

**PEAK DISTRICT CORE STRATEGY  
SUBMISSION DRAFT**

**HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT**

**Prepared for Peak District National Park Authority**

**by  
Land Use Consultants**

**August 2010**



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# I. INTRODUCTION

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- I.1. Land Use Consultants (LUC) was appointed by Peak District National Park Authority to undertake the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Peak District Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD). This HRA Report follows on from the Stage 1 Screening Study (April 2009) which concluded that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment was necessary and the subsequent Appropriate Assessment of the Preferred Approaches Core Strategy (October 2009).
- I.2. This Report summarises the findings of earlier stages of the HRA and presents the Appropriate Assessment of the latest version of the Core Strategy - the Submission Draft. The purpose has been to identify whether the proposed policies of the Submission Draft, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, are likely to have an adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura 2000 Sites.
- I.3. This report has been prepared for formal consultation with Natural England and the Environment Agency.

## **THE REQUIREMENT TO UNDERTAKE HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

- I.4. The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by a letter (9 March 2006) from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister to all planning authorities (including Regional Planning Bodies). Previously it had been considered that the Habitat Regulations<sup>1</sup>, working in tandem with development plans, provided sufficient protection for Natura 2000 sites. Following a European Court of Justice ruling it was confirmed that development plans themselves must be subject to 'Appropriate Assessment' under the Habitat Regulations in order to demonstrate that their implementation would not adversely affect the integrity of such sites. In other words, it is no longer sufficient for development plans to rely on regulations – instead they must be assessed to demonstrate no adverse effect. The Peak District National Park Authority's Core Strategy is therefore required to undergo an HRA.
- I.5. Amendments to the Habitats Regulations to implement the ruling were published for England and Wales in July 2007<sup>2</sup> and these and the previous regulations were consolidated and replaced in 2010 by Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations<sup>3</sup>
- I.6. The HRA should be undertaken by the 'competent authority' which in the case of the Peak District Core Strategy is Peak District National Park Authority, the planning authority preparing the DPD. Land Use Consultants was commissioned to carry out the HRA on their behalf.

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<sup>1</sup> *The Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994.*

<sup>2</sup> *The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) Regulations 2007.* HMSO Statutory Instrument 2007 No. 1843.

<sup>3</sup> *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010* (HMSO Statutory Instrument 2010 No. 490).

## **WHAT ARE NATURA 2000 SITES?**

- 1.7. The Habitats Regulations refer to the assessment of the potential effects of a development plan on one or more European Sites (collectively termed 'Natura 2000' sites). Natura 2000 is a Europe-wide network of sites of international importance for nature conservation established under the European Council Directive 'on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora' (92/43/EEC; 'Habitats Directive').
- 1.8. The network comprises Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs). SPAs are classified under the European Council Directive 'on the conservation of wild birds' (79/409/EEC; 'Birds Directive') for the protection of wild birds and their habitats (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive, and migratory species). SACs are designated under the Habitats Directive and target particular habitats (Annex I) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance. The Government also expects candidate SACs (cSACs), potential SPAs (pSPAs), and Ramsar sites to be included within the HRA<sup>4</sup>. Ramsar sites support internationally important wetland habitats and are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention, 1971). All references to Natura 2000 (N2K) Sites hereafter should be taken to also include cSAC, pSPA and Ramsar sites unless otherwise stated.

## **PEAK DISTRICT CORE STRATEGY**

- 1.9. The Peak District Core Strategy will be the overarching planning policy document for the Peak District National Park, and will form part of a wider set of local planning policy documents known as the Local Development Framework (LDF). It will set out the long term spatial vision and objectives for the Authority's area, and the strategic policies and development principles required to deliver that vision. It sets out broad locations for delivering the housing and other strategic development needs such as employment, retail, leisure, community, essential public services and transport development.
- 1.10. The Core Strategy should contain clear and concise policies for delivering the Strategy which will apply to the whole of the local planning authority's area or to locations within it, but it does not identify individual sites.
- 1.11. The Core Strategy is at the Submission Stage and is due to undergo a statutory public consultation exercise. HRA has been carried out alongside the Core Strategy as it has been prepared, from the development of options to preferred approaches and policies for submission to the Secretary of State. Discussions have been held with Natural England at each key stage.

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<sup>4</sup> *Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation*. OPDM, 2005.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

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- 2.1. In undertaking the HRA, the following guidance documents have been drawn upon:
- *Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites. Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.* European Commission Environment DG, November 2001.
  - *Draft Guidance – The Assessment of Regional Spatial Strategies and Sub-regional strategies under the provisions of the Habitats Regulations,* David Tyldesley Associates for Natural England, 2007;
  - *Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment. Guidance for Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents,* DCLG, London, 2006;
  - *Appropriate Assessment of Plans,* Scott Wilson, Levett-Therivel, Treweek Environmental Consultants and Land Use Consultants, 2006.

### STAGES OF THE HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

- 2.2. HRA should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a development plan is likely to adversely affect the integrity of the N2K Site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site's 'qualifying features' and conservation objectives. Significantly, HRA is based on a rigorous application of the precautionary principle and therefore requires those undertaking the exercise to be confident that the plan will not have an adverse effect on these conservation objectives. Where uncertainty or doubt remains, an adverse effect should be assumed.
- 2.3. In line with the Amended Habitats Regulations and current guidance documents on Habitats Regulations Assessment the HRA process is made up of three stages, as summarised in **Table 2.1**. This report relates to Stages 1 (Screening) and 2 (Appropriate Assessment).
- 2.4. It is normally anticipated that an emphasis on Stages 1 and 2 of this process will, through a series of iterations, help ensure that potential adverse effects are identified and eliminated through the inclusion of mitigation measures designed to avoid, reduce or abate effects. The need to consider potential compensatory measures where no alternatives exist could imply more onerous changes to a plan document and would also need to satisfy the test of 'Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest.' It is generally understood that so-called IROPI are likely to be justified only very occasionally and would involve engagement with both the Government and European Commission.

**Table 2.1: Stages in HRA**

| <b>Stage</b>   | <b>Task</b>   | <b>Outcome</b>   |
|--|---|--|
| Stage 1:<br>Screening  | Identify N2K Sites and their conservation objectives<br><br>Describe the plan<br>Identify potential effects on N2K Sites<br><br>Assess the effects on N2K Sites   | Where effects are unlikely, prepare a 'finding of no significant effect report'. Where effects judged likely, or lack of information to prove otherwise, proceed to Stage 2.   |
| Stage 2:<br>Appropriate Assessment   | Gather information (plan and N2K Sites)<br><br>Predict impacts<br><br>Evaluate of impacts in view of conservation objectives<br><br>Where impacts considered to affect qualifying features, identify alternative options<br><br>Assess alternative options<br>If no alternatives exist, define and evaluate mitigation measures where necessary | Appropriate assessment report describing the plan, N2K Site baseline conditions, the adverse effects of the plan on the N2K Site, how these effects will be avoided through, firstly, avoidance, and secondly, mitigation including the mechanisms and timescale for these mitigation measures.<br><br>If effects remain after all alternatives and mitigation measures have been considered proceed to Stage 3. |
| Stage 3:<br>Assessment where no alternatives exist and adverse impacts remain taking into account mitigation | Identify 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' (IROPI)<br>Identify potential compensatory measures   | This stage should be avoided if at all possible. The test of IROPI and the requirements for compensation are extremely onerous and are likely to be justified only very occasionally and would involve engagement with both the Government and European Commission.  |

## **STAGE 1: SCREENING**

- 2.5. The Screening Stage (Stage 1) of the HRA was undertaken in April 2009 and assessed the Core Strategy Refined Options. The Screening Stage determined that the Peak District National Park Core Strategy may have an adverse impact on the integrity of N2K Sites. The tasks undertaken are described below:
- 2.6. **Task 1: Site identification** - All N2K Sites in and around the plan area were identified.
- 2.7. **Task 2: Identify the qualifying features, vulnerabilities and conservation objectives of each N2K Site potentially affected** – The conservation objectives of each interest feature of each N2K Site potentially affected were examined and understood.
- 2.8. **Task 3: Consider the plan and identify the changes that it may cause which may be relevant to the N2K Sites** - Policies and proposals in the plan and the



changes that they may cause which may be relevant to the N2K Sites were considered. This is involved estimating likely magnitude, duration, location and extent of effects of the changes as far as they could reasonably be predicted at this stage.

- 2.9. **Task 4: Potential for adverse impact on qualifying features (alone or in combination)** - Acknowledging the plan is not necessary for site management; the likelihood of significant effects on any interest feature was assessed, alone or in combination with other projects and plans, directly or indirectly.
- 2.10. In line with good practice in plan-making, a series of alternative options were considered at this early stage in the process rather than waiting until the Preferred Approaches and Submission stages. Alternative approaches for the type, scale and nature of development are an important element of the HRA and have been considered throughout the process as one means of avoiding and mitigating any adverse effects on N2K Sites.

## **STAGE 2: APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT**

- 2.11. The Appropriate Assessment stage of the HRA should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a development plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site's 'qualifying features' and conservation objectives. Significantly, HRA is based on a rigorous application of the precautionary principle and therefore requires those undertaking the exercise to be confident that the plan will not have a significant impact on these conservation objectives. Where uncertainty or doubt remains, an adverse impact should be assumed. The conclusions of this assessment have therefore been stated in terms of whether adverse effects on integrity could be ruled out, with uncertainty leading to the conclusion that such effects could not be ruled out.
- 2.12. The tasks undertaken at the Appropriate Assessment (at the Preferred Approaches and Submission Stages) were:
- **Task 1: Describe the Preferred Approaches/Submission Plan and gather further information on N2K Sites and pressures and trends –** The objectives and content of each document were described. Policies with the potential to affect N2K Sites were identified and taken forward for more detailed assessment, having regard to the findings of HRA Screening of the Refined Options.
  - **Task 2: Identify other relevant plans and programmes –** The Habitats Directive requires the effects of the Core Strategy to be considered 'in combination' with other relevant plans and programmes. A targeted review of plans and programmes was undertaken where the likelihood of adverse effects arising was considered to be uncertain.
  - **Task 3: Evaluate the effects of the plan –** The effects of the plan were assessed in relation to each N2K Site and judgments made as to whether the integrity of each site would be adversely affected. Judgments were informed by

comparing the potential effects of policies to the factors required to maintain site integrity, given existing trends and pressures on sites and the effect ‘in-combination’ with other relevant plans and programmes.

- **Task 4: Determine avoidance and mitigation measures required to rule out adverse effects on site integrity** – Where it was concluded that adverse effects on site integrity could arise or where uncertainty remains, consideration was given to avoidance and mitigation measures that would enable adverse effects to be ruled out.

## **CONSULTATION WITH NATURAL ENGLAND**

- 2.13. HRA requires close working with Natural England as the statutory nature conservation body<sup>5</sup> in order to obtain the necessary information, agree the process, outcomes and mitigation proposals. Regulation 85B(2) in the Amended Habitat Regulations 2007 requires plan-making authorities to consult the appropriate nature conservation body regarding the assessment ‘within such reasonable time as the plan-making authority may specify’.
- 2.14. The Environment Agency, whilst not a statutory nature conservation body for HRA, is also in a position to provide advice and information during the assessment since it is required to undertake HRA to evaluate the potential impact of its licensing of activities (e.g. licensed water abstraction) on Natura 2000 or Ramsar sites.
- 2.15. Discussions have been held with NE and EA at each key stage, including a meeting to discuss the findings of the Appropriate Assessment of the Preferred Approaches Core Strategy and telephone discussion about the emerging findings of the Appropriate Assessment of the Submission version of the plan. Both NE and EA will be formally consulted as part of the statutory consultation on the Submission Draft Core Strategy. Input received will inform the Examination and the final Appropriate Assessment Report.

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<sup>5</sup> Regulation 4 of *The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) Regulations 2007*. HMSO Statutory Instrument 2007 No. 1843.

### 3. IDENTIFICATION OF N2K SITES AND QUALIFYING FEATURES

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#### SITE IDENTIFICATION

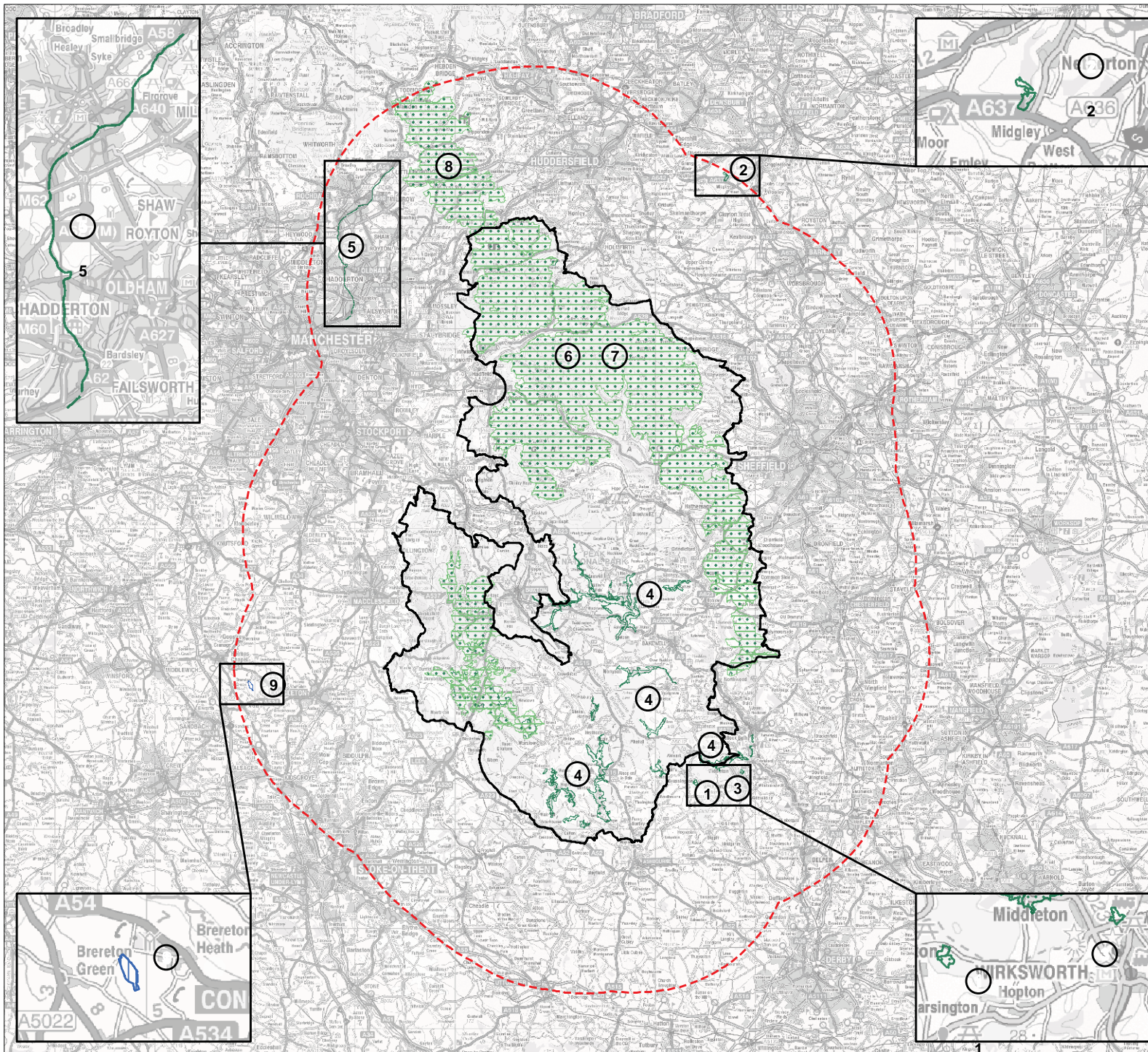
- 3.1. In theory, the Core Strategy can only directly determine planning strategy or development within the boundaries of the National Park. However, there are still likely to be trans-boundary effects as a result of its implementation. It is considered that any effects are unlikely to extend significantly beyond the boundaries, except possibly in combination with other plans. A 15km buffer area has therefore been used around the Park boundary.
- 3.2. The initial task was to identify the N2K Sites within or adjacent to the Peak District National Park which had the potential to be affected by the Peak District National Park Core Strategy. GIS was used to identify and map the locations and boundaries of the N2K Sites. In line with the precautionary principle, N2K Sites lying wholly or partially within National Park's administrative boundary and a 15km buffer area around it were included in the study to reflect the fact that the draft Core Strategy may affect sites outside the plan area itself.
- 3.3. Nine sites are potentially impacted and these are listed in **Table 3.1**, along with their locations in relation to the National Park Authority boundary listed in **Table 3.2** and illustrated in **Figure 3.1**.

**Table 3.1 N2K Sites considered in the HRA screening assessment**

| SACs                        | SPAs  | Ramsar Sites                     |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits | Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) | Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase I |
| Denby Grange Colliery Ponds | South Pennine Moors Phase 2                       |                                  |
| Gang Mine                   |   |                                  |
| Peak District Dales         |   |                                  |
| Rochdale Canal              |   |                                  |
| South Pennine Moors         |   |                                  |

**Table 3.2 N2K Sites in relation to the National Park Authority boundary.**

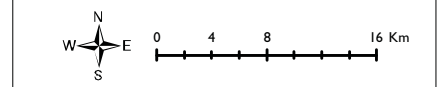
| Natura 2000 Site Name   | Site     |                     |
|---|----------|---------------------|
|   | Category | Location            |
| <b>Sites within the Peak District National Park Boundary</b>            |          |                     |
| Peak District Dales   | SAC      | Within              |
| South Pennine Moors   | SAC      | Largely within      |
| Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)                       | SPA      | Largely within      |
| <b>Sites outside Peak District National Park Boundary (within 15km)</b> |          |                     |
| Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase I  | Ramsar   | Within 15km         |
| Rochdale Canal  | SAC      | Within 15km         |
| Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits   | SAC      | Within 15km         |
| Denby Grange Colliery Ponds   | SAC      | Within 15km         |
| Gang Mine   | SAC      | Within 15km         |
| South Pennine Moors Phase 2   | SPA      | Largely within 15km |



# Peak District National Park Core Strategy DPD Habitats Regulations Assessment

**Figure 3.1: Natura 2000 sites within 15KM of the Peak District National Park**

- Key**
- Peak District National Park
  - 15KM from Peak District National Park boundary
  - Special Areas of Conservation
    1. Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits
    2. Denby Grange Colliery Ponds
    3. Gang Mine
    4. Peak District Dales
    5. Rochdale Canal
    6. South Pennine Moors
    7. Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)
    8. South Pennine Moors Phase 2
  - Special Protection Areas
  - Ramsar Sites
    9. Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase 1



Source: Natural England, Ordnance Survey

Date: 01/10/2009  
Revision



## **IDENTIFICATION OF QUALIFYING FEATURES, VULNERABILITIES AND CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES**

- 3.4. To enable an initial assessment of the potential effects of the Peak District National Park Core Strategy on the N2K Sites, descriptive information was collated for each of the sites drawing on the work undertaken for the HRA of the East Midlands RSS, including:
- Information on designated features from Standard Data Forms for SACs and SPAs and Information Sheets for Ramsar sites.
  - Information on factors required to maintain site integrity.
- 3.5. These were obtained from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and Natural England websites ([www.jncc.gov.uk](http://www.jncc.gov.uk) and [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)).
- 3.6. The designated qualifying features of the sites, factors for maintaining the integrity of the sites, vulnerabilities and conservation objectives can be seen in **Appendix I**.
- 3.7. Natural England is in the process of setting out conservation objectives for all SACs and SPAs, and progress towards these objectives can be taken as an indicator of favourable condition at the site. Ramsar sites do not have agreed conservation objectives, but in most instances overlap with SPA site boundaries. However, it should be noted that Ramsar qualifying features include a range of habitats and non-bird species common to SAC designations, as well as bird species and assemblages and their supporting habitats, which are common to SPAs.

