



**West Berkshire Local Plan Review to 2039**

**Habitats Regulations Assessment**

**(December 2022)**

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## **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

AA	Appropriate Assessment
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
SPA	Special Protected Area
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
Natura 2000	Network of nature protected area made up of SACs and SPAs
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
NE	Natural England
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
TW	Thames Water
EA	Environment Agency
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
NOX	Nitrous Oxides
SO2	Sulphur Dioxide
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
SwOx	Swindon and Oxfordshire Water Resources Zone
LPR	West Berkshire Local Plan Review
NNZ	Nutrient Neutrality Zone

# 1. Introduction

## Requirement for Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 1.1 Under the provisions of European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora (the Habitats Directive)<sup>1</sup>, transposed into British law by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/579)<sup>2</sup>, a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) is required to assess the potential effects of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of any European sites designated for their importance to nature conservation. The Regulations ensure that the habitat and species protection and standards derived from EU law will continue to apply after Brexit. Where previously sites were referred to as European or Natura 2000, the sites now make up the UK 'national site network'. For the purposes of this report the term 'Habitats Sites' is used to represent the network.
- 1.2 Habitats sites provide valuable ecological infrastructure for the protection of rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and species of exceptional importance within the UK. These sites consist of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the Habitats Directive and, Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under European Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds (the Birds Directive)<sup>3</sup>. Designation of SACs also has regard to the threats of degradation or destruction to which the sites are exposed and to the coherence of the national site network now the UK has exited from the EU. Additionally, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) at paragraph 176<sup>4</sup> requires that sites designated under the Ramsar Convention (The Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat) are treated likewise for the purpose of considering development proposals that may affect them.
- 1.3 The overall purpose of the HRA is to conclude whether or not a proposal or policy, or the whole development plan, would adversely affect the integrity of the Habitats site in question either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for the 'qualifying features' for which the Habitats

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<sup>1</sup> Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043>

<sup>2</sup> The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2019/579/regulation/35/made>

<sup>3</sup> European Directive 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds (the Birds Directive): <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009L0147>

<sup>4</sup> National Planning Policy Framework, 2021: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf)

site was designated, those being SACs: Annex I habitat types and Annex II species of the Habitats Directive; SPAs: Annex I birds and regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I of the Birds Directive and; Ramsar sites: the reasons for listing the site under the Convention.

- 1.4 This includes screening for potential impacts on Habitats sites. If there is a probability or a risk that there will be significant effects on site integrity having regard to the site's conservation objectives then the plan or project must be subject to an Appropriate Assessment of its implications on the site.
- 1.5 Depending on the outcome of the HRA, the local authority may need to amend the plan to eliminate or reduce potentially damaging effects on the Habitats site. If adverse effects on the integrity of sites cannot be ruled out, the plan can only be adopted where there are no alternative solutions that would have a lesser effect and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest sufficient to justify adopting the plan despite its effects on the Habitats sites.
- 1.6 Note that the HRA is based on the precautionary principle meaning that where uncertainty or doubt remains, a likely significant effect should be assumed.
- 1.7 There are four stages to the Habitats Regulations Assessment as outlined in the table below:

<b>Habitat Regulation Assessment - stage</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Screening exercise (the significance test)	The process which identifies the likely impacts upon a Habitats site(s), either alone or in combination with other projects or plans and considers whether these impacts are likely to be significant. Where there is no significant effect the report concludes at this stage.
Appropriate Assessment (the integrity test)	The consideration of the impact on the integrity of the site(s), either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, with respect to the site's structure and function and its conservation objectives. Where adverse impacts cannot be avoided by means of alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the plan or project, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts should be provided to

	include the necessary measures and timescales. If effects remain after all alternatives and mitigation measures have been applied then the next stage applies.
Compensatory measures	An assessment of the compensatory measures where, in light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest, it is deemed that the plan should proceed. This is not a standard part of the process and will only be carried out in exceptional circumstances and is likely to result in onerous requirements.

Table 1: Stages of the HRA Process

- 1.8 This HRA takes into account the case law rulings from the Court of Justice for the European Union (CJEU) which still apply. The *People over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* (April 2018) judgment ruled that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive should be interpreted as meaning that mitigation measures should be assessed as part of an Appropriate Assessment, and should not be taken into account at the screening stage.
- 1.9 SPAs and SACs were classified under European Union (EU) legislation but, since 1st January 2021 when the UK left the EU are protected in the UK by the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Although the EU Directives from which the UK's Habitats Regulations originally derived are no longer binding, the Regulations still make reference to the lists of habitats and species that the sites were designated for.
- 1.10 The Government Policy Paper<sup>5</sup> on changes to the Habitats Regulations 2017 post-Brexit states that any references to Natura 2000 in the 2017 Regulations and in guidance should now refer to the new 'national site network'. The national site network now includes existing SACs and SPAs; and new SACs and SPAs designated under these Regulations
- 1.11 This report outlines the screening assessment and screens the potential of the West Berkshire Local Plan Review (LPR) for its likely significant effects, either alone or in

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017>

combination. It then describes the findings of the Appropriate Assessment stage of the HRA. Natural England were consulted on the screening assessment and concurred with the findings of the document, and advised that the local plan should seek to preserve water quality on the River Lambourn Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and ensure that development within the district will not increase the phosphorus loading on the SAC from wastewater and surface run off. This was taken into account in the Appropriate Assessment.

## **2. What is the West Berkshire Local Plan Review (LPR)?**

- 2.1 The pre-submission LPR sets out the Council's development strategy, planning policies and proposals, including site allocations, to guide land use and planning decisions in the District up to 2039.
- 2.2 Consultations under Regulation 18 have been undertaken on three occasions. In early 2018 the purpose and our approach to the Local Plan Review was outlined in a Scoping Report seeking comments on the scope and content. Later in 2018, comments were sought on the proposed vision for the LPR; revision of the existing spatial areas; methodology for reviewing the existing settlement hierarchy; criteria for the settlement boundary review; and update of our assessment of existing Local Plan policies. In December 2020, the Council produced an emerging draft of the LPR. This identified the development that is required to meet local needs, sets out our strategy for distributing development within the district, as well as the outline for our policies for conserving and enhancing the natural and built environment.
- 2.3 This HRA report (including both screening and Appropriate Assessment) has been prepared to address the Policies and proposals for the Publication (Regulation 19) version of the West Berkshire LPR. The HRA is being published for consultation alongside the LPR.

## **3. Habitats sites within or adjacent to West Berkshire**

- 3.1 Within the boundaries of West Berkshire there are three designated SACs, and within 5km of the boundaries of West Berkshire, there are two SACs. While there is no SPA within West Berkshire, the south-eastern area of the District falls within the 5km and 7 km boundaries of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA. The 5km boundary acts as a buffer area to regulate development near the SPA. Two Nutrient Neutrality Zones (NNZ) are also present in the District.

### 3.2 The map below shows the location of the SACs, SPA buffers and NNZ:

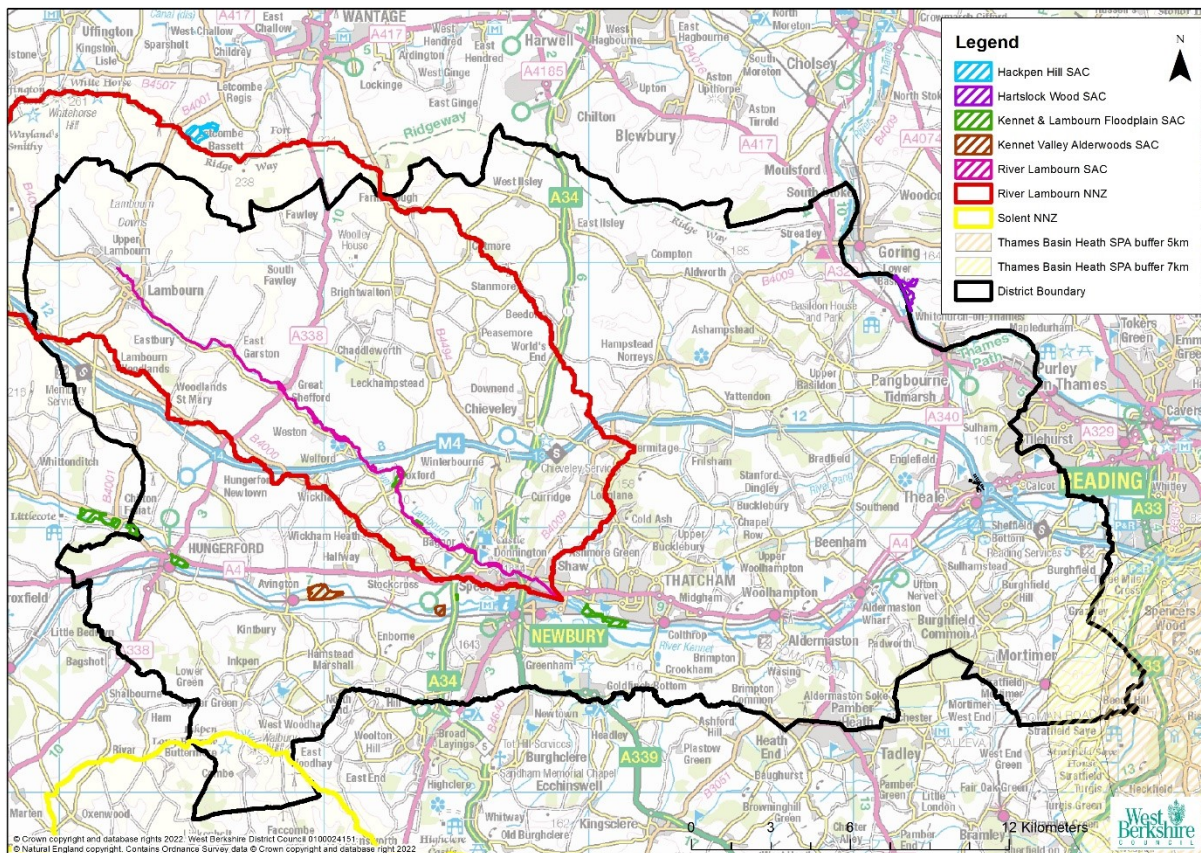


Figure 1: Location of SACs, NNZ and SPA Buffer

- The **Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC** is a composite site of approximately 114 hectares located within West Berkshire and Wiltshire. The cluster of sites selected in the Kennet and Lambourn valleys support one of the most extensive known populations of Desmoulin's whorl snail (*Vertigo moulinsiana*) in the UK. The conservation objective related to the sites' designation is to maintain in favourable condition, the habitat for the population of Desmoulin's whorl snail. Threats to the SAC could result from groundwater and air pollution as well as Changes in hydrology leading to reduced water tables and loss of quality water.
- The **River Lambourn SAC** is a site of approximately 27 hectares located wholly within West Berkshire and consists of the River Lambourn water body. The Lambourn supports Bullhead (*Cottus gobio*) populations inhabiting chalk streams in central southern England. Good water quality, coarse sediments and extensive beds of submerged plants provide an excellent habitat for the species. The presence of Brook



lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*) is also a qualifying feature of the site. Threats to the SAC could result from water abstraction and land drainage, Discharges from waste water treatment works, and air pollution. In March 2022 the River Lambourn SAC was designated as a Nutrient Neutrality Zone due to the unfavourable condition of the water course.

