

Habitats Regulations Assessment
(Screening)

of the

Peak District National Park Authority

Local Plan Issues and Options Report

August 2024

Prepared by PDNPA

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1. Introduction

1.1 The Peak District National Park (PDNP) is a nationally protected landscape. Approximately one third of the PDNP is designated as part of a protected site. Most areas that are of importance for wildlife or geology are covered by more than one of the legislative designations that come under the protection of the Habitat Regulations; government policy that protects ecological sites from harmful development.

1.2 Requirements to undertake a Habitat Regulations Assessment

1.3 The Habitat Regulations, also known as The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2010, were amended in 2017 and 2019 to address the changes required to legislation following the departure of the UK from the European Union (EU). The Regulations place a duty on the competent authority to protect and conserve natural habitats and species of European importance. These designated "European Sites"- Special Areas of Conservation areas (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs)- collectively form the UK National Site Network¹ (NSN) (formerly Natura 2000 sites).

UK National Site Network

The UK national site network objectives are to:

- maintain or, where appropriate, restore habitats and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive to a favourable conservation status (FCS)
- contribute to ensuring, in their area of distribution, the survival and reproduction of wild birds and securing compliance with the overarching aims of the Wild Birds Directive

The appropriate authorities must also have regard to the:

- importance of protected sites
- coherence of the national site network
- threats of degradation or destruction (including deterioration and disturbance of protected features) on SPAs and SACs

The network objectives contribute to the conservation of UK habitats and species that are also of pan-European importance, and to the achievement of their FCS within the UK.

[Changes to the Habitats Regulations 2017 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017)

1.4 Ramsar sites, which are sites of international wetland importance and protected by the Ramsar Convention (1975) are not part of the NSN but are subject to the HRA.

¹ [Habitats regulations assessments: protecting a European site - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017)

1.5 It is a requirement of the Local Plan to protect wildlife from any adverse impact of development and where appropriate seek to provide improvements as part of the development for wildlife to flourish. As such, the purpose of the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Scoping report is to determine whether policies within the Peak District National Park Authority Local Plan (currently at Issues and Options Stage) are likely to have an impact on protected sites. The impact could be on a protected site, near a protected site, or some distance away a protected site but affect it by causing air, water, or noise pollution, or the impact could be on a site that is used by a species located on a protected site.

1.6 The protected sites considered for the purposes of the HRA

1.7 Sites are:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs)
- Ramsar sites (wetlands of international importance)

1.8 Areas secured as sites compensating for damage to a European site

1.9 Also covered by Habitat Regulations are sites that are proposed to be any of the above listed sites.

1.10 As the competent authority, the PDNPA has a duty to help protect, conserve and restore sites. The process of determining planning applications is based on weighing up the impact of a proposed development using policies within the Local Plan. In turn, these decisions might affect a protected site.

1.11 The Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA, 2023)

1.12 In addition to the Habitat Regulations, the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA, 2023) brought in new legislation regarding nutrient or phosphorous nutrient neutrality from agricultural runoff and development. LURA Schedule 15, amends the Habitat Regulations with regulation 85A; an assumption that wastewater plans will meet the relevant nitrogen or phosphorous pollution standard by the relevant date. Advice from the Chief Planner states that mitigation relating to high pollution levels is required until 2030, after which mitigation is required with respect to lower levels thereafter. It is a matter for the Secretary of State to disapply the assumption in consultation with the EA and NE².

1.13 Parts of the Peak District Dales Special Area of Conservation (SAC), the River Wye within the Wye valley component of the SAC were found to have phosphorus concentrations to be exceeding targets. As the competent authority, we need to be satisfied that adequate mitigation is in place to ensure no overall adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC.

1.14 The Conservation Objectives for the Peak District Dales SAC state that 'the natural nutrient regime of the river should be protected, with any anthropogenic enrichment above natural/background concentrations should be limited to levels at which adverse effects on

² [Habitats Regulations advice for LPAs | Local Government Association](#)

characteristic biodiversity are unlikely'. The maximum phosphorus concentration for the River Wye is set at 15ug/l.³

1.15 Stages to the Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

• Stage 1 - Screening

Identify the risk or possibility that an issue and/or option of the local plan will have a likely significant effect on a protected site, which could undermine the achievement of a site's conservation objectives. If a risk or possible risk is identified, further consideration of objective information is made and if the proposal is not considered to have a likely significant effect (LSE) no appropriate assessment will be needed and the proposal can be screened out. For proposals to be screened out, a conclusion must be reached whereby it is 'beyond reasonable scientific doubt' that the issue/option will not have a LSE on the protected site or its qualifying features.

The Habitat Regulations requires the competent authority to consider the likely significant effects of the plan in combination with any other plan or proposal or reasonably foreseeable proposals, which may be planning applications or schemes in the process of being determined or at pre-application stage. The impact of the plan itself may be 'de minimis' but in combination with another plan or proposal may result in a likely significant effect.

If a likely significant effect is identified further detailed examination will be required through an appropriate assessment in Stage 2.

• Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment

A more detailed assessment will take place of what the likely significant effects are on the conservation objectives of one or more protected sites, and whether they can be avoided or minimised. The assessment should be appropriate for the nature and complexity of the proposal.

If the proposal is still considered to have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of one or more protected sites, move on to Stage 3.

• Stage 3 – Assessment of Alternatives

Assess the alternative policy options and whether they would avoid or minimise (mitigate) the significant effect on conservation objectives of protected sites and therefore provide a more favourable outcome.

