

Kirklees Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Habitats Regulations As- sessment

Screening Assessment

Final Report

March 2023

CONTENTS

Non-Technical Summary

1.	Introduction	- 1 -
1.1.	The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	- 1 -
1.2.	Habitats Regulations Assessment	- 2 -
1.2.1.	Legislative Context	- 2 -
2.	HRA Methodology	- 3 -
2.1.	Introduction	- 3 -
2.2.	HRA Process	- 3 -
2.3.	HRA Stage 1: Screening Methodology	- 4 -
2.3.1.	The Precautionary Principle	- 5 -
2.3.2.	Consultation	- 5 -
2.3.3.	Mitigation, Avoidance and Protective Measures	- 5 -
3.	HRA Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment Methodology	- 6 -
3.1.	Appropriate Assessment and Mitigation – HRA Stages 2 and 3	- 6 -
4.	European Sites	- 7 -
4.1.	Introduction	- 7 -
4.2.	European Sites in and around Kirklees District	- 7 -
4.3.	Potential Hazards to European Sites	- 8 -
4.3.2.	Introduction	- 8 -
4.3.3.	Hazards to Sites	- 8 -
4.3.1.	Qualifying Features and Sensitivity to Hazards	- 11 -
5.	Screening Assessment	- 13 -
5.1.	Introduction	- 13 -
6.	Other Relevant Plans and Projects that might act In-combination.	- 24 -
7.	Screening Assessment Results	- 26 -
7.1.	Introduction	- 26 -
7.2.	Screening Assessment	- 26 -
8.	Screening Statement and Conclusions	- 31 -

8.1.1. Summary	- 31 -
9. Appendix A	I
11.1. Location of European Sites within and adjacent to KMDC	I
10. Appendix B	II
12.1. Details of European sites within and adjacent to Kirklees District	II
11. References	V

FIGURES

[Figure 1: European Site Map](#)

I

Tables

Table 1: The HRA Process	- 3 -
Table 2: European Sites Within and Adjacent to Kirklees District	- 8 -
Table 3: Potential Hazards to the European Sites within and adjacent to the District	- 8 -
Table 4: Sensitivity of European Sites to Potential Hazards	- 11 -
Table 5: LFRMS Strategic Measures	- 13 -
Table 7: Other Plans and Projects	- 24 -
Table 6: Summary of screened in LFRMS actions and measures and their likely impacts on European Sites.	- 27 -
Table 8: Details of European Sites within and adjacent to KMDC. Information from JNCC and Natural England	

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This report contributes to Kirklees Metropolitan District Council's legal obligation to The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019) to carry out a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of its plans for effects on European Sites.

Kirklees Metropolitan District Council (KMDC) has developed a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) for the District. As Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) under the Floods and Water Management Act 2010 they are responsible for the management of local flood risk, including from surface runoff, groundwater and flooding from ordinary watercourses (smaller rivers and streams). Several European Sites are located within or adjacent to the KMDC boundary and it is a requirement that LFRMS is assessed under these regulations.

Before a plan can be adopted, the 'competent authority' (KMDC) needs to demonstrate that the plan would have no significant effects on European Sites' integrity to the satisfaction of Natural England.

The first section of this report consists of the first step of the HRA process, which is to screen the LFRMS to determine whether the objectives and associated action identified in the Strategy could lead to a significant effect on European sites, either directly or indirectly, alone, or in combination with other relevant plans and projects.

European Sites consist of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated for habitats and animal species, and Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated for bird species. Ramsar sites designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands 1971 are also included following Government policy.

The LFRMS contains six high level objectives linked to measures to manage flood risk in the District, followed by area specific measures. The screening process identified measures with potential to threaten European Sites. Within the action plan, Natural Flood Management measures and maintenance/construction related actions within close proximity to European Sites (particularly upland sites), had the greatest potential to have likely significant effects on these designated sites at Scheme Level.

The Screening Assessment concluded that the LFRMS is not likely **at this stage** to have significant effects, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects on any of the European Sites located within Kirklees Metropolitan District or with 15km of the District boundary. This conclusion is based on the very high level and undefined nature of the LFRMS and the potential environmental benefits of the measures included.

It is therefore recommended that the LFRMS can be adopted with no adverse impact on the integrity of European Sites with the advisory that re-screening takes place under the HRA once detailed design is known, with appropriate mitigation detailed as necessary. Partnership (a key objective of the LFRMS), is actively encouraged going forward.

1. INTRODUCTION

This report details the Screening and Appropriate Assessment Stages of the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) that has been developed by Kirklees Metropolitan District Council (KMDC), as part of their responsibility as a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA). It is intended to identify, describe and assess the likely significant effects of implementing the strategy on European designated sites (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs)) and also Ramsar sites within and around Kirklees Metropolitan District.

1.1 THE LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 determined the need for flood risk to be managed within the framework of National Strategies for England and Wales and within Local Strategies for each Local Flood Authority Area. The national strategy for England sets out the principles for flood risk management and which organisations are responsible for implementation.

In accordance with the national strategy for England, LLFAs have been allocated responsibility for developing independent LFRMSs to address sources of local flooding. Each LFRMS identifies which local organisation is accountable for managing flood risk and establishes partnership agreements, as well as undertaking an assessment of flood risk and developing plans / actions, for tackling these risks.

KMDC, as a LLFA, has a responsibility to produce a LFRMS to manage water within the District to address local flooding issues. The KMDC LFRMS sets out the overall objectives to manage flooding within KMDC. KMDC present the purpose of the strategy as follows: “The Local Strategy will take into consideration current thinking and understanding to tackling flood risk in our district. Our Local Strategy will encourage more effective risk management by enabling local communities and business owners to work together to:

- Balance the needs of the community, environment, and economy,
- Enhance and extend our partnership working between us and other key stakeholders (e.g., charities, community groups, Parish Councils, and health bodies),
- Improve community awareness of flood risk, respond to their expectations and their priorities,
- Ensure a clear understanding of local flood risks and prioritise high risk catchments and communities,
- Encourage innovative flood risk management techniques,
- Support the development of emergency plans and responses to flood incidents are effective and that communities are better prepared,
- Support communities to recover more quickly and effectively after major flood incidents. Research carried out by the University of York and the Centre for Mental Health reported that the risk of long-term mental health problems was up to nine times more likely for flood victims compared to those who had never experienced flooding,
- Enable continued learning to ensure we remain progressive.” (KMDC, 2022)

Kirklees LFRMS identifies six objectives that outline the KMDC strategy to manage local flood risk and puts forward associated measures that will promote the successful delivery of the strategy.