- The **Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC** consists of two sites of approximately 56 hectares in total located within West Berkshire in the Kennet floodplain. Its general site characteristic is of broad leaved deciduous woodland. The woodlands are the largest remaining fragments of damp, ash-alder woodland in the Kennet floodplain area. The conservation of the site is dependent upon maintaining a constantly high groundwater level. Threats to the SAC largely relate to human induced changes in hydrology, and maintaining high groundwater levels.
- **Hartslock Wood SAC** is located just outside the north western boundary of West Berkshire in South Oxfordshire District. The main threat to the SAC's integrity is from air pollution.
- **Hackpen Hill SAC** is a 35.8 hectare SAC site located in the Vale of White Horse approximately 2km north of West Berkshire's border. The threats to these SACs largely relate to increased pressure on the SAC as a result of development close to the site.
- The **Thames Basin Heaths SPA** is a composite site covering an area of some 8,274 hectares, consisting of 13 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) scattered from Hampshire in the west, to Berkshire in the north, through to Surrey in the south east. The site supports important breeding populations of a number of birds of lowland heath, especially Nightjar (*Caprimulgus europaeus*), Woodlark (*Lullula arborea*) and Dartford warbler (*Sylvia undata*). The main threats to the SPA are further fragmentation and disturbance to the bird species resulting from leisure and recreational activities.

3.3 In addition the head of the **River Test** rises in Coombe and as of March 2022 is included in the **Solent NNZ** as a tributary to the River Itchen

3.4 Detailed information about the location, qualifying features, pressures and threats for each of European sites included in the assessment is presented in Appendix 1.

## 4. Identification of potential impacts

- 4.1 This HRA screening will determine whether the proposals in the West Berkshire LPR will raise any likely significant effects either alone or in combination with other plans and projects within West Berkshire or neighbouring areas. For some impacts the screening for likely significant effects has been determined on the basis of proximity, however there are few set standards available and some assumptions have been made. Nevertheless, the various pathways along which planned developments can impact sites sometimes at some distance but still functionally linked, needs to be investigated. If the screening of the Plan identifies potential effects, or there is uncertainty regarding potential effects, then further more detailed appropriate assessment is required.
- 4.2 There are two main ways that impacts could result from the LPR and are associated with:
- Development (construction and use of new homes or employment space).
  - Increased travel to/from the area associated with new residents, visitors and those working in the district.
- 4.3 The screening stage of the HRA has taken the approach of screening each LPR policy area and the settlements likely to see allocations.
- 4.4 All potential impacts that development in general and related activities may have on European sites have been considered to inform this HRA. Impacts considered include a broad range of physical, non-physical, direct and indirect impacts.
- 4.5 Threats and pressures to which each Habitats site is vulnerable have been identified through reference to data held by the JNCC on Natura 2000 Standard Data Forms<sup>6</sup> as well as Natural England's Site Improvement Plans (SIPs)<sup>7</sup>, and supplementary advice in notices prepared by Natural England where more recent, such as those relating to Nutrient Neutrality. This information provides current and predicted issues for each Habitats site. The full range of threats and pressures at each Habitats site is provided in Appendix 1. Reviewed impacts that are considered to be within the scope of influence of the Local Plan are considered in more detail below.

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<sup>6</sup> JNCC Natura 2000 Standard Data Forms <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SAC-N2K/UK0030370.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Natural England Site Improvement Plans

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/6149691318206464>

### **Physical damage, fragmentation or loss of habitats**

- 4.6 Due to many years of urban and agricultural activities, many SACs and SPAs are already fragments of habitat that have not been developed upon. Further development may have the effect of causing further fragmentation or damage of habitats and/or severance or blocking of ecological corridors between functionally-linked sites.
- 4.7 The LPR does not propose to allocate any sites within the boundaries of any Habitats sites. Any other development coming forward would not be permitted within the Habitats sites due to the high level of legal protection applied.
- 4.8 All development resulting from the Local Plan will occur within West Berkshire, and therefore physical damage, or loss of habitat beyond the boundaries of West Berkshire can be ruled out in the screening stages.
- 4.9 Loss of habitat from outside of the boundaries of a site could also affect the integrity of that site if the habitat is used by the qualifying species from the site (e.g. for off-site breeding, foraging or roosting). The sites that have mobile species amongst their qualifying features are:
- River Lambourn SAC: brook lamprey and bullhead.
  - Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC: Desmoulins's whorl snail.
  - Thames Basin Heaths SPA: Nightjar, Woodlark and Dartford Warbler
- 4.10 All three species at the River Lambourn and Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain are limited in their range to the river itself and the floodplain. The designation of the River Lambourn and River Test as Nutrient Neutrality Zones in March 2022 clearly shows that water quality in these areas has been impacted by increased phosphate pollution, therefore, any proposals for development in these zones must not increase the levels of phosphate pollution which contributes to eutrophication which leads to the destruction of the protected habitat.
- 4.11 No development is proposed for allocation within the 5-7km zone of influence for the Thames Basins Heaths SPA and therefore significant effects on the qualifying bird species are unlikely.

**Likely significant effects on all European sites can therefore be screened out in relation to physical damage, fragmentation or loss of on and off-site habitat**

## Hydrological impacts

- 4.12 An increase in demand for water abstraction and treatment resulting from the growth proposed in the LPR could result in changes in the hydrology of the designated European sites.
- 4.13 The assessment of water related issues are primarily a check that the overall quantum of growth can be accommodated without compromising Habitats sites with sensitive aquatic or wetland environments, which could lead to likely significant effects on the sites qualifying features. The habitat sites with aquatic or wetland habitats, or those identified as sensitive to changes in water quality or quantity are:
- River Lambourn SAC
  - Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC
  - Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC
  - River Test/Itchen (Solent SAC)
- 4.14 Hackpen Hill SAC, Hartslock Wood SAC and the Thames Basin Heath SPA do not include changes in hydrology as threats to their qualifying features and changes in hydrology is therefore unlikely to have a significant effect.
- 4.15 The types of development that have the potential to affect water quality / quantity or flow regimes at sensitive Habitat sites are:
- residential or employment development that would involve a significant increase in demand for water supply and treatment;
  - infrastructure development that requires significant excavation in proximity to watercourses or groundwater;
  - any development that increases surface drainage from housing estates, runoff from roads and discharges from commercial and industrial premises; and
  - changes to agriculture practices including Solar Arrays and mineral extraction.
- 4.16 Whilst the threat posed by an individual development site may be low, a number of sites combined may have a cumulative impact within these catchments.
- 4.17 West Berkshire Council commissioned a Water Cycle Study (WCS)<sup>8</sup> in two Phases in order to provide the evidence base for the supply and treatment of water required to service the development proposed in the LPR and to safeguard the environment. The

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<sup>8</sup> Water Cycle Study <https://info.westberks.gov.uk/evidencebase>

results from the impact assessment show likely significant deterioration in waterbodies adjacent to many protected sites such as SACs and Ramsar sites, in every case, this deterioration could be prevented by improvements in treatment processes at WwTWs upstream. This includes meeting the tighter Common Standards Monitoring standards specific to the River Kennet and River Lambourn SACs.

- 4.18 **The potential for the LPR alone to result in likely significant effects on any European site as a result of changes in water hydrology cannot be ruled out, and therefore an Appropriate Assessment is required.**

#### **Water quantity**

- 4.19 Thames Water (TW) are responsible for supplying water from the two water resource zones (Swindon and Oxfordshire (SwOx) and Kennet Valley WRZs) within West Berkshire. In common with most of the south east, West Berkshire is an area of serious water stress. Water stress is a measure of the level of demand for water (from domestic, business and agricultural users) compared to the available freshwater resources, whether surface or groundwater. Water stress causes deterioration of the water environment in both the quality and quantity of water, and consequently restricts the ability of a waterbody to achieve a “Good” status under the favourable condition status for SACs.
- 4.20 When new development is being planned, it is important to ensure that there are sufficient water resources in the area to cover the increase in demand without risk of shortages in the future or during periods of high demand, and without causing a negative impact on the waterbodies from which water is abstracted. The Water Cycle Study (Phase 1)<sup>8</sup> carried out a Resource Availability Assessment and a Water Resource Assessment. The results of the former confirm the limitations on water availability which is managed through the Environment Agency Abstraction Licencing Strategy and is important in terms of how water companies manage supply and demand. Thames Water have prepared a Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP)<sup>9</sup> setting out how they would meet the water needs of population growth across their supply area to 2050.

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<sup>9</sup> Thames Water, Water Resources Management Plan 2019 <https://www.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/regulation/water-resources#current>

- 4.21 The WRMP compares the supply and demand forecasts, including headroom, to determine whether resources are projected to be in surplus or deficit at any point in the planning period. During dry year annual average conditions, there is a small surplus forecast throughout the planning period. However, there is a supply-demand deficit when considering peak week and drought conditions.
- 4.22 The Phase 1 of the WCS Water Resource Assessment<sup>8</sup> concludes that growth plans defined in the WRMP are broadly in line with the growth projections of West Berkshire Council. The WRMP does not predict a supply-demand deficit in both Water Resource Zones (Kennet Valley and SwOx), except in peak week (SwOx) or resilience to 1 in 200 year drought conditions (Kennet Valley) it is towards the end of the plan period in 2090s. The WRMP proposes actions over the WRMP planning period to improve resilience.
- 4.23 The WRMP was subject to a HRA<sup>10</sup> that specifically considered potential effects on European sites which confirmed that no significant effects on any European sites would arise from its implementation.
- 4.24 **Therefore, the potential for likely significant effects in relation to water quantity can be screened out.**

#### **Water quality**

- 4.25 Development within West Berkshire District over the plan period will increase wastewater production and add pressure to the existing sewerage systems. Run-off, outflow from sewage treatments and overflow from septic tanks can result in increased nutrient loads and contamination of water courses. Thames Water are the Sewerage Undertakers (SU) and operate all the Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) for the whole of West Berkshire
- 4.26 There are 30 wastewater treatments works (WwTW) relevant to West Berkshire covering six catchments which are expected to see an increase in effluent as a result of growth within their catchment. There are no Habitats Sites within the Upper Kennet and River Enborne catchments, nor the Pang catchment, so there is likely to be no impact from the proposed development.

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<sup>10</sup> Thames Water, Water Resources Management Plan 2019 HRA  
[https://www.thameswater.co.uk/media-library/home/about-us/regulation/water-resources/technical-  
appendices/appendix-c-habitats-regulation-assessment.pdf](https://www.thameswater.co.uk/media-library/home/about-us/regulation/water-resources/technical-appendices/appendix-c-habitats-regulation-assessment.pdf)

- 4.27 The River Lambourn SAC has six WwTWs all of which have been identified as being in need of upgrade to prevent further degradation of the water quality of this areas.
- 4.28 Increased domestic population and/or employment activity (including agriculture) can lead to increased wastewater flows arriving at a WwTW. Where there is insufficient headroom at the works to treat these flows, this could lead to failures in flow consents specified in the Environment Agency's Environmental Permits (EP). The EP also consent maximum concentrations of pollutants usually Suspended Solids, Biochemical Oxygen Demand, Ammonia and for some larger works also have permits for Phosphorous.
- 4.29 The WCS WwTW Flow Permit Assessment concludes that many of the WwTW would require an upgrade and / or an increase in the flow permit in order to accommodate growth (based on every identified site being delivered). Some of these are already included in TW's 5-year Business Plan for 2020 to 2025 – an investment programme to improve compliance and performance at WwTWs. If an upgrade to a WwTW is already committed to within TW's business plan (water companies operate on a five-year investment cycle, the current cycle being AMP7 – 2020 to 2025) then delivery of a WwTW could typically take 2-3 years as a general guide. This is highly dependent on the nature and complexity of the scheme. If it is not already contained within the business plan, it would need to be included in the next AMP period starting in 2025.
- 4.30 Thames Water's response to the Regulation 18 LPR (LPR1741) outlined the potential requirement of strategic drainage infrastructure, local upgrades to the existing drainage infrastructure and minor infrastructure upgrades, depending on the Site allocations. Following the designation of the two NNZs in West Berkshire Thames Water have also identified a number of wastewater treatment works (WwTw) for improvements to be made by 2025.
- 4.31 The WCS Phase 1 Scoping<sup>8</sup> identifies the protected sites that are downstream of a WwTW and may experience a deterioration in water quality during the plan period.
- 4.32 The WCS Phase 1<sup>8</sup> concludes that in order to serve the proposed growth in a number of settlements in West Berkshire, wastewater collection infrastructure and/or treatment upgrades to capacity would be required. Three WwTWs in West Berkshire are predicted to, or are already exceeding, their flow permit that regulate sewage discharge releases (Chieveley, Hungerford and Newbury).