• Stage 4 – Assessment where no alternatives are available (derogation)

If a policy cannot be amended or an alternative approach taken to avoided or minimise significant effect on the conservation objectives of one or more protected sites, the policy will be assessed against 3 legal tests (below) and notification made to DEFRA and Natural England:

1. There are no feasible alternative solutions that would be less damaging or avoid damage to the site.

³ [Peak District Dales Special Area of Conservation - Evidence Pack - TIN192 \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](https://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

2. The proposal needs to be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest.
3. The necessary compensatory measures can be secured.

1.16 Scope of the HRA Screening report

1.17 This report has screened the spatial strategy and objectives and the key issues and options described in the draft Plan.

2. Description of the Plan

2.1 **The Plan being screened is the PDNPA Local Plan Issues and Options Report (2024)**⁴ for the Local Plan Regulation 18 stage⁵. The report forms the first formal consultation stage of the plan-making process.

2.2 Early consultations and events focused on key themes, bringing to the fore what matters to stakeholders, residents, businesses and visitors. Consultations have consisted of: two online surveys, 2020 and 2021; stakeholder workshops in summer 2021; a Parish Council survey in Autumn 2022.

2.3 The Issues and Options report takes its direction from the PDNPA Management Plan (2023-2028)⁶ and uses evidence from topic papers written in 2021, annual monitoring reports, and commissioned work (Population Projections and Housing Needs Assessment, 2023⁷).

2.4 These documents and consultations have helped to set out the key planning issues the National Park is facing and form the basis of the Issues and Options document. The Issues and Options document will be formally consulted on (Regulation 18 stage) with stakeholders, residents, businesses, and visitors of the National Park with questions and options posed for them to have their say on how we shape our Local Plan to guide development over the next 20+ years. The findings of the Issues and Options document will shape the next stage of the Local Plan process.

2.5 The new PDNPA Local Plan will guide development up to 2045. It will replace the current Local Plan which consists of the Core Strategy (2011) and the Development Management Policies (2019). The PDNPA Local Plan will set out the strategic direction, within the context of a protected landscape, for any development relating to housing, tourism and recreation, employment, community facilities, transport, minerals and utilities. It will contain clear and concise policies for delivering this strategy, which will apply to the whole of the local planning authority area or to locations within it, and potentially individual sites (to be determined at a later stage of plan-making).

2.6 Whilst securing national park purposes will continue to form the basis of all we do, the Issues and Options report also shines a light on the key environmental issues of biodiversity net gain and nature recovery. The intention is that biodiversity net gain is delivered on site where possible, however there will be opportunities to contribute to improvements off site, and sites within the National Park may be recipients of biodiversity net gain as a result of development outside the National Park.

⁴ The Issues and Options report accompanied the draft HRA consultation with Natural England

⁵ The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012

⁶ [Peak District National Park Management Plan 2023 - 2028](#)

⁷ [Microsoft Word - 66287_01 Peak District HNA 13.04.23.DOCX](#)

2.7 In supporting the socio-economic wellbeing of our communities (our national park duty), we wrote and adopted our definition for 'thriving and sustainable communities'⁸(2021), in consultation with the Peak Park Parishes Forum. This was to ensure that our duty is a key theme that influences all areas of the Local Plan. We know from the economic strategies of our constituent authorities that there is potential for growing knowledge-based, creative and digital industries, as well as the more traditional industries of tourism and farming. We need to support existing and new businesses to prosper and grow in a way that is compatible with national park purposes. The Peak District landscape is the prime economic asset and should be conserved or enhanced by the businesses that operate within it.

2.8 We have an ageing population that has been a characteristic of the National Park residential population for some time but the decline in population to the extent that has occurred over the last 10 years has raised concerns. A key issue is how we try to minimise the decline to support thriving and sustainable communities, and what our strategic approach is to accommodate more housing within our settlements in a sustainable manner. Our focus is to address local housing need within the context of a protected landscape.

2.9 Being more environmentally responsible is another key theme of the Issues and Options report. Reducing consumption, promoting nature recovery, carbon sequestration, mapping blue and green infrastructure, managing flood risk, and supporting improved linkages for wildlife to thrive are some of the areas we seek to improve.

2.10 Tourism can have an impact on protected sites. Managing tourism and educating visitors on the importance of following designated pathways and taking their litter home is a crucial aspect of habitat protection, creation, restoration and enhancement. Our second purpose is to promote the enjoyment of the National Park and our aim is to direct tourism development towards settlements and existing recreation attractions and hubs.

2.11 Traffic flows within the Peak District have steadily increased over the life of the current Plan. Average traffic flows in 2023 were 16% higher than in 2012. There are significant cross traffic flows through the National Park as well as visitor traffic and resident traffic within the National Park. Both traffic pollution and noise from traffic have an impact on nature and our approach is to support a reduction in car-borne journeys by resisting proposals that would increase cross-park traffic. To support people's enjoyment of the National Park we seek to protect strategic multi-use trails and protect existing and create new routes for walking, cycling and horse-riding.

2.12 Quarrying is one of the main industries in the National Park. Whilst we have a long-term commitment to the reduction in mineral extraction, we will continue to manage the Peak District's mineral resource, and to manage waste, in a way that delivers significant long-term landscape enhancement (from current position) and makes a significant contribution to nature recovery.

2.13 The Local Plan is at an early stage of development, focusing primarily on the spatial strategy, specific issues that have arisen either through consultation, changes in national guidance, or through the decision-making process. Specific policies and any site allocations (if appropriate) have not yet emerged. They are expected to form part of the next stage of the plan-making process.

2.14 The HRA screening stage one, examines the spatial strategy and issues put forward in the Issues and Options report and identifies which may need to be subject to further assessment (HRA stages two-four as outlined above) and scrutiny for their potential impact on protected sites.

