in which positive actions can be taken. These policies provide a basis on which mitigation and avoidance of significant effects can be managed. The policies are as follows:
- PEN2 - Penrith Masterplans, requires applicants to work with infrastructure providers. This includes strategic allocations;
  - DEV1 - General Approach to New Development, aims to minimise the need to travel and improve sustainable transport modes;
  - DEV2 - Water Management and Flood Risk, seeks to ensure there is no risk to water supplies and that new development incorporates SUDS technologies to manage surface water run off;
  - DEV3 - Transport, Accessibility and Rights of Way , requires development to demonstrate an acceptable impact in terms of road safety and traffic congestion, safely connecting to public transport;
  - DEV4 - Infrastructure and Implementation, ensuring development is brought forward only where sufficient capacity is available in existing infrastructure;
  - DEV5 - Design of New Development, looks for development to protect and where possible enhance the rural landscape, natural environment and biodiversity;
  - ENV1 - Protection and Enhancement of the Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Geodiversity, affords the highest levels of protection to European and Ramsar sites;

- ENV8 - Air Pollution, encourages cleaner technologies such as electric car charging points, improving the highway network where development is predicted to result in increased congestion and requiring an air quality assessment where development is near any Air Quality Management Area; and
- ENV10 - Other Forms of Pollution, aims to prevent development where it would generate either during construction or completion phase significant effects which could not be satisfactorily mitigated.

7.11 The Local Plan is a document which is read as a whole rather than as a number of standalone policies. Requirements have not been repeated through policies unnecessarily as all development proposals through the District will be expected to comply with Policy ENV1 in relation to impact on European sites. Policy ENV1 is an extension of Policy CS16 within the current Core Strategy which seeks to ensure that development should “accord with the principles of protection and enhancement of the District, including landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity and especially those areas designated as being of international, national and local importance”. The new relevant policy text is set out below:

“New development will be required to avoid any net loss of biodiversity and geodiversity, and where possible enhance existing assets. Should emerging proposals identify impacts upon designated sites, regards should be given to the objectives for each of the hierarchy of sites.

The following designations are of international importance and will be afforded the highest level of protection:

International/European Sites

1. Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)
2. Special Protection Areas (SPA)
3. Candidate SACs or SPAs
4. Ramsar Sites

Where harm cannot be avoided development will only be permitted where mitigation measures would result in no significant harm being caused. Where the proposal cannot rule out possible significant effects, no alternatives exist and the proposal is deemed to be of overriding public interest, proposals will only be permitted if adequate compensatory measures can be put in place.”

## 8 In Combination Effects

- 8.1 The Authority is required to assess whether a plan would have a likely significant effect on a European site either by itself or in combination with any other plans or projects. The requirement is therefore to assess the cumulative effects of the plans which affect the European Sites.

Plan/Project	Summary of Plan/Project	HRA Completed for Document	In Combination Effects
Cumbria County Council (2011) 3rd Cumbria Local Transport Plan (2011-2026)	County Council document fixing a strategy and policies for transport within the County.	No	Development in the Local Plan would support the spatial requirements of the LTP and there are no predicted in combination effects.
Cumbria County Council(2011) Landscape Character Guidance and Toolkit	Describes the character of different landscape types across the county with guidance to help maintain distinctiveness.	No	The document does not promote any development and there is not considered to be any in combination effects.
Cumbria County Council(2015) Draft Cumbria Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2015)	The Plan provides for a number of potential waste and minerals sites in Eden including Flusco, Stamphill Gypsum works at Kirkby Thore and a number of railway sidings at Tebay/Shap.	Yes - concluded no likely effects with mitigation in place	It is not considered that any of the policies or allocations within the Eden Local Plan would have a greater cumulative impact.
Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan	The Biodiversity Action Plan seeks to ensure that national biodiversity targets will be met. It seeks to raise awareness and understanding of the natural environment.	No	The document seeks to protect protected species and it is not considered that there would be any in combination effects.