- 4.33 Modelling of the impact of growth during the local plan period on water quality and its impact on SACs is being carried out in Phase 2 of the Water Cycle Study so that any deterioration at downstream protected sites can be estimated and assessed further in this Habitats Regulations Assessment.

*Nutrient Neutrality*

- 4.34 The designation in March 2022 of the River Lambourn SAC and the River Test in West Berkshire as Nutrient Neutrality Zones means that Appropriate Assessment are needed in relation to development in these areas. No development is proposed within the Solent NNZ, and therefore, any impacts on water quality in this area can be screened out.
- 4.35 **Therefore as a result of the above the likely significant effects on water quality within West Berkshire cannot be screened out and Appropriate Assessment is therefore required.**

**Non-physical disturbance: noise, vibration and light pollution**

- 4.36 Noise and vibration effects (e.g. during the construction of new housing development) are most likely to disturb bird species and are thus a key consideration with respect to Habitats Sites where birds are the qualifying features, although such effects may also impact upon some mammals and fish species.
- 4.37 The Council has used the 500 metres commonly recognized precautionary distance within which the effects of noise, vibration and light are most likely to be most significant on the qualifying features sensitive to these disturbances. Hackpen Hill SAC, Hartslock Wood SAC do not include non-physical disturbance as threats to their qualifying features and though the Thames Basin Heath SPA qualifying bird species could be sensitive but the nearest proposed sites for allocation are over 5km distance from proposed development and of a scale unlikely to have any significant effect on any of these sites. Sites proposed for allocation in Newbury and Thatcham are within 500 metres of the River Lambourn or Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SACs.
- 4.38 The pressures and threats to the qualifying species of brook lamprey, bullhead and Desmoulin's Whorl Snail do not include non-physical disturbance to be a significant factor. Equally, the qualifying habitat, (rivers with floating vegetation dominated by



water crowfoot), for which the River Lambourn SAC have been designated are not likely to be effected by noise, vibration or light for the same reason.

- 4.39 **Therefore, the potential for likely significant effects in relation to noise, vibration and light pollution can be screened out.**

#### **Air Pollution**

- 4.40 Air pollution is most likely to affect Habitats sites where plant, soil and water habitats are the qualifying features, but some qualifying animal species may also be affected, either directly or indirectly, by any deterioration in habitat as a result of air pollution. Pollutants taken up directly by vegetation can cause adverse impacts to plant health and viability. Indirect impact can be caused when pollutants settle on to the ground (deposition) causing nutrient enrichment of the soil (eutrophication) or changes to the soil Ph (acidification). Nitrogen and phosphates effectively acts as fertiliser for plants, which can begin to dominate plant communities notified as qualifying features in the protected SACs and change overall species composition.
- 4.41 Road traffic is a significant source of emissions which can be harmful to protected sites. Of particular concern for road traffic is nitrogen oxide NO<sub>x</sub> (i.e. NO and NO<sub>2</sub>). Deposition of nitrogen compounds may lead to both soil and freshwater acidification, and NO<sub>x</sub> can cause eutrophication of soils and water. In addition, the presence of catalytic converters also gives rise to ammonia pollution which leads to soil acidification and toxic damage to flora.
- 4.42 Based on the Standards for Highways Design for Road and Bridges (DMRB) Manual Volume 11, Section 3, Part 133<sup>11</sup>, it is assumed that air pollution from roads is unlikely to be significant beyond 200 metres from the road itself. Where increases in traffic volumes are forecast, this 200 metres buffer needs to be applied to the relevant roads in order to make a judgement about the likely geographical extent of air pollution impacts.
- 4.43 The DMRB Guidance for the assessment of local air quality in relation to highways developments provides criteria that should be applied at the screening stage of an assessment of a plan or project, to ascertain whether there are likely to be significant

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<sup>11</sup> Standards for Highways Design for Road and Bridges Manual  
<https://www.standardsforhighways.co.uk/dmrbl/>

impacts associated with routes or corridors. Based on the DMRB guidance affected roads which should be assessed are those where:

- Daily traffic flows will change by 1,000 AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic) or more; or
- Heavy duty vehicle (HDV) flows will change by 200 AADT or more; or
- Daily average speed will change by 10 km/hr or more; or
- Peak hour speed will change by 20 km/hr or more; or
- Road alignment will change by 5 metres or more.

4.44 Following recent case law at Ashdown Forest (Wealden v SSCLG 2017) the screening criteria of 1,000 AADT should be applied to the traffic flows in combination with the flows in known other plans.

4.45 The European sites in and around West Berkshire that are within 200 metres of strategic roads are:

<b>SAC</b>	<b>Strategic Road</b>
Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC	A4 at Hungerford A34 at Newbury
Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC	A34 at Enborne, Speen & Donnington
River Lambourn SAC	A338 at Great Shefford; Newbury A339 at Newbury M4 at Welford A4 at Newbury & Thatcham A34 at Newbury

Table 2: European sites within 200 metres of strategic roads

4.46 Hackpen Hill SAC, Hartslock Wood SAC do not include non-physical disturbance as threats to their qualifying features and though the Thames Basin Heath SPA qualifying features of wet heathland and peat substrates could be sensitive, the nearest sites proposed for allocation are over 5km distance from the SPA and of a scale unlikely to have a significant effect on any of these sites.

- 4.47 The Site Improvement Plans<sup>12</sup> for the River Lambourn SAC, Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC do not identify air pollution as a threat or pressure. These sites at which physical changes to the aquatic environment, invasive aquatic species or changes to land management are the main threats or pressures, despite the sites being situated close to large settlements (Newbury, Thatcham and Hungerford) and the roads that serve them. Nevertheless, air pollution is known to be of increasing concern and further consideration of the sensitivity of the site is warranted.
- 4.48 An air quality study<sup>13</sup> was commissioned to support the Local Plan Review. The study concluded that in relation to habitats sites no LSE is anticipated on any of the identified habitats sites as a result of the LPR, alone and in combination, due to changes in air quality.
- 4.49 **Therefore, the potential for likely significant effects in relation to air pollution can be screened out.**

#### **Recreation/Urban edge**

- 4.50 Recreation activities and human presence more generally can have an adverse impact on the integrity of a Habitats site. Development can create edge effects from housing and domestic activity potentially including disturbance and erosion from cycling, trampling, littering, dog walking, cat predation, fly-tipping, the introduction of non-native invasive species. Where development is likely to result in an increase in the local population, the potential for an increase in visitor numbers and the associated impacts at sensitive International sites need to be considered.
- 4.51 Those sites that are the closest, accessible and attractive to visitors are considered the most vulnerable but the types of recreation and distances that people will travel to access greenspace in the countryside and the SACs in particular is difficult to ascertain. The Thames Basin Heaths SPA has a distance threshold of 5km, with respect to recreational/visitor pressure which has been used as a proxy in the screening of the SACs in this assessment.

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<sup>12</sup> Site Improvements Plans for River Lambourn SAC and Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4738329056641024> and Kennet Valley Alderwoods <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5578853737037824>

<sup>13</sup> West Berkshire Air Quality Study <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/local-plan-evidence>

- 4.52 There are no sites proposed for allocation for development within 5km of the Thames Basin Heath SPA, Hackpen Hill SAC or the Hartslock Wood SAC.
- 4.53 A number of sites are in proximity to the River Lambourn SAC, the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and the Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC, notably the proposed strategic site allocation north east of Thatcham. However, none of the Site Improvement Plans or SAC Standard Data Forms for these SACs cite recreation, access or disturbance as pressures or threats to the features of interest.
- 4.54 With respect to The Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC at Thatcham, the closest part of the proposed strategic allocation to the nearest point of access is just over 3km across town. There is no visitor survey data available for this location. Using the Ramblers Association (The Ramblers Association, 2010) published results of a study that indicated that, on average, 22% of the UK population walks recreationally for at least 30 minutes every four weeks. The potential building of 1500 houses at an average occupancy of 2.4 people per household equates to an extra 3600 people. The Ramblers Association participation rate indicates a potential demand for 1320 walks every four weeks or 47 walks per day. Not all of these will occur on or in the vicinity of the SAC and new residents may choose other rights of way and available open space closer to their residencies. Evidence from other studies [Wealden<sup>14</sup> and Upper Nene<sup>15</sup>] show that access on foot declines significantly beyond 500 metres and thus most access from the strategic site can be assumed by means of a vehicle.
- 4.55 Physical features such as infrastructure and the character of the site are also a factor in the visitor experience. The Thatcham Discovery Centre near the SAC provides a managed facility but accessibility to the SAC is limited by the amount of car parking available, being approximately 100 spaces (2021). The SAC is a further 500m walk away along prescribed routes across a railway line and through a wetland site that is not suitable for deviation and informal recreation. Managers of the Centre estimate from informal monitoring at the Discovery Centre 100,000 visitors per year at present or 247/day. Given the distance of proposed new development, the limits of the parking

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<sup>14</sup> Visitor Surveys at Potential SANGs Sites in Wealden District, Footprint Ecology (Liley and Floyd), 29<sup>th</sup> April 2015

[https://www.wealden.gov.uk/UploadedFiles/Habitat\\_Regulations\\_Footprint\\_Ecology\\_Wealden\\_SANG\\_S\\_Report\\_29April2015.pdf](https://www.wealden.gov.uk/UploadedFiles/Habitat_Regulations_Footprint_Ecology_Wealden_SANG_S_Report_29April2015.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> Visitor Access Study of the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits SPA, Footprint Ecology (Liley et al), 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2014 <https://www.footprint-ecology.co.uk/reports/Liley%20et%20al.%20-%202014%20-%20Visitor%20Access%20Study%20of%20the%20Upper%20Nene%20Valley%20SPA.pdf>

infrastructure and the further traverse to the site, it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant increase in recreational pressure on the qualifying features of the site.

- 4.56 **Therefore, the potential for likely significant effects in relation to recreation access and disturbance can be screened out.**

## **5. Review of other plans and projects which may have ‘in-combination’ effects**

- 5.1 Regulation 63 of the Amended Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulation 2019) requires an Appropriate Assessment where “a land use plan is likely to have a significant effect on a Habitats site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site”. Thus the cumulative effects (which would otherwise be insignificant) from development from relevant plans within West Berkshire and in other authorities surrounding a particular Habitats site, are also assessed. In practice, such an ‘in-combination’ assessment is of greatest relevance when the plan would otherwise be screened out because its individual contribution is inconsequential.

- 5.2 There are a large number of potentially relevant plans and projects which could be considered. The HRA has concentrated on the spatial development plans within the authorities adjacent to West Berkshire as these are the plans most likely to give rise to in-combination effects. Appendix 2 lists the plans and projects that were reviewed, outlining residential and/or employment growth in each plan that could have an impact on nearby Habitats sites and considering the findings of the accompanying HRA work where they have been undertaken.