⁸ [Microsoft Word - @FINAL Thriving and Sust Def JUL21.docx \(peakdistrict.gov.uk\)](#)

2.15 Table One: Issues and Options Report Key Issues

Key Issue
Topic name: Spatial Strategy
Issue 1: Spatial strategy: proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for sustainable development
Issue 2: Spatial Strategy: delivering national park purposes
Issue 3: Spatial strategy: defining special quality key features
Issue 4: Spatial strategy: settlement tiers
Issue 5: Spatial strategy: sites for housing development
Issue 6: Spatial Strategy: development boundaries
Issue 7: Spatial Strategy: protected open space and local green space
Issue 8: Spatial Strategy: sustainable travel
Topic name: Landscape, Biodiversity and Nature Recovery
Issue 9: Landscape, biodiversity and nature recovery: proposed Local Plan spatial objectives
Issue 10: Nature recovery
Issue 11: Biodiversity net gain
Issue 12: Development in the Natural Zone
Issue 13: Whole estate plans
Topic name: Cultural heritage and the built environment
Issue 14: Proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for cultural heritage and the built environment
Issue 15: Heritage assets
Issue 16: Local list
Issue 17: The conversion of isolated traditional buildings
Topic name: Climate Change and Sustainable Building
Issue 18: Proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for climate change and sustainable building
Issue 19: Replacement dwellings
Issue 20: Avoiding carbon emissions in development
Issue 21: Low carbon and renewable energy development
Issue 22: Carbon capture and storage
Topic name: Recreation and Tourism
Issue 23: Proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for recreation and tourism
Issue 24: Recreation attractions and hubs
Issue 25: Temporary camp sites
Issue 26: Touring camping and caravan sites
Issue 27: Static caravans, lodges and other permanent structures
Topic name: Housing
Issue 28: Proposed Local Plan spatial Objectives for housing
Issue 29: Holiday homes and permanent homes
Issue 30: Affordable housing eligibility
Issue 31: Affordable housing - local connection
Issue 32: Affordable housing - house size
Topic name: Shops, Services and Community Facilities
Issue 33: Proposed spatial objectives for shops, services and community facilities
Issue 34: The retention of shops, services, community facilities and businesses
Topic name: Bakewell
Issue 35: Protection of Bakewell's special character and setting
Topic name: Business
Issue 36: Proposed spatial objectives for the rural economy
Issue 37: Extensions to existing businesses
Topic name: Farming
Issue 38: Conversion of whole farmsteads to new uses
Issue 39: Primary business

Topic name: Travel and Transport
Issue 40: Proposed spatial objectives for travel and transport
Issue 41: Visitor car parking
Issue 42: Safeguarding and protecting multi-user trails on former railway routes
Issue 43: Road building schemes
Issue 44: Overnight parking for campervans
Issue 45: Air transport
Topic name: Utilities
Issue 46: Spatial objectives for utilities
Issue 47: New or expanded reservoirs
Topic name: Minerals and Waste
Issue 48: Local plan spatial objectives for Minerals and Waste
Issue 49: Limestone quarries - extending beyond the 'end date'
Issue 50: Limestone industrial uses
Issue 51: Limestone cement at Hope
Issue 52: Stone for building and roofing
Issue 53: Ancillary minerals development
Issue 54: Restoration and aftercare

3. Methodology

This Screening Report assesses the potential impacts of the issues and options/questions put forward at the Local Plan Issues and Options stage. A precautionary approach has therefore been taken whereby the assessment considers the likely significant effect of those Options likely to have the greatest impact on the European Sites.

3.1 Natural England has published advice on the distances of influence for potential to impact on protected sites and these are available on MAGIC MAP⁹.

3.2 We have screened protected sites that fall within the PDNP boundary and those outside the boundary that could be affected by development within the PDNP.

3.3 We have screened at three levels; Impact Risk Zone (IRZ), 15km and 24.4km. The Natural England standard IRZs provide a basis for a rapid initial assessment for the impact posed by the Plan to protected sites.

3.4 The decision to screen at 15km and 24.4km is based on the potential impact of water and air pollution (15km is EA guidance), and the distances that we can reasonably expect people to travel for recreation and tourism purposes. Like with the IRZs, these distances don't automatically mean there are no potential impacts on biodiversity or the wider natural environment. This still requires careful consideration by the authority. In particular functionally linked land may be some km's away for protected species of birds that nest/overwinter/feed/stop over and have been listed as a reason for a designation.

3.5 The screening for recreational impacts has been influenced by a recent report on the 'Recreation use of South Pennines Moors and implications for strategic housing growth' by Footprint Ecology (27 March 2024) on behalf of Natural England, which suggests 75% of visitors to the South Pennine Moors SPA and SAC travel from up to 24.4km. away. This "75th percentile" has become the standard way to define a zone of influence for the purposes of HRA

⁹ [Magic Map Application \(defra.gov.uk\)](https://defra.gov.uk/magic-map-application)

assessments nationally. We have therefore erred on the side of caution and extended the area of influence for screening to 24.4km.

3.6 We have also screened the Issues and Options report for its impact on nutrient neutrality. The water catchment area for the River Wye which flows through the Peak District Dales SAC has been identified as having an excess of nutrients flowing into it, harming the delicate ecosystem. This screening has been integrated into the HRA screening process.

3.7 In preparing the HRA Screening report we have consulted Natural England as the statutory government advisor¹⁰ who have no objections to the conclusions of this report.¹¹

3.8 In all aspects of the HRA screening process, we have taken a precautionary approach as advised by DEFRA and NE. The sites we have screened are listed in the table below.