## 4. FINDINGS OF EARLIER STAGES OF THE HRA

### CORE STRATEGY REFINED OPTIONS

- 4.1. The Refined Options Core Strategy contained seven topics - climate change, housing, economy, landscape, minerals, settlement, & transport. A number of key issues were identified under each of the topics along with a series of refined options to tackle these issues. The key issues are listed in **Table 4.1**.

**Table 4.1 Key issues identified in the Peak District Core Strategy Refined Options**

| <b>Key Issues</b>  |
|--|
| <b>Climate Change</b>  |
| Issue 1: The scale of energy installations   |
| Issue 2: Spatial distribution of renewable energies  |
| Issue 3: Incorporating on-site renewables and energy efficiency  |
| Issue 4: Flood risk reduction and water conservation   |
| Issue 5: Impact of climate change on land management, biodiversity and air quality   |
| Issue 6: The need for waste management facilities  |
| Issue 7: Environmentally acceptable sites for waste management facilities where need has been demonstrated and no alternatives less damaging to the National Park exist.   |
| Issue 8: Waste arising from all development in the National Park   |
| <b>Economy</b>   |
| Issue 1: Agriculture and diversifying the rural economy (in the open countryside)  |
| Issue 2: Provision of employment land  |
| Issue 3: Spatial distribution of employment sites (within settlements)   |
| Issue 4: Provision of new tourist facilities, or facilities aimed at promoting the understanding of the National Park.   |
| Issue 5: Serviced and self-catering holiday accommodation  |
| Issue 6: Caravans and camping  |
| <b>Housing</b>   |
| Issue 1: To what degree should the local need for affordable housing be accommodated?  |
| Issue 2: Should policies set out criteria to respond to the needs of different groups – such as families with children / key workers / the elderly or infirm (including institutional housing) / Gypsies and Travellers? |
| Issue 3: Can enhancement projects (including conversions) deliver a bigger proportion of affordable housing?   |
| Issue 4: If a site by site assessment is favoured, there are two basic options when deciding whether this is “appropriate”   |
| Issue 5: How best can we provide additional affordable housing without endangering National Park Purposes?   |
| Issue 6: Where should “buy-back” be focussed?  |
| Issue 7: Are particular tenure types or size and type of home needed in particular places? Should target groups be dealt with by area? Should these matters be in policy or targets?                                     |
| Issue 8: Should the LDF identify sites or buildings, or just broad locations for affordable housing or enhancement opportunities?  |
| <b>Landscape</b>   |
| (no overarching issues)  |
| <b>Minerals</b>  |

| <b>Key Issues</b>  |
|--|
| Issue 1 – Achieving a gradual reduction in the impact of minerals activity by considering scale, alternatives and the national need for minerals |
| Issue 2 – Safeguarding   |
| Issue 3: ROMPs/EIAs/Consolidation of Permissions   |
| Issue 4: Restoration/After use   |
| <b>Settlement</b>  |
| Issue 1: Establishing the best pattern of development for the National Park and its communities  |
| <b>Transport</b>   |
| Issue 1a - The demand for new road schemes to accommodate current and future levels of traffic growth  |
| Issue 1b - The adverse impact of cross-park traffic  |
| Issue 1c - The detrimental impact of speed upon the National Park's environment, its communities, and its visitors                               |
| Issue 1d - The adverse traffic impact of new business development  |
| Issue 2a - The adverse impact of visitors' and residents' cars upon the National Park  |
| Issue 2b - The adverse impact of motor vehicles upon environmentally sensitive areas of the National Park  |
| Issue 2c - Balancing the need for car parking facilities against their impact  |
| Issue 3a - The demand for new rail schemes to provide alternative means of transport to, from, within, and across the Park                       |
| Issue 3b - The need to increase the perceived attractiveness of public transport   |
| Issue 4a - The availability of access to public transport  |
| Issue 4b - The availability of access to services  |
| Issue 5 - The need to ensure that roads & transport infrastructure are in keeping with the National Park setting                                 |
| Issue 6 - Pressures of freight transport and provision of lorry parking  |
| Issue 7 - The detrimental impact of air transport upon the National Park   |
| Issue 8 - Climate Change   |
| Issue 9 - Accessibility  |
| Issue 10 - 'In principle support' for Tintwistle relief road   |

## **FINDINGS OF HRA SCREENING OF OPTIONS**

- 4.2. The nature of the options stage and the fact that a large number of options were still being considered and consulted on meant that a significant amount of uncertainty remained at the Refined Options stage about the final direction of the Strategy. Each of the seven sections of the plan (climate change, housing, economy, landscape, minerals, settlement, & transport) were considered in turn looking at all of the issues and refined options proposed and a judgement was made on their likely effects (including magnitude, duration, location and extent) on each of the N2K Sites that are being considered within the HRA.
- 4.3. Acknowledging that the plan is not necessary to European site management, the significance of effects on the site's integrity was also considered. The results of this process are available separately in the HRA Screening Report<sup>6</sup> and are summarised in **Table 4.2.**

<sup>6</sup> Peak District Core Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report: Prepared for Peak District National Park Authority by Land Use Consultants (April 2009)



**Table 4.2 Summary of Screening assessment for each N2K Site against the seven Core Strategy issues**

| N2K Site  | Potential effects of refined options |         |            |           |           |         |                |
|---|--------------------------------------|---------|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|----------------|
|   | Minerals                             | Housing | Settlement | Transport | Landscape | Economy | Climate Change |
| Peak District Dales SAC                               | -                                    | -       | -          | -         | ?         | -       | -              |
| South Pennine Moors SAC                               | ?                                    | -       | -          | -         | ?         | -       | -              |
| Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA | ?                                    | -       | -          | -         | ?         | -       | -              |
| Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase 1 Ramsar               | ?                                    | 0       | 0          | ?         | 0         | 0       | -              |
| Rochdale Canal SAC                                    | ?                                    | 0       | 0          | 0         | 0         | 0       | -              |
| Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC                       | -                                    | -       | ?          | 0         | 0         | ?       | -              |
| Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC                       | ?                                    | ?       | 0          | ?         | 0         | 0       | -              |
| Gang Mine SAC   | -                                    | ?       | ?          | ?         | 0         | ?       | -              |
| South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA                       | ?                                    | -       | -          | -         | 0         | -       | -              |

**Key**

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| - | Likely Significant Effect |
| ? | Uncertain Effects         |
| 0 | No Effect                 |

- 4.4. The Screening assessment concluded that alone, the Core Strategy was likely to have a significant effect on the N2K Sites within 15km of the Peak District National Park Boundary (or there is uncertainty whereby significant effects could not be ruled out). Therefore it was decided that, at the Refined Options stage, in-combination effects with other plans or projects did not need to be assessed in order to conclude whether it was necessary to proceed to the next stage of the HRA. The potential for in-combination effects would be considered in full at the second stage of the HRA process, Appropriate Assessment.

**THE PREFERRED APPROACHES CORE STRATEGY**

- 4.5. The Preferred Approaches document contained a total of 59 policies within 12 different topic-based chapters. Some policies are quite complete whereas others are less defined and require further development. A number of these policies present broad objectives for the National Park and/or aim to protect or enhance the natural environment, including biodiversity. General spatial policies aim to secure the purposes of the National Park and ensure development is in line with sustainable development principles. Policy GSP4b provides the overall settlement strategy, although the Core Strategy will not contain strategic site allocations due to limited development needs within the National Park. Policies are generally criteria based,

allowing for small scale development only, under appropriate circumstances so long as particular policy safeguards are met.

## FINDINGS OF APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT AT THE PREFERRED APPROACHES STAGE

- 4.6. The 29 policies that were considered to have potential for some effect on N2K Sites were reviewed in order to record the potential effects that could arise. These effects were generic and might not necessarily occur, but the review of policies helped to understand the type of effect that could result from different types and scales of development.
- 4.7. The findings of the Appropriate Assessment of this version of the plan are summarised in **Table 4.3**.

**Table 4.3: Summary of findings of Appropriate Assessment of Preferred Approaches Core Strategy**

| Natura 2000 Site                                      | Adverse Effects on Site Integrity? |  |    |
|---|------------------------------------|--|----|
|   | Yes                                | Uncertain                                      | No |
| Peak District Dales SAC                               |                                    | Air quality                                    |    |
| South Pennine Moors SAC                               |                                    | Air quality; disturbance due to human activity |    |
| Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA |                                    | Air quality; disturbance due to human activity |    |
| Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase I Ramsar               |                                    |  |    |
| Rochdale Canal SAC                                    |                                    |  |    |
| Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC                       |                                    | Air quality as a result of mineral extraction  |    |
| Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC                       |                                    |  |    |
| Gang Mine SAC   |                                    | Air quality as a result of mineral extraction  |    |
| South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA                       |                                    | Air quality                                    |    |

## 5. DESCRIPTION OF CORE STRATEGY SUBMISSION DRAFT

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### STRUCTURE AND CONTENT OF THE CORE STRATEGY SUBMISSION DRAFT

- 5.1. The Submission Draft of the Core Strategy contains 35 policies covering a range of topic areas as listed in **Table 5.1**.

**Table 5.1: Contents of the Core Strategy Submission Draft**

DS1: Development Strategy

GSP1: Securing National Park purposes

GSP2: Achieving enhancement of the National Park

GSP3: Development Management principles

GSP4: Securing Planning Benefit

L1: Landscape character and valued characteristics

L2: Sites of biodiversity or geo-diversity importance

L3: Cultural Heritage assets of archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance

RT1: Recreation, educational and environmental interpretation

RT2: Hotel, Bed and Breakfast and Self Catering Accommodation

RT3: Caravans and Camping

CC1: Climate change mitigation and adaptation

CC2: Low carbon and renewable energy development

CC3: Waste management - domestic, industrial and commercial waste

CC4: Waste management - on-farm anaerobic digestion of agricultural manure and slurry

CC5: Flood risk and water conservation

HC1: New dwellings

HC2: New dwellings for workers in agriculture, forestry, or other rural enterprises

HC3: Buying existing dwellings to add to the affordable housing stock

HC4: Gypsy, Traveller or Showman's sites

HC5: Provision and retention of community services and facilities

HC6: Shops, professional services and related activities

E1: Business development in towns and villages

E2: Businesses in the countryside

MIN1: Minerals development

MIN2: Fluorspar proposals

MIN3: Local small-scale building and roofing stone

MIN4: Mineral safeguarding

- T1: Reducing the general need to travel and encouraging sustainable transport.
- T2: Reducing and directing traffic within the National Park
- T3: Design of transport infrastructure
- T4: Managing the Demand for Freight Transport
- T5: Managing the demand for rail, and reuse of former railway routes
- T6: Routes for walking, cycling and horse riding, and waterways
- T7: Minimising the adverse impact of motor vehicles and managing the demand for car and coach parks.

## **INITIAL SCREENING EXERCISE OF SUBMISSION DRAFT POLICIES**

- 5.2. As at the Preferred Approaches stage, an initial screening exercise was undertaken, to establish which policies could have an effect on N2K Sites and those that did not require any further assessment. For this initial screening process, the policies were screened using the following criteria:
  - 1) Policy unlikely to lead to development itself as it relates to broad strategic objectives or qualitative criteria for development.
  - 2) Policy aims to protect and enhance the natural environment (including biodiversity).
  - 3) Policy has the potential to affect an N2K Site or Sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 5.3. Those policies identified as having potential for effects (3) were then taken forward for Appropriate Assessment. This equated to about half of all policies of the Preferred Approaches document as can be seen in **Table 5.2**.
- 5.4. Policies meeting criteria 1) and/or 2) were used to inform the Appropriate Assessment to provide the policy context for the Core Strategy as a whole, including the potential for mitigating adverse effects where appropriate. As part of the process, recommendations for improvements to policies have been made, in order to ensure that adverse effects will be avoided or mitigated (see **Chapter 7**).

**Table 5.2: Initial Screening of Policies of the Core Strategy Submission Draft**

Key to Screening Criteria

- 1) Policy unlikely to lead to development itself as it relates to broad strategic objectives or qualitative criteria for development.
- 2) Policy aims to protect and enhance the natural environment (including biodiversity).
- 3) Policy has the potential to affect an N2K Site or Sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

| Policy   | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Spatial Strategy and Aims to 2026</b>   |   |   |   |   |
| DS1: Development Strategy<br>(Previously Policy GSP4b)   |   |   | π | Sets out a number of principles for determining new development proposals. Except for certain proposals which reflect the significant role of Bakewell as the largest Settlement in the National Park, the strategy enables a common range of appropriate forms of development across a large number of villages to maintain and improve the sustainability and vitality of communities. The approach directs the majority of new development towards Bakewell and a list of named settlements, to deliver a more sustainable approach which aids the protection of the landscape. The approach also highlights concern over the capacity of the built environment to absorb new development and seeks a proper assessment of capacity to be triggered by development proposals to ensure proper consideration of the impact on the character of the built and natural environment. |
| <b>General Spatial Policies</b>  |   |   |   |   |
| GSP1: Securing National Park purposes and Sustainable Development<br>(Previously Policies GSP2 and GSP3) |   |   | π | Overarching policy that seeks to protect and enhance the National Park in line with the purposes of its statutory designation, including a presumption against major development and giving priority to conservation of the National Park. Where the purposes of the National Park can be secured, opportunities must also serve the social and economic needs of communities. However, the policy does allow for major development in exceptional circumstances and as such, has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| GSP2: Achieving enhancement of the National Park<br>(Similar to previous Policies GSP4a and L1a)         |   | π |   | Overarching policy which seeks to enhance the National Park in terms of its natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage.   |
| GSP3: Development management principles<br>(Brings together parts of previous policies including         |   |   | π | Criteria-based policy aimed at ensuring new development is of the highest quality in relation to a number of considerations including   |

| Policy  | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| GSP4a and GSP4b)  |   |   |   | character and setting of buildings, living conditions, access and traffic levels etc.  |
| GSP4: Securing planning benefits<br>(Previous Policy GSP5 Securing planning benefits)   |   | π |   | This policy concerns the use of conditions and legal agreements to bring about benefits to the National Park and for local communities.  |
| <b>Landscapes and Conservation</b>  |   |   |   |  |
| L1: Landscape character and valued characteristics<br>(Previous Policy L1a)   |   | π |   | Policy requires development to conserve and where possible enhance valued landscape character. It includes a presumption against development in the 'Natural Zone' other than in exceptional circumstances.  |
| L2: Site of biodiversity or geo-diversity importance<br>(Previously Policies L2 and L3b)  |   | π |   | Policy aims to conserve and enhance sites, features or species of biodiversity or geo-diversity or their setting.  |
| L3: Cultural heritage assets of archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance<br>(Previously Policy L3a, L3c, L3d) |   | π |   | Policy seeks to ensure that development conserves and where possible enhances assets of archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic significance, from international to local significance.  |
| <b>Recreation and Tourism</b>   |   |   |   |  |
| RT1: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation<br>(Previously Policy VE1b)   |   |   | π | Criteria-based policy which supports facilities for recreation, environmental education and interpretation of an appropriate type, scale and location. Development is to be focussed on the edge of settlements in particular, with a preference for reuse of traditional buildings or new buildings where this is not possible.   |
| RT2: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation<br>(Previously VE1a)   |   |   | π | Criteria-based policy permitting the change of use of traditional buildings to hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation, except where it would have an unacceptable impact on the landscape in open countryside. Change of use of entire farmsteads will not be permitted. Minor extensions or improvements will be permitted. New build will not be permitted, except for a new hotel at Bakewell. |
| RT3: Caravans and camping<br>(No previous policy)   |   |   | π | Policy allows for small scale caravan and camping sites, provision of improved facilities and quality of existing sites. Static caravans, chalets or lodges are not permitted.   |
| <b>Climate Change, Natural Resources, and Sustainable Building</b>  |   |   |   |  |
| CCI: Climate change, natural resources and  |   | π |   | Criteria-based policy requiring development to meet a number of  |

| Policy   | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| sustainable building<br>(Previously CC1 and CC5)   |   |   |   | objectives in order to improve resilience to and mitigation of climate change.  |
| CC2: Low carbon and renewable energy development<br>(Previously CC2 and CC3)                                 |   |   | π | Policy allows for low carbon and renewable energy development, subject to a number of criteria, including avoiding harm to landscape character. Only single wind turbine developments of a small scale will be permitted, taking account of cumulative impacts. |
| CC3: Waste management – domestic, industrial and commercial waste<br>(Previously CC6a)                       |   |   | π | Policy allows for small scale waste facilities only, where in accordance with the Municipal Waste Management Strategy, with commercial and demolition waste to be managed on site.  |
| CC4: Waste management – On-farm anaerobic digestion of agricultural manure and slurry<br>(Previously CC6b)   |   |   | π | Policy allows for single on-farm anaerobic digestion facilities and centralised facilities where they meet particular criteria. Industrial scale facilities will not be permitted.  |
| CC5: Flood risk and water conservation<br>(Previously CC4)   | π | π |   | Policy seeks to restrict development which could have a harmful impact upon the functionality of floodwater storage or surface water conveyance corridors and aims to secure wider benefits for the natural environment.  |
| <b>Homes, Shops and Community Facilities</b>   |   |   |   |   |
| HC1: New dwellings<br>(Previously HC1)   | π |   |   | This policy states the reasons for permitting new housing in the National Park, including achieving conservation and enhancement and the housing needs of local people and businesses.  |
| HC2: New dwellings for key workers in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises.<br>(Previously HC4b) |   |   | π | Allows for new homes for key workers in agricultural, forestry or other rural enterprises, subject to certain tests, with a preference for re-using traditional buildings.  |
| HC3: Buying existing dwellings to add them to the affordable housing stock<br>(Previously HC7)               | π |   |   | Policy encourages the purchase of existing housing to add to the affordable housing stock.  |
| HC4: Gypsy, traveller or showpersons sites<br>(No previous policy)   |   |   | π | Policy allows for caravan or mobile home sites only in exceptional circumstances where there is proven need for a small site and limited occupancy.   |
| HC5: Provision and retention of community services and facilities<br>(Previously HC8)                        |   |   | π | Allows for the provision or improvement of community facilities and services within settlements listed in Policy DSI or on the edges if there is no suitable site within.   |
| HC6: Shops, professional services and related  |   |   | π | Allows for new retail premises within Bakewell and other identified   |