Cumbria Local Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan	Economic Plan for the growth of Cumbria as a basis to attract growth funding from 2014-2024.	No	Any projects brought forward with support from the SEP would be subject to the Plan and the mitigation measures therein and it is therefore considered unlikely that there will be any in combination effects.
Alston Moor Partnership	A Community Plan to support the community on Alston Moor, supporting local businesses, health services and facilities.	No	Any projects which come forward as a result of this plan would be subject to the policies within the local plan. It is not considered that there would be any in combination effects.
Allerdale Local Plan (Part1) 2013	Strategic policies for use and development of land within Allerdale up to 2028 outside of the national park boundaries.	Yes	It is not considered that these spatial policies would cause any in combination effects.
Carlisle Local Plan (Submission Draft) 2015	Strategic policies for use and development of land within Carlisle District up to 2030.	Yes	The River Eden SAC crosses the boundaries of Eden District and Carlisle. Drainage mitigation measures contained within both plans would make in combination effects unlikely.
County Durham Plan (Submission Draft)	Strategic and allocated sites within the County Durham area.	Yes	Eden shares the North Pennines Moors SAC and SPA and the North Pennines Dales Meadows with County Durham. There are no allocations in either plan within 5km of these sites and it is not considered that any in combination effects would occur.

Cumbria Wind Energy SPD	Guides to siting and design of turbines and capacity of landscapes for wind energy.	No	No in-combination effects predicted, the SPD would work in combination with Policy ENV7.
Eden and Esk Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (2006)	Includes Eden District, Carlisle Local Plan and areas of Allerdale.	No	Ensures new abstraction licenses do not impact on internationally important nature conservation sites therefore no in combination effects are predicted.
Eden Area Plan	Cumbria County Council priority setting document for Eden focussing on access to services; strong and resilient communities; and supporting a higher quality of job offers.	No	The Plan relates to how Council services will support local services. It is not considered that this would give rise to any in combination effects in relation to European and International Sites.
Eden Catchment Flood Management Plan (Summary Report)(2009)	Includes Eden and parts of Carlisle Local Plan area.	No	Notes the importance of European sites and no in combination effects are predicted.
Eden District Retail Study	This study provides an evidence base for the consideration of retail allocations and applications.	No	Will be considered as part of the plan preparation but relates to town centre development which will have no impacts on European or International sites.
Lake District Local Plan	To form the spatial plan for the Lake District National Park (excluding the National Park) and provide a framework for development.	Yes	There are no major allocations within the boundaries of the two plans and it is not considered that there are any proposals which would increase visitor pressures. There is not considered to be any in combination effects.

Lake District National Park Management Plan	The over-arching strategic document for the National Park to co-ordinate and integrate with other plans and strategies and set a vision and sustainable framework for purposes and duties.	Yes	The Plan will not generally lead to development and seeks to promote environmental conservation and enhancement. It is not considered that there would be any in combination effects.
Northumberland Local Development Plan Draft 2015	To form the spatial plan for Northumberland (excluding the National Park) and provide a framework for development.	Yes	There are no major allocations within the boundaries of the two plans and it is not considered that there are any proposals which would increase visitor pressures. There is not considered to be any in combination effects.
North Pennines AONB Management Plan (2004)	Plan in respect of the management of the AONB.	No	No
North Pennines AONB Planning and Design (2011)	Plan for formulating policy in regards to the design and appearance of new buildings within the AONB.	No	The plan looks to the impacts of design on villages and settlements within the AONB. It is not considered that there would be any in combination effects.
Penrith Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	Considers housing sites in Penrith and the impacts on landscape and visual amenities.	No	The document considers visual and landscape impacts of housing options, it would not give rise to any in combination effects.
Penrith Strategic Masterplan	A supporting document to the local plan considering potential housing sites.	No	As a supporting document to the Local Plan it is not considered that the Masterplan will cause any in combination effects.