3.9 Table Two: Protected Sites Screened

SACs	SPAs	Ramsar	Distance
South Pennine Moors Peak District Dales	Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)		Within the PDNPA boundary
Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits (Derbyshire) Gang Mine (Derbyshire) Rochdale Canal Denby Grange Colliery Ponds	South Pennine Moors Phase 2	Midlands Meres & Moses Phase 1	Within 15km of the PDNPA boundary
West Midlands Mosses		Midlands Meres & Mosses Phase 2 Rostherne Mere	Within 24.4km of the PDNPA boundary

4. Likely Significant Effects (LSE)

4.1 The screening process has considered the main **sources** of effects, including effects in combination, on the protected sites that could occur as a result of the local plan, including possible **pathways** to protected sites and the effects on possible sensitive **receptors** on the protected sites.

4.2 If there is a link between the source, pathway and a receptor it is likely that there will be a significant effect that will need an appropriate assessment.

4.3 If the local plan were to be adopted, the possible sources and pathways for effects to protected sites arising from it are considered to include:

- Direct habitat loss
- Agricultural practices and development

¹⁰ Consultation sent to Natural England 9th July 2024

¹¹ Appendix 4: Consultation response from Natural England 20th August 2024

- Minerals extraction and transportation
- Air pollution
- Noise disturbance
- Light pollution
- Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)
- Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)
- Invasive species and disease
- Domesticated animals
- Barriers to species dispersal
- Water pollution (surface and groundwater)
- Ground water depression or flow interception
- Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void
- Increase in surface water run-off
- Effects on functionally linked land
- Changes to predator/prey relationships
- Erosion
- Fire risk

5. Screening of Issues and Options

5.1 Site descriptions, reasons for designation, conservation objectives and vulnerabilities are taken from Natural England¹². The results of the screening of the Issues and Options report are in Appendix Three.

5.2 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) within the National Park

5.3 South Pennine Moors SAC

5.4 The South Pennine Moors SAC is designated for:

- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix* for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.
- European dry heaths for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.
- Blanket bogs for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.
- Transition mires and quaking bogs for which the area is considered to support a significant presence.
- Old sessile oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.

5.5 The South Pennine Moors SAC is vulnerable due to grazing and burning regimes, visitor access, & atmospheric pollution, which have led to large areas of eroded and de-vegetated peat.

5.6 Conservation objectives

5.7 To maintain and restore where appropriate the integrity of the site to favourable status. In particular:

- The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats

¹² [Natural England Access to Evidence](#)

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

6. Likely significant effects

6.1 The screening of the Issues and Options report has identified potential LSEs to the South Pennine Moors and functionally linked land from increased visitor pressure as a result of the potential for new housing built within the National Park, recreation and tourism development from overnight stays, and development of recreation hubs and attractions. There could also be LSEs from agricultural development in the Natural Zone.

6.2 These sources and pathways could result in result in LSEs to the protected site and sensitive receptors characteristic of the site, including disturbance to flora and fauna from tourism and recreation activity, noise, erosion (trampling/car parking), the increased presence and impact of domesticated animals, vehicular related pollution and erosion, the spread of invasive species and disease, fire risk from bbqs, smoking and litter.

6.3 Peak District Dales SAC

6.4 The Peak District Dales SAC is designated for:

- European dry heaths
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates
- Alkaline fens
- Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine
- Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic
- *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines
- White-clawed Crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*)
- Brook Lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*)
- Bullhead (*Cottus gobio*)

6.5 The main threats are inappropriate grazing management, water quality and low flows, and introduced disease. The ideal management for the grassland habitats for nature conservation purposes - light grazing throughout most of the year, with a break in grazing during the spring and early summer - tends to conflict with today's agricultural regimes. The result is neglect & invasion by scrub, or overgrazing and the loss of the important vegetation communities. The woodland habitats are under significant threat from Ash Dieback, and are likely to undergo major changes over the next decade and more. Work is underway to increase species diversity and improve the resilience of these woodlands in the long term.

6.6 Crayfish Plague is a threat to the native White-clawed Crayfish and may already have eliminated it from the River Wye. Water quality, both from sewage treatment works and diffuse agricultural pollution is a threat with phosphate levels exceeded in the Wye, and low flow affects some rivers such as sections of the Lathkill.

6.7 Conservation Objectives

6.8 The conservation objectives are for the site to maintain and restore where appropriate the integrity of the site to favourable status. In particular:

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species

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

6.9 Likely significant effects

6.10 The screening of the Issues and Options report has identified potential LSEs to the Peak District Dales and functionally linked land from increased visitor pressure as a result of the potential for new housing built within the National Park, recreation and tourism development from overnight stays and new housing, development of recreation hubs and attractions and increased/changing agricultural practice and development.

6.11 These sources and pathways could result in result in LSEs to the protected site and sensitive receptors characteristic of the site, including disturbance to flora and fauna from tourism and recreation activity and noise, erosion (trampling/car parking), the increased presence and impact of domesticated animals, vehicular related pollution and erosion, the spread of invasive species and disease, smoking and litter.

6.12 Agricultural management and development (including whole estate plans) may adversely impact on the protected site and its sensitive receptors especially in relation to agricultural pollution and impact on water quality and flows. The River Wye flows through this SAC and sections of the River Wye and its tributaries are designated nutrient neutrality areas as such any agricultural or residential development could adversely impact the SAC.