| Policy   | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| activities<br>(Previously HC9)   |   |   |   | settlements in Policy DSI.   |
| <b>Supporting Economic Development</b>   |   |   |   |  |
| E1: Business development in towns and villages<br>(Previously E2)  |   |   | π | Policy allows for new sites and buildings for business development within or on the edge of named settlements in Policy DSI.   |
| E2: Businesses in the countryside<br>(Previously E3)   |   |   | π | Policy allows for the re-use of traditional buildings for small scale business development and ancillary retail operations, aside from where these are in the open countryside outside the Natural Zone.   |
| <b>Minerals</b>  |   |   |   |  |
| MIN1: Minerals development<br>(Previously MIN1)  |   |   | π | States that proposals for new mineral extraction or extensions (except for those covered by MIN2 and MIN3) will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances.  |
| MIN2: Fluorspar proposals<br>(Previously MIN5)   |   |   | π | Policy encourages the continuation of the extraction of fluorspar ore by underground mining, recycling of tailings from existing lagoons and the retention and continued operation of existing lagoons.  |
| MIN3: Local small-scale building and roofing stone<br>(Previously MIN6)  |   |   | π | Policy permits small scale proposals for the working of building and roofing stone.  |
| MIN4: Mineral safeguarding<br>(Previously MIN7)  | π |   |   | Policy states that certain minerals should be safeguarded from sterilisation.  |
| <b>Accessibility, Travel and Traffic</b>   |   |   |   |  |
| T1: Reducing the general need to travel and encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport<br>(Previously T1a) | π | π |   | Policy seeks to reduce the need to travel and encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport.  |
| T2: Reducing and directing traffic within the National Park<br>(Previously T3)   |   |   | π | Policy supports traffic developments that will reduce cross-Park traffic. Policy does, however, allow for transport developments that increase the amount of cross-Park traffic in exceptional circumstances, and new road schemes where these provide access to new business of housing development or there are exceptional circumstances. |
| T3: Design of transport infrastructure<br>(Previously T2)  | π | π |   | Policy states that transport infrastructure will be carefully designed to take full account of the valued characteristics of the National Park.  |



| Policy   | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| T4: Managing the demand for freight transport<br>(Previously T10)  |   |   | π | Policy allows for the provision of freight transport by rail and road.   |
| T5: Managing the demand for rail, and reuse of former railway routes<br>(Previously T5)                                | π |   |   | Proposals to reinstate former railway routes will be assessed on their individual merits.  |
| T6: Routes for walking, cycling and horse riding, and waterways<br>(Previously T6)                                     | π |   |   | Policy aims to safeguard and enhance the Rights of Way network.  |
| T7: Minimising the adverse impact of motor vehicles and managing the demand for car and coach parks<br>(Previously T9) |   |   | π | Policy allows for a minimum amount operational parking for service and delivery vehicles and residential parking, with non-residential parking restricted. Policy also allows for park and ride schemes. |



## 6. OTHER RELEVANT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

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### REQUIREMENTS AND APPROACH TO THE ASSESSMENT OF IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS

- 6.1. Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive requires an Appropriate Assessment of ‘Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects’.
- 6.2. A targeted approach to the assessment of in-combination effects has been taken, focussed on geographical and thematic areas where most pressures are likely to arise. The consideration of how these plans and programmes may affect European Sites ‘in combination’ has been recorded in the detailed assessment tables included in **Appendix 3**.

### PLANS AND PROGRAMMES REVIEWED

- 6.3. In undertaking the HRA of the Peak District Draft Core Strategy, the following plans and programmes were reviewed:
- East Midlands and Yorkshire and Humber Regional Spatial Strategies and accompanying HRA reports<sup>7</sup>.
  - Structure and Local Plans or emerging Development Plan Documents for districts which overlap with and neighbour the National Park, along with accompanying HRA reports: Derbyshire Dales; High Peak; Staffordshire Moorlands; Cheshire East; the Metropolitan Borough of Kirklees; the Metropolitan Borough of Oldham; the Metropolitan Borough of Barnsley; and the Metropolitan Borough of Sheffield.
  - Water Resource Management Plans: Yorkshire Water (2010- 2035); United Utilities (September 2009); and Severn Trent (2009).
  - Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS): Derbyshire Derwent (2006); Dove (2006); and Tame, Goyt and Etherow (2004).
- 6.4. The review of plans and programmes has highlighted the extent of planned growth in surrounding areas and significant pressures that could result e.g. from increased visitor numbers. For example, the North West RSS<sup>8</sup> allocates 63,000 new homes within Manchester and a further 28,800 within Salford, for a total of 91,800 over the plan period (2003 – 2021).<sup>9</sup> Manchester is ‘the focus of a significant proportion of...

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<sup>7</sup> It is acknowledged that, following a letter of confirmation from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2010, Regional Strategies have been revoked. This means that they no longer form part of the statutory development plan, with no requirement for local planning authorities to meet the housing targets they contain. As a result, a greater level of uncertainty now exists as to the likely scale of development to be planned for within each region; however, the Regional Strategies and their accompanying HRA Reports continue to provide a useful evidence base.

<sup>8</sup> North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2021 (CLG, September 2008).

<sup>9</sup> North West RSS, Table 7.1.

future development activity'<sup>10</sup>, and RSS policy aims to accommodate housing development 'in locations that are accessible by public transport to areas of economic growth' and to encourage a high level of residential development in inner urban areas (policy MCRI).

- 6.5. Similarly, the Yorkshire & Humber RSS<sup>11</sup> allocates an annual growth of 1,425 new dwellings in Sheffield each year over the period 2004-2026, for a total of 31,350 dwellings over that period. The RSS states that Sheffield will 'enhance its role and functions' as a 'regional city' and that annual net housing growth is likely to remain broadly consistent over the period 2008 – 2026.
- 6.6. The East Midlands Regional Plan<sup>12</sup> recognises that the National Park 'faces serious traffic pressures' because of its central location in the country, surrounded by the major urban conurbations. It highlights that in addition to the Park being subject to through traffic, it also receives over 22 million visitors each year, only 2% of whom use public transport.<sup>13</sup>
- 6.7. Local and regional assessments of the potential effects of planned development on European designated sites have highlighted a number of issues, which are summarised below:

### **Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC**

- No adverse effects on integrity could be identified as a result of the Draft Regional Plan either alone or in combination<sup>14</sup>.

### **Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC (South Pennine Moors Phase 2)**

- It is unlikely that there will be any significant direct threats from development proposals, due in large part to the site's location within the Green Belt, and proximity of local protective designations. The main threats to the integrity of the SAC are likely to be from changes in management, agricultural or forestry practices within the site or in the surrounding 2km buffer zone.<sup>15</sup>

### **Gang Mine SAC**

- No adverse effects on integrity could be identified as a result of the Draft Regional Plan either alone or in combination<sup>16</sup>.

### **Peak District Dales SAC**

- Water quality is already adversely affected by discharges into the river Wye, and further housing development is likely to worsen the impacts, particularly with regard to phosphorus levels. Existing adverse trends could be exacerbated by proposed housing and tourism development due to extra loads on STWs,

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<sup>10</sup> North West RSS, para.10.2.

<sup>11</sup> *The Yorkshire and Humber Plan Regional Spatial Strategy to 2026* (CLG, May 2008).

<sup>12</sup> *East Midlands Regional Plan* (CLG, March 2009).

<sup>13</sup> *East Midlands Regional Plan*, para.2.4.28.

<sup>14</sup> *Habitats Regulations Assessment of the East Midlands Regional Plan* (Prepared for GOEM by Treweek Environmental Consultants and Environ, 04.03.09), pg.46.

<sup>15</sup> *Appropriate Assessment of the Core Strategy and Development Policies DPD* (Wakefield Metropolitan District Council, January 2008), para.4.2.

<sup>16</sup> *Habitats Regulations Assessment of the East Midlands Regional Plan* (Prepared for GOEM by Treweek Environmental Consultants and Environ, 04.03.09), pg.46.

increased hard surfacing and runoff, and potential accidental spills. There is also a risk of in combination impacts from diffuse pollution.<sup>17</sup>

- This site is significantly affected by diffuse air pollution. Existing adverse trends could be exacerbated by housing development in Derbyshire Dales and High Peak HMAs, and in neighbouring RSS regions. The A628 Mottram-Tintwistle bypass may contribute to an increase in local air pollution in combination with general increases in traffic regionally. Renewable energy generation may contribute to diffuse air pollution, specifically: major new or revitalised energy generation in the Trent Valley promoting CHP; energy from waste in the Three Cities sub-area; and the promotion of energy generation from biomass in the Northern sub-area.<sup>18</sup>
- The site is at risk of disturbance from increased levels of tourism or recreation associated with proposed development.<sup>19</sup> The HRA recommends monitoring of the effectiveness of policies on tourism and measures to manage levels of disturbance, to ensure that adequate controls are in place.<sup>20</sup>

### **Rochdale Canal SAC**

- Proposed strategic development sites, housing, and tourism development could lead to adverse effects from drainage, pollution, or increased boat traffic, in particular where canal side moorings may be increased.<sup>21</sup>

### **South Pennine Moors SAC**

- Air quality is already over critical load level for nitrogen and acid deposition, and damage to sensitive vegetation from diffuse air pollution is likely to increase. Existing adverse trends could be exacerbated by housing development in the High Peak HMA and neighbouring RSS regions, from transport policies, and renewable energy policies in the region's northern sub-area. There may also be adverse effects on air quality in combination with the A628 Mottram-Tintwistle bypass.<sup>22</sup>
- The cumulative impact of increased visitor levels is likely to increase localised damage and disturbance to sensitive habitats. The HRA recommends monitoring of the effectiveness of policies on tourism and measures to manage levels of disturbance, to ensure that adequate controls are in place.<sup>23</sup>
- The promotion of low carbon energy generation could potentially damage sensitive habitats such as peatland.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> Ibid, pg.31.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid, pgs.35, 37, Appendix B (p.16).

<sup>19</sup> Ibid, pg.42.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid, pg.4.

<sup>21</sup> *HRA of the Impact on European Protected Sites of Manchester's Core Strategy – Proposed Option* (Greater Manchester Ecology Unit, 2009), pg.35.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid, pgs.35, 37, 56, Appendix B (p.19).

<sup>23</sup> Ibid, pg.4, Appendix B (p.19).

<sup>24</sup> Ibid, Appendix B (p.19).

### **South Pennine Moors SPA (Phase I and II)**

- Deterioration in local air quality is identified as having adverse effects on the integrity of this SPA. The site is significantly affected by diffuse air pollution, and associated impacts are likely to increase. Existing adverse trends could be exacerbated by housing development in the High Peak HMA and neighbouring RSS regions, from transport policies, and renewable energy policies in the region's northern sub-area. There may also be adverse effects on air quality in combination with the A628 Mottram-Tintwistle bypass.<sup>25</sup>
- Wind farm developments pose a risk to the Golden Plover, which is vulnerable to barrier effects and disturbance, and to the Short-eared Owl, which is vulnerable to collisions. Certain breeding waters within the Phase II site are sensitive to disturbance or displacement caused by wind farm development.<sup>26</sup>
- There is a risk of disturbance from increased levels of tourism or recreation associated with proposed development. The HRA recommends monitoring of the effectiveness of policies on tourism and measures to manage levels of disturbance, to ensure that adequate controls are in place.<sup>27</sup>

### **Peak District Moors SPA (Phase I of South Pennine Moors SPA)**

- The impacts on this site are captured within the review of impacts on the South Pennine Moors SPA (Phase I and II), above.

### **Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase I Ramsar**

- This site is significantly affected by diffuse air pollution, which is affecting habitat quality. Existing adverse trends could be exacerbated by transport development; improving linkage with the West Midlands will probably increase traffic along the A518. There are likely to be in combination effects caused with neighbouring regions' RSS.<sup>28</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Ibid, pgs.35, 37, 56, Appendix B (p.23-24).

<sup>26</sup> Ibid, pg.40-41.

<sup>27</sup> Ibid, pgs.4, 43.

<sup>28</sup> Ibid, pgs. 35, 38, Appendix B (p.32).

## 7. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT FINDINGS

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### SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- 7.1. The initial screening exercise has resulted in the conclusion that 15 of the total of 35 policies in the Core Strategy are unlikely to have a significant effect on N2K Sites, as they relate to broad strategic objectives, qualitative criteria and/or aim to protect and enhance the environment.
- 7.2. More detailed assessment (Appropriate Assessment) was undertaken in relation to the remaining 20 policies and the emerging findings were discussed with Natural England. **Table 7.1** on the following page summarises the findings of the Appropriate Assessment.
- 7.3. Of the remaining 20 policies that were subject to full Appropriate Assessment, six have been judged as unlikely to have any adverse effect on the integrity of N2K Sites. Taking a precautionary approach, it has not been possible at this stage to rule out adverse effects as a result of other policies. This is a result of N2K Sites being vulnerable to particular impacts and uncertainties about whether those impacts are likely to arise.
- 7.4. The findings are discussed further in the following pages, by type of impact. The full assessment is provided in **Appendix 3**.





**Table 7.1: Summary of Appropriate Assessment Findings**

**Key:** Light green = Adverse effect on site integrity *unlikely*; Dark orange = Adverse effect on site integrity *uncertain*

|   | Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC | Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC | Gang Mine SAC | Peak District Dales SAC | Rochdale Canal SAC | South Pennine Moors SAC | Peak District Moors SPA | South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA | Midland Meres & Mosses Ramsar |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| DS1: Development Strategy   | Light green                     | Light green                     | Dark orange   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Light green                     | Light green                   |
| GSP1: Securing National Park Purposes and sustainable development                     | Dark orange                     | Dark orange                     | Dark orange   | Dark orange             | Dark orange        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Dark orange                     | Dark orange                   |
| RT1: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation                           | Dark orange                     | Light green                     | Dark orange   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Dark orange                     | Dark orange                   |
| RT2: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation                        | Dark orange                     | Light green                     | Light green   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Dark orange                     | Dark orange                   |
| RT3: Caravans and camping   | Dark orange                     | Light green                     | Dark orange   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Dark orange                     | Dark orange                   |
| CC2: Low carbon and renewable energy development                                      | Light green                     | Light green                     | Light green   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Dark orange                     | Light green                   |
| CC3: Waste management – domestic, industrial and commercial waste                     | Light green                     | Light green                     | Light green   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Light green                     | Light green                   |
| CC4: Waste management – on-farm anaerobic digestion of agricultural manure and slurry | Light green                     | Light green                     | Light green   | Light green             | Light green        | Light green             | Light green             | Light green                     | Light green                   |
| HC2: Housing for key workers in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises      | Light green                     | Light green                     | Light green   | Dark orange             | Light green        | Dark orange             | Dark orange             | Light green                     | Light green                   |
| HC4: Sites for gypsies, travellers or travelling showpeople                           | Light green                     | Light green                     | Light green   | Light green             | Light green        | Light green             | Light green             | Light green                     | Light green                   |

|   | Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC | Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC | Gang Mine SAC | Peak District Dales SAC | Rochdale Canal SAC | South Pennine Moors SAC | Peak District Moors SPA | South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA | Midland Meres & Mosses Ramsar |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| HC5: Provision and retention of community services and facilities                             |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| E1: Business development in towns and villages  |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| E2: Businesses in the countryside   |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| MIN1: Minerals development  |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| MIN2: Fluorspar proposals   |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| MIN3: Local small-scale building and roofing stone  |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| T2: Reducing and directing traffic within the National Park                                   |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| T4: Managing the demand for freight transport   |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |
| T7: Minimising the adverse impact of motor vehicles & managing the demand for car/coach parks |                                 |                                 |               |                         |                    |                         |                         |                                 |                               |

## DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.5. Below is a discussion of the uncertainties that remain in relation to different types of impact from policies of the Submission Draft Plan, including the potential for in-combination effects. Consideration is given to mitigation measures, including changes and addition to policies to provide further safeguards.

### **Drainage**

- 7.6. Development in close proximity to the Peak District Dales SAC has the potential to adversely affect drainage. The risks to water dependant SAC features such as the rivers Dove, Manifold, Wye, Lathkill and their tributaries and wetland features such as the alkaline fen communities are potentially a key issue, particularly with quarry developments which may wish to work below local groundwater levels. There is a general presumption against new minerals developments in Policy MINI, but the plan allows for underground mining of fluorspar ore and small-scale proposals for working of building and roofing stone. Other policies allowing for development may have some potential to affect drainage including Policy DSI 'Development Strategy', Housing for key workers (Policy HCI) and businesses in the countryside (Policy E2).

### ***In-combination effects***

- 7.7. There is potential for in-combination effects with minerals extraction and development proposals in surrounding areas.

### ***Mitigation***

- 7.8. It is assumed that the scale of development is likely to be very limited as policies restrict the extent of development that can take place. In addition, minerals policies require mitigation of environmental impacts and require cumulative effects to be taken into account. Natural England is already consulted on specific proposals that may affect the drainage at Peak District Dales SAC, and take a precautionary approach in line with the Habitats Regulations.
- 7.9. Although this issue is difficult to assess with any certainty, policy safeguards within the plan and consultation with Natural England on specific proposals should ensure that any adverse effects on the integrity of Peak District Dales SAC are avoided.

### **Water quality**

- 7.10. As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA, discharges into the River Wye within the Peak District SAC are impacting water quality (particularly in relation to phosphorous levels) in the context of the freshwater SAC species which the river is known to support. Investment at Buxton Sewage Treatment Works has gone some way toward addressing these issues, but further condition assessments are required to add certainty. Additional development as a result of a range of policies including DSI 'Development Strategy', policies associated with recreation and tourism (RT1, 2 and 3) and business development (E1 and E2) could potentially exacerbate this pressure via sewage discharges.

### ***In-combination effects***

- 7.11. There is some potential for in-combination effects as a result of development proposals in neighbouring authorities.