<p>South Lakeland District Council Local Plan (Core Strategy and Land Allocations)</p>	<p>To form the spatial plan for South Lakeland District (excluding the National Park) and provide a framework for development.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>There are no major allocations within the boundaries of the two plans and it is not considered that there are any proposals which would increase visitor pressures. There is not considered to be any in combination effects.</p>
<p>Upper Eden Neighbourhood Plan</p>	<p>Provides specific policies which allow more flexibility in decision making in the defined Neighbourhood Area.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The Plan does not contain any strategic policies and it is not considered that it would result in any in combination effects.</p>
<p>Tyne Abstraction Strategy</p>	<p>An Environment Agency document to support sustainable abstraction management.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Although no HRA has been carried out, reference is made to the Regulations to state that new applications will be assessed to make sure that they do not impact on European Sites.</p>

## 9 Conclusion

- 9.1 The appraisal has been undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, it represents the formal assessment of the implications of a land use plan which is capable of affecting the designated interests of European site by the designated competent authority.
- 9.2 The screening assessment has been carried out throughout the development of the Plan to inform the Submission Draft document. As a result of the iterative process, policies and site allocations have been refined or altered. The Plan has been fully screened at each stage, considering all changes, in order to determine whether there is a likely significant effect on a European or international site.
- 9.3 It is concluded in this appraisal that the Eden Local Plan as a whole is unlikely to have any significant effects on European or International Sites and consequently no further assessment under the Habitats Regulations is required. The conclusion reaches does not remove a requirement for later assessment under the Habitats Regulations of plans, projects or planning applications. It is concluded that no policies within the Local Plan are likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of any European site (either individually or in combination with any other plan or project) and there is no requirement to carry out an Appropriate Assessment. This is due to absence of pathways for potential impacts and/or the existing of mitigation measures to negate any potential impacts.

## Appendix 1

### Summary of Likely Effects on European Sites and Policies Controlling Mitigation (where needed)

<b>International Site</b>	<b>Nature of Impact</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect?</b>	<b>Mitigation Needed? If so, appropriate policy in Local Plan</b>
Asby Complex SAC	Recreational disturbance	No	Not required
Borrowdale Woodland Complex SAC	Recreational disturbance	No	Not required
Clints Quarry SAC	Recreational disturbance and water resource	No	Not required
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary SAC	Recreational disturbance, water impact, ecological impact on marsh fritillary butterfly	No	Not required
Esthwaite Water Ramsar	Recreational disturbance	No	Not required
Helbeck and Swindale Wood SAC	Human Impacts, water quality impact and pollution	No	Not required
Lake District High Fells SAC	Recreational disturbance, water impacts, pollution	No	Not required
Moorhouse Upper Teesdale SAC	Recreational disturbance, water impacts	No	Not required
Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC	Recreational disturbance	No	Not required
Naddle Forest	Recreational disturbance and water impacts	No	Not required

North Pennines Moors SAC	Recreations disturbance, water impacts	No	Not required
North Pennines Moors SPA	Recreational disturbance, water impacts	No	Not required
River Derwent and Bassenthwaite Lake SAC	Recreational disturbance, water impacts	No	Not required
River Eden SAC	Recreational disturbance, water impacts	No	Mitigation policies within the Plan for development include DEV1 to address flood risk mitigation and mitigate surface water run off, DEV2 requiring development to incorporate SUDS, DEV4 Infrastructure, ENV1 which requires development to avoid harm to European Sites
Tyne and Nent SAC	Recreational disturbance, water impacts, pollution	No	Not required
Upper Oakwoods	Recreational disturbance	No	Not required
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes Ramsar	Recreational disturbance and water impacts	No	Not required
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA	Recreational disturbance and water impacts	No	Not required