6.12 Special Protected Areas (SPAs) within the National Park

6.13 Peak District Moors SPA (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)

6.14 The Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) are designated for:

- Merlin *Falco columbarius*,
- Golden Plover *Pluvialis apricaria*
- Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*

6.15 The site is an extensive tract of moorland and moorland-fringe habitat. It includes most of the unenclosed moorland areas of the north, eastern and south-western Peak District, where it also extends into enclosed farmland of wet rushy pasture, hay meadows and small wetlands in the valley bottoms. The moorland habitats include extensive tracts of blanket bog and dry heath, which together with wet heath, acid grassland, small flushes, gritstone edges and boulder slopes, streams and moorland reservoirs, fringing semi-natural woodland and enclosed farmland, represents the full range of upland vegetation characteristic of the South Pennines. The site supports several important species assemblages, including higher plants, lower plants and insects, as well as breeding birds. Many physical features are of geological interest.

6.16 Protected Sites within 15km and 24.4km of the National Park boundary

6.17 Three potential impacts beyond the National Park boundary have been identified, namely:

- Air pollution resulting from industrial development, mineral extraction or increased transport
- Hydrological impacts from increased water extraction

- Recreational Disturbance

6.18 We have screened out all protected sites outside of the National Park boundary with regard to all three impacts for the following reasons.

6.19 Air pollution and hydrological impacts

6.20 None of the Options would result in a significant increase in industrial development, mineral extraction or increased transport. No significant increase in air pollution or water extraction is therefore envisaged.

6.21 Recreational Disturbance

6.22 Housing estimates set out in the Issues and Options report provide a range of between 960-2000 homes that could be built over the plan period (up to 2045). These are estimates and not targets as the national park is not a suitable location for unrestricted housing. Whilst the housing estimates are higher for the Issues and Options report, they cover a longer plan period (20 instead of 15 years) and start at a significantly lower base population to reflect the population decline the national park has experienced.

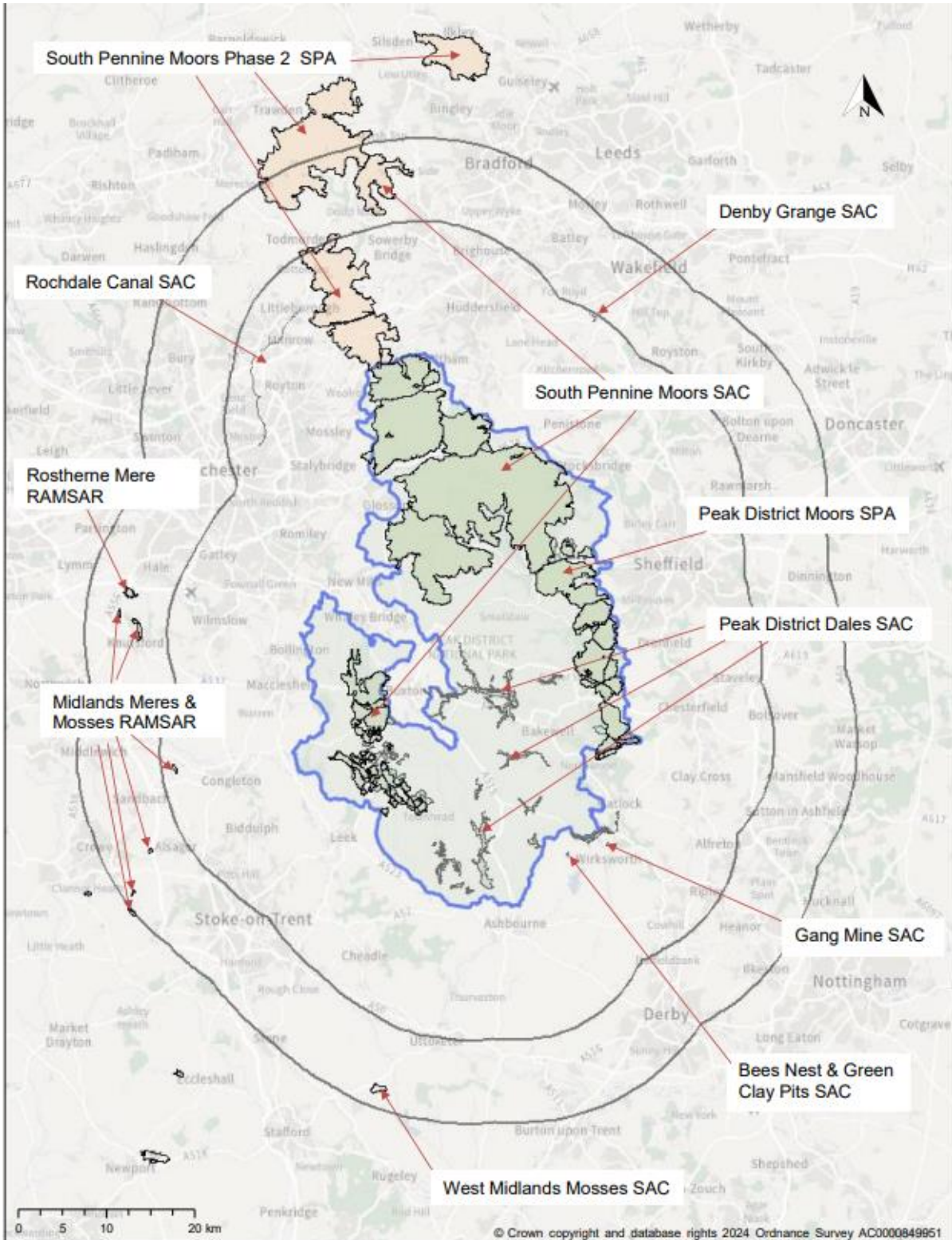
6.23 It is considered that the protected sites that may experience LSEs from housing building are those located within rather than outside the national park given the recreation and tourism 'pull' that the national park has. In addition, given population decline within the national park, the relatively modest expansion in housing is likely to result in little more than stabilisation of existing population levels rather than population growth.