### ***Mitigation***

- 7.12. Policy criteria limit the scale and extent of development that can take place. In addition, the EA permitting system would require compliance within the limits of N2K Sites.
- 7.13. We recommend further condition assessments of the River Wye where it affects the Peak District SAC, to monitor the effect on water quality.
- 7.14. Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, it may also be useful to include additional policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (e.g. Policy L2 'Sites of Biodiversity or Geo-diversity Importance' or CC5 'Flood Risk and Water Conservation') which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

### ***Air quality***

- 7.15. Modelling of air quality<sup>29</sup> has predicted that Nitrogen/acid deposition is likely to have exceeded critical loads at the following sites:
- Peak District Dales SAC
  - South Pennine Moors SAC
  - Peak District Moors SPA
  - South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
  - Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC
- 7.16. A number of these sites are in close proximity to settlements named within Policy DSI where new build development will be acceptable for affordable housing, community facilities and small-scale retail and business premises. Other policies could also result in increases in transport movements including policies that support recreation and tourism (RT1 and RT2) and gypsy and traveller sites. Policy GSP1 only allows for major development in exceptional circumstances, after rigorous consideration of specified criteria. Transport policies of the plan are generally aimed at reducing the amount of traffic in the Park, although Policy T2 does allow for transport developments in exceptional circumstances where there would be a net environmental benefit and public interest would exceed a negative impact on the National Park.
- 7.17. In addition to the sites listed above, there are uncertainties related to increases in air pollution at Gang Mine SAC. The site is sensitive to air pollution and is in close proximity to the A6 and National Park boundary, where traffic levels may increase as a result of new development and restrictions on cross-Park traffic.

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<sup>29</sup> Air Pollution Information System, <http://www.apis.ac.uk/>, accessed in August 2008 to inform Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

- 7.18. It is recognised that individual developments are likely to be small scale and it is unlikely that they would be deemed unacceptable in the context of air pollution, although the specifics of the development and the location would have to be taken in to consideration. There is potential for cumulative impacts however (see below).

#### ***In combination effects***

- 7.19. Cumulative impacts of a number of small developments in-combination with development proposals adjacent to the National Park (e.g. Sheffield, Derbyshire Dales, High Peak) could result in increased traffic and transport policies need to be robust enough to avoid increased road traffic in close proximity to these N2K Sites.

#### ***Mitigation***

- 7.20. Given the pressure many sites are under as a result of air pollution (including nitrogen and acid deposition), we recommend the inclusion of wording in Policy DS1 to encourage a pattern of housing development that supports the use of more sustainable modes of transport (i.e. support housing development in areas that are well serviced by bus, train etc.).
- 7.21. It would also be helpful to clarify how the protection of N2K Sites relates to the policy approach to transport set out in Policy T2, including the understanding of “exceptional circumstances” and the “valued characteristics of the National Park”. For example, policy wording could be added to the first paragraph of Policy T2 as follows:

“Transport developments, including traffic management schemes, which reduce the amount of cross-Park traffic, will be supported if they can be accommodated without adverse impact on the National Park’s valued characteristics, including the potential adverse impacts on N2K sites which may arise from a decline in air quality”.

- 7.22. Similarly, we recommend modification of the third paragraph of Policy T2, which allows for new road schemes where they provide access to new business or housing development.
- 7.23. Paragraph 5.11 details criteria against which applications for major development will be considered. We recommend the inclusion of the additional following criterion: ‘The development has no overall adverse impacts on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites’.

#### ***Human activity***

- 7.24. Human activity is a key pressure for the South Pennine Moors SAC, South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA and Peak District Moors SPA and can lead to impacts such as disturbance, predation and fires, although there is no detailed evidence to back this up. Human activity could increase where development is likely to take place in close proximity to these N2K Sites, for example, as a result of Policy DS1 ‘Development Strategy’, policies associated with recreation and tourism (RT1, 2 and 3) and Policy GSP1 which allows for major development only in exceptional circumstances.

#### ***In combination effects***

- 7.25. There is potential for in-combination effects with development proposals in adjacent areas such as Sheffield, Manchester and Buxton.

### **Mitigation**

- 7.26. We recommend that the potential for adverse effects on site integrity is monitored through the application of Policy L2 'Sites of Biodiversity or Geo-diversity Importance' with possible additional policy detail (see conclusions chapter).

### **Hydrology**

- 7.27. Peak District Moors SPA and South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA are sensitive to changes in hydrology - the Derbyshire Dales CAMS and Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS outline that catchments within the SPA are already over abstracted and over licensed. Increased demand on resources resulting from a larger population could heighten over-abstraction problems, particularly during summer months. There is potential for this to take place as a result of proposals in Policy DSI 'Development Strategy' and policies RT1 and RT2 which support recreation and tourism facilities, although these policies allow for small scale development only. In addition, it is recognised that the Moors are rain fed, abstraction is minimal within the SAC/SPA and most abstraction will be carried out downstream of the site.
- 7.28. Variations in rainfall feeding the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA are exacerbated by historic drainage of the peat. Natural England is attempting to reverse this by blocking grips and drains. Any development proposals which would require or result in drainage of any area of the Moors could have an adverse impact on the site, but this is considered to be unlikely.
- 7.29. Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC and Midland Meres and Moses Ramsar are also sensitive to hydrological change, although major development is unlikely to take place in these locations.

### **In-combination effects**

- 7.30. There is some potential for in-combination effects with development proposals in neighbouring areas e.g. Manchester, Sheffield, Buxton.

### **Mitigation**

- 7.31. Water Resource Management Plans (Yorkshire Water (2010- 2035); United Utilities (September 2009); and Severn Trent (2009)) are currently addressing issues of over-abstraction and the Environment Agency review licensing arrangements. No further mitigation measures are therefore proposed.

### **Small scale wind turbine development**

- 7.32. Low carbon and renewable energy development can affect biodiversity in a number of ways including barrier effects, potential for collisions between turbine blades and birds, disturbance and physical damage during construction. East Midlands RSS HRA states that species that are qualifying features of Peak District Moors SPA and South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA are sensitive to wind turbine development (golden plover being vulnerable to barrier effects and disturbance, and owls being vulnerable to collisions).
- 7.33. Policy CC2 allows for low carbon and renewable energy development, subject to a number of criteria. Although only small scale wind turbine developments will be

permitted, taking account of cumulative impacts, potential effects on key bird breeding areas remains an issue.

***In combination effects***

- 7.34. Renewable energy developments in neighbouring districts could result in a cumulative impact e.g. with a series of wind turbine developments enhancing possible barrier effects.

***Mitigation***

- 7.35. Developments will need to be carefully considered on a site specific basis. The criteria in the policy, such as not allowing groups of turbines, mitigate some potential effects. However, we recommend the following additional policy wording to the first criterion 'without harm to the landscape character and biodiversity assets, including Natura 2000 sites'.





## 8. CONCLUSIONS

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- 8.1. Given the purposes of the National Park, policies of the Core Strategy Submission Draft are predominantly criteria-based and do not prescribe set amounts of development to be located in particular areas. With no set levels of development, and a settlement strategy that gives a high degree of protection to areas within the 'Natural Zone' where many of the N2K Sites are located, there will be no major incremental effects. Any impacts are likely to be related to small-scale developments, including the potential for in-combination effects with development proposals in adjacent areas such as Sheffield and Manchester.
- 8.2. The potential for adverse impacts is highly dependent on the type of development proposals that come forward and the robustness of the policy framework of the Core Strategy and subsequent DPDs to avoid and mitigate potential impacts that could arise.
- 8.3. **It should be entirely possible to avoid and mitigate any adverse impacts on N2K Sites as a result of the Core Strategy, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.** In addition to the recommended changes to policy wording set out in the previous chapter we suggest that the Policy L2 'Sites of biodiversity or geo-diversity importance' is expanded along the following lines:
- Adverse effects on Natura 2000 Sites should be avoided.
  - Such effects include, but are not limited to, nitrogen and acid deposition resulting from air pollution, a decline in water quality, over-abstraction from water resources and disturbance from human activity.
  - Where it is deemed that there is the potential for significant effects to be incurred on an N2K site, an assessment should be carried out to determine the likelihood of adverse impacts arising and the potential for avoidance or mitigation of these impacts, including possible alternative approaches to a proposed development.
  - Where appropriate, mitigation measures will be agreed with developers as part of a planning consent.
  - The PDNPA will monitor the likely cumulative effects of new developments on N2K Sites and where adverse effects are considered to be likely or uncertain will seek to implement appropriate policy and management responses.
- 8.4. **These additions and changes to policies would, in our opinion, help to improve the robustness of the Core Strategy by making explicit references to N2K Sites where uncertainty remains in relation to particular types of impact, and by requiring mitigation and monitoring measures to be undertaken where needed.** However, it is acknowledged that there is no specific requirement for this additional policy wording to be included where this is considered to repeat European and National level policy which already affords a high degree of protection to N2K Sites.

## **APPENDIX I**

N2K Site Qualifying Features, Vulnerabilities and Conservation Objectives

# APPENDIX I: N2K SITES QUALIFYING FEATURES

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## LIST OF N2K SITES INCLUDED IN THE ASSESSMENT

| <b>Natura 2000 Site Name</b>  | <b>Site Category</b> | <b>Location</b>     |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Sites within the Peak District National Park Boundary</b>            |                      |                     |
| Peak District Dales   | SAC                  | Within              |
| South Pennine Moors   | SAC                  | Largely within      |
| Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)                       | SPA                  | Largely within      |
| <b>Sites outside Peak District National Park Boundary (within 15km)</b> |                      |                     |
| Midland Meres & Mosses - Phase 1  | Ramsar               | Within 15km         |
| Rochdale Canal  | SAC                  | Within 15km         |
| Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits   | SAC                  | Within 15km         |
| Denby Grange Colliery Ponds   | SAC                  | Within 15km         |
| Gang Mine   | SAC                  | Within 15km         |
| South Pennine Moors Phase 2   | SPA                  | Largely within 15km |

The information on N2K Sites on the following pages has been taken from East Midlands RSS Partial Review Habitats Regulations Assessment Pre-Screening Report (October 2008)

| Qualifying features  | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity   | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Sites Within the Peak District National Park Boundary</b>   |  |  |
| <b>Peak District Dales SAC</b>   |  |  |
| <p><b>ANNEX I</b></p> <p><b>Primary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6210: Semi- natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates.</li> <li>9180: Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines * Priority feature.</li> </ul> <p><b>Non-primary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4030: European Dry Heaths.</li> <li>6130: Calaminarian grasslands.</li> <li>7230: Alkaline Fens.</li> <li>8120: Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels.</li> <li>8210: Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation.</li> </ul> <p><b>ANNEX II</b></p> <p><b>Primary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1092: White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish.</li> </ul> <p><b>Non Primary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1096: Brook lamprey.</li> <li>1163: Bullhead.</li> </ul> | <p><b>Grasslands</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sward structure and composition provide a valuable indication of habitat quality. Maintaining appropriate grazing or rotational cutting may be used to retain the presence of positive indicator species and prevent domination by rank grasses and scrub, though some scrub can be ecologically beneficial.</li> </ul> <p><b>Calaminarian Grasslands</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of suitable habitat with characteristic species assemblages, and substrate enriched with heavy metals, areas of bare ground with characteristically short sward structure and suitably low levels of dead plant matter.</li> <li>Sporadic management such as occasional light grazing may be beneficial.</li> </ul> <p><b>Woodlands:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate woodland management is required in particular to maintain natural processes and a diverse woodland structure, tree regeneration potential and a diverse age structure, control invasive species, and support characteristic species and habitat types.</li> </ul> <p><b>Heaths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Without management heathland becomes progressively dominated by bracken, gorse and/or scrub and trees. Appropriate heathland management is therefore required to maintain the extent of the heaths, the structural diversity including undisturbed bare ground, age structure and vegetation mosaic. Grazing can play an important role in this management. The control of inappropriate and invasive species is required.</li> </ul> | <p>The Peak District Dales are currently suffering from inappropriate grazing regimes and invasion of scrub. Some areas have improved through the countryside stewardship scheme whilst successful management has also been achieved through Natural England's Wildlife Enhancement Scheme. The inaccessibility of wooded slopes has resulted in a lack of management and subsequent invasion of non-native species. Development within the area has the potential to adversely affect drainage. Fisheries management is also required to avoid negative impacts upon the site's aquatic species of interest. The impact of dust from quarrying needs assessment. Analysis of APIS data shows that atmospheric ozone concentration is close to critical level and that nitrogen deposition substantially exceeds critical load.<sup>30</sup></p> |

<sup>30</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review - Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Qualifying features            | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity  | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment                                    |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
|                                | <p><b>Alkaline Fens</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate management, usually in the form of light grazing, is required to maintain sward structure and composition.</li> <li>• The control of inappropriate and invasive species.</li> <li>• Hydrology, water quality and air quality must be maintained. Although groundwater levels need to be high, standing water may be detrimental for alkaline fen communities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Calcareous rocky habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of the extent of habitat with characteristic pioneer calcicole and basiphilous species.</li> <li>• Maintenance of natural processes such as erosion.</li> </ul> <p><b>Crayfish</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of extent of habitat and water quality.</li> <li>• The absence of introduced species and crayfish plague is especially important and can be introduced by human activity, therefore maintaining visitor awareness initiatives, sympathetic management of fishery practices and regular monitoring is important.</li> </ul> <p><b>Fish</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River's natural structure and form should be maintained to support a natural flow regime that will help ensure the provision of resting pools for fish, conserve the quality of the riverbed as fish spawning habitat, and avoid the creation of artificial barriers to the passage of migratory fish.</li> <li>• Any exploitation of fish populations or other native animals or plants should be at a sustainable level, without manipulation of the river's natural capacity to support them or augmentation by excessive stocking.</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b> |   |   |
| <b>ANNEX I</b>                 | <p><b>Heaths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate heathland management is required to maintain the</li> </ul>   | Much of the Peak District Moors are currently facing severe pressure from human activity, and inappropriate |

| Qualifying features   | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity  | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment  |
|---|---|---|
| <p><b>Primary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4030 European dry heaths.</li> <li>• 7130 Blanket bogs * Priority feature</li> <li>• 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Non Primary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>.</li> <li>• 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs.</li> </ul> | <p>extent of the heaths, the structural diversity including undisturbed dwarf shrub, varied age structure and vegetational mosaic. Grazing plays an important role in this management. The control of inappropriate and invasive species is required. Specific grouse moor management contributes to the maintenance of habitat mosaic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining hydrological conditions as wet heaths require wet soils during winter with a dry surface in summer. Also importance of water quality, including lack of eutrophication and maintenance of oligotrophic character.</li> <li>• Air pollution and atmospheric deposition is likely to be an important cause of eutrophication for wet and dry heaths.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mires &amp; Bogs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of habitat extent and species composition are important for this habitat, with some areas requiring management of scrub encroachment in addition to minimising the levels of trampling and damage from recreational activities including fire-setting.</li> <li>• Mires and Bogs are sensitive to changes in hydrology and maintenance of natural regimes, water quality, and avoidance of water table lowering are important factors.</li> <li>• Areas that have suffered previous damaging activities require enhancement including re-vegetation of bare peat, increased vegetational diversity in response to past heavy sheep grazing and a reduction of erosion through gullying.</li> </ul> <p><b>Woodlands</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate woodland management is required in particular to maintain natural processes and create a diverse woodland structure, allow tree regeneration potential, control invasive species, and support characteristic species and habitat types.</li> <li>• To increase the extent of native character woodland without detriment to other key habitats.</li> </ul> | <p>management regimes. Fragmentation is also a concern for the remaining small-scale areas of woodland. High levels of air pollution and heavy metal deposition in the past have degraded the blanket peats and their vegetation and this shows in the peat record and the lack of bryophytes. Air pollution, particularly high levels of nitrogen and acid pollution, continue to be a challenge to maintaining and enhancing condition. Some areas have improved through the North Peak Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme whilst successful management has also been achieved through Natural England's Wildlife Enhancement Scheme, use of the Government Capital Modernisation Fund and through Heritage Lottery Fund support for the Moors for the Future partnership project.</p> |

| Qualifying features  | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity   | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment   |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase I) SPA</b>   |  |  |
| <p>This site qualifies under <b>Article 4.1</b> of the Directive (79/409/EEC):</p> <p>Breeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-eared owl</li> <li>• Merlin</li> <li>• Golden Plover</li> </ul> <p>This site qualifies under <b>Article 4.2</b> of the Directive (79/409/EEC):</p> <p>An internationally important assemblage of birds.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires maintenance of the extent of suitable habitat mosaic including areas of tall mature heath and grass sward suitable for nesting short-eared owl and merlin whilst maintaining shorter, recently grazed and burnt areas suitable for nesting golden plover.</li> <li>• Maintaining low levels of disturbance and predation are especially important for ground nesting birds and management of human access should direct disturbance away from sensitive areas. (particularly recreational disturbance - Major urban and industrial centres near to the Peak District Moors provide significant visitor pressure and 524KM<sup>2</sup> of the moorlands are open to public access)<sup>31</sup>. Predator control may be required.</li> <li>• Avoidance of fires (Many habitats are sub-optimal in vegetation terms) as a consequence of wildfire burns)</li> <li>• Maintenance of the extent of habitats suitable for providing adequate food supply such as small mammals, nesting birds and invertebrates.</li> <li>• Avoidance of air pollution (Many habitats are sub-optimal (in vegetation terms) as a consequence of historic air pollution)</li> <li>• Appropriate grazing regimes are required to maintain the extent of the moorland and heaths, the structural diversity including undisturbed dwarf shrub, varied age structure and vegetational mosaic. Grazing plays an important role in this management. The control of inappropriate and invasive species is required.</li> <li>• Maintaining hydrological conditions as wet heaths require wet soils during winter with a dry surface in summer. Also importance of water quality, including lack of eutrophication and maintenance of oligotrophic character.</li> <li>• Air pollution and atmospheric deposition is likely to be an important cause of eutrophication for wet and dry heaths.</li> <li>• Mires and Bogs are sensitive to changes in hydrology and maintenance of natural regimes, water quality, and avoidance of water table lowering are important factors.</li> </ul> | <p>Much of the Peak District Moors are currently facing severe pressure from human activity, and inappropriate management regimes. High levels of air pollution and heavy metal deposition in the past have degraded the blanket peats and their vegetation and this shows in the peat record and the lack of bryophytes. Air pollution, particularly high levels of nitrogen and acid pollution, continue to be a challenge to maintaining and enhancing condition. Some areas have improved through the North Peak Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme whilst successful management has also been achieved through Natural England's Wildlife Enhancement Scheme, use of the Government Capital Modernisation Fund and through Heritage Lottery Fund support for the Moors for the Future partnership project.</p> |