Table 2 European Sites and Interest Features

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Asby Complex SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)</li> <li>• Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)</li> <li>• Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)*</li> <li>• Alkaline fens</li> <li>• Limestone pavements*</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.</li> <li>• European dry heaths</li> <li>• Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae*</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Geyer`s whorl snail <i>Vertigo geyeri</i></li> <li>• Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i></li> </ul>	<p>Limestone pavements have been extensively damaged in the past for supply of decorative rockery stone. The damage has been reduced in recent years by protective Limestone Pavement Orders. Unauthorised damage still continues as a minor and local problem. Asby Complex SAC suffers from overgrazing. The limestone pavement flora and the dry heathland are particularly affected, though the fen and spring habitats appear tolerant of the grazing levels. Management agreements are being sought but may be difficult to achieve on common land. There has been some agricultural pressure on the fen and tufa springs but damage from drainage and fertiliser application is being addressed through management agreements on some parts of the site. The site will be primarily vulnerable to direct encroachment or nearby development affecting site hydrology or use (visitor pressure).</p>
Borrowdale Woodland Complex SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>• Bog woodland</li> </ul>	<p>In recent decades, there has been very little natural regeneration of native woodland tree species to ensure the long-term survival of the woodlands, due to grazing pressures from domestic livestock. However, very low levels of grazing are important to maintain the rich and diverse bryophyte flora. This issue should be addressed through the Environmentally Sensitive Area, Woodland Grant Scheme and agreement of Site Management Statements. The cSAC is also part of the UK Restoration of Atlantic Oakwoods LIFE project, under which further positive management is being carried out.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/vulnerabilities
Clints Quarry SAC	<p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></li> </ul>	<p>The great crested newt population at Clints Quarry has developed since quarrying ceased in the 1980s. The site has been relatively undisturbed since. Water levels in the ponds are largely dependent on rainfall which has been low in recent years.</p>
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site SAC	<p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i>, <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i></li> </ul>	<p>The grassland habitat of marsh fritillary requires appropriate grazing to maintain its suitability, and the presence of its food plant <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. The habitat within the site is in need of management and this is being addressed by pursuing management agreements with the landowners. The butterfly has suffered at this site in recent years from bad weather during its flight period. The site will be primarily vulnerable to direct encroachment, although damage to nearby habitats supporting the food plant could also have a negative effect.</p>
Esthwaite Water Ramsar	<p><b>Qualifies under Ramsar Criteria 1 and 2.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Criterion 1 - Esthwaite Water is a particularly good example of a mesotrophic lake, with a well-developed hydrosere at the northern end.</li> <li>• Criterion 2 - The lake supports a rich assemblage of pondweed species and is the only known locality in England and Wales for slender naiad <i>Najas flexilis</i>. The diverse aquatic invertebrate fauna includes a number of species with restricted distributions in Britain.</li> </ul>	<p>Eutrophication - This site condition is unfavourable because of eutrophication, occurring as a result of pollution from aquaculture and domestic sewage. Recent surveys have shown significant deterioration of the aquatic macrophyte flora as well as adverse changes in the water chemistry. The single most important source of nutrients to the lake is the fish farm. The issue is complicated by the shallowness of the lake and presence of P-rich surface sediments, a consequence of the long history of P inputs. The adverse impacts of increasing P concentrations are exacerbated by a heavily-stocked rainbow trout <i>Salmo gairdneri</i> population.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Helbeck and Swindale Woods SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines*</li> </ul>	<p>These two woodlands are in an area important for upland sheep grazing. In part of one wood, natural regeneration and the development of the ground flora is being inhibited by sheep grazing where the woodland is unenclosed from the adjacent pastures. This issue has been addressed in other parts of the site through agri-environment schemes and management agreements, and similar agreements will be sought for this area. The site will be primarily vulnerable to direct encroachment or impacts on management.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Lake District High Fells SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</li> <li>• Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix</li> <li>• European dry heaths</li> <li>• Alpine and Boreal heaths</li> <li>• Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands</li> <li>• Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands</li> <li>• Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</li> <li>• Blanket bogs*</li> <li>• Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)</li> <li>• Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Species-rich Nardus grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe) ( Priority feature)</li> <li>• Alkaline fens</li> <li>• Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Slender green feather-moss Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</li> </ul>	<p>The European habitats on this site, other than acidic scree, are threatened by grazing and more locally grazing combined with visitor pressure. A very high proportion of the site occurs on unfenced common land where control of grazing is difficult to achieve and pressure of sheep threatens to destroy or prevent favourable condition from being achieved. These pressures have been significantly reduced over much of the site by entry into the Lake District ESA scheme, but this largely only slows or possibly arrests decline. Siliceous scree is possibly the least-threatened habitat and is widespread, albeit in a modified state. The site will be primarily vulnerable to direct encroachment or changes in management.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Moor House - Upper Teesdale SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands</li> <li>• Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>• Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)</li> <li>• Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)</li> <li>• Blanket bogs*</li> <li>• Alpine and Boreal heaths</li> <li>• Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)</li> <li>• Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae</li> <li>• Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</li> <li>• Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae*</li> <li>• Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.</li> <li>• Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands</li> <li>• Mountain hay meadows</li> <li>• Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>• Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)*</li> <li>• Alkaline fens</li> <li>• Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii)</li> </ul>	<p>Ecologically unsustainable grazing, driven by agricultural support mechanisms, has had a deleterious effect on virtually all the Annex I habitats listed, to the extent that for some habitats it is difficult to make the necessary assessments of conservation structure and function required here. This serious problem has so far been very difficult to solve, requiring fundamental policy change as well as targeted local action. Some successes have been achieved however through Wildlife Enhancement Schemes geared at moorland and pasture, and through the ESA and Countryside Stewardship schemes, while issues impacting on meadows have been largely addressed through meadow schemes. Refining scheme prescriptions in the light of monitoring feedback is an important part of delivering favourable condition. Inappropriate burning and drainage of bogs also need tackling; much progress has been made on the latter through partnerships. Acid deposition and the microclimatic shifts stemming from reservoir construction may also have implications for the vegetation, as may increase access.</p>