6.24 Whilst there may be a small number of national park residents who visit protected sites outside of the national park, it is not considered that the proposed levels of new housing would increase this number, and therefore there are no LSEs.

6.25 Description of protected sites outside of the national park boundary are in Appendix Two.

7. Discuss and conclusions

7.1 All protected sites located within the Peak District National Park boundary are screened in and will be subject to an appropriate assessment at the next stage of the plan-making process, including consideration of In Combination effects. All protected sites located within 15km and 24.4km of the National Park boundary have been screened out.



HRA Screening Map:

Map to show SAC, SPA and RAMSAR sites within 15km and 24.4km of the Peak District National Park boundary.

Map centre grid ref: 414,233 380,602

Scale at A4: 1:525,000
Date: 26/06/2024



Appendix Two: Description of Protected Sites

Special Areas of Conservation within 15km of the National Park boundary

Bee`s Nest and Green Clay Pits (Derbyshire)

The Bee`s Nest and Green Clay Pits is designated for:

- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco Brometalia). (Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone)
- Great crested newts *Triturus cristatus* occur in a number of ponds on site, which vary in size, profile and vegetation cover.

The site encompasses a series of silica sand pits supporting a complex mosaic of acidic and calcareous grassland, with small areas of heathland communities. There are also areas of open water, flushes and communities of disturbed ground.

Gang Mine (Derbyshire)

The Gang Mine (Derbyshire) is designated for:

- Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae*. (Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals)

Gang Mine supports the richest anthropogenic Calaminarian grasslands of the *Violetalia calaminariae* (grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals) in the UK that have colonised a large area of mine workings and spoil heaps on limestone. Of note are metallophyte (metal tolerant) species like spring sandwort *Minuartia verna* and alpine penny-cress *Thlaspi caerulescens*. In the more closed grassland turf mountain pansy *Viola lutea*, the small fern moonwort *Botrychium lunaria* and lichens become more prominent. The more established turf has a calcareous grassland character including the uncommon limestone bedstraw *Galium sternerii* and unusually for this habitat dyer's greenweed *Genista tinctoria*. Many of these species are likely to be distinct genotypes adapted to soils rich in heavy metals.

Rochdale Canal

The Rochdale Canal is designated for:

- Floating water-plantain *Luronium natans*

The Rochdale Canal contains important habitats for submerged aquatic plants and emergent vegetation, including extensive colonies of the nationally scarce floating water-plantain *Luronium natans*. The site also supports a diverse assemblage of aquatic flora, in particular nine species of pondweed *Potamogeton* spp. The plant communities found in the Rochdale Canal are characteristic of mesotrophic water bodies, i.e. those which are moderately nutrient-rich.

Denby Grange Colliery Ponds

The Denby Grange Colliery Ponds are designated for:

- Great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*.

This water body in Yorkshire, created by coal-mining activity, has consistently yielded high counts of great crested newt *Triturus cristatus* in recent years. The pond is surrounded by replanted ancient woodland, with adjacent anthropogenic habitat associated with the previous mining activities. A large new pond was created recently to help support the population, which was previously reliant on a single breeding site.

Within 24.4km of the National Park boundary

West Midlands Mosses

The West Midlands Mosses are designated for:

- Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds; Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds H7140. Transition mires and quaking bogs; Very wet mires often identified by an unstable `quaking` surface.

The West Midlands Mosses comprise four sites supporting large basin mires which have developed as quaking bogs, known as Schwingmoors, together with a variety of associated hollows and pools showing various types and stages of mire development. This complexity of habitats gives rise to a diverse assemblage of associated plants and invertebrates of national significance, in particular at Clarepool Moss where the water quality is unusual for this type of site in being base-rich.

Special Protected Areas (SPAs)

Within 15km of the National Park boundary

South Pennine Moors Phase 2

The South Pennine Moors (Phase 2) are designated for:

- A098 *Falco columbarius*; Merlin (Breeding)
- A140 *Pluvialis apricaria*; European golden plover (Breeding)
- Breeding bird assemblage

Ramsar Sites ¹³

Within 15km of the Peak District National Park boundary

Midlands Meres & Moses Phase 1

The Midlands Meres & Moses Phase 1 is designated for:

- The site comprises a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog
- Supports a number of rare species of plants associated with wetlands including five nationally scarce species together with an assemblage of rare wetland invertebrates (three endangered insects and five other British Red Data Book species of invertebrates).

Within 24.4km of the Peak District National Park boundary

¹³ [Ramsar Sites | JNCC - Adviser to Government on Nature Conservation](#)

Midlands Meres & Mosses Phase 2

The Midlands Meres & Mosses Phase 2 is designated for:

- The site comprises a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog.
- Supports a number of rare species of plants associated with wetlands, including the nationally scarce cowbane *Cicuta virosa* and, elongated sedge *Carex elongata*.

Rosterne Mere

Rosterne Mere is designated as:

- One of the deepest and largest of the meres of the Shropshire-Cheshire Plain. Its shoreline is fringed with common reed *Phragmites australis*

Birds Species currently occurring at levels of national importance: Species with peak counts in winter: Great cormorant , *Phalacrocorax carbo carbo*, Great bittern , *Botaurus stellaris stellaris*, Water rail , *Rallus aquaticus*.