1.2. HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT

1.2.1 Legislative Context

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019), also known as the 'Habitats Regulations', provide legal protection to habitats and species of national importance. The regulations also secure an ecological network of protected sites, consisting of SACs and SPAs. Government guidance also requires that Ramsar sites (which support internationally important wetland habitats and are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance [Ramsar Convention]) are given the same level of protection as SACs and SPAs.

Prior to the UK's withdrawal from the EU, SACs were designated and protected under domestic legislation transposed from European Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora and Fauna (Habitats Directive), and SPAs under European Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (Birds Directive). Together these sites formed a European-wide Natura 2000 network of protected sites. Since 31 December 2020, SACs and SPAs within the UK no longer fall within the Natura 2000 network, and instead form a National Site Network. SPAs and SACs continue to be referred to collectively as 'European sites' within the context of the Habitats Regulations, reflecting their international importance for the conservation of biodiversity.

SACs and SPAs within the National Site Network are also still designated for habitats listed on Annex I and for species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive, and criteria listed under the Birds Directive, and it is these Annex I habitats, Annex II species and Birds Directive Criteria against which assessments under the Habitats Regulations are still made.

It is a requirement of Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations that where a plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, and where it is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site "the plan-making authority for that plan must, before the plan is given effect, make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of that site's conservation objectives".

Therefore, for all plans that are not wholly directly connected with, or necessary to, the conservation management of the site's qualifying features, a formal Screening for any Likely Significant Effects (either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects) on a European site is required. This Screening Assessment is based on available ecological information on the designated site(s), other plans, projects, and policies relevant to the area and details of the proposed development/policy.

If the Screening Assessment concludes that the plan is likely to have a significant effect on the conservation objectives of the site(s), or that such an effect cannot be ruled out (adopting a precautionary approach) an Appropriate Assessment must be carried out. An Appropriate Assessment involves an assessment of the potential effects of the plan on the conservation objectives of the site(s). If significant effects are identified, avoidance measures or mitigation to reduce impacts can be applied.

If it cannot be concluded that the plan will not adversely impact upon the integrity of the site(s), the development will not be able to proceed without further conditions and/or assessment. The plan will need to prove that all alternatives have been considered and that there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI) that outweigh the potentially damaging impacts that the plan may have before it can proceed. In this case compensatory measures will be required.

Planning documents, such as the KMDC LFRMS, are required to undergo HRA if there is the potential for significant impacts and they are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site. As the Plan is not connected with or necessary to the management of SACs, SPAs or Ramsar sites, it is necessary to undertake a HRA of the Plan.

2. HRA METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

It is accepted best-practice for the HRA of strategic planning documents to be run as an iterative process alongside the plan development, with the emerging policies, sites or options continually assessed for their possible effects on European sites and modified or abandoned (as necessary) to ensure that the subsequently adopted plan is not likely to result in significant effects on any European sites, either alone or 'in-combination' with other plans. This is undertaken in consultation with Natural England and other appropriate consultees.

2.2 HRA Process

The HRA will follow a four-stage process, based on that detailed in the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) guidance Planning for the Protection of European sites: Appropriate Assessment (2006) and subsequent Government Guidance on the Use of Habitats Regulations Assessment (2019). These stages are described in Table 1.

Table 1: The HRA Process

Stage/Task	Description
HRA Stage 1: Screening	<p>This process identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in-combination with other projects or plans, and determines whether these impacts are likely to be significant.</p> <p>If no likely significant effect is determined, the project or plan can proceed. If a likely significant effect is identified, Stage 2 is commenced.</p> <p>Following the People over Wind & Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta Case C-323/17, the assessment does not consider protective, avoidance or mitigation measures for Stage 1 Screening. These measures are carried forward and considered as part of Stage 2.</p> <p>However, any changes to early drafts of a plan, for example the removal of a policy with likely significant effects, are considered as pre-screening decisions. The HRA formal Screening is undertaken prior to the adoption of the Plan. Therefore, any changes on earlier iterations of the draft plan are in effect changes to the essential features or characteristics of the plan itself and are therefore (usually) not considered to be avoidance measures requiring consideration at Stage 2.</p>
HRA Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment	<p>This assessment determines whether a project or plan would have an adverse impact on the integrity of a European site, either alone or in-combination with other projects or plans. This assessment is confined to the effects on the important habitats and species for which the site is designated (i.e. the qualifying interests of the site).</p> <p>Appropriate Assessments, in line with CJEU: Case C-461/17 Holohan v An Bord Pleanála, must also consider impacts upon habitats and species within or outside of a site boundary if they support a qualifying feature and could impact upon the conservation objectives of the site.</p> <p>If no adverse impact is determined, the project or plan can proceed.</p> <p>If an adverse impact is identified, Stage 3 is commenced.</p>
HRA Stage 3: Assessment where no alternatives and adverse impacts remain (Mitigation and Alternatives)	<p>Where a plan or project has been found to have adverse impacts on the integrity of a European site, potential avoidance/mitigation measures or alternative options should be identified.</p> <p>If suitable avoidance/mitigation or alternative options are identified, that result in there being no adverse effects from the project or plan on European sites, the project or plan can proceed.</p> <p>If no suitable avoidance/mitigation or alternative options are identified, as a rule the project or plan should not proceed. However, in exceptional circumstances, if there is an 'imperative reason of overriding public interest' for the implementation of the project or plan, consideration can be given to proceeding in the absence of alternative solutions. In this case, compensatory measures must have to be put in place to offset negative impacts (Stage 4).</p>
HRA Stage 4: Compensatory measures	<p>Stage 4 comprises an assessment of the compensatory measures where, in light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest, it is deemed that the project should proceed.</p>

Other guidance documents have been used to help inform the methodology of this assessment, including:

- Assessment of Plans and Projects Significantly Affecting Natura 2000 Sites: Methodological Guidance on the Provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC (European Commission 2002)
- The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (DTA Publications, 2023).
- Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC (European Communities, 2018)
- Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the 'Habitats Directive' 92/43/EEC (European Communities, 2007)

- The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG)
- The Planning Inspectorate PINS Note 05/ 2018: Consideration of avoidance and reduction measures in Habitats Regulations Assessment: *People over Wind*, Peter Sweetman, v Coillte Teoranta (The Planning Inspectorate, 2018)
- UK Government Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment (July 2019) [<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment>]

2.1. HRA Stage 1: Screening Methodology

The principles of 'screening' are applied to a plan or its components (i.e., policies and site allocations) to allow the assessment stage to focus on those aspects that are most likely to have potentially significant or adverse effects on European sites, as well as shape the emerging strategy. Screening aims to determine whether the plan will have any 'likely significant effects' on any European site as a result of its implementation. It is intended to be a coarse filter for identifying effects (positive and negative) that may occur, to allow the assessment stage to focus on the most important aspects. A plan should be considered 'likely' to have an effect if it is not possible (on the basis of objective information) to exclude the likelihood that the plan could have significant effects on any European site, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects; an effect will be 'significant' if it could undermine the site's conservation objectives.