- 5.3 HRAs of the following neighbouring local authorities’ plans found no significant effects on the integrity of European sites, either alone or in combination with other adopted plans or projects:

- Wiltshire Council
- Swindon Borough Council
- Vale of White Horse District Council
- South Oxfordshire District Council

- Basingstoke and Deane District Council
- Hart District Council
- Reading Borough Council
- Wokingham Borough Council
- Test Valley

5.4 For some plans it was only possible to conclude that they are unlikely to lead to adverse effects on the integrity of European designated sites either alone or in combination with other plans following the incorporation of appropriate policy-based mitigation measures into the plan policies. This would ensure that proposals coming forward under the Local Plan either avoid affecting European sites entirely (no significant effect) or will have no adverse effects on site integrity.

5.5 Wokingham, Wiltshire and Swindon are reviewing their local plans and are in the process of re-assessing their HRAs. The potential for in-combination effects will continue to be assessed as relevant conclusions from those HRAs become known.

5.6 Within West Berkshire the following adopted plans found no significant effects on the integrity of European sites, either alone or in combination with other adopted plans or projects:

- Local Transport Plan for West Berkshire 2011 – 2026
- West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Plan (Inspectors report Sept 2022)
- Neighbourhood Plans:
  - Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) has been adopted and its housing ‘commitments’ have been included in the Local Plan Review and therefore, considered in this HRA. (outside of both NNZs)
  - Compton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) (Adopted 2022). The housing commitments included in the NDP have been included in the Local Plan Review, and therefore, considered in this HRA. (outside both NNZs)
  - Also included are the housing figures set out in the plan for towns and villages where they are expected to be delivered by new NDPs currently in preparation.

- 5.7 Guidance from Natural England <sup>16</sup> published in March 2022 and subsequent ministerial statements<sup>17</sup> regarding the impacts of increased nutrient loads on certain designated sites (River Lambourn SAC in West Berkshire) indicate that these can be mitigated through nutrient neutrality solution.

## 6. Screening of Local Plan Review Policies and Site Allocation

- 6.1 From Sections 4 and 5 the potential significant effects likely to arise as a result of the LPR is upon the hydrology of the River Lambourn SAC, the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and the Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC as a result of possible changes in water quality due to increased demand on waste water capacity.
- 6.2 All the policy areas and settlements identified to receive allocations in the Local Plan Review to 2039 have been screened for likely significant effects on the integrity of the SACs and the SPA.
- 6.3 The full screening table for the policy areas can be seen in Appendix 3. Many of the policy areas and identified settlements have been screened out as there is no potential for any of the proposals to result in adverse effects on the integrity of the Habitats Sites.
- 6.4 A summary of HRA screening of policy areas and identified settlements is set out in table 3 below. These policies and sites will be carried forward to the next stage of the HRA and subject to an appropriate assessment.

Policy/Site	Likely significant effect	Habitats site potentially affected
Policies		
SP13 - Housing site allocations in Newbury & Thatcham Spatial Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hydrology and water quality</li></ul>	Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC River Lambourn SAC

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.westberks.gov.uk/river-lambourn-sac-documents>

<sup>17</sup> <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2022-07-20/hcws258>

SP15 – Housing site allocations in North Wessex Downs AONB Spatial Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC River Lambourn SAC
SP21 – Employment land allocations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC River Lambourn SAC
SP24 - Infrastructure requirements and delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC River Lambourn SAC Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC
Transport infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC River Lambourn SAC Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC
Settlement to receive allocations		
Newbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	River Lambourn SAC Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC
Thatcham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC
Great Shefford	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	River Lambourn SAC
Kintbury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC
Lambourn (NDP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hydrology and water quality</li> </ul>	River Lambourn SAC

Table 3: Summary of screening conclusions

### **Screening Conclusions**

- 6.5 In conclusion the HRA screening has determined that there are potential for significant effects on the River Lambourn SAC, Kennet & Lambourn Floodplain SAC and the Kennet Valley Alderwoods due to increased pressure on waste water infrastructure as



a result of proposals included within the LPR. As a result an Appropriate Assessment is required to determine what, if any, mitigation measures would be required to ensure there are no negative impacts on the identified SACs.

## **7. Appropriate Assessment and Integrity Test**

- 7.1 The HRA screening stage has identified that a likely significant effect cannot be ruled out for the River Lambourn SAC, Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC in relation to water quality and air quality and therefore an Appropriate Assessment of the implications of the LPR under Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) needs to be undertaken.
- 7.2 In accordance with the screening requirements of the HRA process, and therefore in the absence of appropriate mitigation measures, it is concluded that the LPR could lead to likely significant effects alone and/or in combination with other plans or projects on three of the European designated SAC sites, due to the effects on hydrology and water quality. These potential impact sources have been taken forward to the next stage of HRA and have been subject to appropriate assessment to determine whether, once mitigation measures are put in place significant effects can be avoided. The following tables outline the Council's Appropriate Assessment for these sites as the Competent Authority.

### **River Lambourn SAC**

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

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

- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

Qualifying Features:

- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranuncion fluitantis and Callitricho Batrachion vegetation; Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water-crowfoot
- *Lampetra planeri*; Brook lamprey
- *Cottus gobio*; Bullhead

<i>Potential impact identified at Screening Stage, and Local Plan Proposals that may have an effect.</i>	<i>Potential for Likely Significant Effect?</i>	<i>Mitigation already in Local Plan and recommendations for further mitigation within the Local Plan or further work for the HRA.</i>	<i>If the mitigation measures and recommendations are implemented would this rule out a Likely Significant Effect?</i>
Housing Development – Wastewater Impacts on Water Quality	Yes - The River Lambourn SAC is vulnerable to changes in water quality from nutrients. As such its catchment has been designated a Nutrient Neutrality Zone.  Additional development within this catchment which contributes additional nutrients such as	All development sites falling within the hydrological catchment of the River Lambourn SAC NNZ will be required to demonstrate Nutrient Neutrality. This a policy requirement for the following allocations in the pre-submission LPR:	Yes - Natural England Advice is that where Nutrient Neutrality has been demonstrated, this is an acceptable means of counterbalancing nutrient impacts from development to demonstrate no adverse effects on the integrity of habitats sites.

	<p>phosphorous and nitrogen have the potential to adversely affect the integrity of this designated site.</p>	<p>Policy RSA 3 - Land at Bath Road, Speen, Newbury.</p> <p>Policy RSA 22 - Land adjoining Lynch Lane, Lambourn.</p> <p>Policy RSA 23 - Land at Newbury Road, Lambourn.</p> <p>Policy RSA 26 - Land at Chieveley Glebe, Chieveley.</p> <p>Policy RSA 28 - Land west of Spring Meadows, Great Shefford.</p> <p>Policy RSA 29 - Land off Charlotte Close, Hermitage.</p> <p>Policy RSA 30 - Land to the south east of the Old Farmhouse, Hermitage.</p> <p>Policy RSA 31 - Land adjacent Station Road, Hermitage.</p> <p>SP11- Biodiversity and Geodiversity.</p>	<p>Policy requirements for all new development to ensure protection of surface waters and groundwater sources and to ensure appropriate treatment of surface waters and drainage, incorporating SuDS wherever appropriate.</p>
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		<p>Also Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP6 - Flood Risk</li> <li>• DM6 - Water Quality, and</li> <li>• DM7 – Water Resources &amp; Waste Water</li> </ul> <p>require mitigation measures to protect water quality.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study states that upgrades to sewage treatment works and waste water networks will be required to meet the needs of population growth during the plan period.</p> <p>Sites within the Nutrient Neutrality Zone will require upgrades to the Thames Water WwTWs.</p>	
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Table 4: Appropriate Assessment River Lambourn SAC

## **Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC**

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

Qualifying Features:

- *Vertigo moulinsiana*; Desmoulin's whorl snail

<i>Potential impact identified at Screening Stage, and Local Plan Proposals that may have an effect.</i>	<i>Potential for Likely Significant Effect?</i>	<i>Mitigation already in Local Plan and recommendations for further mitigation within the Local Plan or further work for the HRA.</i>	<i>If the mitigation measures and recommendations are implemented would this rule out a Likely Significant Effect?</i>
Housing Development – Wastewater Impacts on Water Quality	<p>Yes - The Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC is vulnerable to changes in water quality from nutrients.</p> <p>Additional development within this catchment which contributes additional nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen have the</p>	<p>The SAC is likely to be vulnerable to changes in water quality as highlighted within the Site Improvement Plan.</p> <p>TW consider that avoidance and mitigation safeguards will be required and that these measures will be secured during the planning permission process.</p> <p>Policies:</p>	<p>Yes - Natural England Advice is that where Nutrient Neutrality has been demonstrated, this is an acceptable means of counterbalancing nutrient impacts from development to demonstrate no adverse effects on the integrity of habitats sites.</p>

	potential to adversely affect the integrity of this designated site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP6 - Flood Risk</li> <li>• DM6 - Water Quality, and</li> <li>• DM7 – Water Resources &amp; Waste Water of the Pre-Submission LPR require mitigation measures to protect water quality.</li> </ul>	
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Table 5: Appropriate Assessment Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC

## Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC

### Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

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

### Qualifying Features:

- Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*); Alder woodland on floodplains

<i>Potential impact identified at Screening Stage, and Local Plan Proposals that may have an effect.</i>	<i>Potential for Likely Significant Effect?</i>	<i>Mitigation already in Local Plan and recommendations for further mitigation within the Local Plan or further work for the HRA.</i>	<i>If the mitigation measures and recommendations are implemented would this rule out a Likely Significant Effect?</i>

Housing Development – Wastewater Impacts on Water Quality	<p>Yes - The Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC is vulnerable to changes in water quality from nutrients.</p> <p>Additional development within this catchment which contributes additional nutrients such as phosphorous and nitrogen have the potential to adversely affect the integrity of this designated site.</p>	<p>The SAC is likely to be vulnerable to changes in water quality as highlighted within the Site Improvement Plan.</p> <p>TW consider that avoidance and mitigation safeguards will be required and that these measures will be secured during the planning permission process.</p> <p>Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP6 - Flood Risk</li> <li>• DM6 - Water Quality, and</li> <li>• DM7 – Water Resources &amp; Waste Water</li> </ul> <p>of the Pre-Submission LPR require mitigation measures to protect water quality.</p>	<p>Yes - Natural England Advice is that where Nutrient Neutrality has been demonstrated, this is an acceptable means of counterbalancing nutrient impacts from development to demonstrate no adverse effects on the integrity of habitats sites.</p>
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Table 6: Appropriate Assessment Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC

## 8. Conclusions

8.1 The HRA screening of the West Berkshire LPR concludes that the policies and site allocations alone will not result in likely significant effects on the integrity of the following European sites all of which lie outside West Berkshire:

- Hartslock Wood SAC
- Hackpen Hill SAC

- The Thames Basin Heaths SPA
- The Solent NNZ

- 8.2 Following the screening exercise, and after the inclusion of mitigation measures embedded within the Local Plan policies, it is concluded that through a combination of strategic mitigation and proposal-specific mitigation, the potential for in combination effects as a result of changes in the water quality of the River Lambourn SAC, Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC European sites integrity can be avoided.
- 8.3 The LPR contains specific policy requirements to address the issue of nutrient neutrality and water quality impact on the designated European Sites. Planning permission will only be granted if a mitigation strategy is provided which will remove the likely significant effect. It is considered that the LPR policies provides a robust policy framework for ensuring that all new development with potential to result in increased nutrient inputs into the River Lambourn SAC will only be permitted following the demonstration of adequate mitigation.
- 8.4 The Council is fully committed to continue joint working with neighbouring local authorities, Natural England and partners in order to address the cumulative impacts of water resources matters.