	<p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European dry heaths</li> <li>• Limestone pavements*</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Round-mouthed whorl snail <i>Vertigo genesii</i></li> <li>• Marsh saxifrage <i>Saxifraga hirculus</i></li> </ul>	
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Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limestone pavements*</li> <li>• Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.</li> <li>• Taxus baccata woods of the British Isles*</li> <li>• Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands</li> <li>• Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines*</li> <li>• Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae*</li> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</li> <li>• European dry heaths</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow-mouthed whorl snail <i>Vertigo angustior</i></li> </ul>	<p>The SAC is subject to a number of problems related to the decline of traditional management practices. The under-grazing of grasslands and decline of traditional cattle grazing is leading to the loss of sward diversity and scrub encroachment problems. Localised overgrazing (sheep-dominated) has impoverished the pavement flora on one of the component sites. A decline of traditional coppice management has reduced the interest of some of the woodland sites. The planting of non-native conifer crops on some of the sites has led to localised declines in condition. However, large parts of the site are nature reserves and are sensitively managed. A major restoration project funded by LIFE Nature is in progress to remove non-native conifer plantations and further other aspects of site restoration. The problems are being addressed primarily through a series of management agreements. These include Natural England Wildlife Enhancement Schemes, Environmentally Sensitive Area Agreements, and Woodlands Grant Schemes.</p>
Naddle Forest SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European dry heaths</li> <li>• Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i></li> </ul>	<p>The European habitats on the site have been threatened by grazing, by both sheep and deer. Much of the woodland area has been fenced to reduce sheep and deer grazing and allow regeneration to occur, although deer still range through parts of the site. Sheep grazing pressures have been reduced on the heath areas through entry into the ESA scheme, and further reductions are planned through this mechanism.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mountain hay meadows</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)</li> </ul>	<p>These grasslands are dependent upon traditional agricultural management, with hay-cutting and no or minimal use of agrochemicals. Such management is no longer economic. Management agreements and ESA payments are being used to promote the continuation of traditional management. The refining of the prescriptions underpinning these schemes in the light of the findings of monitoring programmes is an important, continuing, part of delivering favourable condition.</p>
North Pennine Moors SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• European dry heaths</li> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</li> <li>• Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>• Blanket bogs*</li> <li>• Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands</li> <li>• Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)*</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calaminarian grasslands of the Violetalia calaminariae</li> <li>• Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands</li> <li>• Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani)</li> <li>• Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</li> <li>• Alkaline fens</li> <li>• Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia)</li> <li>• Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marsh saxifrage Saxifraga hirculus</li> </ul>	<p>All interest features have been affected by excessive livestock grazing levels across parts of the site. These have been, and are still, encouraged by headage payments, but agreements with graziers and moorland owners, including those in Wildlife Enhancement and Countryside Stewardship schemes, are starting to overcome the problems of overgrazing. In places, the difficulty of reaching agreements on commons, which cover much of the site, means that successes are limited at present, and continues to prevent restoration. Drainage of wet areas can also be a problem; drains have been cut across many areas of blanket bog, disrupting the hydrology and causing erosion, but in most parts these are being blocked and the habitat restored under agreements. Burning is a traditional management tool on these moorlands, which contributes to maintaining high populations of SPA breeding birds. However, over-intensive and inappropriate burning is damaging to heath and blanket bog and further agreements are needed with the landowners to achieve sympathetic burning regimes. Restoration, to some degree, of a mosaic of more natural habitats across parts of the site is desirable. Acid and nitrogen deposition continue to have damaging effects on the site.</p>



Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
North Pennine Moors SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i> (breeding)</li> <li>• Dunlin (ssp. <i>schinzii</i>) <i>Calidris alpina schinzii</i> (breeding)</li> <li>• Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (breeding)</li> <li>• Hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> (breeding)</li> <li>• Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i> (breeding)</li> <li>• Peregrine falcon <i>Falco peregrinus</i> (breeding)</li> </ul>	<p>The North Pennine Moors covers nearly 150,000 hectares and is largely heather moorland, either as blanket bog or drier heathland, with smaller associated areas of wetland, grassland, bracken, scrub, woodland and cliff. The habitats and qualifying breeding bird populations are mostly dependent upon stock grazing and burning at sympathetic levels. The continuation of these practices relies on their profitability, including any subsidy or incentive payments. Over-grazing, over-burning and other forms of intensive agricultural or sporting management (e.g. drainage) may be damaging. These issues are being partly addressed through management agreements and related incentives. Further legislation relating to Common land and reform of the Common Agricultural Policy would achieve sustainable solutions.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
River Derwent and Bassenthwaite Lake SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River Lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></li> <li>• Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i></li> <li>• Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i></li> <li>• Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i></li> <li>• Marsh fritillary butterfly <i>Euphydryas</i> (<i>Eurodryas</i>, <i>Hypodryas</i>) <i>aurinia</i></li> <li>• Floating water-plantain <i>Luronium natans</i></li> <li>• Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i></li> </ul>	<p>Water levels and flooding are an issue with the River Derwent. Concern has been expressed about both the level of flooding of adjacent agricultural land and also recent flooding of urban areas. This has resulted in public pressure both for new flood defences and different water-level control regimes. Issues relating to water control levels are being addressed through a collaborative project between Natural England, Environment Agency and the water company, Yorkshire Water. Natural England is also fully consulted over any new proposals relating to new or improved flood defences. Water quality is also a potential issue on the river.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
River Eden SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</li> <li>• Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation</li> <li>• Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)*</li> <li>• White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish Austropotamobius pallipes</li> <li>• Sea lamprey Petromyzon marinus</li> <li>• Brook lamprey Lampetra planeri</li> <li>• River lamprey Lampetra fluviatilis</li> <li>• Atlantic salmon Salmo salar</li> <li>• Bullhead Cottus gobio</li> <li>• Otter Lutra lutra</li> </ul>	<p>The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. This is being addressed by a number of measures, including a conservation strategy with actions to address river quality issues, and a partnership approach to funding habitat improvements. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Again, actions have been identified for getting improvements in water quality and they will be carried forward in the periodic reviews of water company expenditure and reviews of consents under the Habitats Regulations. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site, and are currently under investigation. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition. It is hoped to address this through management agreements or Woodland Grant Schemes with individual owners.</p>
River Kent SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White-clawed crayfish Austropotamobius pallipes</li> <li>• Annex II species present as a qualifying feature:</li> <li>• Freshwater pearl mussel Margaritifera margaritifera</li> <li>• Bullhead Cottus gobio</li> </ul>	<p>The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Some areas of the site suffer from poor habitat quality. The intention is to address this through implementation of habitat improvement schemes. The impact of point-discharges on water quality will be reviewed and action proposed where necessary. A particular problem on this site and affecting white-clawed crayfish is incidents of pyrethroid sheep-dip pollution of watercourses. These are currently under investigation. The dwindling population of freshwater pearl mussels needs to be investigated in relation to the factors affecting its recruitment and structure. A management plan will be developed for the part of the catchment supporting this species.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Solway Firth SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand</li> <li>• Estuaries</li> <li>• Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</li> <li>• Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</li> <li>• Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reefs</li> <li>• Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")*</li> <li>• Perennial vegetation of stony banks</li> </ul> <p><b>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i></li> <li>• River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i></li> </ul>	<p>This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh/ merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. A management strategy to consider and co-ordinate these activities is being produced by the Solway Firth Partnership. This will set out the means by which it is proposed to secure the sustainable use of the estuary.</p>
Tarn Moss SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition mires and quaking bogs</li> </ul>	<p>Water quantity and quality is subject to influence by activities in the catchment. There is a conifer plantation to the south of the site. Felling of the trees could potentially change the quantity and quality of the water inputs. It is expected that Natural England would be consulted in advance of felling. To the north of the site is an area of siltation and slight enrichment. The source of this water is not known and will be the subject of further investigations.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Tyne and Nent SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i></li> </ul>	<p>These grasslands occur in two distinct heavy metal-rich habitats: spoil heaps associated with past lead-mining, and river gravels that have been partially derived from the erosion of metal-rich spoil heaps upstream. They are dependent on the maintenance of a high metal content in the substrate. Loss of metallophytes through successional processes is beginning to occur on one site, and management to address this will be promoted through agreements. Motorcycle scrambling on part of another site could also represent a threat to the adjacent calaminarian grassland. This will be monitored and appropriate action taken if necessary. On river gravel sites concerns exist that depletion of the upstream supply of metal-rich waste following the decline of mining will result in a loss of metallophytes. Although this has not been shown to be a problem on these sites at present, research will be carried out to investigate and where necessary address this issue.</p>
Tyne and Allen River Gravels SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i></li> </ul>	<p>These special habitats have been created by deposition of minerals out of the rivers Tyne and Allen onto gravel banks. Mining activities upstream have virtually stopped, thus reducing the amount of metals carried by the rivers. In places the rivers have changed course, isolating the shingle banks. Succession to grassland and scrub is taking place on some of the component SSSIs. It is not currently known whether interventionist management would restore the interest in areas where succession has taken place, as there may no longer be sufficient available metals even if the bare shingle is re-exposed.</p>
Ullswater Oakwoods SAC	<p><b>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles</li> </ul>	<p>In recent decades, there has been little natural regeneration of native woodland species to ensure the long-term survival of the woodlands. This is due to grazing pressures from domestic livestock and more recently, red deer in Low Wood. However, low levels of grazing are important to maintain the bryophyte flora. This issue should be addressed through WES and SMSs.</p>