<sup>31</sup> JNCC data form (05/05/06) <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/pdf/SPA/UK9007021.pdf>

| Qualifying features  | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity   | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Sites outside the Peak District National Park Boundary (within 15km)</b>  |  |   |
| <b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses - Phase I Ramsar</b>   |  |   |
| <p><b>Ramsar criterion 1</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site comprises a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ramsar criterion 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualifies because it supports a number of rare species of plants associated with wetlands including five nationally scarce species together with an assemblage or rare wetland invertebrates (three endangered insects and five other British Red Data Book species of invertebrates).</li> </ul> | <p><b>All habitats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of habitat extent and suitable conditions for characteristic species are important for these habitats.</li> <li>Management of scrub encroachment and natural succession required to reduce nutrient enrichment.</li> <li>Levels of disturbance such as trampling and damage from recreational activities should be maintained at appropriate levels.</li> <li>These habitats are sensitive to changes in hydrology and maintenance of natural regimes, and characteristic water quality and chemistry are important factors.</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site is currently being managed by Natural England to control scrub invasion and natural succession and a management agreement and Countryside Stewardship reduce the risk of agricultural run-off.</li> <li>Existing pressure from nutrient enrichment continues, especially from atmospheric pollution although clear felling in areas adjacent to the site has minimised adverse affects. Analysis of APIS data shows that acid deposition and nitrogen deposition substantially exceed critical loads, that ammonia exceeds critical level and that ozone is approaching critical level.<sup>32</sup></li> </ul> |
| <b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b>  |  |   |
| <p><b>ANNEX II</b></p> <p><b>Primary</b></p> <p><b>1831 Floating water-plantain</b></p> <p><i>Luronium natans</i></p>  | <p>This partially restored section of the Rochdale Canal extends approximately 20 km from Littleborough to Failsworth, passing through urban and industrialised parts of Rochdale and Oldham and the intervening areas of agricultural land (mostly pasture). The canal contains important habitats for submerged aquatic plants and emergent vegetation, including extensive colonies of <i>Luronium natans</i>. The canal is to be subject to a major restoration scheme to open it up for full navigation from Manchester to Yorkshire, including the SSSI pSAC section. English Nature is working together with partners to ensure the restoration is sensitively done in order to preserve the interest of the site. However, there are concerns about future boat movements as the possible impacts are not fully known at this stage.</p> |   |

<sup>32</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review - Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.



| Qualifying features  | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity   | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment  |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b>   |  |   |
| <p><b>ANNEX I</b><br/><b>Non Primary</b><br/>6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates.</p> <p><b>ANNEX II</b><br/><b>Primary</b><br/>1166 Great crested newt.</p> | <p><b>Grassland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sward structure and composition provide a valuable indication of habitat quality. Maintaining appropriate grazing or rotational cutting may be used to retain the presence of positive indicator species and prevent domination by rank grasses and scrub, though some scrub can be ecologically beneficial.</li> </ul> <p><b>Great Crested Newt</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of habitat diversity including unshaded, medium sized ponds, and a variety of terrestrial habitat such as woodland, scrub and grassland, fallen branches, and piles of logs and stones to provide suitable resting, foraging and hibernation areas.</li> <li>Control or elimination of fish and invasive/alien aquatic plants may be required.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unauthorised excavation and tipping.</li> <li>Several applications for re-instatement of extraction, which would threaten to destroy pond habitat.</li> <li>Inappropriate grazing has led to reduced quality of grassland habitat.</li> <li>Ponds required enhancement and management for great crested newt.</li> <li>Analysis of APIS data shows that atmospheric ozone concentration is close to critical level and that nitrogen deposition exceeds critical load.<sup>33</sup></li> </ul> |
| <b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC   8.5 ha</b>  |  |   |
| great crested newt   | <p><b>Operations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of predatory fish</li> <li>Overstocking (heavy poaching around ponds)</li> <li>Agricultural and industrial runoff/discharge (water quality)</li> <li>Water abstraction</li> </ul>   | <p><b>Potential ecological impacts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biological disturbance</li> <li>Physical damage (erosion, habitat fragmentation, siltation)</li> <li>Non-toxic contamination (nutrient enrichment), physical damage (siltation, fragmentation of habitat), toxic contamination</li> <li>Physical damage (fragmentation of habitat), hydrological change (water level and flow rate)</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Gang Mine SAC</b>   |  |   |
| <p><b>ANNEX I</b><br/><b>Primary</b><br/>6130: Calaminarian grasslands.</p>  | <p>Grassland</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintenance of suitable habitat, including available substrate enriched with heavy metals, areas of bare ground with characteristically short sward structure and suitably low levels of dead plant matter.</li> <li>Maintenance of habitat suitable for characteristic species such as</li> </ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site is currently managed as a nature reserve although it is vulnerable to natural succession should management cease.</li> <li>It is unclear whether dust production from adjacent quarry workings is significantly affecting the site.</li> <li>No APIS data was available for the site to provide</li> </ul>  |

<sup>33</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review - Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Qualifying features  | Summary of standards and factors required to maintain site integrity  | Existing trends and pressures, with reference to NE condition assessment  |
|--|---|---|
|  | <p>spring sandwort and alpine penny cress with an absence or suitably low levels of invasive species.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sporadic management such as occasional light grazing may be beneficial.</li> </ul>   | <p>baseline information on air pollution levels and loads but designated habitat is sensitive to air pollution and nutrient enrichment.</p>   |
| <b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b>   |   |   |
| <p>This site qualifies under <b>Article 4.1</b> of the Directive (79/409/EEC):</p> <p>Breeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Short-eared owl</li> <li>• Merlin</li> <li>• Golden Plover</li> </ul> <p>This site qualifies under <b>Article 4.2</b> of the Directive (79/409/EEC):</p> <p>An internationally important assemblage of birds.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of the extent of suitable habitat mosaic including areas of tall mature heath and grass sward suitable for nesting short-eared owl and merlin whilst maintaining shorter, recently grazed and burnt areas suitable for nesting golden plover.</li> <li>• Maintenance of appropriate grazing and burning regimes, and avoidance of overgrazing by sheep is a key pressure on the site.</li> <li>• Maintenance of bird feeding areas outside the site (avoidance of agricultural intensification), maintaining the extent of habitats suitable for providing adequate food supply such as small mammals, nesting birds and invertebrates.</li> <li>• Maintaining low levels of disturbance and predation are especially important for ground nesting birds and management of human access should direct disturbance away from sensitive areas. Predator control may be required (particularly recreational disturbance - the SPA is flanked two sides by large industrial urban areas, which means that large numbers of people use the area for recreational activities.</li> <li>• Appropriate grazing regimes are required to maintain the extent of the moorland and heaths, the structural diversity including undisturbed dwarf shrub, varied age structure and vegetational mosaic. Grazing plays an important role in this management. The control of inappropriate and invasive species is required.</li> <li>• Maintaining hydrological conditions as wet heaths require wet soils during winter with a dry surface in summer. Also importance of water quality, including lack of eutrophication and maintenance of oligotrophic character.</li> <li>• Air pollution and atmospheric deposition is likely to be an important cause of eutrophication for wet and dry heaths.</li> <li>• Mires and Bogs are sensitive to changes in hydrology and maintenance of natural regimes, water quality, and avoidance of water table lowering are important factors.</li> </ul> | <p>Much of the Peak District Moors are currently facing severe pressure from human activity and inappropriate management regimes. High levels of air pollution and heavy metal deposition in the past have degraded the blanket peats and their vegetation and this shows in the peat record and the lack of bryophytes. Air pollution, particularly high levels of nitrogen and acid pollution, continue to be a challenge to maintaining and enhancing condition. Some areas have improved through the North Peak Environmentally Sensitive Area scheme whilst successful management has also been achieved through Natural England's Wildlife Enhancement Scheme, use of the Government Capital Modernisation Fund and through Heritage Lottery Fund support for the Moors for the Future partnership project.</p> |





## **APPENDIX 2**

Potential Effects of Preferred Approaches Policies on Natura 2000 Sites



## APPENDIX 2: POTENTIAL EFFECTS OF PREFERRED APPROACHES POLICIES ON N2K SITES

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### Initial Screening of Policies of the Core Strategy Preferred Approaches

#### Key to Screening Criteria

- 4) Policy unlikely to lead to development itself as it relates to broad strategic objectives or qualitative criteria for development.
- 5) Policy aims to protect and enhance the natural environment (including biodiversity).
- 6) Policy has the potential to affect an N2K Site or Sites, alone or in combination with other plans or projects.

| Policy  | 1     | 2     | 3     | Comment   |
|---|-------|-------|-------|---|
| GSP1: Securing National Park purposes   |       | $\pi$ |       | Overarching policy which states that all proposals for development or use of land within the National Park will be considered in accordance with the policies of the Core Strategy. This policy seeks to protect and enhance the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.                |
| GSP2: Major development within the National Park  |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for major development within the National Park. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| GSP3: Sustainable development principles  | $\pi$ |       |       | Overarching policy which seeks to ensure that all development in the National Park contributes to the sustainable development of the area. Development will not result from this policy by itself. This policy seeks to protect and enhance the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites. |
| GSP4a: Principles for conserving and enhancing the National Park's valued characteristics |       | $\pi$ |       | Overarching policy which seeks to ensure that development will only be permitted where it conserves and enhances the valued characteristics of the landscape(s) and its component parts. This policy seeks to protect and enhance the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.           |
| GSP4b: Settlement Strategy  |       |       | $\pi$ | Outlines the Settlement strategy for the National Park, naming places where development is acceptable <i>in principle</i> . As such, policy has the   |

| Policy  | 1     | 2     | 3 | Comment  |
|---|-------|-------|---|--|
| GSP5: Securing planning benefits                                      | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |   | potential to affect N2K sites.<br>This policy concerns the use of conditions and legal agreements. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| L1a: Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Park |       | $\pi$ |   | This policy re-states that all development should seek to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the landscape. As such the policy seeks to protect and enhance the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| L1b: Trees, Woodlands, Hedgerows and Other Landscape Features         |       | $\pi$ |   | This policy seeks to limit any negative impact resulting from development on important trees, woodlands, hedgerows or other landscape features. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.   |
| L1c: Landscape enhancement and improvement                            | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |   | This policy seeks to ensure that, where development occurs, the landscape and valued features will be enhanced and improved. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| L2: Sites of wildlife or geodiversity importance                      | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |   | This policy seeks to ensure that development sustains, and where possible improves, the quality and extent of wildlife habitats and geodiversity features, the natural processes on which they depend, and the populations of naturally occurring species which they support. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites. |
| L3a: Cultural heritage  | $\pi$ |       |   | This policy seeks to ensure that development that will affect cultural heritage must conserve and enhance the distinctive qualities of the existing historic built environment in the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| L3b: Evaluating sites and feature of special significance             | $\pi$ |       |   | This policy seeks to limit the potential impact of proposals on sites or features with a statutory designation or an international, national or regional interest. In addition, development would not result from this   |



| Policy   | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment  |
|--|---|---|---|--|
| L3c: Listed buildings and other building of historic or vernacular merit       | π |   |   | <p>policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.</p> <p>This policy states that the effective conservation of all buildings of historic or vernacular merit will be pursued. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.</p>   |
| L3d: Sites and landscapes of historic, archaeological or cultural significance | π |   |   | <p>This policy states that, other than in exceptional circumstances, development will not be permitted if it would adversely affect a site or feature (or its setting) which has statutory designation as a Scheduled Monument or which is of international, national or regional significance. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.</p> |
| L3e: Important parks and gardens   | π |   |   | <p>This policy states that development which would adversely affect the character or setting of parks and gardens which make an important contribution to the National Park will not normally be permitted. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.</p>   |
| VE1a: Visiting and enjoying the National Park                                  | π | π |   | <p>This policy states that the National Park Authority will work with its partners to maintain and strengthen its exceptional environmental and recreational functions and potential. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.</p>   |
| VE1b: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation development       |   |   | π | <p>Allows for the development of recreation, environmental education and interpretation facilities. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.</p>   |
| CC1: Sustainable Design and Construction                                       | π | π |   | <p>This policy states that the principles of sustainable development should guide all stages of the design. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.</p>   |
| CC2: Achieving low carbon development  | π |   |   | <p>This policy seeks to recognise the contribution that low carbon development can have in helping to meet national and regional targets for carbon reduction. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the</p>  |

| Policy  | 1     | 2     | 3     | Comment   |
|---|-------|-------|-------|---|
| CC3: Renewable Energy Developments  |       |       | $\pi$ | potential for effects on N2K sites.<br>Allows for renewable energy developments. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| CC4: Flood risk reduction   | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |       | This policy seeks to restrict development which could have a harmful impact upon the functionality of floodwater storage or surface water conveyance corridors will not be permitted. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.              |
| CC5: Impact of climate change on land management, biodiversity and air quality                              |       | $\pi$ |       | This policy seeks to foster the sustainable management of all land and water within the National park in relation to limiting the impact of climate change on the natural environment of the Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites. |
| CC6a: Management of domestic, industrial and commercial waste   |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for the development of local and very small-scale community-run waste facilities. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| CC6b: Agricultural waste generated within the National Park   |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for the development of renewable energy generation from waste facilities. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| HC1: Reasons for new housing in the National Park   | $\pi$ |       |       | This policy states the reasons for permitting new housing in the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| HC2: The scale of housing delivery in the National Park   |       |       | $\pi$ | This policy allows for newly built housing, provided that it complies with preferred approach HC1 and can be developed without harm to valued characteristics and national park purposes. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| HC3: Achieving affordable housing for local needs   |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for the provision of affordable homes. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| HC4a: Size, type and tenure of newly provided housing for different groups in the community                 |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for gypsy, traveller or showmen's caravan sites. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| HC4b: Housing for key workers, including those employed in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for new homes for key workers in agricultural, forestry or other rural enterprises. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| HC5: Increasing the proportion of affordable housing on enhancement schemes including                       |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for residential development. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |

| Policy   | 1     | 2 | 3     | Comment   |
|--|-------|---|-------|---|
| changes of use to existing buildings                                   |       |   |       |   |
| HC6: Identifying housing sites   | $\pi$ |   |       | This policy states that housing sites will not be formally identified in the LDF. As such development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.                     |
| HC7: Where to buy existing housing stock for use as affordable housing | $\pi$ |   |       | This policy regards where existing housing stock should be bought for use as affordable housing. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites. |
| HC8: Community services and facilities                                 |       |   | $\pi$ | Allows for the provision or improvement of community facilities and services. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| HC9: Shopping  |       |   | $\pi$ | Allows for new retail premises. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| <b>Economy</b>   |       |   |       |   |
| E1: Businesses in the countryside                                      |       |   | $\pi$ | Promotes business diversification. Allows for reuse of agricultural buildings. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| E2: Employment in towns and villages                                   |       |   | $\pi$ | Allows for small scale employment development. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| E3: Identifying and safeguarding employment sites                      |       |   | $\pi$ | Allows for development of additional employment sites. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| E4: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering holiday accommodation  |       |   | $\pi$ | Allows for change of use of traditional buildings, extensions of existing buildings, and new build Bakewell. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| E5: Caravans and camping   |       |   | $\pi$ | Allows for small touring and backpack camping and caravan sites, the provision of improved facilities on existing sites, and permanent dwellings for site warden's accommodation. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.                        |
| MIN1: Minerals   | $\pi$ |   |       | States that proposals for new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted (except for those covered by MIN5 and MIN6). As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.                                      |
| MIN2: Aggregates   | $\pi$ |   |       | States that proposals for new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted (except for those covered by MIN5 and MIN6). As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.                                      |

| Policy  | 1     | 2     | 3     | Comment   |
|---|-------|-------|-------|---|
| MIN3: Cement-making materials   | $\pi$ |       |       | sites.<br>States that proposals for new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted (except for those covered by MIN5 and MIN6). As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| MIN4: Industrial limestone  | $\pi$ |       |       | States that proposals for new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted (except for those covered by MIN5 and MIN6). As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| MIN5: Fluorspar   |       |       | $\pi$ | This policy encourages the continuation of the extraction of fluorspar ore by underground mining and the retention and continued operation of tailing lagoons. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| MIN6: Small-scale building and roofing stone  |       |       | $\pi$ | This policy permits small scale proposals for the working of building and roofing stone. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| MIN7: Safeguarding  | $\pi$ |       |       | This policy states that certain minerals should be safeguarded from sterilisation. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.   |
| MIN8: Restoration   | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |       | This policy regards restoration arrangements. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.  |
| T1a: Reducing the need to travel and encouraging the use of more sustainable modes of transport | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |       | This policy seeks to reduce the need to travel and encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.   |
| T1b: Travel Plans   | $\pi$ |       |       | This policy states that travel plans will be encouraged. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites.   |
| T2: Design of transport infrastructure  | $\pi$ | $\pi$ |       | This policy states that transport infrastructure will be carefully designed to take full account of the valued characteristics of the National Park. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites. |
| T3: Managing the demand for new roads   |       |       | $\pi$ | Allows for new road schemes and developments. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |

| Policy  | 1 | 2 | 3 | Comment  |
|---|---|---|---|--|
| T4: Providing sustainable access to essential services, and park and ride to visitor areas                    |   |   | π | Allows for park and ride schemes for key visitor sites. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| T5: Managing the demand for rail, and using former railway routes for non-motorised users                     |   |   | π | Allows for heavy rail, light rail and guided bus developments. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| T6: Routes for walking, cycling and horse riding, and waterways   |   |   | π | Allows for the enhancement of the Rights of Way network, and redirection of Rights of Way and waterways where necessary. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| T7: Directing traffic onto the most appropriate routes  |   |   | π | Allows for additional transport infrastructure to support transport management schemes. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| T8: Ensuring that the adverse impact of motor vehicles is minimised   | π | π |   | This policy seeks to minimise the adverse impact of motor vehicles. In addition, development would not result from this policy by itself. As such, this policy is not identified as having the potential for effects on N2K sites. |
| T9: Managing the demand for car and coach parks   |   |   | π | Allows for car and coach parking facilities. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| T10: Managing the demand for freight transport and the provision of lorry parking                             |   |   | π | Allows for the provision of freight transport and lorry parking. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.  |
| T11: Managing the demand for air travel against its impact on the valued characteristics of the National Park |   |   | π | Allows for development related to helicopter and other powered flights. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |
| T12: Utilities Infrastructure   |   |   | π | Allows for utility infrastructure, including telecommunications infrastructure. As such, policy has the potential to affect N2K sites.   |



For policies of the Preferred Approaches Core Strategy that are considered to have potential for effects on Natura 2000 Sites (see **Table 5.1** of main report), this table describes what these effects might be. This is not to say that these effects will occur, but to provide further information on the assumptions that have been made in undertaking the Appropriate Assessment, with the intention of making the assessment process as transparent as possible.