## Appendix 1: Habitats Site Details

### Within West Berkshire

Site Name	<b>Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain</b>
Site Designation	Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Location of Site	SU313704
Description of Site	<p>A cluster of sites in the Kennet and Lambourn Valleys. Parts of the site lie adjacent to the Newbury bypass but the road has been designed to reduce spray and runoff, intending to mitigate direct damage to the site. Public access is not restricted as floodplain is located close to urban settlements and villages.</p> <p>Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>, though not a conservation status habitat. Supports one of the most extensive known populations of Desmoulin's whorl snail <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i> in the UK and is one of two sites representing the species in the south-western part of its range in the chalk stream habitat.</p> <p>The supporting habitats are swamp mostly dominated by lesser pond-sedge <i>Carex acutiformis</i>, greater pond-sedge <i>Carex riparia</i> or reed sweet-grass <i>Glyceria maxima</i> and are usually unshaded or partly shaded. The snail inhabits a particular 'zone' in the transition between truly aquatic habitat and terrestrial habitat where ground conditions are permanently wet and humid, but not subject to significant flooding or rapid flow of surface water.</p> <p>Area of interest: 114.47ha</p> <p>Qualifying feature: S1016. <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i>; Desmoulin's whorl snail (2.82ha)</p>
Conservation Objectives of International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species (no loss or degradation, supporting habitat)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species (impact on soils and nutrient cycle, changes in land use, non-native invasive plants, ground moisture, vegetation structure and high humidity)</li> <li>• The supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely ( maintenance of surface and ground water levels and river bank and vegetation, water quantity and quality, air quality below relevant Critical Level and Load values)</li> <li>• The populations of qualifying species (population density at typically &gt;250 individuals per m<sup>2</sup> in late summer) and,</li> <li>• The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul> <p>Currently the majority of the site by area is in a favourable condition.</p>
Threats to integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changes in hydrology leading to reduced water tables and loss of quality water.</li> <li>• Modification to riverbanks and marshes.</li> <li>• Loss or mismanagement of riparian margins.</li> <li>• Changes in land use.</li> <li>• Invasive non-native species.</li> <li>• Water pollution (effects of eutrophication)</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> </ul> <p>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form 2016 – threats, pressures and activities  A02: Modification of cultivation practices  H02: Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources)  J02: Problematic native species  Site Improvement Plan – threats, pressures and activities  Siltation  Water pollution  Invasive species (signal crayfish)  Hydrological changes  Inappropriate water levels</p>

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>River Lambourn</b>
Site Designation	SAC
Location of Site	SU398739

Description of Site	<p>Watercourses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation. The Lambourn is an example of sub-type 1 in central southern England, a chalk stream discharging into the middle reaches of the Thames system.</p> <p>The Lambourn supports Bullhead populations that inhabit chalk streams in central southern England. Good water quality, coarse sediments and extensive beds of submerged plants provide excellent habitat for the species.</p> <p>The Brook lamprey is a qualifying species but is not the primary reason for designation. The Brook lamprey requires clean gravel beds for spawning and soft marginal silt or sand for the larvae. It spawns mostly in part of the river where the current is not too strong.</p> <p>The river was designated as a Nutrient Neutrality Zone (NNZ) in March 2022 due to unfavourable phosphate levels.</p> <p>Area of interest: 27.27ha</p> <p>Qualifying features:</p> <p>H3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculus fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i></p> <p>S1096 <i>Lampetra planeri</i>: Brook lamprey</p> <p>S1163 <i>Cottus gobio</i>: Bullhead</p>
Conservation Objectives for Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species (no loss or degradation)</li> <li>• The structure and function of (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats (habitat mosaic, riparian vegetation, natural flow regime, sediment regime, biological connectivity in river and laterally, fish management, intakes and discharges)</li> <li>• The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species (impact on soils and nutrient cycle, non-native invasive species)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely (maintenance of surface and ground water levels and river bank and vegetation, water chemistry and quality, air quality below relevant Critical Level and Load values)</li> <li>• The populations of qualifying species and,</li> <li>• The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul> <p>The River Lambourn the three component units are all in unfavourable recovering condition for all the qualifying features, due to siltation, inappropriate weirs, dams and other structures, inland flood defence works, invasive freshwater species, and water pollution from agricultural run off.</p>
Threats to integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water abstraction and land drainage.</li> <li>• Eutrophication and chemical water pollution</li> <li>• Discharges from WwTW (organic pollution).</li> <li>• Siltation</li> <li>• Air pollution</li> <li>• Invasive non-native species</li> <li>• River engineering</li> </ul> <p>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form 2016 – threats, pressures and activities  A02: Modification of cultivation practices  H02: Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources)  J02: Problematic native species.</p> <p>Site Improvement Plan – threats, pressures and activities  Siltation  Water pollution  Invasive species (signal crayfish)  Hydrological changes  Inappropriate water levels</p>

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Kennet Valley Alderwoods</b>
Site Designation	SAC
Location of Site	SU398675

Description of Site	<p>Area of interest: 57.7ha composed of two blocks of wet woodland situated on the floodplain of the River Kennet, a tributary of the River Thames, which rises in the Berkshire and Marlborough Downs.</p> <p>Qualifying features:</p> <p>H91E0. Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>); Alder woodland on floodplains.</p> <p>These, the largest fragments of alder-ash woodland on the Kennet floodplain, lie on alluvium overlain by a shallow layer of moderately calcareous peat.</p> <p>[From Jncc Standard Data Set]</p>
Conservation Objectives of the Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats (no measureable reduction or fragmentation the component vegetation community of the Feature),</li> <li>• The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats (component vegetation types, their range; canopy cover and variety of age and structure) and,</li> <li>• The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely (critical supply and quality of ground and surface water, appropriate natural hydrological regime and connectivity with wider landscape).</li> </ul> <p>This site is in a favourable condition.</p>
Pressures/threats to Site integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintaining high groundwater levels</li> <li>• Modification to management program</li> <li>• Ground disturbance from increased visitations</li> </ul> <p>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form 2016 – threats, pressures and activities</p> <p>J02: Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions</p> <p>KO4: Interspecific floral relations</p> <p>Site Improvement Plan – threats, pressures and activities</p> <p>Inappropriate water levels</p> <p>Game management</p>

Site Name	Thames Basin Heaths
Site Designation	SPA
Location of Site	SU878566 (approx. centre point)
Description of Site	<p>Thames Basin Heaths SPA forms part of an extensive complex of lowland heathlands in southern England that support important breeding bird populations within a mosaic of principal habitats dependent on active heathland management and rotationally managed coniferous plantation woodland.</p> <p>Area: 8311ha</p> <p>Qualifying features:</p> <p>A224 <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> European nightjar (Breeding) 27.8% UK population</p> <p>A246 <i>Lullula arborea</i> Woodlark (Breeding) 9.9% UK population</p> <p>A302 <i>Sylvia undata</i> Dartford warbler (Breeding) 7.8% UK population</p>
Conservation Objectives of Site	<p>A common conservation objective has been set for the whole of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA – Subject to natural change, to maintain in favourable condition, the habitats for the populations of Annex 1 bird species of European importance, with particular reference to lowland heathland and rotationally managed plantation, specifically:</p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features</li> <li>• The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</li> <li>• The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely</li> <li>• The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</li> <li>• The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</li> </ul> <p>The majority of the site is in unfavourable, but recovering condition. The main threat to the condition of the SPA is recreational pressure from nearby residential development.</p>

Threats to integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further fragmentation of habitat.</li> <li>• Predation from cats and dogs.</li> <li>• Disturbance to bird species.</li> <li>• Trampling of vegetation.</li> </ul> <p>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form 2016 – threats, pressures and activities:</p> <p>BO2 Forest plantation management and use</p> <p>GO1 Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities</p> <p>GO5 Other human intrusions and disturbances</p> <p>HO4 Air pollution, air-borne pollutants</p> <p>KO2 Biocenotic evolution, succession</p> <p>Site Improvement Plan – relevant threats, pressures and activities</p> <p>Public access/Disturbance</p> <p>Air Pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition</p>
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#### **Within 5km of West Berkshire**

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Hartslock Wood</b>
Site Designation	SAC
Location of International Site	SU619789
Description of International Site	<p>The chalk grassland mostly consists of a mosaic of shorter-turf NVC type CG2 Festuca ovina-Avenula pratensis grassland and taller CG3 Bromus erectus grassland. The site supports one of only three UK populations of Monkey Orchid (Orchis simian), a nationally rare Red Data Book Species.</p> <p>Open patches show a rich flora including local species such as Southern Wood-rush (Luzula forester), Wood Barley (Hordelymus europaeus) and Narrow-lipped Helleborine (Epipactis leptochila).</p> <p>Area of interest: 34.16ha (27.33ha is yew woodland);</p> <p>Qualifying features:</p>

	<p>H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (important orchid sites); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone (important orchid sites) 4.4ha</p> <p>H91J0. <i>Taxus baccata</i> woods of the British Isles; Yew-dominated woodland. 27.33ha</p>
Conservation Objectives of International Site	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats (no measureable reduction or fragmentation the component vegetation community of the Feature),</li> <li>• The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats, (component vegetation types, their range; canopy cover and variety of age and structure; absence of non-native invasive or introduced species; maintaining properties of soil type including pH and soil nutrients) and,</li> <li>• The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely (connectivity with wider landscape, restore the concentrations and deposition of air pollutants to below the site-relevant Critical Load or Level values for atmospheric nitrogen and acidity, light pollution)</li> </ul> <p>The site is currently in a favourable condition.</p>
Pressures/threats to site integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Localised air pollution</li> <li>• Disturbance to grazing/maintenance regime.</li> </ul> <p>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form 2016 – threats, pressures and activities HO4: Air pollution Site Improvement Plan – threats, pressures and activities Air Pollution: risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition</p>

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Hackpen Hill</b>
Site Designation	SAC



Location of International Site	SU352847
Description of International Site	<p>Hackpen Hill is an extensive area of unimproved chalk grassland in the Downs. The site has a variety of aspect and gradients, with the grassland dominated by Red Fescue (<i>Festuca Rubra</i>) and Upright brome (<i>Bromus erectus</i>). The herb flora includes a significant population of early gentian (<i>Gentianella anglica</i>), Frog Orchid (<i>Coeloglossum viride</i>), Horseshoe Vetch (<i>Hippocrepis comosa</i>), Common Rock-rose (<i>Helianthemum nummularium</i>) and Dwarf Thistle (<i>Cirsium acaule</i>).</p> <p>Area of site: 35.57ha</p> <p>Qualifying features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6210 <a href="#">Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) (* important orchid sites)</a></li> <li>• 1654 Early gentian (<i>Gentianella anglica</i>)</li> </ul>
Conservation Objectives of International Site	<p>The conservation objectives are subject to natural change, to maintain the following habitats and geological features in favourable condition, with particular reference to any dependent component special interest features for which the land is designated – lowland calcareous grassland.</p> <p>The site is in favourable condition.</p>
Potential threats to integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodic damage by fluctuations in rabbit population.</li> <li>• Disturbance to grazing/maintenance regime</li> </ul> <p>Natura 2000 Standard Data Form 2016 – no threats, pressures and activities identified.</p> <p>Site Improvement Plan – no threats, pressures and activities identified.</p>