Screening can be used to 'screen-out' European sites and plan components from further assessment, if it is possible to determine that significant effects are unlikely (e.g., if sites or interest features are clearly not vulnerable (exposed and/or sensitive) to the outcomes of a plan due to the absence of any reasonable impact pathways).

In order to undertake screening of the LFRMS, it is necessary to:

- Identify the European sites within and outside the plan area likely to be affected, reasons for their designation and their conservation objectives.
- Describe the plan/strategy and their aims and objectives and also those of other plans or projects that in-combination have the potential to impact upon the European sites.
- Identify the potential effects on the European sites.
- Assess the significance of these potential effects on the European sites.

2.3.1. The Precautionary Principle

If there is uncertainty, and it is not possible, based on the information available, to confidently determine no significant effects on a site then the precautionary principle will be applied, and the plan will be subject to an appropriate assessment (HRA Stage 2).

2.3.2. Consultation

It is a requirement of the Habitat Regulations to consult the appropriate nature conservation statutory body (i.e. Natural England). No formal consultation with NE has been undertaken at this stage.

2.3.3. Mitigation, Avoidance and Protective Measures

Following the *People over Wind & Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* Case C-323/17, the assessment does not consider protective, avoidance or mitigation measures for stage 1 Screening. These measures are carried forward and considered as part of the stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

3. HRA STAGE 2: APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

3.1 Appropriate Assessment and Mitigation – HRA Stages 2 and 3

For those European sites screened into the HRA, it is necessary to undertake an Appropriate Assessment to explore the potential adverse effects on their integrity and develop measures to avoid these effects entirely, or if not possible, to mitigate the impacts sufficiently that effects on the European sites are rendered effectively insignificant.

The stages involved in the Appropriate Assessment are to:

- Explore the reasons for the European designation of the "screened in" European sites.
- Explore the environmental conditions required to maintain the integrity of the "scoped in" European sites and become familiar with the current trends in these environmental processes.
- Gain a full understanding of the LFRMS and consider each within the context of the environmental processes – would the policies lead to an impact on any identified process?
- Decide whether the identified impact will lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of the European site.
- In reference to ECJ case C-462/17 (Nov 18) *Holohan v An Bord Pleanala*, the Appropriate Assessment needs to include all typical habitats and species present within and outside of the boundaries of the European site if they are necessary for the conservation of the habitats and species listed for the protected area.
- Identify other plans that might affect these European sites in combination with the LFRMS and decide whether there are any adverse effects that might not result from the strategy in isolation but will do so in-combination.
- Develop measures to avoid the effect entirely, or if not possible, to mitigate the impact sufficiently such that its effect on the European site is rendered effectively insignificant.

In evaluating significance, JBA Consulting has relied on its professional judgement, which will be further reinforced through consultation with Natural England, through the development of the LFRMS and its associated appraisal processes.

4. EUROPEAN SITES

4.1 INTRODUCTION

As discussed in section 1.2, European sites collectively form the National Site Network. The objectives of the National Site Network are to:

- a) maintain at, or where appropriate restore habitats and species listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive to a favourable conservation status in their natural range (so far as it lies in the United Kingdom's territory, and so far, as is proportionate).
- b) contribute to ensuring, in their area of distribution, the survival and reproduction of wild birds listed in Annex I to the new Wild Birds Directive which naturally occur in the United Kingdom's territory and regularly occurring migratory species of birds not listed in that Annex which naturally occur in the United Kingdom's territory, and so securing compliance with the overarching aims of the Wild Birds Directive.

The National Site Network consists of:

- SACs - these are designated to protect those habitat types and species that are most in need of conservation (excluding birds).

- SPAs) - these are designated to protect rare and vulnerable birds, and also regularly occurring migratory species.

Although not included in the legislation, as a matter of policy, Ramsar sites in England and Wales are protected in the same way as European sites, and therefore considered in the HRA process. The vast majority are also classified as SPAs and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs). All SPAs and terrestrial SACs in England and Wales are also designated as SSSIs under the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981) as amended.

For simplicity in this report, SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites are collectively referred to as European sites.

4.2 EUROPEAN SITES IN AND AROUND KIRKLEES DISTRICT

Best practice guidance suggests that sites occurring within a wider area of approximately 10km to 15km from the boundary of the area directly affected by a plan should be identified and assessed, in addition to those sites located within the plan area (Therivel, 2009). However, it is important to consider the possibility of impacts for any European site that might be affected, whatever its location, given the activities included in the plan and their range of influence. This may extend some distance from the area within the immediate influence of a plan.

There is one SAC and two SPA sites located within Kirklees. A further two SAC sites located adjacent to Kirklees which have been deemed to be within the influence of KMDC LFRMS. These sites are listed in Table 2 and shown in Appendix A.

Table 2: European Sites Within and Adjacent to Kirklees District

Designation	Within Kirklees District	Adjacent to Kirklees District and deemed to be within the influence of the LFRMS
SAC	- South Pennine Moors	- Denby Grange Colliery Ponds - Rochdale Canal
SPA	- Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) - South Pennine Moors Phase 2	

Data on the European site interest features, their distribution, and their sensitivity to potential effects associated with the LFRMS were obtained from various sources and reports, including the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) and Natural England websites (citations, boundaries, management plans, site improvement plans etc).

Detailed information on these sites, including their qualifying features and conservation objectives are provided in Appendix B within Table 8.

4.3 POTENTIAL HAZARDS TO EUROPEAN SITES

4.3.1 Introduction

Any strategy to manage flooding and the associated infrastructure upon which this strategy relies, can potentially have adverse impacts on the habitats and species for which European sites are designated. These impacts can be direct, such as habitat loss, fragmentation, or degradation, or indirect such as disturbance or pollution from construction, transportation etc.