Appendix Three: Results of the screening process

Key Issue	Screened In (includes consideration of nutrient neutrality)	Reason for Screened In	Sources and pathways	Screened Out (includes consideration of nutrient neutrality)	Reason for Screened Out
Topic name: Spatial Strategy					
Issue 1: Spatial strategy: proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for sustainable development				YES	If development cannot achieve this overarching spatial objective it shouldn't take place.
Issue 2: Spatial Strategy: Delivering national park purposes				YES	If development cannot achieve this overarching spatial objective it shouldn't take place.
Issue 3: Spatial strategy: defining special quality key features				YES	If development cannot achieve this overarching spatial objective it shouldn't take place.
Issue 4: The spatial strategy: settlement tiers	YES	Until landscape and ecological sensitivity testing has been completed the impact is	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance		

		<p>unknown therefore we take a cautious approach and screen in.</p>	<p>Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
<p>Issue 5: Spatial strategy: sites for housing development</p>	<p>YES</p>	<p>Until landscape and ecological sensitivity testing has been completed the impact is unknown therefore we take a cautious approach and screen in.</p>	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception</p>		

			<p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p> <p>Erosion</p> <p>Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 6: Spatial Strategy - development boundaries	YES	<p>Until landscape and ecological sensitivity testing has been completed the impact is unknown therefore we take a cautious approach and screen in.</p>	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Domesticated animals</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Ground water depression or flow interception</p> <p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p>		
Issue 7: Spatial Strategy: protected open space and local green space	YES	<p>Allocating local green space could result in potential additional pressure on protected sites. No details of locations or specific policy approach is given</p>	<p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p>		

		at this stage. We take a cautionary approach as there could be an effect but the risk is low and could have a positive effect.	Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire risk		
Issue 8: Spatial Strategy: sustainable travel	YES	No detail on what sustainable travel will consist of and whether it have the effect of increasing visitors. It may reduce pollution but could increase human footfall.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Invasive species and disease Fire Risk Erosion		
Topic name: Landscape, Biodiversity and Nature Recovery					
Issue 9: Landscape, biodiversity and nature recovery: proposed Local Plan spatial objectives				YES	If development cannot achieve this overarching spatial objective it shouldn't take place.

Issue 10: Nature recovery				YES	If development cannot achieve this objective then it shouldn't take place. Requires alignment to local priorities and strategies which would further the delivery of conservation objectives.
Issue 11: Biodiversity net gain				YES	If development cannot achieve this objective then it shouldn't take place. Requires alignment to local priorities and strategies which would further the delivery of conservation objectives.
Issue 12: Development in the Natural zone	YES	There is potential that any development within the Natural Zone could undermine conservation objectives of protected sites.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)		

			<p>Invasive species and disease Barriers to species dispersal Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 13: Whole estate plans	YES	Development and conservation or visitor management plans could undermine conservation objectives of protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off</p>		

			Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Fire Risk Erosion		
Topic name: Cultural heritage and the built environment					
Issue 14: Proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for cultural heritage and the built environment	YES	There is potential that development could increase pressure on protected sites.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Introduction and spread of invasive species Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships		
Issue 15: Heritage assets				YES	Determining whether a building/site is a

					heritage asset and its significance would not affect a protected site.
Issue 16: Local list				YES	Determining whether a building/site is locally listed would not affect a protected site.
Issue 17: The conversion of isolated traditional buildings	YES	There is potential that development could increase pressure on protected sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships 		
Topic name: Climate Change and Sustainable Building					

Issue 18: Proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for climate change and sustainable building				YES	If development cannot achieve this objective then it shouldn't take place. Requires alignment to local priorities and strategies and would further the delivery of conservation objectives.
Issue 19: Replacement dwellings				YES	The issue focuses on embodied carbon and size of properties.
Issue 20: Avoiding carbon emissions in development				YES	The issue focuses on avoiding/reducing carbon emissions in development.
Issue 21: Low carbon and renewable energy development	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception		

			<p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Introduction and spread of invasive species</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p>		
Issue 22: Carbon capture and storage	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Ground water depression or flow interception</p> <p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p>		
Topic name: Recreation and Tourism					
Issue 23: Proposed Local Plan spatial objectives for recreation and tourism	YES	Recreation and tourism could affect protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Barriers to species dispersal</p>		

			<p>Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 24: Recreation attractions and hubs	YES	Recreation and tourism could affect protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Barrier to species dispersal Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion</p>		

Issue 25: Temporary camp sites	YES	Recreation and tourism could affect protected sites.	<p>Fire Risk</p> <p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Domesticated animals</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Ground water depression or flow interception</p> <p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p> <p>Erosion</p> <p>Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 26: Touring camping and caravan sites	YES	Recreation and tourism could affect protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Domesticated animals</p>		

			<p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 27: Static caravans, lodges and other permanent structures	YES	Recreation and tourism could affect protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
Topic name: Housing					

Issue 28: Proposed Local Plan Spatial Objectives for housing	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased domestic and recreation impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Introduction and spread of invasive species Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk 		
Issue 29: Holiday homes and permanent homes	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased domestic and recreation impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease 		

			<p>Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Introduction and spread of invasive species Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 30: Affordable housing eligibility				YES	Relates to a person's housing need. Does not impact protected sites.
Issue 31: Affordable housing - local connection				YES	Relates to a person's housing need. Does not impact protected sites.
Issue 32: Affordable housing - house size				YES	Relates to a person's housing need. Does not impact protected sites.
Topic name: Shops, Services and Community Facilities					

Issue 33: Proposed spatial objectives for shops, services and community facilities	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased domestic and visitor impact.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off		
Issue 34: The retention of shops, services, community facilities and businesses				YES	Seeks to retain what already exists.
Topic name: Bakewell					
Issue 35: Protection of Bakewell's special character and setting				YES	Protecting existing character.
Topic name: Business					
Issue 36: Proposed spatial objectives for the rural economy	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased domestic and recreation impact as a result of economic growth.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution		