<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Solent SAC</b> (includes Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA/Ramsar, Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar, Solent Maritime SAC, Portsmouth Harbour SPA/Ramsar). In relation to the Solent NNZ.
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	The Habitat site is linked to West Berkshire via the River Test, which is a tributary to the Solent, but had its source in Coombe, West Berkshire.
Site Designation	SAC/SPA/Ramsar
Location of International Site	<b>Solent Maritime:</b> SU756003
Description of International Site	<p>The Solent is a complex site encompassing a major estuarine system on the south coast of England. The Solent and its inlets are unique in Britain and Europe for their hydrographic regime with double tides, and well as for the complexity of the mainre and estuarine habitats present within the area. Sediment habitats within the estuaries include extensive areas of intertidal mudflats, often supporting eelgrass <i>Zostera spp.</i> and green algae, saltmarshes and natural shoreline transitions, such as drift line vegetation.</p> <p>All four species of cordgrass found within the IUK are present within the Solent and it is one of only 2 UK sites with significant amounts of the native small cordgrass <i>Spartina maritima</i>. The rich intertidal mudflats, saltmarsh, shingle beaches and adjacent coastal habitats, including grazing marsh, reedbeds and damp woodland, support nationally and internationally important numbers of migratory and over-wintering waders and waterfowl as well as important breeding gull and tern populations.</p>
Conservation Objectives of International Site	<p><b>Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar:</b></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as pprorapte, and ensure that the site contributes to achieveing the aims of the Wide Birds Directive, by mainintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying featuers</li> <li>• The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</li> <li>• The supporting process on which the habitats or the qualifying features rely</li> <li>• The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</li> <li>• The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</li> </ul> <p>Qualifying Species : Ringed plover <i>charadrius hiaticula</i>, Dark-bellied brent goose <i>Branta bernicla</i>, Eurasian Teal <i>anas crecca</i>, black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa Limosa</i>. Esturay, Sheltered channel between island/mainland, Mediterranean Gull <i>Larus melanocephalus</i>, Sandwich tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>, Common Tern <i>Sterna</i></p>

	<p><i>hirundo</i>, Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i>, Roseate tern <i>sterna dougalli</i>, and Dark-bellied brent goose <i>Branta bernicla</i>, Eurasian Teal <i>anas crecca</i>, black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa Limosa</i></p> <p><b>Solent Maritime SAC:</b></p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, but maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The extend and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species</li> <li>• The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats</li> <li>• The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species</li> <li>• The supporting progression which qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species rely</li> <li>• The populations of qualifying species, and,</li> <li>• The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul> <p>Solent Maritime SAC Qualifying Species: H1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water at the time, H1130 Estuaries, H1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide, H1150 Coastal lagoons, H1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines, H1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks, H1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand, H1320 Spartina swards (<i>Spartinion maritimae</i>), H1330 Atlantic salt meadows <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>, H2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> 'White dunes', S1016 Desmoulin's whorl snail <i>Vertigo moulinsiana</i></p>
Potential threats to integrity	<p>Threats include public disturbance, coastal squeeze, fisheries, water pollution, changes in species distributions, climate change, changes to site conditions, invasive species, direct land take from development, biological resources use, changes in land management, inappropriate pest control, air pollution (atmospheric nitrogen deposition), hydrological changes, direct impact from 3<sup>rd</sup> party, extraction (eg. shingle).</p>

## Appendix 2: Plans and projects with the potential for in-combination effects

<b><u>Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031</u></b>	
<b>Part 1: Strategic Sites and Policies and Draft Local Plan 2013</b>	
<b>Part 2: Detailed Policies and Additional Sites</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Part 1 Adopted in December 2016; Part 2 Adopted October 2019. They set out strategic policies and locations for strategic housing for the agreed quantum of Oxford's unmet housing need to be addressed within the Vale of White Horse District.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	Part 1 makes provision of at least 20,560 homes over the plan period between 2011 and 2031. 12,495 of these are to be delivered through strategic allocations, the majority of which are to be provided within the South East Vale Sub-Area, predominantly at Grove Airfield and Valley Park where each site has been allocated 2,550 dwellings, and at Crab Hill where 1,500 dwellings have been allocated.  Part 2 makes provision for at least 22,760 homes over the plan period between 2011 and 2031. The additional 2,200 homes (in comparison to that provided for in Part 1) are to address a proportion of the unmet housing need for Oxford City.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	The Local Plan Part 1 makes provision for 218 hectares of strategic employment land which is anticipated to deliver approximately 23,000 jobs over the plan period between 2011 and 2031. 93 hectares of this land will be at the Harwell Campus Enterprise Zone.
<b>HRA</b>	The February 2015 HRA of the draft Local Plan 2031 Part 1 concluded that no strategic housing sites would lead to likely significant effects, either alone or in combination. The July 2016 addendum to the HRA concluded that modifications made to the Local Plan since the previous HRA was undertaken did not impact the findings of the previous HRA. The February 2018 HRA for the draft Local Plan 2031 Part 2 concluded that, given the incorporation of the recommendations within the HRA and subject to development of strategic air quality studies relating to Oxford Meadows SAC, the plan will not lead to likely significant effects on European sites either alone, or in combination.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the Vale of White Horse Local Plan 2031 with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

<b><u>South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 – 2035</u></b>	
<b>Status</b>	Adopted December 2020.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	During the plan period, provision will be made to meet the total housing requirement of 23,550 homes to include South Oxfordshire Minimum Housing Requirement of 18,600 and 4,950 homes addressing Oxford's unmet housing need (between 1 April 2021 and 31 March 2035). Didcot Garden Town is to provide over 15,000 homes with associated major transport infrastructure.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	South Oxfordshire Minimum Employment Land Requirement is 39.1 hectares over the plan period. This activity is concentrated around the three centres for science at Harwell Campus, Culham Science Centre and Milton Park in the 'Science Vale' and is supported by a number of important settlements. Didcot is the gateway to the Science Vale.
<b>HRA</b>	The HRA concluded that the Local Plan would not have any adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. Appropriate Assessments were carried out with respect to air pollution at Aston Rowant SAC (M40) and Oxford Meadows SAC (A40).
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the South Oxfordshire Local Plan 2011 – 2035 with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

<b><u>Wokingham Borough Core Strategy 2010, Managing Development Delivery Local Plan 2014 and emerging Local Plan Update</u></b>	
<b>Status</b>	<p>Core Strategy adopted in 2010. Managing Development Delivery Local Plan adopted in 2014. Both contain policies and allocations to guide development in the Borough up to 2026.</p> <p>The Draft Local Plan Update consultation 2020 covers the period between 2018 and 2036 and will replace the Core Strategy and Deliver Plan when adopted.</p>
<b>Housing Provision</b>	<p>Core Strategy makes provision for at least 13,232 houses over the plan period from 2006-2026, including those at allocated sites.</p> <p>The Local Plan Update had aimed to deliver a minimum of 13,901 dwellings over the plan period 2018-2036 with the primary focus of growth being the creation of a new self-contained garden town at Grazeley with associated</p>

	<p>infrastructure. The extension of the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone around AWE Burghfield has resulted in this approach being undeliverable. Wokingham BC is now reviewing alternative sites promoted and undertaking masterplanning and other evidence to determine a revised spatial approach to development. It is expected that a Regulation 18 consultation on an updated draft LPU will take place in autumn 2021.</p>
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	<p>Core Strategy makes provision for employment development at 9 Core Employment Areas. Some limited additional employment development may also be identified in the Managing Development Delivery Plan, within Strategic Development Locations and at retail centres. The Managing Development Delivery Local Plan highlights that Core Employment Areas are defined in the Core Strategy and identifies allocated sites.</p> <p>The Draft Local Plan Update Employment Land Study found that there is no quantitative requirement for additional office land/floorspace as gross supply exceeds gross demand. However, there is a small requirement for additional industrial land/floorspace.</p>
<b>HRA</b>	<p>The Core Strategy advises that an Appropriate Assessment was undertaken and identified the potential significant impacts upon Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SPA and Windsor Forest &amp; Great Park SAC, but concluded that likely significant effects could be avoided.</p> <p>The HRA for the Draft Local Plan Update identify a likely significant effect from recreational pressure in relation to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright &amp; Chobham SAC, and similarly for atmospheric pollution in regard to the Thames Basin Heaths SPA and the Chilterns Beechwoods SAC. Following further assessment, it concluded that, given the provision of adequate SANG and SAMM there will be no adverse effects of the Wokingham Local Plan Update on the site integrity of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA from recreational pressure. The results of an air quality impact assessment is awaited before reaching any conclusion with regard to atmospheric pollution.</p>
<b>In combination effects</b>	<p><b>Therefore, It can be concluded that there is <u>no likely in-combination effects of the adopted plans</u>, but at this stage <u>it is not possible to conclude that there are no likely in-combination effects of the</u></b></p>

	<b>Wokingham emerging Local Plan Update with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>
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<b>Reading Borough Council Local Plan to 2036 (2019)</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Local Plan adopted in November 2019.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	The Local Plan makes provision for an additional 15,400 homes from 2013-2036, 2400 of which are in West Reading. The plan also states that the Council will continue to work with neighbouring authorities within the Western Berkshire Housing Market Area to ensure that any shortfall of dwellings that cannot be provided within Reading will be met over the plan period.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	The Submission Draft Local Plan makes provision for a net increase of 112,000m2 of office floorspace (63% in Central Reading) and 148,000 m2 of industrial and/or warehouse space from 2013-2036.
<b>HRA</b>	The November 2017 Sustainability Appraisal of the Local Plan incorporates the HRA and concludes that all of the policy options are unlikely to have significant effects on European sites.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the Reading Borough Council Local Plan to 2036 with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

<b>Wiltshire Core Strategy 2006 – 2026 (2015) and emerging Local Plan Review to 2036</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Wiltshire Core Strategy to 2026 was adopted in 2015 (incorporating), Saved Policies from District Local Plans Chippenham Site Allocations Plans, Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan. These are under review in the The Local Plan review has completed a consultation in 2021 and sets out a positive vision for the future of Wiltshire for the period 2016 - 2036 and a framework for addressing housing needs and other economic, social and environmental priorities.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	The Spatial Strategy makes provision for the growth of at least 42,000 new homes from 2006 to 2026. The emerging spatial strategy predicts Wiltshire will need between 40,840 and 45,630 new homes over the plan period of 2016 to 2036.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	The Spatial Strategy makes provision for the growth of around 27,500 jobs, including 178 hectares of new employment land, beyond that already committed for general broad based employment uses to help deliver job growth and regeneration opportunities. From the emerging Local Plan Review, other

	forecasts estimate an additional 26 hectares of land will be needed for business and jobs.
<b>HRA</b>	<p>The HRA concluded that the adopted Wiltshire Core Strategy would not, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, adversely affect the integrity of any individual European site or the Natural 2000 network as a whole. The HRA for the daughter document Wiltshire Housing Site Allocation Development Plan Document adopted in 2020 concluded the same.</p> <p>A HRA Scoping Report (for further screening assessment) produced in January 2021 for the Local Plan Review consultation has identified (a) the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplains SAC with regard to physical damage/loss of habitat (to Desmoulins Whorl Snail), non-physical disturbance and non-toxic contamination (both limited to 500m), (b) Kennet Valley Alderwoods with regard to water quantity and quality (hydrological connection upstream) and (c) River Lambourn with regard to physical damage/loss of habitat (for brook lamprey and bullhead within 4 km of Wiltshire boundary). The next stage of the HRA process will determine whether the Local Plan Review will result in any likely significant effects (LSE) to the European sites scoped in for further screening assessment.</p>
<b>In combination effects</b>	<p><b>It can be concluded that there is <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the <u>adopted plans</u>, but at this stage it is <u>not possible to conclude that there are no likely in-combination effects</u> of the Wiltshire <u>emerging Local Plan Review</u>, with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b></p>

<b>Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Adopted 2015. There is a review of the current Local Plan for the Borough of Swindon for the period 2016 to 2036.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	22,000 dwellings between 2011 and 2026, phased as follows: 1,150 average per annum between 2011 and 2016; and, 1,625 average per annum between 2016 and 2026. Proposed Submission Draft Version (2019) of the Local Plan review makes provision for at least 20,450 homes to be built in the Borough up to 2036.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	119.5 hectares of employment land (B-use class), 77.5 hectares of additional employment land; and, 42 hectares with extant permission and existing allocations.