This section identifies the potential hazards to European sites within and adjacent to Kirklees District and then goes on to identify the types of hazards to which the qualifying features that are present within the sites are particularly sensitive.

4.3.2 Hazards to Sites

The European sites within and adjacent to KMDC comprise of moorland, canal and pond sites, and the moorland sites in particular have considerable bird interest. Potential hazards to the interest features are identified in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Potential Hazards to the European Sites within and adjacent to the District

Potential Hazard		Description
1	Change in water levels	Flooding, or altered water levels, may have adverse impacts on water dependant habitats and species. Additionally, changes to ground-water may adversely impact on these habitats.
2	Changes in hydrological regime	These are changes to existing hydrological processes (e.g. changes to flow rates) that may alter the present characteristics of the European site.
3	Changes in water quality	Activities which may impact upon water quality, such as accidental pollution spills as a result of defence construction or pumping station operation, may adversely affect wetland habitats and species.
4	Changes to surface water flooding	Activities which may result in a reduction or increase in the frequency and extent of surface water flooding which may affect riverine, floodplain and other habitats.
5	Competition from invasive non-native species	Flooding may cause introduction or spread of invasive non-native species, particularly plants, which could result in changes to community composition and even to the complete loss of native communities.
6	Disturbance	Human activity (construction or other) can adversely impact on the qualifying features of the site directly (physical disturbance) or indirectly (visual or noise).
7	Habitat fragmentation	This is where flood events, or flood risk management measures such as defence construc-

Potential Hazard		Description
		tion, result in the separation of available habitats or split extensive areas of suitable habitat. Most likely to affect species.
8	Habitat loss	This is a loss of habitat within the designated boundaries of a European site, for example as a result of defence construction.
9	Habitat/community simplification	Changes to environmental conditions that result in a reduction and fragmentation of habitats that will reduce biodiversity.
10	Turbidity and siltation	Increases in turbidity within water environments can impact upon aquatic plants, fish and wildfowl due to sedimentation and reduction in penetrable light. This may rise from construction activities or changed flooding/hydrological regimes.

4.3.3 Qualifying Features and Sensitivity to Hazards

Table 4 below, shows the qualifying features of the European sites within and adjacent to KMDC and identifies the hazards to which they are sensitive (see Table 3).

It must be noted that during the assessment of the potential impacts of the LFRMS on a European site, all of the potential hazards will be considered.

Table 4: Sensitivity of European Sites to Potential Hazards

Feature	Potential Hazards										Sites at Risk of Hazard
	1 Change in water levels	2 Changes in hydrological regime	3 Changes in water quality	4 Changes to surface water flooding	5 Competition from invasive non-native species	6 Disturbance	7 Habitat fragmentation	8 Habitat loss	9 Habitat/community simplification	10 Turbidity and siltation	
Dry heathland habitats	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		South Pennine Moors SAC
Bogs and wet habitats	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	South Pennine Moors SAC
Dry woodland	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		South Pennine Moors SAC
Wet heathland habitats	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	South Pennine Moors SAC
Breeding Bird Assemblage						X	X	X	X		Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
Breeding Amphibians	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC
Aquatic Macrophytes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Rochdale Canal SAC

5. SCREENING ASSESSMENT

5.1 INTRODUCTION

This section gives a summary of the KMDC LFRMS strategic themes and objectives (which are defined in Appendix F of the LFRMS entitled 'The Flood Risk Action Plan'). The LFRMS contains four strategic themes and six high level objectives to manage flood risk in the District. Table 5 summarises the four strategic themes, six objectives and the specific measures that apply to both, as identified in the KMDC LFRMS and whether they have the potential to impact on European Sites.

The Habitat Regulations also require the cumulative effects with other plans or projects to be considered at the screening stage. This section, therefore, also identifies the other plans and projects that it is considered could potentially act "in combination" with the LFRMS to have "significant effects" on European sites. These are identified in the following section (Section 6).

Table 5: LFRMS Strategic Measures

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
PLACE	Engage early with spatial planners and growth strategies to ensure new development and plans make best use of land in making space for surface water, fluvial	Engagement	Surface water run-off, and fluvial.	Partnership	District wide	All proposed development will be subject to a separate Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and will not be permitted should a significant effect be predicted on a given European Site within the	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	water, sustainable drainage systems and promote the use of adaptive pathways to adapt to climate hazards. Share our understanding of flooding in the area to avoid inappropriate development.					District. This assessment will include any recommendation given by Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council as to preventative flood actions. In addition, this is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023). No effect at all	
	Work with the Local Planning Authority, Highway Authority, Environment Agency and water companies to ensure the planning process and	Collaboration/Policy and Implementation	Surface water run-off	Partnership	District wide	All proposed development, management and maintenance regimes will be subject to a separate HRA and will not be permitted should a significant effect be predicted on a given European	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	development design account fully for land drainage and surface water managements issues. Ensure our practices secure sound management and maintenance regimes that are proportionate and appropriate to the flood risk in the area.					Site. This assessment will include any recommendation given by Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council as to preventative flood actions. In addition, this is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023). No effect at all	
	As a Lead Local Flood Authority engage with others to advise on climate change allowances for sources of flooding from surface water, groundwater	Engagement/Training	Surface water run-off, groundwater and fluvial.	Partnership/Adapt/Sustainable	District wide	This training and sharing of best practice will allow others to make decisions in line with the latest research and developments in flood risk management. At this stage this knowledge sharing is purely	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	and ordinary water-courses. To share and inform others of current guidance, research and best practice on sustainability and water management to inform decision making.					theoretical and geographically undefined. Empowering decision makers in this way will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all	

Strategic Theme	LF RMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LF RMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	Enhance our early engagement with developments and commit to targeted periodic inspections of new development to ensure compliance with drainage planning conditions and Land Drainage Act legislation. Seek 106 contributions where appropriate and promote environmental net gain.	Engagement	Surface water run-off	Partnership/Sustainable	District wide	This measure relates to development already secured and ensures compliance of drainage planning conditions. As part of the planning process, such development would be subject to an HRA and as such would not be permitted were there adverse impacts predicted on neighbouring European Sites. No effect at all.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
	Improve our asset data on drainage assets within the district including highway gullies, culverts, carrier	Investigation	All forms of flooding	Evidence	District wide	By enhancing and expanding the current understanding of drainage assets, resilience to flood risk can be improved. This will ensure that management is based on the	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	drains, debris screens and others to build our evidence base. Where considered significant make this publicly available.					latest information. Adopting this guidance should ensure that asset condition and other particulars are readily available but will not directly lead to development to impact on European Sites. No effect at all.	
PROTECT	Identify and develop flood risk improvement schemes for Kirklees to reduce the risk of surface water flooding and flooding from ordinary watercourses to better protect properties and the highway network in high risk areas. Be open to	Scheme	Surface water run-off, fluvial.	Innovation/Adapt	High risk catchments	High risk areas are most likely to focus on settlements and major roads. Should the focus of such Schemes be restricted to these areas, European Sites are likely to be protected, as the majority of European Sites within proximity to the catchment are in the uplands, away from hubs of development.	Potential for effects alone or in-combination effects; in-combination assessment completed in Section 6.



Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	new financing models. Promote a range of resilience actions and climate change scenarios.					In addition, this is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023). No likely significant effect	
	Improve the awareness, understanding and delivery of Property Flood Resilience measures to manage local flood risk within our communities. Encourage homeowners and business owners to undertake Property Flood Surveys and	Engagement/Training and Scheme	All forms of flooding	Communities	District wide	This measure is most likely to focus on settlements. Should the focus of such Schemes be restricted to these areas, European Sites are likely to be protected, as the majority of European Sites within proximity to the catchment are in the uplands, away from hubs of development. In addition, this is a general statement of	Potential for effects alone or in-combination effects; in-combination assessment completed in Section 6.

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	seek grant funding to support resilience measure installations to support a build back better approach.					policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023). No likely significant effect	
	Work with our partners, universities and communities to develop integrated solutions and maintenance programmes to deliver multiple benefits to reduce flood risk and look to improve economic, social and environmental benefits. Be innovative in our approach.	Collaboration/Innovation/Scheme	All forms of flooding	Partnership/Sustainable/Innovation	District wide	This measure focuses on partnership working and there is no direct driver for development. In addition, the measure looks to improve environmental benefits, so the policy should steer away from impacts to European sites. No effect at all.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
	Engage with catchment	Engagement and NFM	Surface water run-off	Partnership/Sustainable	District wide	Natural flood management	Potential for effects alone or

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	<p>partnerships and land-owners to embrace land management techniques and natural flood management to help to manage surface water runoff. Seek out opportunities to use Working with Natural Processes in managing flood risk to promote multiple benefits such as environmental net gain.</p>		<p>and all forms of flooding</p>			<p>techniques are likely to target upland areas to protect downstream development. The moorland European Sites referenced in Figure 1 may be at risk from NFM measures. This is however a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023). In addition, the measure seeks to promote environmental net gain and hence should steer change in such a way as to protect European Sites from adverse impacts.</p>	<p>in-combination effects; in-combination assessment completed in Section 6.</p>

Strategic Theme	LFMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
						No likely significant effect	
	Support the severe weather incident management function the Council undertakes through technological advancements to ensure it is an intelligence led approach.	Innovation/ Collaboration	All forms of flooding	Innovation	District wide	This measure will ensure severe weather incidents are managed intelligently but supplying intelligence is in a sense theoretical and will have no direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
	Maintain assets based on a risk based approach to ensure high flood risk assets are prioritised and allowances made for climate change projections are considered. Try new technological approaches.	Scheme/Innovation	All forms of flooding	Adapt	District wide	This will ensure that management within these communities is current and considers variables (such as changing climate). This measure focuses on the approach to maintenance as opposed to maintenance itself and hence is unlikely to have any direct	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	Assess which Council assets require capacity improvements as a last resort.					effects on European Sites. In addition, this is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)). No effect at all.	
RESPONSE	Provide intelligence to ensure policy frameworks and emergency plans are robust. Work with other services to establish the basis of the Council's response to severe rainfall events in supporting communities.	Policy and Implementation/Collaboration	All forms of flooding	Evidence	District wide	This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)). No effect at all.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
	Work with the local	Engagement/Training	All forms of flooding	Communities/Partnership	District wide	Empowering communities in	No in-combination

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	<p>communities to increase their awareness and preparedness for flooding in Kirklees to improve flood resilience in homes, businesses and communities through education campaigns with our partners. Enhance our online content to deliver a one-stop shop.</p>					<p>this way will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all</p>	<p>effect; zero effect alone. No effect</p>

Strategic Theme	LFMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	Encourage flood community action groups to be set up in key areas of flood risk and through this work, in conjunction with partners, provide a higher standard of community led resilience by developing a network of community resilience leads.	Collaboration and engagement	All forms of flooding	Communities	Known flooded places	Empowering communities in this way will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
	Ensure flood risk management actions reach out and remain inclusive in our approach within our diverse communities and areas of deprivation.	Engagement	All forms of flooding	Communities	District Wide	Empowering and including diverse communities in this way will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	Establish and maintain a Communication Plan in line with national and other Council services to provide coordinated and timely information to communities at flood risk.	Engagement/Education	All forms of flooding	Communities/Partnership	District wide	Good communication and education within communities at risk is likely to lead to small scale, benefits to flood risk management at the individual level. It is will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
RECOVERY	Provide follow up recovery support and advice to residents, business owners and communities that have been affected by flooding on funding, wellbeing support and signpost to affordable flood insurance to help	Support and Advice	All forms of flooding	Communities	District wide	Support and advice within communities affected by flooding is likely to lead to small scale, benefits to flood risk management at the individual level. It is will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
	them recover quicker.						
	Investigate flood incidents of all sources and establish flood outlines with our partners to validate existing flood models to help inform future grant fundings and flood risk management projects.	Investigation	All forms of flooding	Evidence/Partnership/Innovation	District wide	Collecting data to validate flood models and inform future projects is very much theoretical and will have no direct effects on European Sites.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect
	Work with Partners and health bodies to ensure mental health impacts from flooding are factored into long term recovery planning.	Collaboration and support	All forms of flooding	Communities	N/A	Better supporting the wellbeing of communities affected by flooding is likely to lead to mental health benefits and personal resilience at the individual level. It is will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites.	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

Strategic Theme	LFRMS Strategic Measure	Category of Work	Source of Flooding	LFRMS Objective	Geographical Area	Potential Effect on European Sites	Potential for In-Combination Effect?
						No effect at all.	
	Support Review Briefings and feedback learning from communities to inform our plans and policies to ensure a more efficient and effective response in the future.	Investigation/Policy	All forms of flooding	Communities/Innovation/Evidence	N/A	Gathering data to streamline plans and policy will not lead to any direct effects on European Sites. No effect at all	No in-combination effect; zero effect alone. No effect

6. Other Relevant Plans and Projects that might act In-combination.

A series of individually modest effects may in-combination produce effects that are likely to adversely affect the integrity of one or more European sites. Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive tries to address this by taking into account the combination of effects from other plans or projects. The Directive does not explicitly define which other plans and projects are within the scope of the combination provision.