			<p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Domesticated animals</p> <p>Barriers to species dispersal</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Ground water depression or flow interception</p> <p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Introduction and spread of invasive species</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p> <p>Erosion</p> <p>Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 37: Extensions to existing businesses	YES	Potential for increased human impact and deliveries.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Agricultural practices and development</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Domesticated animals</p> <p>Barriers to species dispersal</p>		

			<p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion</p>		
Topic name: Farming					
Issue 38: Conversion of whole farmsteads to new uses	YES	Potential for increased human and recreational/tourism impact on protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion</p>		

			Fire Risk		
Issue 39: Primary business	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased human activity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development (greenfield and brownfield) Agricultural practices and development Minerals extraction and transportation Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk 		
Topic name: Travel and Transport					
Issue 40: Proposed spatial objectives for travel and transport	YES	The creation of new routes could increase visitor pressure on protected sites.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development (greenfield and brownfield) Noise disturbance Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) 		

			<p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk</p>		
Issue 41: Visitor car parking	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased domestic and visitor impact.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Noise disturbance Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land</p>		

			Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire Risk		
Issue 42: Safeguarding and protecting multi-user trails on former railway routes				YES	No change to current use.
Issue 43: Road building schemes	YES	Direct and indirect impacts from construction and road use that could affect protected sites.	Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire risk		
Issues 44: Overnight parking for campervans	YES	There is potential that overnighting could affect protected sites through increased visitor impact.	Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution		

			<p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Domesticated animals</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Erosion</p> <p>Fire risk</p>		
Issue 45: Air transport	YES	Potential for impact on protected sites from increased air transport and unknowns over the location of a standby location.	<p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Barriers to species dispersal</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p> <p>Fire risk</p>		
Topic name: Utilities					
Issue 46: Spatial objectives for utilities				YES	Requires development to protect National Park Special Qualities, which protected sites are part of.

Issue 47: New or expanded reservoirs	YES	Potential major impact if reservoir permitted on or near protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield)</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation)</p> <p>Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure)</p> <p>Barriers to species dispersal</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Ground water depression or flow interception</p> <p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void</p> <p>Increase in surface water run-off</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Effects on functionally linked land</p> <p>Changes to predator/prey relationships</p> <p>Erosion</p> <p>Fire risk</p>		
Topic name: Minerals and Waste					
Issue 48: Local plan spatial objectives for Minerals and Waste	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased extraction and refinement processing activity.	<p>Minerals extraction and transportation</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Noise disturbance</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Invasive species and disease</p> <p>Barriers to species dispersal</p> <p>Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p> <p>Ground water depression or flow interception</p>		

			<p>Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire risk</p>		
Issue 49: Limestone quarries - extending beyond the 'end date'	YES	There is potential that development could affect protected sites through increased extraction and refinement processing activity.	<p>Minerals extraction and transportation Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Invasive species and disease Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire risk</p>		
Issue 50: Limestone industrial uses	YES	There is the potential for increased pressure on protected sites outside of the National Park.	<p>Minerals extraction and transportation Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Invasive species and disease Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater)</p>		

			<p>Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire risk</p>		
Issue 51: The future of the Hope site	YES	There is potential that development and associated activities could affect protected sites.	<p>Development (greenfield and brownfield) Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Recreation and tourism (e.g. increased people and vehicular pressure) Invasive species and disease Domesticated animals Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Effects on functionally linked land Changes to predator/prey relationships Erosion Fire risk</p>		
Issue 52: Stone for building and roofing	YES	There is the potential that vehicular	<p>Minerals extraction and transportation Air pollution</p>		

		movements and increased activity on quarry sites could impact protected sites.	Noise disturbance Light pollution Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Ground water depression or flow interception Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void Increase in surface water run-off Fire risk		
Issue 53: Ancillary minerals development	YES	There is the potential that vehicular movements and increased activity on quarry sites could impact protected sites.	Minerals extraction and transportation Air pollution Noise disturbance Light pollution Human activity relating to public access and disturbance (sport, leisure and recreation) Invasive species and disease Barriers to species dispersal Water pollution (surface and groundwater) Increase in surface water run-off Erosion Fire risk		
Issue 54: Restoration and aftercare				YES	No likely significant effect as restoration and aftercare would result in nature recover and must be agreed with the LPA.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@naturalengland.org.uk>
Sent: 20 August 2024 16:57
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: 481877 Peak District National Park Local Plan - HRA Screening report

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Hi [REDACTED],
Thank you for your consultation of 9th July 2024 for the HRA screening report which supports the first stage of the Local Plan Review – Issues and Options Report (Regulation 18 Stage).

Natural England welcomes the opportunity to provide comments on the HRA. We are satisfied that the Screening Report follows accepted methodology and is in line with appropriate legislation and guidance.

We note that at paragraph 3.5 that the screening report has used the “Recreation use of South Pennines Moors and implications for strategic housing growth’ by Footprint Ecology, to inform the area for screening by use of the 24.4km Zone of Influence (Zol). Whilst we welcome the view that the screening report has taken to “err on the side of caution” in the use of this Zol we would advise that the recreation study was limited in its scope and may be followed up to obtain more data and evidence to gain a better understanding of the scale and location of recreational impact.

We acknowledge that the key issues that may have a Likely Significant Effect on a European Site have been identified with the table in Appendix 3. We therefore agree with the screening report’s conclusions that all protected sites located within the Peak District National Park boundary will be subject to an appropriate assessment at the next stage of the plan-making process, including consideration of in-combination effects. We look forward to reviewing the next iteration of the HRA as the Local Plan preparation progresses.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact me on [REDACTED]. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondence to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Kind regards

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Please note that my working week is Monday to Thursday



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