| Policy   | Potential effects on N2K Sites   |
|--|--|
| GSP2: Major development within the National Park                         | 'Major development' could result in a wide range of effects, including direct damage, fragmentation of habitats and disturbance and indirect effects such as changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality and air quality. The policy does have a number of safeguarding criteria, however, including consideration of the extent to which valued characteristics/special qualities of the National Park are affected.  |
| GSP4b: Settlement Strategy   | <p>Policy accepts development in principle for affordable houses, new community facilities, small scale retail and business premises, and community level renewable energy schemes on a limited scale that does not warrant site allocations. Larger developments (those of 3 or more affordable houses) are acceptable in principle in Bakewell, Baslow, Bradwell, Great Longstone, Hartington, Hayfield Hope, Tideswell, Tintwistle, Waterhouses and Youlgrave. Smaller scale development (1 or 2 new affordable houses only) will be acceptable in a range of other settlements.</p> <p>The policy allows for a range of development types and so potential effects are wide ranging, from direct damage, fragmentation of habitats and disturbance and indirect effects such as changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality and air quality. The policy stresses that the need for development is extremely limited and the scale of development should be consistent with Preferred Approach HC2.</p> |
| VE1b: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation development | <p>The policy permits proposals for recreation, environmental education and interpretation facilities with a preference for enhancement of appropriate existing facilities and the reuse of existing traditional buildings, rather than construction of new buildings.</p> <p>The policy could potentially result in damage and disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure and deterioration in air quality if road-based traffic is increased as a result of increased visits to new or expanded facilities. The policy does include a number of safeguards, including the location of proposals in appropriate sites in relation to environmental capacity and consideration of the impact of proposals on wildlife.</p>  |
| CC3: Renewable Energy Developments                                       | <p>The policy does not define different types of renewable technologies that are likely to be acceptable, beyond mentioning wind turbines. It is therefore assumed that renewables could include a full range of technologies but only on a small scale and in appropriate locations. This might include on-shore wind, biomass, energy from waste, hydroelectricity and farm slurry.</p> <p>The policy has a presumption against large and medium scale wind turbines. Single wind turbines may be acceptable in appropriate locations</p>  |

| Policy  | Potential effects on N2K Sites   |
|---|--|
|   | <p>in the following areas, subject to a number of policy safeguards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White Peak and Derwent Valley – single wind turbines</li> <li>• South West Peak (Outside the South West Peak Open Moors and Moorland Hills and Ridges and the Natural Zone)</li> </ul> <p>Wind turbines have the potential to lead to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Habitat loss and species disturbance as a result of the installation of the wind turbines and associated infrastructure – i.e. access roads.</li> <li>• Impacts on birds - the most common concern is the risk of ‘bird strike’ – although this should be minimal with small scale, well designed and appropriate located developments.</li> </ul> <p>Planting of energy plants for biomass has the potential to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bring about changes to habitats through changes of land use.</li> <li>• Reduce air quality as a result of emissions from the transportation of biomass.</li> </ul> <p>Energy from waste has the potential to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce air quality through emissions from waste incineration and transportation of waste.</li> </ul> <p>Farm slurry has the potential to result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dust and emissions affecting air quality.</li> <li>• The release of nitrates and other chemicals affecting water quality.</li> <li>• A reduction in air quality as a result of movements of slurry.</li> </ul> <p>Hydroelectricity can affect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water levels and flow.</li> <li>• Water quality.</li> </ul> |
| CC6a: Management of domestic, industrial and commercial waste | <p>New and expanded large-scale facilities will not be permitted. The policy states that local and very small scale community run waste facilities may be permitted under certain circumstances. Potential effects are therefore likely to be localised in relation to disturbance and air quality. The effect on air quality as a result of the transport of waste is a further consideration, and is dependent on the frequency and duration of movements to waste transfer stations within or outside the National Park.</p>  |
| CC6b: Agricultural waste generated within the National Park   | <p>This policy provides potential for disposal of farm waste under controlled conditions and its use as a renewable energy source, through single or centralised facilities under particular circumstances, including environmental safeguards. Disposal and use of farm slurry has the potential to result in dust and emissions affecting air quality, the release of nitrates and other chemicals affecting water quality and a reduction in air quality as a result of movements of slurry.</p>  |



| Policy   | Potential effects on N2K Sites  |
|--|---|
| HC2: The scale of housing delivery in the National Park  | This policy allows for new housing where there is proven need and/or conservation and enhancement of the National Park can be secured. Estimates of the number of homes to be provided will be contained in this policy. Potential effects of new housing include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population.   |
| HC3: Achieving affordable housing for local needs  | Affordable housing provided through new development and changes of use has the potential to result in direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population.   |
| HC4a: Size, type and tenure of newly provided housing for different groups in the community                                | This policy allows for caravan sites for gypsies, travellers and show people, under exceptional circumstances. The potential effects are similar to those for housing, including direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population.  |
| HC4b: Housing for key workers, including those employed in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises                | This policy provides for new homes for key workers in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises and where there is no longer a need for these in the future for their use as holiday accommodation or affordable housing. Potential effects include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population.  |
| HC5: Increasing the proportion of affordable housing on enhancement schemes including changes of use to existing buildings | This policy aims to secure the provision of affordable housing where this will contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the National Park. Although the policy has potential to result in improvements to biodiversity, potential adverse effects cannot necessarily be ruled out and include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population.  |
| HC8: Community services and facilities   | This policy encourages the improvement and provision of community facilities within settlements referred to in the settlement strategy (Policy GSP4b), including changes of use and replacement buildings, subject to a number of safeguards. Potential effects are likely to be similar to those from housing, but are dependent on the nature of the facility and whether it results in new development or change of use/replacement. Potential effects therefore include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with use of community facilities. |
| HC9: Shopping  | This policy allows for small scale shopping facilities only, within Bakewell Central Shopping Area and within or on the edge of identified  |

| Policy  | Potential effects on N2K Sites  |
|---|---|
|   | shopping centres. Small scale facilities may be permitted in the open countryside under certain circumstances e.g. farm diversification. Potential effects could include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with use of shopping facilities.   |
| E1: Businesses in the countryside                                     | The policy permits the reuse of modern agricultural buildings in some circumstances, as well as the provision of small buildings to support business diversification, where siting and design can achieve enhancement with regards the existing buildings. The potential effects of this policy are wide ranging, from direct damage, fragmentation of habitats and species/habitat disturbance, to indirect effects, such as changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality and air quality. The policy does include site criteria which seek to limit the potential impact of such development on wildlife and landscape and traffic on local roads.                         |
| E2: Employment in towns and villages                                  | This policy permits small scale employment development across the designated settlements set out in Policy GSP4b, with preference for reuse of existing traditional buildings and previously developed sites. The potential effects of this policy are wide ranging, from direct damage, fragmentation of habitats and species/habitat disturbance, to indirect effects, such as changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality and air quality. The policy does include site criteria, which include impact on landscape character and the surrounding area.  |
| E3: Identifying and safeguarding employment sites                     | This policy permits development of additional employment sites in designated settlements. The potential effects include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population. The policy does include site criteria, which include reducing vehicle trip generation and impact on landscape character.  |
| E4: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering holiday accommodation | This policy permits the change of use of traditional buildings to serviced or self-catering holiday accommodation, and extensions of existing holiday accommodation. Policy also permits some new build serviced holiday accommodation in Bakewell. The potential effects include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population. The policy does include site criteria, which include impact on landscape character. |
| E5: Caravans and camping  | This policy permits small touring and backpack camping and caravan sites, the provision of improved facilities on existing sites, and permanent dwellings for site warden's accommodation. Potential effects are similar in nature to Policy E4 and include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of increased visitor pressure, changes in hydrology as a result of water abstraction, effects on water quality as a result of run-off and sewage treatment and air quality as a result of transport associated with an increased population. The policy does include site criteria, which include impact on landscape character.                       |
| MIN5: Fluorspar   | This policy encourages the continuation of the extraction of fluorspar ore by underground mining and the retention and continued operation  |

| Policy   | Potential effects on N2K Sites   |
|--|--|
|  | of tailing lagoons. The potential effects of this policy are both direct, through disturbance to habitat and species, and indirect, through alterations to the water table, and air and noise pollution resulting from extraction activities (including use of machinery) and vehicular activities.  |
| MIN6: Small-scale building and roofing stone   | This policy permits small scale proposals for the working of building and roofing stone. The potential effects are similar to those for MIN5: both direct, through disturbance to habitat and species, and indirect, through alterations to the water table, and air and noise pollution resulting from extraction activities (including use of machinery) and vehicular activities.   |
| T3: Managing the demand for new roads  | This policy permits new road schemes and developments where they provide access to new business or residential development, or in exceptional circumstances. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of works, and impacts to air quality resulting from vehicular use during road construction and upon completion. The policy does include site criteria, which include the use of environmental criteria in the planning of the road system.  |
| T4: Providing sustainable access to essential services, and park and ride to visitor areas | This policy permits park and ride schemes for main visitor areas. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of works and use of such schemes, and impacts to air quality resulting from vehicular use during construction and upon completion. The policy does include site criteria, which include ensuring that park and ride schemes provide a net environmental benefit to the National Park.  |
| T5: Managing the demand for rail, and using former railway routes for non-motorised users  | This policy permits heavy rail, light rail or guided bus developments. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of works and use of such developments, and from a potential increase in visitor pressure due to increased accessibility, and impacts to air quality resulting from vehicular use during construction and upon completion. The policy does include site criteria, which include that any detrimental effects that such schemes would have on the National Park would have to be outweighed by significant benefits, including a demonstrable lasting removal of road traffic from parallel routes. |
| T6: Routes for walking, cycling and horse riding, and waterways                            | This policy permits the enhancement of the Rights of Way network, the provision of alternative routes where a development affects a Right of Way, and redirection of inland waterways. This policy may result in an increase in visitor numbers and/or an expansion of the area that visitors walk/ride/cycle due to greater accessibility. The potential effects of this policy are direct damage to habitats, and disturbance to habitats and species. Where inland waterways have to be redirected, this has the potential to impact the habitats and species of that waterway.   |
| T7: Directing traffic onto the most appropriate routes                                     | This policy permits additional traffic management schemes, and transport infrastructure that is required to deliver such schemes. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage and fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of works, and impacts to air quality resulting from vehicular use. This policy does include site criteria, which include adherence to the highest standards of environmental design, and ensuring schemes do not transfer negative traffic to equally environmentally sensitive areas.   |
| T9: Managing the demand  | This policy permits the development of car and coach parking facilities. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage and  |

| Policy  | Potential effects on N2K Sites  |
|---|---|
| for car and coach parks   | fragmentation of habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of works and a potential increase in visitor numbers due to parking facilities, and impacts to air quality resulting from vehicular use (both during construction and resulting from increased visitor pressure). This policy does include site criteria, which include ensuring new facilities are sensitive to landscape character.  |
| T10: Managing the demand for freight transport and the provision of lorry parking                             | This policy permits rail freight facilities for quarries and industrial sites, lorry parking and encourages routing strategies for Large Goods Vehicles. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage to habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of works and vehicle use, and impacts to air quality resulting from vehicular use. This policy does include site criteria, which include ensuring such facilities do not have an unacceptable adverse effect on the landscape, and routing Large Goods Vehicles to avoid negative environmental impacts.               |
| T11: Managing the demand for air travel against its impact on the valued characteristics of the National Park | This policy permits developments related to helicopter or other powered flights. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage to habitats, disturbance to habitats and species as a result of noise, and impacts to air quality resulting from helicopter-use and other powered flights. The policy does include site criteria, which state that where land being used regularly for helicopter or other powered flights is harming the valued characteristics of the area and causing traffic congestion, an Article 4 Direction will be sought to bring the use under planning control. |
| T12: Utilities Infrastructure   | This policy permits utilities infrastructure, including telecommunications infrastructure. The potential effects of this policy include direct damage to habitats, habitat fragmentation, disturbance to habitats and species, and impacts to air quality resulting from construction works. The policy does include site criteria, which include ensuring pipelines do not have any negative impacts in environmentally sensitive areas.   |

## **APPENDIX 3**

Detailed findings of Appropriate Assessment of Core Strategy Submission Draft



# PEAK DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY CORE STRATEGY HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

| Submission Plan Policy    | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects   | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|---------------------------|---|--|--|---|
| DSI: Development Strategy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Tourism and recreational damage / disturbance</li> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy DSI</u><br/>Majority of new development in Bakewell and named settlements.<br/>Capacity for housing sites of 3+ units in named settlements. Development boundary retained for Bakewell but not produced for other settlements. Proposals for community facilities and small-scale retail/business premises acceptable in all named settlements in principle.</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>Transport policies</u> (particularly T1, T2 and T4)</p> | Settlement strategy and resulting development in surrounding areas leading to, for example, fragmentation and increases in visitor numbers and traffic. For example, Sheffield District has a gross annual housing requirement of 1,692 dwellings <sup>34</sup> , whilst Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Core Strategy highlights Buxton and Glossopdale as two of eight market towns where all new housing will be primarily | <b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – settlements identified for future growth are not located in proximity to this SAC.   |
|                           |   |  |  | <b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – settlements identified for future growth are not located in proximity to this SAC.   |
|                           |   |  |  | <b>Gang Mine SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Uncertain – whilst this site is not in proximity to settlements identified for future growth, growth within the National Park may lead to increases in traffic on the key roads connecting the Park to larger settlements outside of its boundary. The proximity of this SAC to the A6 (connects to Derby and Nottingham), combined with the sensitivity of the site to air pollution, means that this policy could have adverse effects on the site's integrity.   |
|                           |   |  |  | <b>Peak District Dales SAC</b> : Uncertain – parts of the SAC are in proximity to named settlements in Policy DSI (Waterhouses, Hartington, Youlgrave and Tideswell). Both the construction of the housing units, and the resulting traffic from future residents, may lead to increases in air pollution. Increases in air pollution, combined with existing levels of nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads <sup>36</sup> , may result in this policy having adverse effects on the site's integrity. As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA (2009) <sup>37</sup> , discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality (particularly in relation to phosphorous levels). An increase in housing development could add further pressure on water quality. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.  |
|                           |   |  |  | <b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – settlements identified for future growth are not located in proximity to this SAC.  |
|                           |   |  |  | <b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b> : Uncertain – parts of this SAC are in proximity to named settlements in Policy DSI (Tintwistle, Hayfield, Grindleford, and Baslow). Air pollution is already a challenge in maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SAC, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads <sup>38</sup> . The construction of housing units, and the resulting traffic from future residents, may lead to increases in air pollution, further exacerbating existing pressures. Much of this SAC is facing severe pressure from human activity. Future growth in neighbouring settlements, as well as generally across the National Park, may result in greater pressure from human activity (e.g. from disturbance, predation, and fires). The potential impacts of air pollution and greater human activity resulting from this policy may all result in adverse impacts on the site's integrity. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities, particularly given the location of this site in proximity to key settlements (e.g. Manchester, Sheffield, and Buxton). |

<sup>34</sup> Sheffield Development Framework Core Strategy. Adopted March 2009. Sheffield City Council.

<sup>35</sup> Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Joint Core Strategy Issues and Options (Derbyshire Dales District Council and High Peak Borough Council, March 2009).

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors                                 | In-combination effects            | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|--|
|                        |   | and T4)<br><br><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u> | primarily focused <sup>35</sup> . | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – parts of this SAC are in proximity to named settlements in Policy DSI (Tintwistle, Hayfield, Grindleford, and Baslow). Air pollution is already a challenge in maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>39</sup>. The construction of housing units, and the resulting traffic from future residents, may lead to increases in air pollution, further exacerbating existing pressures.</p> <p>Much of this SPA is facing severe pressure from human activity. Future growth in neighbouring settlements, as well as generally across the National Park, may result in greater pressure from human activity (from disturbance, predation, and fires).</p> <p>The SPA is sensitive to changes in hydrology. The Derbyshire Dales CAMS and Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS outline that catchments within the SPA are already over abstracted and over licensed. Increased demand on resources resulting from a larger population will enhance this problem, particularly during summer months.</p> <p>The potential impacts of air pollution, human activity, and changes in hydrology resulting from this policy may all result in adverse impacts on the site's integrity. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> |
|                        |   |  |                                   | <b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – settlements identified for future growth are not located in proximity to this SAC.  |
|                        |   |  |                                   | <b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – settlements identified for future growth are not located in proximity to this SAC.  |

#### Recommendations for policy wording:

Given the pressure many sites are under as a result of air pollution (including nitrogen and acid deposition), we recommend the inclusion of wording in Policy DSI to encourage a pattern of housing development that supports the use of more sustainable modes of transport (i.e. support housing development in areas that are well serviced by bus, train etc.).

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

|  |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|--|---|---|
| GSP1:<br>Securing National Park Purposes and sustainable development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Tourism and recreational damage / disturbance</li> </ul> | <u>Policy GSP1</u><br>Major development will only be permitted following rigorous consideration of specified criteria. | Development in surrounding areas leading to, for example, fragmentation and increases in visitor numbers and traffic. | <b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Uncertain – whilst this site is not within the National Park boundary, depending on the location of a potential major development, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site's integrity linked to the site's vulnerability to nitrogen deposition and unauthorised excavation and tipping. |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution</li> </ul>                               | <u>Policy L2</u><br>Development will not be permitted where it will have an  |   | <b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Uncertain – whilst this site is not within the National Park boundary, depending on the location of a potential major development, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site's integrity linked to the site's vulnerability to hydrological change.   |
|  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on</li> </ul>                              |  |   | <b>Gang Mine SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Uncertain – whilst this site is not within the National Park boundary, depending on the location of a potential major development, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site's integrity linked to the site's vulnerability to air pollution.   |

<sup>36</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>37</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

<sup>38</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>39</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.



| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|---|
|                        | water quality                           | where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity. |                        | <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst the location of a potential major development in unknown, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site’s integrity linked to the site’s vulnerability to drainage, water quality (discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality<sup>40</sup>) and nitrogen deposition. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – whilst this site is not within the National Park boundary, depending on the location of a potential major development, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site’s integrity linked to the site’s vulnerability to increases in boat movements.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst the location of a potential major development in unknown, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site’s integrity linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity, fragmentation, and air pollution. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – whilst the location of a potential major development in unknown, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site’s integrity linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity, air pollution and hydrological change. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – whilst this site is not within the National Park boundary, depending on the location of a potential major development, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site’s integrity linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity, air pollution and hydrological change.</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – whilst this site is not within the National Park boundary, depending on the location of a potential major development, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site’s integrity linked to the site’s vulnerability to hydrological change.</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

Paragraph 5.11 details criteria against which applications for major development will be considered. We recommend the inclusion of the additional following criterion: ‘*The development has no overall adverse impacts on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites*’.

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

<sup>40</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Treweek Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

| Submission Plan Policy                                      | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects  | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|---|---|--|---|--|
| RTI: Recreation, environmental education and interpretation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism and recreational damage / disturbance</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy RT1</u><br/>Support recreation/education facilities.<br/>Development focused in/edge of settlements.<br/>Enhance existing facilities.<br/>Opportunities for access by sustainable transport means encouraged.</p> | Development in surrounding areas leading to, for example, increases in visitor numbers and traffic. | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – nitrogen deposition in this site is exceeding critical loads<sup>41</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the development of recreation/education facilities may in itself, as well as more generally as a result of an increase in visitors attracted to such facilities, have adverse effects on the site's integrity due to increases in traffic. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain. This policy's supporting text states that developments will be welcomed in locations close to the National Park boundary; as such, the location of this site, within the 15km buffer and close to the National Park boundary, increases the vulnerability of the site to future development.</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is located approximately 15km from the National Park boundary and development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale to result in adverse effects as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the location of this site, close to the National Park boundary (<i>within the 15km buffer</i>), and on the edge of a settlement (Wirksworth), increases the vulnerability of the site to future development and, in turn, increases in visitor numbers. This, combined with the sensitivity of the site to air pollution, may mean that this policy could have adverse effects on the site's integrity. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC</b>: Uncertain – whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), nitrogen deposition is currently exceeding critical loads, and as such, any increases in traffic resulting from future development of recreation/education facilities may have adverse effects on the site's integrity<sup>42</sup>. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain. Parts of the SAC which are adjacent to settlements, such as to the east of Buxton, may be more vulnerable to such development. As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA<sup>43</sup>, discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality (particularly in relation to phosphorous levels). An increase in housing development could add further pressure on water quality. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park and development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale to result in adverse effects as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |

Policy L2  
Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.