Guidance in section 4.4.3 of *'Managing Natura 2000 Sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC'*, published by the European Commission, states:

'When determining likely significant effects, the combination of other plans or projects should also be considered to take account of cumulative impacts. It would seem appropriate to restrict the combination provision to other plans or projects which have been actually proposed.'

Table 6 lists the relevant plans and projects that have been identified as having the potential to result in adverse effects on European sites in-combination with the LFRMS. A search was made of the local planning authority and National Infrastructure Planning websites, in addition to a search of Natural England's website for Nature Improvement Areas.

Table 6: Other Plans and Projects

Plan/Project	Potential In-combination Effects
<p>The Kirklees Development Plan (Kirklees Council, 2022)</p>	<p>The Kirklees Development Plan consists of the Kirklees Local Plan and, in applicable areas, the Holme Valley Neighbourhood Development Plan. This Plan sets out how the District will develop and change over the next nine years. The Plan comprises separate parts, including the Core Strategy which other documents under the Plan fall under, which address different aspects of development within the District and surrounding area. No adverse in-combination effects with the LFRMS are expected as proposed development, schemes and plans which are stated within the Development Plan Documents (DPD) under the Framework will require assessment under the Habitat Regulations if they pose any risk to European Sites within or adjacent to the boundary. Therefore, any development facilitated by or that becomes feasible because of measures within the LFRMS will also be subject to the HRA process to ensure no adverse impacts arise.</p> <p>No likely significant effect in combination with relevant LFRMS Strategic Measures identified</p>
<p>A57 Link Roads (previously known as Trans Pennine Upgrade Programme) (National Infrastructure Planning, 2022)</p>	<p>The A57 Link Roads project will include the creation of two new link roads: (1) Mottram Moor Link Road - a new dual carriageway from the M67 junction 4 roundabout to a new junction on the A57(T) at Mottram Moor; and (2) A57 Link Road - a new single carriageway link from the A57(T) at Mottram Moor to a new junction on the A57 in Woolley Bridge. This project is situated within 10km of the southern boundary of Kirklees District. No adverse in-combination effects with the LFRMS are expected as the proposed development will require assessment under the Habitat Regulations if they pose any risk to European Sites within or adjacent to the boundary. Therefore, any development facilitated by or that becomes feasible because of measures within the LFRMS will also be subject to the HRA process to ensure no adverse impacts arise.</p>

Plan/Project	Potential In-combination Effects
	No likely significant effect in combination with relevant LFRMS Strategic Measures identified
Dark Peak Nature Improvement Area (NIA) Programme (2015) (The National Archives, 2014)	<p>This programme may result in positive in-combination effects in relation to the Peak District National Park as key projects in the programme relate to the enhancement of these sites, through habitat and water quality management. Working with the Dark Peak Partnership and NIA programme may identify opportunities to achieve some of the objectives of the LFRMS (e.g. Objective 5), whilst helping to protect these European Sites. Subsequent land management initiatives continuing after completion of the project suggests positive effects likely to be ongoing.</p> <p>No likely significant effect in combination with relevant LFRMS Strategic Measures identified</p>

7. Screening Assessment Results

7.1 Introduction

This section considers the actions and measures identified in the LFRMS that are considered to have a potential impact on European Sites (as shown in Table 5) and identifies whether or not they are likely to have significant effects on site integrity, either alone or in-combination with other plans and/or projects, as detailed in Table 6. Many of the actions and measures identified in the KMDC LFRMS have been screened out in Table 5 as they are high level actions and are not determined to directly threaten the integrity of European Sites.

7.2 Screening Assessment

Considering the location of the European sites and the interest features carried forward from Table 4 in relation to KMDC and the identified potential hazards associated with the actions and measures of the LFRMS, an assessment was made as to whether the LFRMS, alone and in-combination with other plans and/or projects, would have likely significant effects on any European sites.

Table 7: Summary of screened in LFRMS actions and measures and their likely impacts on European Sites.