<b>HRA</b>	<p>The HRA of the adopted Local Plan screening process suggested the potential for significant effects at the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and the River Lambourn SAC. These effects were considered to arise primarily as a result of effects from the plan acting ‘in-combination’ with other plans and programmes being developed and implemented simultaneously in the area. An Appropriate Assessment was undertaken with respect to water resources &amp; water quality and atmospheric pollution). The Appropriate Assessment concluded that impacts predicted to arise from the implementation of the plan when considered in-combination with the potential impacts from other surrounding plans and projects, would not significantly affect the integrity of the SACs assessed.</p> <p>With respect to the Swindon emerging local plan review to 2036, the findings of the HRA screening could not rule out a likely significant effect on water quantity and water quality at the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC and River Lambourn SAC. However, the Appropriate Assessment concluded that the implementation of policy mitigation included within Water Supply policy, then no adverse effects on the integrity of European sites in relation to changes in water quantity and water quality.</p>
<b>In combination effects</b>	<p><b>It can be concluded that there is <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the adopted Swindon Local Plan 2026, nor at this pre-submission stage of the Swindon local plan review, with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b></p>

<b>Hart Local Plan (strategy and sites) 2032</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Adopted April 2020
<b>Housing Provision</b>	To plan for sufficient land to be available for at least 7,614 new homes to be built in the District in the period 2014 – 2032 such that it provides a continuous supply of housing.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	New employment development will be focussed on existing Strategic and Locally Important Employment Sites listed. Provision will be made for approximately 5,900 sq m (net) of additional convenience retail floorspace and 3,960 sq m (net) of additional comparison floorspace in the District over the Plan period; the majority in Fleet.

<b>HRA</b>	<p>The HRA considered impact pathways from urbanisations, recreational pressure, atmospheric pollution, water abstraction and water quality with respect to the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area.</p> <p>Recommendations were made to ensure that the policies and site allocations provided within the Plan do not result in likely significant effects or have a negative impact on the integrity of European designated sites.</p>
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the Hart Local Plan 2032 with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

<b>Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan 2011- 2029 and Emerging Local Plan Update</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Adopted in May 2016. The Emerging Local Plan Update at early stage of development
<b>Housing Provision</b>	<p>The housing delivery target of 850 units per annum (15,300 homes) over the plan period has been established and has also been informed by the borough's affordable housing needs, and the consideration of whether there is unmet need in other Local Authority areas. The Local Plan includes a job target range of between 450-700 net new jobs per annum (an increase in the region of 8,100-12,600 jobs over the 2011-2029 period) which sets out the likely job growth in the borough during the plan period and sets the economic context against which the housing provision is set.</p>
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	<p>Within the period 2011-2029, the Local plan will aim to support the creation of between 450-700 jobs per annum (8,100-12,600 during the plan period) and sets out the likely job growth in the borough during the plan period and gives the economic context against which the housing provision is set.</p> <p>The proximity of Basingstoke town to the south coast and strategic road network makes it particularly appealing for storage and distribution use. Over the plan period the borough will require up to 122,000 sqm of storage and distribution floor space to meet future needs. A shortfall within existing Strategic Employment Areas has been identified and the council will seek to allocate new employment sites through the production of a subsequent Development Plan Document.</p>
<b>HRA</b>	<p>The HRA concluded that there are no likely significant effects arising on European sites, either alone, or in combination with other plans and projects as a result of the Local Plan. The Plan contains an adequate policy framework to avoid or adequately mitigate effects on European sites.</p>

	The HRA concluded no likely significant effect Impacts of the Local Plan on the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC or the Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC with respect to potential effects on water abstraction, water quality and in combination air quality. The HRA concluded no likely significant effect Impacts of the Local Plan on the River Lambourn SAC with respect to potential effects on water abstraction, water quality.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the Basingstoke and Deane Local Plan 2011- 2029 with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

### **OTHER WEST BERKSHIRE COUNCIL PLANS**

<b>Local Transport Plan for West Berkshire 2011 - 2026</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Adopted in June 2014.
<b>Proposed Development</b>	<p>Identifies and prioritises the transport needs of the district, and sets out the framework as to how they will be met up to the year 2026. This includes walking, cycling, and travel by road and rail to destinations such as workplaces and schools. The LTP policies aim to reduce the impact of transport on the environment where possible and so none of the proposed policies are seen to have the potential to cause significant harm to the SACs or the SPA.</p> <p>Provides transport infrastructure through policies that include measures that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase travel choice with strategies for sustainable modes of transport, alternative smarter and active travel;</li> <li>• Minimise congestion;</li> <li>• Promote accessibility and safety;</li> <li>• Manage demand for parking</li> <li>• Tackle climate and carbon reduction</li> </ul>
<b>HRA</b>	The HRA concluded that it is unlikely that the LTP will have any significant impact on the integrity of these sites as they are relatively isolated and away from the major transport links in the district. At a project level all schemes and projects are tested using the prioritisation method outlined in the LTP, which includes a section on the environment. If a scheme or project is considered to

	have a detrimental impact on the environment it will be changed, or appropriate mitigation measures will be put in place.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the West Berkshire Local Transport Plan 2011 – 2026 with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

<b>West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Plan (as submitted July 2021)</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Submitted. Examination hearings Feb 2022
<b>Proposed Development</b>	<p>The Plan makes provision for a steady and adequate supply of construction aggregates over the plan period through the allocation of sites for mineral extraction as well as through encouraging the use of secondary and recycled aggregates. The Plan sets out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A range of locational policies that provide a preferred spatial strategy for the provision of new waste management facilities that may be needed over the plan period.</li> <li>• The proposals for safeguarding of mineral resources and infrastructure as well as waste infrastructure to ensure the ongoing supply of both mineral resources and waste management capacity in the future.</li> <li>• Policies on restoration and after use of mineral sites to ensure that mineral extraction enhances the environment and provides amenities for the public;</li> <li>• Allocates sites, accompanied by a specific site policy setting out key requirements for any planning application submitted for the site.</li> </ul>
<b>HRA</b>	The HRA concluded that there is unlikely to be a significant impact on any European and Ramsar sites as a result of the plan. The geology of West Berkshire and the environmental designation of the AONB, mean that minerals development is focused along the Kennet Valley between Thatcham and Theale. The plan does not propose to allocate sites for waste development, rather to safeguard existing waste facilities, none of which are close to any European and Ramsar sites.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Therefore, there are <u>no likely in-combination effects</u> of the West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan to with the West Berkshire Local Plan Review.</b>

## **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

<b>Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Plan 2017</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Following a positive referendum result on the Stratfield Mortimer Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) on 22 June 2017, West Berkshire Council adopted the Stratfield Mortimer NDP part of the Development Plan for the purposes of managing development in the parish of Stratfield Mortimer.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	Land is allocated behind St John's Infant School for 110 homes that will have a mix of types and tenures. It will also include a new St John's Infant School and doctors' surgery.
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	<p>The plan does not allocate sites for employment. Local economic innovation that creates a range of job types and higher added value employment will be encouraged. Subject to conditions, the plan supports new independent local retail/services outlets and expansion of existing outlets.</p> <p>The creation of additional business accommodation through small scale expansion of existing employment premises, the conversion of existing buildings and new premises will also be supported. These developments will be directed towards the commercial centre of the village and suitable conversion of redundant farm buildings.</p>
<b>HRA</b>	The HRA Screening Report concluded that the NDP is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>The allocated numbers for housing have been included within the Local Plan Review HRA.</b>

<b>Compton Neighbourhood Plan 2021</b>	
<b>Status</b>	Examination complete. Awaiting referendum Jan 2022.
<b>Housing Provision</b>	No sites allocated for housing development
<b>Employment Land Provision</b>	The plan does not allocate land for employment
<b>HRA</b>	The HRA Screening Report concluded that the NDP is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.
<b>In combination effects</b>	<b>Development in Compton included within the Local Plan Review HRA.</b>

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
<b>Strategic Policies</b>							
Policy SP1 - Spatial Areas / Spatial Strategy	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development West Berkshire but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development West Berkshire but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development West Berkshire but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development West Berkshire but will not itself result in new development	Policy itself is unlikely to have a significant impact as it describes the principles for development, but does not result in new development	Policy itself is unlikely to have a significant impact as it describes the principles for development, but does not result in new development	Policy itself is unlikely to have a significant impact as it describes the principles for development, but does not result in new development
SP2 - The North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development in the AONB but	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development in the AONB but will	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development in the AONB but will	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development West Berkshire	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least 2km downstream of the SAC	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least 6km downstream of the SAC	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for the management of

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	will not itself result in new development	not itself result in new development	not itself result in new development	but will not itself result in new development			development in the AONB but will not in itself result in new development.
SP3 - Settlement Hierarchy	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach towards development through the hierarchy but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach towards development through the hierarchy but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach towards development through the hierarchy but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the principles for development West Berkshire but will not itself result in new development	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least 2km downstream of the SAC	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least 6km downstream of the SAC	Unlikely to have an impact given the distance of development proposals from the SAC with no likely pathways.

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
SP4 - Atomic Weapons Establishments at Aldermaston and Burghfield	No likely significant effect. The policy specifically related to AWE which is located downstream of the SAC	No likely significant effect. The policy specifically related to AWE which is located downstream of the SAC	No likely significant effect. The policy specifically related to AWE which is located downstream of the SAC	No likely significant effect. The policy specifically related to AWE.	No impact as SAC is located at least 30km from AWE	No impact as SAC is located at least 13km from AWE	No impact as SAC is located at approximately 60 km from AWE
SP5 - Climate Change	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result in	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result in	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result in	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result in	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result in	This policy relates to encouraging the design of development to account and mitigate for climate change. It will not result



### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	in new development. No likely significant effects	new development. No likely significant effects	new development. No likely significant effects	new development. No likely significant effects	new development. No likely significant effects	new development. No likely significant effects	in new development. No likely significant effects
SP6 - Flood Risk	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect
SP7 - Design Quality	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect
SP8 - Landscape Character	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect
SP9 - Historic Environment	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect
SP10 - Green Infrastructure	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect
SP11 - Biodiversity	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
and geodiversity							
SP12 - Housing delivery	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach to the provision of 8,721 to 9,146 net additional new homes over the plan period. It will not in itself result in new development. The likely significant effects are	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach to the provision of 8,721 to 9,146 net additional new homes over the plan period. It will not in itself result in new development. The likely significant effects are assessed	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach to the provision of 8,721 to 9,146 net additional new homes over the plan period. It will not in itself result in new development. The likely significant effects are assessed	No likely significant effect. This policy describes the approach to the provision of 8,721 to 9,146 net additional new homes over the plan period. It will not in itself result in new development. The likely significant effects are assessed	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	assessed below in the site allocation policies.	below in the site allocation policies.	below in the site allocation	below in the site allocation			
SP13 - Site Allocations Newbury & Thatcham - Development of up to 3468 new homes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Newbury (1883)</li> <li>Thatcham (1585)</li> </ul>	Increased population could potentially have impacts on the Kennet and Lambourn Floodplain SAC. There could be alterations to the hydrology particularly at Thatcham and prejudice air quality along the	No significant impact as SAC is upstream of Newbury and Thatcham.	No significant impact as SAC is upstream of Newbury and Thatcham.	Given the distance between the SPA and the likely location of site allocations it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SPA	Given the distance between the SAC and the likely location of site allocations it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the likely location of site allocations it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	A4 corridor and A 339. Additional wastewater pressure will require upgrades to wastewater and sewage infrastructure at the Newbury WwTW, additional policy wording to require early engagement with TW regarding						

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	upgrades to ensure no significant negative impacts on SAC.						
SP14 - Site Allocations Eastern Area  Development of up to 504 new homes and 65 care home bed spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calcot (35)</li> <li>• Purley (35)</li> </ul>	No likely significant effect. Likely site allocations are a considerable distance and downstream of the SACs	No likely significant effect. Likely site allocations are a considerable distance and downstream of the SACs	No likely significant effect. Likely site allocations are a considerable distance and downstream of the SACs	Likely site allocations are beyond 7km from the Thames Basin Heaths SPA. However, the increase in population and traffic movement could contribute to a likely	No likely significant effect. Likely site allocations are a considerable distance and downstream of the SACs	No likely significant effect. Likely site allocations are a considerable distance and downstream of the SACs	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tilehurst ( 65 care home beds spaces)</li> <li>• Theale (200)</li> <li>• Burghfield Common (100)</li> <li>• Stratfield Mortimer (110 allocated in the NDP)</li> <li>• Woolhampton (16)</li> </ul>				significant effect on air quality.			