Site	Interest Features	Summary of Site Sensitivities/Vulnerabilities
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes Ramsar	<p><b>Criterion 2</b> - Supports over 10% of the British population of natterjack toad <i>Bufo calamita</i> (Habitats Directive Annex IV species (S1202))</p> <p><b>Criterion 5</b> - 35720 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)</p> <p><b>Criterion 6</b> - Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i>, Herring gull <i>Larus argentatus</i>, Barnacle goose <i>Branta leucopsis</i>, Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>, Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>, Dunlin (ssp. <i>alpina</i>) <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>, Knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>, Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>, Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>, Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>, Redshank <i>Tringa tetanus</i>, Ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>, Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i>, Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></p>	As for Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA, except for natterjack toad which will be primarily vulnerable to direct damage/disturbance of habitats.
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA	<p><b>Barnacle goose</b> <i>Branta leucopsis</i> (Wintering; added in SPA review); <b>Bar-tailed godwit</b> <i>Limosa lapponica</i> (Wintering); <b>Curlew</b> <i>Numenius arquata</i> (Wintering); <b>Dunlin</b> (ssp. <i>alpina</i>) <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (Wintering); <b>Golden plover</b> <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (Wintering); <b>Goldeneye</b> <i>Bucephala clangula</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); <b>Grey plover</b> <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); <b>Knot</b> <i>Calidris canutus</i> (Wintering); <b>Oystercatcher</b> <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> (Wintering); <b>Pink-footed goose</b> <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (Wintering); Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> (Wintering); Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> (Wintering); Ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> (Passage; added in SPA review); Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); Scaup <i>Aythya marila</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); Turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i> (Wintering; removed in SPA review); Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (Wintering); Waterfowl assemblage (Wintering)</p>	<p>A management strategy for the site has been produced by the Solway Firth Partnership. The strategy addresses threats to the SPA interest on the site and sets out the means by which it is proposed to secure the sustainable use of the Firth.</p> <p>There has been relatively little land claim compared with most other estuaries in the UK but some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.</p>