From other plans and/or HRAs

<sup>41</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

<sup>42</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

<sup>43</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|--|
|                        |   |                    |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – Much of this SAC is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. In addition, air pollution is a challenge in maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SAC, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>44</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that the development of recreation/education facilities may have adverse effects on the site's integrity as a result of increases in traffic during development and potentially as a result of more visitors. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p>  |
|                        |   |                    |                        | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – Much of this SPA is facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. In addition, air pollution is a challenge in maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>45</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that the development of recreation/education facilities, which may attract more visitors, may have adverse effects on the site's integrity as a result of increases in traffic during development and potentially as a result of more visitors. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain. The SPA is also sensitive to changes in hydrology. The Derbyshire Dales CAMS and Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS outline that catchments within the SPA are already over abstracted and over licensed. Increased demand on water resources resulting from a larger population will enhance this pressure, particularly during summer months. All potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> |
|                        |   |                    |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – Much of this SPA is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>46</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that the development of recreation/education facilities may have adverse effects on the site's integrity due to increases in traffic and potentially as a result of more visitors. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain.</p>  |

<sup>44</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>45</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>46</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|---|
|                        |   |                    |                        | <b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Uncertain – the site is experiencing pressure from nutrient enrichment, especially from atmospheric pollution, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads <sup>47</sup> . Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ), the high degree of vulnerability this site experiences with regards air pollution may mean that the development of recreation/education facilities may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity due to increases in traffic. This may in part be mitigated through the encouragement of access by sustainable means, although this is uncertain. |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

The potential for adverse impacts is dependent upon the size and number of developments, as well as the detail regarding how access by sustainable means will be encouraged. As such, we recommend policy wording to be included which ensures permissions are monitored to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects arising from the development of numerous recreation/education facilities, and/or concentrations of facilities in particular areas. We also recommend a general criterion to be included within Policy L2 regarding monitoring all permissions to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects (see Chapter 8 of main report).

We recommend more detail in the policy wording or supportive text regarding how opportunities for access by sustainable modes will be encouraged, and what factors the National Park Authority thinks should be considered in relation to ‘environmental capacity’.

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

|  |   |  |   |   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| RT2: Hotels, bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism and recreational damage / disturbance</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><b>Policy RT2</b><br/>Change of use of entire farmsteads will not be permitted. Only minor extensions and improvements. New holiday accommodation will not be permitted, except for a hotel in Bakewell.</p> <p><b>Policy L2</b><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for</p> | Development in surrounding areas leading to, for example, increases in visitor numbers and pressure on hydrology due to increased extraction. | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – nitrogen deposition in this site is exceeding critical loads<sup>48</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), any additional holiday accommodation capacity may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity due to increases in traffic.</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is located approximately 15km from the National Park boundary and development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale to result in adverse effects as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – the policy allows for a new hotel to be permitted in Bakewell, which parts of this SAC are in proximity to. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), nitrogen deposition is currently exceeding critical loads, and as such, any increases in traffic may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity<sup>49</sup>. As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA<sup>50</sup>, discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality (particularly in relation to phosphorous levels). An increase in housing development could add further pressure on water quality. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale to result in adverse effects as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |
|--|---|--|---|---|

<sup>47</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

<sup>48</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors  | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|------------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|
|                        |   | sites designated for biodiversity.<br><br><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u> |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – Much of this SAC is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SAC, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>51</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that any additional holiday accommodation capacity may have adverse effects on the site's integrity. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – Much of this SPA is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>52</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that any additional holiday accommodation capacity may have adverse effects on the site's integrity. The SPA is also sensitive to changes in hydrology. The Derbyshire Dales CAMS and Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS outline that catchments within the SPA are already over abstracted and over licensed. Increased demand on water resources resulting from development will enhance this pressure, particularly during summer months. All potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – Much of this SPA is facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>53</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that any additional holiday accommodation capacity may have adverse effects on the site's integrity.</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – the site is experiencing pressure from nutrient enrichment, especially from atmospheric pollution, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>54</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site experiences with regards air pollution may mean that any additional holiday accommodation capacity may have adverse effects on the site's integrity due to increases in traffic.</p> |

### Recommendations for policy wording:

Aside from the nature of the hotel development at Bakewell, the potential for adverse impacts is highly dependent upon the number of extensions/changes of use permitted. As such, we recommend policy wording to be included which ensures permissions are monitored to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects arising from numerous extensions/changes of use, and/or concentrations of extensions/changes of use in particular areas. We also recommend a general criterion to be included within Policy L2 regarding monitoring all permissions to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects (see Chapter 8 of main report).

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the

<sup>49</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>50</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

<sup>51</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>52</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>53</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>54</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy   | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects  | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available. |   |  |   |   |
| RT3:<br>Caravans and camping   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tourism and recreational damage / disturbance</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy RT3</u><br/>Small touring and caravan sites and backpack camping sites (particularly in areas of deficiency). Improved facilities on existing sites (shops and recreation).</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> | Development in surrounding areas leading to, for example, increases in visitor numbers and traffic. | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – nitrogen deposition in this site is exceeding critical loads<sup>55</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), any additional visitor capacity resulting from the provision of caravan/camping sites may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity due to increases in traffic. This policy’s supporting text states that large camping and caravan sites will be encouraged to locate in areas outside of or on the fringe of the National Park; as such, the location of this site, within the 15km buffer and close to the National Park boundary, increases the vulnerability of the site to future development.</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is located approximately 15km from the National Park boundary and development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale to result in adverse effects as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the location of this site, close to the National Park boundary (within the 15km buffer), increases the vulnerability of the site to the development of large camping/caravan sites. This, combined with the sensitivity of the site to air pollution, may mean that this policy could have adverse effects on the site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC</b>: Uncertain – whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), nitrogen deposition is currently exceeding critical loads, and as such, any increases in traffic resulting from future development of camping/caravan sites may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity<sup>56</sup> as a result of increases in traffic as a result of more visitors. Parts of the SAC which are close to the National Park boundary may be more vulnerable to the development of large camping/caravan sites (as outlined in the policy’s supporting text). As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA<sup>57</sup>, discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality (particularly in relation to phosphorous levels). An increase in housing development could add further pressure on water quality. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – development is unlikely to be of a large enough scale to result in adverse effects as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b>: Uncertain – Much of this SAC is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SAC, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>58</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that any additional visitor capacity may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> |

<sup>55</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>56</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>57</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Tweek Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

<sup>58</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|---|
|                        |   |                    |                        | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – Much of this SPA is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>59</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that any additional visitor capacity may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity. The SPA is also sensitive to changes in hydrology. The Derbyshire Dales CAMS and Tame, Goyt and Etherow CAMS outline that catchments within the SPA are already over abstracted and over licensed. Increased demand on water resources resulting from new development will enhance this pressure, particularly during summer months. All potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – Much of this SPA is already facing severe pressure from human activity, which may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors. Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>60</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site is facing may mean that any additional visitor capacity may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Uncertain – the site is experiencing pressure from nutrient enrichment, especially from atmospheric pollution, with acid and nitrogen deposition exceeding critical loads<sup>61</sup>. Whilst development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), the high degree of vulnerability this site experiences with regards air pollution may mean that any additional visitor capacity may have adverse effects on the site’s integrity.</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

The potential for adverse impacts is dependent upon the number of extensions/changes of use. As such, we recommend policy wording to be included which ensures permissions are monitored to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects arising from numerous extensions/changes of use, and/or concentrations of extensions/changes of use in particular areas. We also recommend a general criterion to be included within Policy L2 regarding monitoring all permissions to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects (see Chapter 8 of main report).

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

|  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| CC2: Low carbon and renewable energy development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disturbance</li> <li>Physical loss / damage</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy CC2</u><br/>Allows for low carbon and renewable energy development, subject to a number of criteria, including those in Policy GSP3 and avoiding development in the Natural Zone. Only</p> | Renewable energy developments in neighbouring districts could result in a cumulative impact (e.g. with a series of wind turbine developments) |
|--|---|---|---|

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|---|
| <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any low carbon development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p>                  |
| <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is located approximately 15km from the National Park boundary and any low carbon development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |
| <p><b>Gang Mine SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any low carbon development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p>  |

<sup>59</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

<sup>60</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

<sup>61</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage 1 Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects                            | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|---|--|---|--|
|                        |   | Natural Zone. Only single wind turbine developments of a small scale will be permitted, taking account of cumulative impacts. Heat pump, solar thermal and biomass technologies all emphasised in supporting text. | developments enhancing possible barrier effects). | <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – depending on the location of any low carbon development, there is the potential for such development to lead to disturbance, physical loss or damage of the SAC. Whilst safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>) limit the scale of such development, the likelihood of adverse effects is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any low carbon development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – depending on the location of any low carbon development, there is the potential for such development to lead to disturbance, physical loss or damage of the SAC (e.g. in relation to damage to sensitive habitats within the SAC, such as peatland). Whilst safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>) limit the scale of such development, the likelihood of adverse effects is uncertain.</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – qualifying features of this site include breeding short-eared owl, merlin and golden plover. As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA<sup>62</sup>, with regards the development of windfarms, golden plover is vulnerable to barrier effects and disturbance, whilst owls are vulnerable to collisions. Safeguards in this policy limit the scale of a potential wind turbine development, and this should mitigate potential effects, but vulnerabilities may still exist in relation to barrier effects, disturbance and potential for collisions.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – qualifying features of this site include breeding short-eared owl, merlin and golden plover. As outlined in the East Midlands RSS HRA<sup>63</sup>, with regards the development of windfarms, golden plover is vulnerable to barrier effects and disturbance, whilst owls are vulnerable to collisions. Breeding waders could also be affected. Safeguards in this policy limit the scale of a potential wind turbine development, and this should mitigate potential effects, but vulnerabilities may still exist in relation to barrier effects, disturbance and potential for collisions.</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any low carbon development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |
|                        | <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> |  |   |  |

#### Recommendations for policy wording:

Low carbon and renewable energy development can impact not only landscape character, but also biodiversity (through barrier effects, potential for collisions between turbine blades and birds, disturbance and physical damage during construction). The criteria in the policy, such as not allowing groups of turbines, mitigate some potential effects. However, we recommend the following additional policy wording to No. 1: 'without harm to the landscape character *and biodiversity assets, including Natura 2000 sites*'.

CC3: Waste management – domestic, industrial and

- Fragmentation
- Disturbance
- Physical

Policy CC3  
Small-scale community-run waste facilities will

**Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC** (*within 15km buffer*): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any waste management development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (*subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording*).

<sup>62</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

<sup>63</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.



| Submission Plan Policy          | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors  | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|---------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|---|
| industrial and commercial waste | damage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | waste facilities will be encouraged. Restoration and after use of waste sites. On-site management of construction and demolition waste. |                        | <b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is located approximately 15km from the National Park boundary and any waste management development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ).   |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>Gang Mine SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any waste management development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ).  |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>Peak District Dales SAC</b> : Uncertain – depending on the location of any waste management development, there is the potential for such development to lead to disturbance or damage of the SAC (e.g. through the construction of access tracks and foundations for the wind turbines). Whilst safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ) limit the scale of such development, the likelihood of adverse effects is uncertain.  |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any waste management development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ).   |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b> : Uncertain – depending on the location of any waste management development, there is the potential for such development to lead to disturbance or damage of the SAC (e.g. through the construction of access tracks and foundations for the wind turbines). Whilst safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ) limit the scale of such development, the likelihood of adverse effects is uncertain.  |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>Peak District Moors SPA</b> : Uncertain – depending on the location of any waste management development, there is the potential for such development to lead to disturbance or damage of the SPA (e.g. through the construction of access tracks and foundations for the wind turbines). In addition, catchments within this SPA are already over abstracted and over licensed and any increased demand on water resources resulting from waste facilities could increase this pressure, particularly during summer months. Whilst safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ) limit the scale of such development, the likelihood of adverse effects is uncertain. |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any waste management development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ).  |
|                                 |   |   |                        | <b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any waste management development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 ( <i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i> ).  |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

None.

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| CC4: Waste management – on-farm anaerobic | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Disturbance</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological</li> </ul> | <u>Policy CC4</u><br>Single and centralised on-farm anaerobic digester |
|---|--|--|

**Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC** (*within 15km buffer*): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (*subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording*).

| Submission Plan Policy                                | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|---|---|--|------------------------|--|
| anaerobic digestion of agricultural manure and slurry | change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | anaerobic digester units.<br><br><u>Policy L2</u><br>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.<br><br><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u> |                        | <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <hr/> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Unlikely – any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Unlikely – any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Unlikely – any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any on-farm anaerobic digestion facility is likely to be small scale and self-contained as a result of the nature of the facility, and safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

None.

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| HC2:<br>Housing for key workers in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> <li>Tourism and recreational</li> </ul> | <u>Policy HC2</u><br>Housing for key workers in agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprises.<br>Re-use traditional buildings where possible.<br>At a future date, can |
|---|--|--|

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|--|
| <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any housing development for key workers is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any housing development for key workers is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any housing development for key workers is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |
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| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors  | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|---|---|------------------------|--|
|                        | recreational damage / disturbance       | be used as part of affordable housing stock, and temporarily, for holiday accommodation.  |                        | <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst potential impacts are dependent upon the exact scale and location of new housing for key workers, adverse impacts resulting from such development may be incurred on the site's integrity linked to the site's vulnerability to drainage, water quality (discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality<sup>64</sup>) and nitrogen deposition (linked to increased traffic movements). In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any housing development for key workers is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst potential impacts are dependent upon the exact scale and location of new housing for key workers, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site's integrity linked to the site's vulnerability to human activity, fragmentation, and air pollution. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – whilst potential impacts are dependent upon the exact scale and location of new housing for key workers, adverse impacts resulting from such a development may be incurred on the site's integrity linked to the site's vulnerability to human activity, air pollution and hydrological change. In addition, potential effects are likely to be exacerbated by increased development within neighbouring authorities.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any housing development for key workers is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any housing development for key workers is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> |
|                        |   | <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> |                        |  |

#### Recommendations for policy wording:

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

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| <p>HC4: Sites for gypsies, travellers or travelling showpeople</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy HC4</u><br/>Gypsy, traveller or show people's caravan/mobile home sites – permitted where exceptional circumstances show there is a proven need for a small site for limited seasonal use.</p> | <p>Development in surrounding areas leading to, for example, increases in traffic.</p> <p>The lack of provision of gypsy, traveller and showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> |
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<sup>64</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors  | In-combination effects  | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
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|                        |   | <p>occupancy.</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> | <p>and show people's sites in neighbouring authorities may enhance the need for sites within the National Park.</p> | <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Unlikely – the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Unlikely – the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Unlikely – the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any gypsy, traveller or showpeople sites will be very limited and small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |

#### Recommendations for policy wording:

To limit the amount of additional traffic generated by gypsy, traveller and show people sites, we recommend additional policy wording regarding ensuring such sites have good access to a range of leisure and community facilities, and safe access to and from the main road network.

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| <p>HC5:<br/>Provision and retention of community services and facilities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragmentation</li> <li>• Physical damage</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Hydrological change</li> <li>• Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy HC5</u><br/>Provision or improvement of community facilities/ services will be encouraged within settlements (GSP3). Preference given to change of use of existing traditional buildings rather than construction of new buildings.</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will</p> |
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| <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Unlikely – the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |
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| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|---|
|                        |   | not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.<br><br><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u> |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Unlikely – the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Unlikely – the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the provision of any community services/facilities is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>).</p> |

### Recommendations for policy wording:

We recommend additional policy wording which ensures permissions are monitored to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects arising from changes of use of community facilities into housing/visitor accommodation. We also recommend a general criterion to be included within Policy L2 regarding monitoring all permissions to mitigate the potential for cumulative effects (see Chapter 8 of main report).

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| EI: Business development in towns and villages | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragmentation</li> <li>• Physical damage</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Hydrological change</li> <li>• Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><b>Policy EI</b></p> <p>New sites/buildings for business development permitted within named settlements (DS1). New buildings permitted where this is not possible. Where possible, proposals must reuse existing buildings/ previously developed sites. Redevelopment of employment sites to include affordable housing or community uses.</p> |
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**Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC (within 15km buffer):** Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any business development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (*subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording*).

**Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC (within 15km buffer):** Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any business development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (*subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording*).

**Gang Mine SAC (within 15km buffer):** Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any business development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (*subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording*).

**Peak District Dales SAC:** Uncertain – whilst the potential for adverse impacts on the site's integrity is dependent on the nature of the business development and its exact location (e.g. there is a greater potential for adverse impacts if business development occurs in/on the edge of Hartington due to the proximity of this settlement to the SAC). This potential impact can not be ruled out. Potential impacts are linked to the site's vulnerability to drainage issues, water quality (discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality<sup>65</sup>) and nitrogen deposition (linked to the potential for new business to generate extra traffic).

**Rochdale Canal SAC (within 15km buffer):** Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any business development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (*subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording*).

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|---|
|                        |   | <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity is dependent on the nature of the business development and its exact location (e.g. there is a greater potential for adverse impacts if business development occurs in/on the edge of Tintwistle or Hayfield due to the proximity of these settlements to the SAC), this potential can not be ruled out. Potential impacts are linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity (potential for new business to increase the local population/attract visitors), air pollution (potential for new business to generate extra traffic) and hydrological change (potential for new business to increase the pressure on local water resources, particularly during summer months).</p> |
|                        |   | <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p>   |                        | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – whilst the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity is dependent on the nature of the business development and its exact location (e.g. there is a greater potential for adverse impacts if business development occurs in/on the edge of Tintwistle or Hayfield due to the proximity of these settlements to the SPA), this potential can not be ruled out. Potential impacts are linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity (potential for new business to increase the local population/attract visitors), air pollution (potential for new business to generate extra traffic) and hydrological change (potential for new business to increase the pressure on local water resources, particularly during summer months).</p> |
|                        |   |  |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any business development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and any business development is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p>   |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.