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
<p>Identify and develop flood risk improvement schemes for Kirklees to reduce the risk of surface water flooding and flooding from ordinary watercourses to better protect properties and the highway network in high risk areas. Be open to new financing models. Promote a range of resilience actions and climate change scenarios.</p>	<p>The scope for potential hazards under this action is very broad and due to the high level, undefined nature of this action, impacts are uncertain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dry heathland habitats -Bogs and wet habitats -Dry woodland -Wet heathland habitats -Breeding Bird Assemblage -Aquatic Macrophytes -Breeding Amphibians 	<p>South Pennine Moors SAC</p>	<p>This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			<p>Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA</p>	<p>This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			<p>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</p>	<p>This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
			Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC	<p>This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			Rochdale Canal SAC	<p>No in-combination effect; zero effect alone due to the distance (approximately 7km) of the European Site to the District and lack of hydrological connectivity.</p> <p><i>No effect at all</i></p>
<p>Improve the awareness, understanding and delivery of Property Flood Resilience measures to manage local flood risk</p>	<p>The scope for potential hazards under this action is very broad and due to the high level, undefined nature of this action, impacts are uncertain. However, impacts are</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dry heathland habitats -Bogs and wet habitats -Dry woodland -Wet heathland habitats 	<p>South Pennine Moors SAC</p>	<p>This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
<p>within our communities. Encourage homeowners and business owners to undertake Property Flood Surveys and seek grant funding to support resilience measure installations to support a build back better approach.</p>	<p>likely to be small scale and focused on the individual property level e.g., installing flood gates etc. The combined effect of this measure may be to force more flood water elsewhere on the floodplain. This could change patterns of sedimentation and hydrology.</p> <p>The focus of this measure is on settlements. Should the focus of such Schemes be restricted to these areas, European Sites are likely to be protected, as the majority of European Sites within proximity to the catchment are in the uplands, away from hubs of development. This</p>	<p>-Breeding Bird Assemblage</p> <p>-Aquatic Macrophytes</p> <p>-Breeding Amphibians</p>	<p>Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA</p>	<p>Peak District Moor SPA is largely located upstream of the District and unlikely to be significantly affected by changes in hydrology and sedimentation patterns.</p> <p>In addition, the majority of property within the District is located downstream of the SPA and the interest features of the SPA (Breeding Bird Assemblage) includes moorland species:</p> <p>-A098 <i>Falco columbarius</i>; Merlin (Breeding)</p> <p>-A140 <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>; European golden plover (Breeding)</p> <p>-A222 <i>Asio flammeus</i>; Short-eared owl (Breeding)</p> <p>These species are less likely to be affected by changes to the river corridor.</p> <p>Furthermore, this is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot</p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
	is not to say that property within such sites would not qualify for support.			<p>lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA	<p>South Pennine Moors SPA is largely located upstream of the District and unlikely to be significantly affected by changes in hydrology and sedimentation patterns.</p> <p>In addition, the majority of property within the District is located downstream of the SPA and the interest features of the SPA (Breeding Bird Assemblage) includes moorland species:</p> <p><i>A098 Falco columbarius; Merlin (Breeding)</i></p> <p><i>A140 Pluvialis apricaria; European golden plover (Breeding)</i></p> <p>These species are less likely to be affected by</p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
				<p>changes to the river corridor.</p> <p>Furthermore, this is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC	<p>This is a general statement of policy, so in itself cannot lead to any impacts on any European Sites (see Section F.6.3.1 in the DTA Handbook (DTA, 2023)).</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			Rochdale Canal SAC	<p>No in-combination effect; zero effect alone due to the distance (approximately 7km) of the European Site to the District and lack of hydrological connectivity.</p> <p><i>No effect at all</i></p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
<p>Engage with catchment partnerships and landowners to embrace land management techniques and natural flood management to help to manage surface water runoff. Seek out opportunities to use Working with Natural Processes in managing flood risk to promote multiple benefits such as environmental net gain.</p>	<p>Delivery of this objective will result in reduced flood risk to local and downstream communities for the benefit of population, human health, and material assets. Whilst environmental gains are likely (via improved water quality and habitat creation), there is the potential for impacts on European Site Interest Features from specific measures under this action and until detailed designs are known, impacts remain uncertain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dry heathland habitats -Bogs and wet habitats -Dry woodland -Wet heathland habitats -Breeding Bird Assemblage -Aquatic Macrophytes 	<p>South Pennine Moors SAC</p>	<p>Section F.6.3.5 of the DTA handbook (DTA, 2023), refers to the ability to screen out policies and proposals which will have the indirect or unintentional effect of steering change away from European Sites. Any measure which promotes environmental benefits is likely to do so.</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Breeding Amphibians 	<p>Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA</p>	<p>Section F.6.3.5 of the DTA handbook (DTA, 2023), refers to the ability to screen out policies and proposals which will have the indirect or unintentional effect of steering change away from European Sites. Any measure which promotes environmental benefits is likely to do so.</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
			South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA	<p>Section F.6.3.5 of the DTA handbook (DTA, 2023), refers to the ability to screen out policies and proposals which will have the indirect or unintentional effect of steering change away from European Sites. Any measure which promotes environmental benefits is likely to do so.</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>
			Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC	<p>Section F.6.3.5 of the DTA handbook (DTA, 2023), refers to the ability to screen out policies and proposals which will have the indirect or unintentional effect of steering change away from European Sites. Any measure which promotes environmental benefits is likely to do so.</p> <p><i>No likely significant effect alone or in combination.</i></p>

LFRMS Measures	Potential Hazard	Interest Feature Affected	Designated Sites which include Interest Feature Affected	Likelihood of Significant Effect on Sites
			Rochdale Canal SAC	<p>No in-combination effect; zero effect alone due to the distance (approximately 7km) of the European Site to the District and lack of hydrological connectivity.</p> <p><i>No effect at all</i></p>

8. Screening Statement and Conclusions

8.1 Summary

The LFRMS sets out the overall objectives to manage flooding within KMDC. The purpose of the Strategy is to " In combination with the National Strategy, our Local Strategy will encourage more effective risk management by enabling people, communities, businesses and the public to work together " (KMDC, 2022). The six objectives of the Strategy set out a vision as to how local flood risk will be delivered and managed by DMDC as LLFA, and all other Risk Management Authorities as well.

The Screening Assessment identified the potential for hydrological changes, water quality effects and impacts to habitats and species that may occur as a direct or indirect result of the implementation of the LFRMS. These effects could arise from measures directed at waterway maintenance and management of flood risk in specific locations, potentially using flood defences and separately via NFM initiatives.

The Screening Assessment process did not identify any likely significant effects arising from the KMDC LFRMS's proposed objectives that might significantly affect the European Sites located within Kirklees Metropolitan District or with 15km of the District boundary. This was largely due to the high-level nature and general aspirations of the LFRMS as well as the dual purpose of achieving environmental gain. It is therefore not necessary for an Appropriate Assessment (HRA Task 2 and 3) to be carried out.