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aldermaston (8 G&amp;T pitches).</li> </ul>							
SP15 - Site Allocations in North Wessex Downs AONB  Development of up to 404 new homes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Compton (140)</li> <li>Hungerford (NDP 55)</li> <li>Kintbury (20)</li> </ul>	Increased the population which potentially could have impacts on the SAC from the effects on the hydrology of the sites, deterioration air quality, damage to riparian margins and possible introduction of	Increased the population which potentially could have impacts on the SAC from the effects on the hydrology of the sites, deterioration air quality, damage to riparian margins and possible introduction of	Increased the population which potentially could have impacts on the SAC from the effects on the hydrology of the sites, deterioration air quality, damage to riparian margins and possible introduction of	No likely significant effect due to distance of settlements from SPA	No likely significant effect as SAC is upstream of all likely development areas	No likely significant effect as SAC is upstream of all likely development areas	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lambourn (65 and NDP 25)</li> <li>Hermitage (59)</li> <li>Chieveley (15)</li> <li>Bradfield Southend (10)</li> <li>Great Shefford (15)</li> </ul>	non-native species.	non-native species.	non-native species.				
Site Allocations Gypsies and Travellers	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from the SAC and	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from the SAC and	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from the SAC and	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from the SAC and	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from the SAC and	No likely significant effect. Due to location of likely allocations from



### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	the SAC and no functional linkages.	no functional linkages.	no functional linkages.	no functional linkages.	no functional linkages.	no functional linkages.	the SAC and no functional linkages.
SP18 - Housing Type and Mix	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
SP19 - Affordable Housing	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of the likely effect from the overall	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of the likely effect from the overall	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of the likely effect from the overall	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of the likely effect from the overall	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of the likely effect from the overall	No likely significant effect. The provision itself made by this policy for housing that is affordable is not likely to have a significant effect beyond the assessment of

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	the likely effect from the overall provision assessed in other Delivering Housing policies.	provision assessed in other Delivering Housing policies.	provision assessed in other Delivering Housing policies.	provision assessed in other Delivering Housing policies.	provision assessed in other Delivering Housing policies.	provision assessed in other Delivering Housing policies.	the likely effect from the overall provision
SP20 - Strategic approach to employment land	No likely significant effects. This policy sets out the approach to locating economic development, but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effects. This policy sets out the approach to locating economic development, but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effects. This policy sets out the approach to locating economic development, but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effects. This policy sets out the approach to locating economic development, but will not itself result in new development.	Given the distance between the SAC and the likely location of sites for economic development it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the likely location of sites for economic development it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the likely location of sites for economic development it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
SP21 - Employment land allocations	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SAC therefore, no significant likely effects.	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SAC therefore, no significant likely effects.	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SAC therefore, no significant likely effects.	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SPA therefore, no significant likely effects.	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SAC therefore, no significant likely effects.	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SAC therefore, no significant likely effects.	Employment allocations unlikely to be close to SAC therefore, no significant likely effects.
SP22 – Town Centres	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development.	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development	No likely significant effects. The policy seeks to support vitality and viability. It will not directly result in development

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
SP23 - Transport	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC	In itself this policy would not have an impact on the SAC
SP24 - Infrastructure requirements and delivery	Without adequate infrastructure upgrades there is potential for significant effects on the hydrology of the SAC and air quality; lead to surface run-off, damage to riparian margins and possible	Without adequate infrastructure upgrades there is potential for significant effects on the hydrology of the SAC and air quality; lead to surface run-off, damage to riparian margins and possible introduction of	Without adequate infrastructure upgrades there is potential for significant effects on the hydrology of the SAC and air quality; lead to surface run-off, damage to riparian margins and possible introduction of	Given the distance between the SPA and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SPA	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC	Given the distance between the SAC and the development proposals within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	introduction of non-native species.	non-native species.	non-native species.				
DM Policies							
DM1 - Development in the countryside	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements and safeguards for the type of development but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements and safeguards for the type of development but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements and safeguards for the type of development but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements and safeguards for the type of development but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements and safeguards for the type of development but will not itself result in new development	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements and safeguards for the type of development but will not itself result in new development	
DM2 - Separation of	None – this policy	None – this policy establishes	None – this policy establishes	None – this policy establishes	None – this policy establishes	None – this policy establishes	None – this policy

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
settlements around Newbury and Thatcham	establishes Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas	Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas	Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas	Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas	Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas	Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas	establishes Green Gaps, to preserve the open and undeveloped character of these areas
DM3 - Health and Wellbeing	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM4 - Sustainable Homes / Businesses	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM5 - Environmental Nuisance and	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
pollution control							
DM6 - Water quality	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least 2km downstream of the SAC	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least 6km downstream of the SAC	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect
DM7 - Water resources and waste	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM8 - Air Quality	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least	Unlikely to have an impact as all development proposals are located at least	The policy itself does not result in development therefore, no likely significant effect

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
					2km downstream of the SAC	6km downstream of the SAC	
DM9 - Conservation Areas	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM10 - Listed Buildings	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM11 - Non-designated heritage assets	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM12 - Registered Parks and Gardens	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.



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	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM13 - Registered Battlefields	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
SM14 -Assets of Archaeological Importance	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM15 -Trees, woodlands and hedgerows	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM16 - First Homes exception sites	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	housing but will not itself result in new development.	not itself result in new development.	not itself result in new development.	not itself result in new development.	not itself result in new development.	not itself result in new development.	housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM17 - Rural Exception Housing	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM18 - Self and Custom Build	No likely significant effect. This	No likely significant effect. This policy sets	No likely significant effect. This policy sets	No likely significant effect. This policy sets	No likely significant effect. This policy sets	No likely significant effect. This policy sets	No likely significant effect. This

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM19 - Specialised Housing	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	in new development.						in new development.
DM20 - Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM21 - Retention of mobile home parks	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM22 - Residential use of space about shops and offices	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM23 - Housing related to Rural Workers	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM24 - Redundant	No likely significant	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
and disused buildings in the countryside conversion to residential	effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM25 - Replacement of existing dwellings in the countryside	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	in new development.	new development.	new development.	new development.	new development.	new development.	in new development.
DM26 - Extension of residential curtilages in the countryside	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM27 - Sub-division of existing dwellings in	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
the countryside	requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM28 - Residential extensions	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.



### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM29 - Residential annexes	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for specific types of housing but will not itself result in new development.
DM30 - Residential space standards	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect
DM31 - Residential amenity	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect	No likely significant effect

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM32 - Designated Employment Areas	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.
DM33 - Development Within AWE	No likely significant effect given the distance from the SAC. The Policy provides support	No likely significant effect given the distance from the SAC. The Policy provides support	No likely significant effect given the distance from the SAC. The Policy provides support	No likely significant effect. The AWE sites are beyond the 7km zone for the SPA.	No likely significant effect given the distance from the SAC. The Policy provides support	No likely significant effect given the distance from the SAC. The Policy provides support	No likely significant effect given the distance from the SAC. The Policy provides support

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.	for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.	for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.	The Policy provides support for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.	for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.	for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.	for employment uses on the AWE sites as they are not covered by Policies SP21 and DM35, and are not Designated Employment Areas.
DM34 - Retail Warehousing	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on established retail	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on established retail	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on established retail	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on established retail	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on established retail	No likely significant effect. Policy relates to the management of retail uses on

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	established retail parks. It will not result in new development	parks. It will not result in new development	parks. It will not result in new development	parks. It will not result in new development	parks. It will not result in new development	parks. It will not result in new development	established retail parks. It will not result in new development
DM35 - Supporting the Rural Economy	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.
DM36 - Farm diversification	No likely significant	No likely significant affect.	No likely significant affect.	No likely significant affect.	No likely significant affect.	No likely significant affect.	No likely significant

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	affect. This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	This policy sets out the criteria for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.	effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development.
DM37 - Equestrian Development	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and tests for the type of suitable development but will not itself	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and tests for the type of suitable development but will not itself	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and tests for the type of suitable development but will not itself	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and tests for the type of suitable development but will not itself	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and tests for the type of suitable development but will not itself	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and tests for the type of suitable development but will not itself	No likely significant effect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	result in new development.	result in new development.	result in new development.	result in new development.	result in new development.	result in new development.	result in new development.
DM38 - Development on existing Educational and Institutional Sites in the Countryside	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria and for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the criteria for development at existing educational and institutional sites in the countryside. It will not in itself result in new development.

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM39 - Local community facilities	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.	No likely significant affect. This policy sets out the requirements for the type of development but will not itself result in new development. The likely small scale of development is not considered enough to have a significant effect.

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM40 - Public Open Space	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM41 - Digital Infrastructure	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.	No likely significant effect.
DM42 - Transport Infrastructure	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.	Potential for significant effects on the hydrology of a site and air quality.
DM43 - Theale rail-road transfer site	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-road transfer facility	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-road transfer facility	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-road transfer facility	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-road transfer facility	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-road transfer facility	No likely significant effect. The policy Safeguards the site as a rail-



### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
	road transfer facility allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. Also Given the distance between the SAC and the proposed use of the site within LPR it is unlikely there will be a significant impact on the SAC.	allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. Also Given the distance between the SAC and the proposed use of the site within LPR it is unlikely there will be a significant impact on the SAC.	allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. Also Given the distance between the SAC and the proposed use of the site within LPR it is unlikely there will be a significant impact on the SAC.	allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. The site is at some distance beyond the 7km zone. The proposed use of the site within LPR is therefore unlikely to result in significant effects on the SPA.	allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. Also Given the distance between the SAC and the proposed use of the site within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC.	allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. Also Given the distance between the SAC and the proposed use of the site within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC.	road transfer facility allowing for material to be transported by rail rather than road. Also Given the distance between the SAC and the proposed use of the site within LPR it is unlikely there will be an impact on the SAC.

### Appendix 3: Screening of policy areas and settlements

	SACs Within West Berkshire			SPA / SACs Outside West Berkshire			
Policy Area	Kennet and Lambourn Flood Plain	River Lambourn	Kennet Valley Alderwoods	Thames Basin Heaths SPA (zones)	Hartslock Wood SAC	Hackpen Hill SAC	Solent SAC
DM44 - Parking	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.	No likely significant effect. Specifies space requirements and need for travel plans.
DM45 Travel Plans							