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| E2:<br>Businesses in the countryside | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragmentation</li> <li>• Physical damage</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Hydrological change</li> <li>• Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy E2</u><br/>Alongside E1, spatial guidance to direct business development. Encourage small scale development within smaller settlements/farmsteads, groups of buildings in areas</p> |
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| <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the development of business in the countryside is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> |
| <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the development of business in the countryside is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p>     |
| <p><b>Gang Mine SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the development of business in the countryside is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p>                       |

<sup>65</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

| Submission Plan Policy   | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects   | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
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|  |   | <p>of buildings in more sustainable locations. Not permit business use in isolated existing/new building in open countryside. Not permit business use in an isolated existing/new building in the open countryside. Allow redevelopment of traditional buildings for holiday accommodation/ additional living space.</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> |  | <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity is dependent on the nature of the business development and its exact location, this potential can not be ruled out. Potential impacts are linked to the site’s vulnerability to drainage issues, water quality (discharges into the River Wye within this SAC are impacting water quality<sup>66</sup>) and nitrogen deposition (linked to the potential for new business to generate extra traffic).</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the development of business in the countryside is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – whilst the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity is dependent on the nature of the business development and its exact location, this potential can not be ruled out. Potential impacts are linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity (potential for new business to increase the local population/attract visitors), air pollution (potential for new business to generate extra traffic) and hydrological change (potential for new business to increase the pressure on local water resources, particularly during summer months).</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – whilst the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity is dependent on the nature of the business development and its exact location, this potential can not be ruled out. Potential impacts are linked to the site’s vulnerability to human activity (potential for new business to increase the local population/attract visitors), air pollution (potential for new business to generate extra traffic) and hydrological change (potential for new business to increase the pressure on local water resources, particularly during summer months).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the development of business in the countryside is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary and the development of business in the countryside is likely to be small scale as a result of safeguards in this policy and in Policy L2 (subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording).</p> |
| <p><b>Recommendations for policy wording:</b></p> <p>Recognising the impact that discharges from the Tideswell and Buxton Sewage Treatment Works into the River Wye are currently having on the SAC, we recommend policy wording elsewhere in the Plan (L2 or CC5) which states that, prior to any development being granted consent, it will be ensured that sufficient capacity for sewage treatment is available.</p> | <p>MINI:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution and dust</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy MINI</u><br/>Proposals for new mineral extraction/ extensions to existing mineral operations (except</p>  | <p>New and extended permitted mineral extraction sites in neighbouring</p> | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any minerals development within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity (particularly given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances). Restoration schemes have the potential to positively contribute to wildlife enhancement, and in turn this site.</p>   |

<sup>66</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Treweek Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors  | In-combination effects              | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
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|                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p>operations (except for those covered by MIN2 and MIN3) will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances. Restoration schemes required for each new minerals proposal/where existing sites are subject to mineral review procedures.</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> | <p>in neighbouring authorities.</p> | <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any minerals development within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity (particularly given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances). Restoration schemes have the potential to positively contribute to wildlife enhancement, and in turn this site.</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – this site currently experiences deposition of limestone dust from the adjacent Dean Quarry<sup>67</sup>. However, given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances, it is not expected that this policy will exacerbate this problem. In addition, if deposition is an ongoing issue, the consent for site’s operation should be reviewed by the Environment Agency. Restoration schemes have the potential to positively contribute to wildlife enhancement, and in turn this site.</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC</b>: Unlikely – there is existing permission within the SAC for limestone and mineral abstraction, and this is a potential threat to some of the woodlands on one part of the site<sup>68</sup>. However, given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances, it is not expected that this policy will exacerbate this problem. In addition, if the threat to woodlands is an ongoing issue, the consent for site’s operation should be reviewed by the Environment Agency. It should be noted that restoration schemes have the potential to positively contribute to wildlife enhancement, and in turn this site.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any minerals development within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity (particularly given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances).</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b>: Unlikely – given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances, and that mineral extraction activities are not currently noted as having any adverse impacts on this site, it is unlikely that this policy will result in any adverse impacts on the integrity of this site. It should be noted that restoration schemes have the potential to positively contribute to wildlife enhancement, and in turn this site.</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA</b>: Unlikely – given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances, and that mineral extraction activities are not currently noted as having any adverse impacts on this site, it is unlikely that this policy will result in any adverse impacts on the integrity of this site. It should be noted that restoration schemes have the potential to positively contribute to wildlife enhancement, and in turn this site.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any minerals development within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity (particularly given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances).</p> |

<sup>67</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.

<sup>68</sup> HRA of the East Midlands Regional Plan. Trewick Environmental Consultants and Environ, 2009.



| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|---|--------------------|------------------------|--|
|                        |   |                    |                        | <b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any minerals development within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity (particularly given that new mineral extraction or extensions will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances). |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

None.

MIN2:  
Fluorspar proposals

- Fragmentation
- Physical damage
- Air pollution
- Hydrological change
- Impacts on water quality

Policy MIN2

Where environmental impacts can be properly mitigated:  
- encourage and support continued extraction of fluorspar ore by *underground* mining  
- support proposals for recycling tailings from existing lagoons  
- support proposals for the retention and continued operation of the Cavendish Mill Plant existing tailing lagoons  
Not permit proposals for opencast mining.

Policy L2

Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.

From other plans and/or HRAs

New and extended permitted fluorspar extraction sites in neighbouring authorities.

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| <b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any fluorspar extraction within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.  |
| <b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any fluorspar extraction within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.  |
| <b>Gang Mine SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any fluorspar extraction within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.  |
| <b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Unlikely - Policy MIN2 encourages and supports continued extraction of fluorspar by underground mining (include permitted Milldam and Watersaw Mines, both of which are approx. 2.5km from the Peak District Dales SAC). This could affect air quality if processing was to take place on site, however the policy requires mitigation of environmental impacts. |
| <b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any fluorspar extraction within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.   |
| <b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Unlikely - Policy MIN2 encourages and supports continued extraction of fluorspar by underground mining (include permitted Milldam and Watersaw Mines, both of which are approx. 2.5km from the Peak District Dales SAC). This could affect air quality if processing was to take place on site, however the policy requires mitigation of environmental impacts. |
| <b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Unlikely - Policy MIN2 encourages and supports continued extraction of fluorspar by underground mining (include permitted Milldam and Watersaw Mines, both of which are approx. 2.5km from the Peak District Dales SAC). This could affect air quality if processing was to take place on site, however the policy requires mitigation of environmental impacts. |
| <b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any fluorspar extraction within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.  |
| <b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> ( <i>within 15km buffer</i> ): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any fluorspar extraction within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.  |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

None.

| Submission Plan Policy                             | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site   | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects   | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| MIN3: Local small-scale building and roofing stone | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution and dust</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy MIN3</u><br/>Small scale proposals for the working of building/roofing stone where individual and cumulative impacts on the environment can be appropriately mitigated.</p> <p><u>Policy L2</u><br/>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> | New and extended permitted workings of building/roofing stone in neighbouring authorities. | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any working of building and roofing stone within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any working of building and roofing stone within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any working of building and roofing stone within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC</b>: Unlikely - Policy MIN3 allows for small-scale proposals for the working of building/roofing stone. This could affect air quality, however the policy requires mitigation of environmental impacts.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any working of building and roofing stone within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b>: Unlikely - Policy MIN3 allows for small-scale proposals for the working of building/roofing stone. This could affect air quality, however the policy requires mitigation of environmental impacts.</p> <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA</b>: Unlikely - Policy MIN3 allows for small-scale proposals for the working of building/roofing stone. This could affect air quality, however the policy requires mitigation of environmental impacts.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any working of building and roofing stone within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any working of building and roofing stone within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

None.

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| T2: Reducing and directing traffic within the National Park | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fragmentation</li> <li>Physical damage</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Hydrological change</li> <li>Impacts on</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy T2</u><br/>Transport developments which reduce cross-Park traffic will be supported if they can be accommodated without adverse</p> |
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**Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits SAC** (*within 15km buffer*): Uncertain – nitrogen deposition in this site is exceeding critical loads<sup>69</sup>. This site is approximately 2km from the National Park boundary, and Policy T2 has the potential to increase traffic in these fringe areas as a result of restricting cross-Park traffic. In addition, policies which state preference for development close to the Park boundary (RT1 and RT3) could result in the requirement for additional transport development in these boundary areas. Given the proximity of the SAC to the National Park’s boundary, this may increase its vulnerability to increased traffic and transport development, with the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity (linked to nitrogen deposition levels).

<sup>69</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
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|                        | water quality                           | without adverse impacts on the National Park's valued characteristics. Transport developments which increase cross-Park traffic may be accepted where there is a clear long term net environmental benefit. New road schemes/improvements where they provide access to new business or housing development or there are exceptional circumstances. Sustainable transport patterns will be sought that complement settlement planning policies. |                        | <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – as this site is approximately 15km from the National Park boundary, is not vulnerable to air pollution, and as a result of safeguards in policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), this policy is not expected to result in any adverse impacts on the site's integrity.</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Uncertain – this site is approximately 2km from the National Park boundary. Policy T2 has the potential to increase traffic in these fringe areas as a result of restricting cross-Park traffic. In addition, policies which state preference for development close to the Park boundary (RT1 and RT3) could result in the requirement for additional transport development in these boundary areas. Given the proximity of the SAC to the National Park boundary and to the A6, this may increase its vulnerability to increased traffic and transport development. Given the site's sensitivity to air pollution, there is the potential for adverse impacts on the site's integrity.</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC</b>: Uncertain – nitrogen deposition is currently exceeding critical loads within the SAC<sup>70</sup>. Given the proximity of parts of the SAC to settlements highlighted for potential housing development (e.g. Tideswell and Longstone), this may increase the site's vulnerability to transport infrastructure required to support this development. Whilst this policy seeks to reduce cross-Park traffic, which could mitigate existing negative impacts on the site (resulting from nitrogen deposition linked to traffic emissions), there is also the potential for new housing/business/tourism development to increase traffic within the Park and in proximity to the SAC, and as such, the potential for adverse impacts on the site's integrity can not be ruled out.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – as this site is outside of the National Park boundary, is not vulnerable to air pollution, and as a result of safeguards in policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), this policy is not expected to result in any adverse impacts on the site's integrity.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b>: Uncertain – Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SAC, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>71</sup>. Given the proximity of parts of this SAC to named settlements in Policy DS1 (Tintwistle, Hayfield, Grindleford, and Baslow), this may increase the site's vulnerability to transport infrastructure required to support this development. Whilst this policy seeks to reduce cross-Park traffic, which could mitigate existing negative impacts on the site (resulting from nitrogen deposition linked to traffic emissions), there is also the potential for new housing/business/tourism development to increase traffic within the Park and in proximity to the SAC, and as such, the potential for adverse impacts on the site's integrity can not be ruled out.</p> |

Policy L2  
Development will not be permitted

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity   |
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|                        |   | not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.<br><br><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u> |                        | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – Air pollution is a challenge to maintaining and enhancing the condition of the SPA, with acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>72</sup>. Given the proximity of parts of this SPA to named settlements in Policy DSI (Tintwistle, Hayfield, Grindleford, and Baslow), this may increase the site’s vulnerability to transport infrastructure required to support this development. Whilst this policy seeks to reduce cross-Park traffic, which could mitigate existing negative impacts on the site (resulting from nitrogen deposition linked to traffic emissions), there is also the potential for new housing/business/tourism development to increase traffic within the Park and in proximity to the SPA, and as such, the potential for adverse impacts on the site’s integrity can not be ruled out.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Policy T2 seeks to restrict cross-Park traffic, and as such may lead to increases in traffic in areas where roads bypass the National Park. As such, the location of the SPA may increase its vulnerability to such traffic. This, combined with acid and nitrogen deposition currently exceeding critical loads<sup>73</sup>, may result in adverse impacts on the integrity of the site.</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – as this site is approximately 13km from the National Park boundary, is not vulnerable to air pollution, and as a result of safeguards in policy L2 (<i>subject to recommended strengthening of L2 wording</i>), this policy is not expected to result in any adverse impacts on the site’s integrity.</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:**

We recommend the following addition to the first paragraph of Policy T2: ‘Transport developments, including traffic management schemes, which reduce the amount of cross-Park traffic, will be supported if they can be accommodated without adverse impact on the National Park’s valued characteristics, including the potential adverse impacts on N2K sites which may arise from a decline in air quality’. We recommend deletion of the third paragraph of this policy.

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| T4: Managing the demand for freight transport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragmentation</li> <li>• Physical damage</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Hydrological change</li> <li>• Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><b>Policy T4</b></p> <p>Infrastructure developments which enable the transfer of road freight to rail will be supported where appropriate. Developments requiring LGV access must be located on/ readily accessible to the (Strategic) Secondary Road</p> |
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| <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which encourages the transfer of freight movement from road to rail has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing high levels of nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is approximately 15km from the National Park boundary, and as such, any development regarding freight transport within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which encourages the transfer of freight movement from road to rail has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing high levels of nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> |
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<sup>70</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>71</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>72</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>73</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site | Mitigating factors   | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|---|--|------------------------|--|
|                        |   | <p>Secondary Road Network.</p> <p>Weight restriction orders sought where it is necessary to influence the routing of LGVs to avoid negative environmental impacts.</p> |                        | <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – depending on the exact location and scale of any freight-related development, there may be the potential for adverse impacts on this site’s integrity, linked to the potential for disturbance and the concentration of higher emission levels where transfer stations are developed. However, the transfer of freight movement from road to rail also has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing levels of nitrogen deposition at this site that are exceeding critical loads within the SAC<sup>74</sup>). However, the potential for adverse impacts can not be ruled out despite the potential for positive impacts to occur.</p>  |
|                        |   | <p><u>Policy L2</u></p> <p>Development will not be permitted where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p>                            |                        | <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any development regarding freight transport within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p>  |
|                        |   | <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p>   |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – depending on the exact location and scale of any freight-related development, there may be the potential for adverse impacts on this site’s integrity, linked to the potential for disturbance and the concentration of higher emission levels where transfer stations are developed. However, the transfer of freight movement from road to rail also has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing levels of acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>75</sup>). However, the potential for adverse impacts can not be ruled out despite the potential for positive impacts to occur.</p>   |
|                        |   |  |                        | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – depending on the exact location and scale of any freight-related development, there may be the potential for adverse impacts on this site’s integrity, linked to the potential for disturbance and the concentration of higher emission levels where transfer stations are developed. However, the transfer of freight movement from road to rail also has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing levels of acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>76</sup>). However, the potential for adverse impacts can not be ruled out despite the potential for positive impacts to occur.</p>   |
|                        |   |  |                        | <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which encourages the transfer of freight movement from road to rail has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing high levels of acid and nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which encourages the transfer of freight movement from road to rail has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing high levels of nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:** We recommend the following addition to the first paragraph of Policy T4: ‘Freight facilities should be related to the needs of the National Park based businesses and be located to avoid harm to the valued characteristics of the National Park, *and minimise the potential for increases in air pollution*’. We recommend deletion of the third paragraph of this policy.

<sup>74</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>75</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>76</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

| Submission Plan Policy   | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site  | Mitigating factors  | In-combination effects   | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| T7:<br>Minimising the adverse impact of motor vehicles and managing the demand for car and coach parks | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragmentation</li> <li>• Physical damage</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Hydrological change</li> <li>• Impacts on water quality</li> </ul> | <p><u>Policy T7</u></p> <p>Within environmentally sensitive locations additional traffic management schemes undertaken where there is a demonstrable need. Operational parking for service and delivery vehicles and residential parking. Non residential parking will be restricted to discourage car use and managed to ensure location and nature of car/coach parking does not exceed environmental capacity. Park and ride schemes encouraged to the main visitor areas.</p> | <p><u>Policy L2</u></p> <p>Development will not be permitted where it will have an</p> | <p><b>Bees Nest &amp; Green Clay Pits SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which seeks to support a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions (important given the existing high levels of nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> <p><b>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is approximately 15km from the National Park boundary, and as such, any development regarding traffic schemes, operational/non-residential parking, and park and ride schemes within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>Gang Mine SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely –site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which seeks to support a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions (important given the existing high levels of nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> <p><b>Peak District Dales SAC:</b> Uncertain – depending on the exact location and scale of any development regarding traffic schemes, operational/non-residential parking, and park and ride schemes, there may be the potential for adverse impacts on this site’s integrity, linked to the potential for disturbance, fragmentation of habitat, and the concentration of higher emission levels where park and ride schemes are developed. However, supporting a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport also has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing levels of nitrogen deposition at this site that are exceeding critical loads within the SAC<sup>77</sup>). However, the potential for adverse impacts can not be ruled out despite the potential for positive impacts to occur.</p> <p><b>Rochdale Canal SAC</b> (<i>within 15km buffer</i>): Unlikely – site is outside of the National Park boundary, and as such, any development regarding traffic schemes, operational/non-residential parking, and park and ride schemes within the National Park is unlikely to result in adverse impacts on this site’s integrity.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors SAC:</b> Uncertain – depending on the exact location and scale of any development regarding traffic schemes, operational/non-residential parking, and park and ride schemes, there may be the potential for adverse impacts on this site’s integrity, linked to the potential for disturbance, fragmentation of habitat, and the concentration of higher emission levels where park and ride schemes are developed. However, the transfer of freight movement from road to rail also has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing levels of acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>78</sup>). However, the potential for adverse impacts can not be ruled out despite the potential for positive impacts to occur.</p> |

| Submission Plan Policy | Potential impacts of policy on N2K Site  | Mitigating factors | In-combination effects | Likelihood of adverse effects on site integrity  |
|------------------------|--|--------------------|------------------------|--|
|                        | <p>where it will have an adverse effect on sites designated for biodiversity.</p> <p><u>From other plans and/or HRAs</u></p> |                    |                        | <p><b>Peak District Moors SPA:</b> Uncertain – depending on the exact location and scale of any development regarding traffic schemes, operational/non-residential parking, and park and ride schemes, there may be the potential for adverse impacts on this site’s integrity, linked to the potential for disturbance, fragmentation of habitat, and the concentration of higher emission levels where park and ride schemes are developed. However, the transfer of freight movement from road to rail also has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions from the use of more sustainable modes of transport (important given the existing levels of acid deposition exceeding critical loads and nitrogen deposition at/exceeding critical loads<sup>79</sup>). However, the potential for adverse impacts can not be ruled out despite the potential for positive impacts to occur.</p> <p><b>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely –site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which seeks to support a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions (important given the existing high levels of acid and nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> <p><b>Midland Meres &amp; Mosses Ramsar (within 15km buffer):</b> Unlikely –site is outside of the National Park boundary. Any development which seeks to support a modal shift to more sustainable modes of transport has the potential to positively impact the site given the potential for a resulting reduction in carbon emissions (important given the existing high levels of nitrogen deposition at this site).</p> |

**Recommendations for policy wording:** We recommend the addition of the following policy wording: ‘Proposed traffic management schemes will be reviewed for their potential to result in increases in air pollution, and not allowed where any increases are likely to result in adverse impacts on N2K sites’.

<sup>77</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>78</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.

<sup>79</sup> Mott MacDonald (2008) HRA of the East Midlands RSS Partial Review – Air Quality Technical Report – Stage I Pre-Screening.