9. Appendix A

9.1 Location of European Sites within and adjacent to KMDC

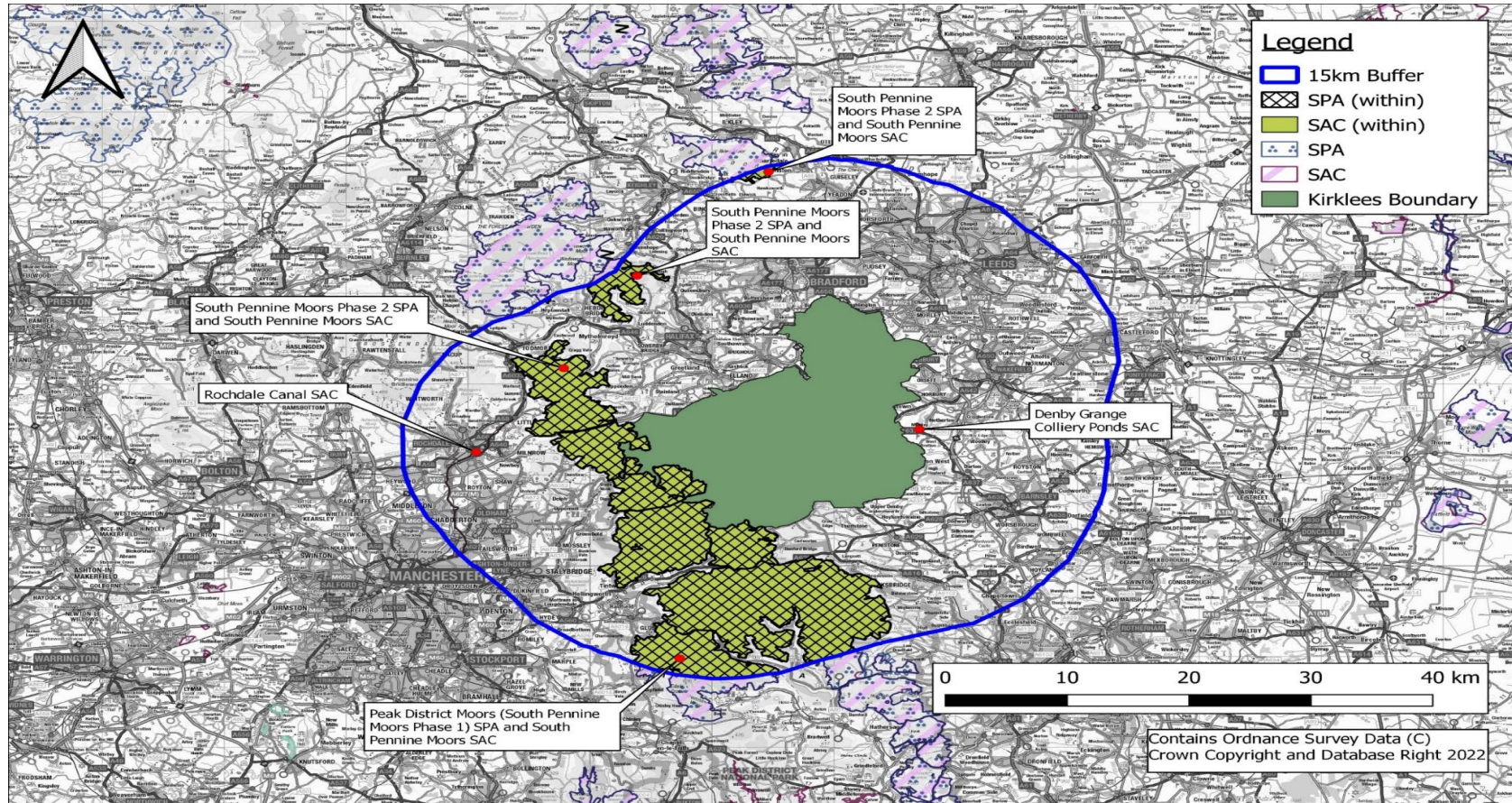


Figure 1: European Site Map

10. Appendix B

10.1 Details of European sites within and adjacent to Kirklees District

Table 8: Details of European Sites within and adjacent to KMDC. Information from JNCC and Natural England

European Site	Qualifying Feature (Broad Habitat/Species Groupings)	Qualifying Feature	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
<p>South Pennine Moors SAC</p> <p>Site area 65024.32 ha</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Dry heathland habitats -Bogs and wet habitats -Dry woodland -Wet heathland habitats 	<p>Annex I habitats:</p> <p><i>4030 European dry heaths</i></p> <p><i>7130 Blanket bogs (* if active bog)</i></p> <p><i>* Priority feature</i></p> <p><i>91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles</i></p> <p><i>4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix</i></p> <p><i>7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs</i></p>	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats -The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats, <p>and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely 	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Air pollution, air-borne pollutants (B)* -Agriculture activities not referred to above (B) -Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (B) -Fire and fire suppression (I)* -Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (I)

European Site	Qualifying Feature (Broad Habitat/Species Groupings)	Qualifying Feature	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
<p>Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA</p> <p>Site area 45,270.52 ha</p>	<p>-Breeding Bird Assemblage</p>	<p>Annex I species:</p> <p>-A098 <i>Falco columbarius</i>; Merlin (Breeding)</p> <p>-A140 <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>; European golden plover (Breeding)</p> <p>-A222 <i>Asio flammeus</i>; Short-eared owl (Breeding)</p>	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <p>-The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features</p> <p>-The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</p> <p>-The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely</p> <p>-The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</p> <p>-The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</p>	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (I) - Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (B) - Fire and fire suppression (I) - Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), including damage caused by game (excessive density), and taking/removal of terrestrial animals (including collection of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds of prey, etc., trapping, poisoning, poaching, predator control, accidental capture (e.g., due to fishing gear), etc.) (I) - Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression (I)
<p>South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA</p> <p>Site area 20944.46 ha</p>	<p>-Breeding Bird Assemblage</p>	<p>Annex I species:</p> <p>A098 <i>Falco columbarius</i>; Merlin (Breeding)</p> <p>A140 <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>; European</p>	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <p>-The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features</p>	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial), including damage caused by game (excessive density), and taking/removal of terrestrial animals (including collection of insects, reptiles, amphibians, birds of prey, etc., trapping, poisoning, poaching,

European Site	Qualifying Feature (Broad Habitat/Species Groupings)	Qualifying Feature	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
		golden plover (Breeding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features -The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely -The population of each of the qualifying features, and, -The distribution of the qualifying features within the site. 	<p>predator control, accidental capture (e.g., due to fishing gear), etc.) (I)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression (I) - Fire and fire suppression (I) - Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (B) - Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (I)

European Site	Qualifying Feature (Broad Habitat/Species Groupings)	Qualifying Feature	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
<p>Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</p> <p><i>Site area</i> 18.34 ha</p>	<p>- Breeding Amphibians</p>	<p>Annex II species:</p> <p>1166 Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></p>	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The extent and distribution of the habitats of 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. 	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources) (B) - Other ecosystem modifications (B) - Forest and Plantation management & use (I) - Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (B) - Invasive non-native species (B)

European Site	Qualifying Feature (Broad Habitat/Species Groupings)	Qualifying Feature	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
<p>Rochdale Canal SAC</p> <p><i>Site area</i> 24.86 ha</p>	<p>- Aquatic Macrophytes</p>	<p>Annex II species:</p> <p>1831 Floating waterplantain <i>Luronium natans</i></p>	<p>Subject to natural change, to maintain or restore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The extent and distribution of the habitats of 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 the qualifying species, and, -The distribution of the qualifying species within the site. 	<p>The site is vulnerable to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air pollution, air-borne pollutants (B) - Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (B)

*I = Inside, O = Outside, B = Both

11. References

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