

# Calderdale Local Plan

Regulation 19 Publication Version 2018

## Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) – Appropriate Assessment Report

## Appendices 1 to 4

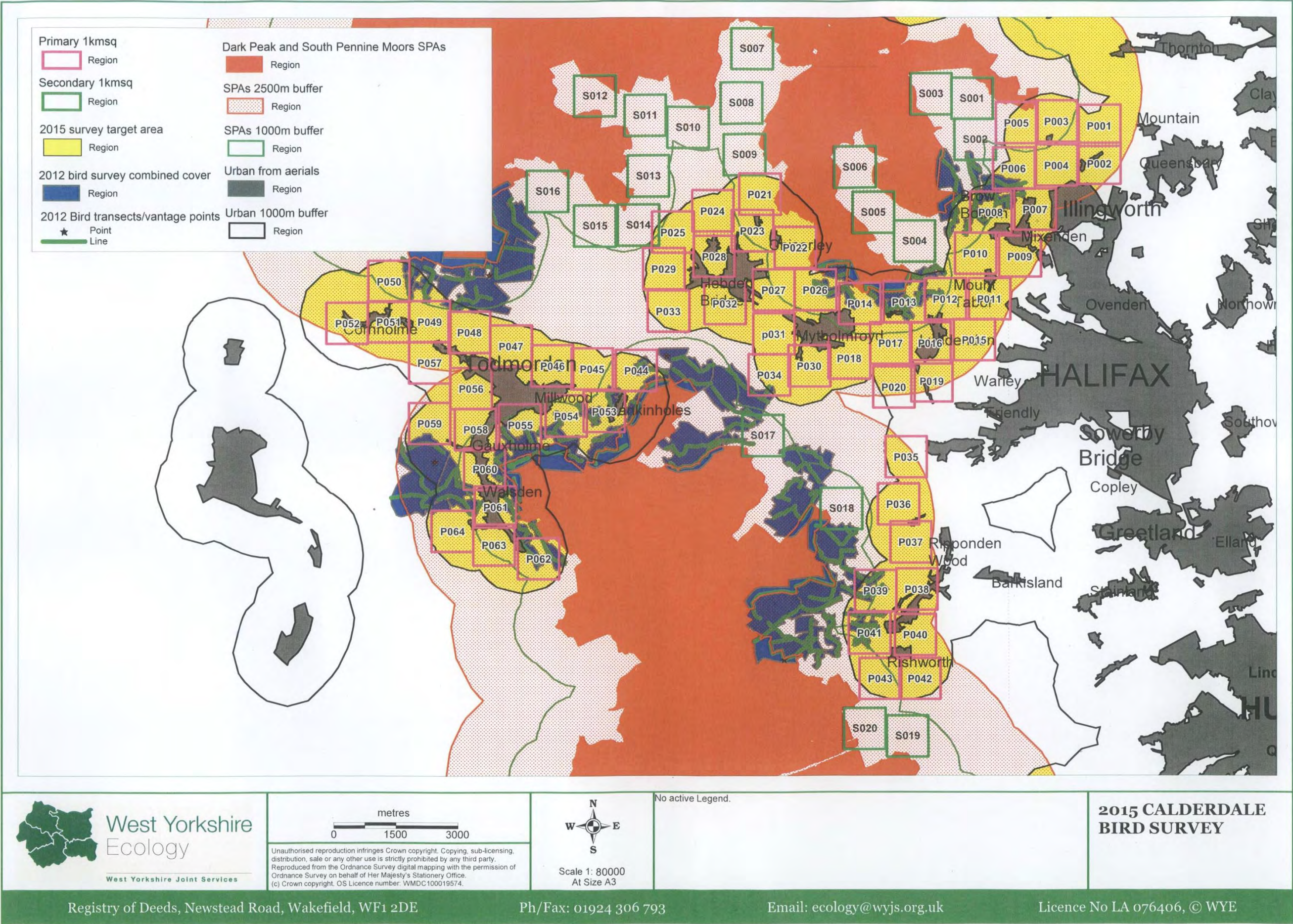
June 2018







Appendix 1: 2012 & 2015 bird survey extent and coverage





## Appendix 2: Bradford Core Strategy modified strategic policy SC8 “Protecting the South Pennine Moors SPA and SAC and their zone of influence

Subject to the derogation tests of Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive, development will not be permitted where it would be likely to lead, **directly or indirectly** to an adverse effect **(either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), which cannot be effectively mitigated** upon the integrity **of the SPA or the SAC**, directly or indirectly, of the South Pennine Moors Special Protection Area and Special Area of Conservation.

To ensure these sites are not harmed, a number of zones have been identified:

**Zone A is land up to 400m from the South Pennine Moors Special Protection Area (“SPA”) and South Pennine Moors Special Area of Conservation (“SAC”) boundary;**

**Zone B is land up to 2.5km from the SPA and SAC boundary; and.**

**Zone C is land up to 7km from the SPA and SAC boundary.**

**In Zone A N no development involving a net increase in dwellings would be permitted within a suitable buffer area around the upland heath/ South Pennine Moors (normally 400m) unless, as an exception, the form of residential development **and/or its use** would not have an adverse effect upon the sites’ integrity **of the SPA or SAC**.**

### **Zone Bi**

**In Zone Bi B would apply between 400m and 2.5km of the designated Site boundary Within Zone Bi the Council will take a precautionary approach to the review and identification of potential Greenfield sites for development based on an assessment of carrying capacity using the available evidence from bird and habitat surveys and appropriate additional monitoring. The underlying principles will be to avoid loss or degradation of areas outside European Sites that are important to the integrity of sites and that sufficient foraging resources continue to be available, in order to ensure the survival of bird populations. **it will be considered, based on such evidence as may be reasonably required, whether land proposed for development affects foraging habitat for qualifying species of the SPA.****

### **Zone Bii**

**Zone Bii would apply between 2.5km and up to 7km of the designated Site boundary Within Zone Bii appropriate assessment is still likely to identify significant adverse effects in combination with other proposals, however appropriate avoidance or mitigation measures should allow development to take place. Zones Bi and Bii Within Zones Bi (taking into account the need to avoid loss or degradation of areas outside European Sites that are important to the integrity of the sites) and Zone Bii residential**

**In Zone C, **in respect of residential** developments that result in a net increase of one or more dwellings, will be required to contribute to **it will be considered how recreational pressure on the SPA or SAC, that such development might cause, will be effectively mitigated. The mitigation may be:****

**(i) either on-site and / or deliverable off-site measures, such as the provision of accessible natural greenspace; or**

**(ii) in the form of a financial contribution from the developer to:**

1. The provision of additional natural greenspace and appropriate ~~facilities~~ **measures** to deflect pressure from moorland habitats and the long-term maintenance and management of that greenspace.
2. The implementation of access management measures, which may include further provision of wardens, in order to reduce the impact of visitors
3. A programme of habitat management and manipulation and subsequent monitoring and review of measures

To mitigate impacts on ~~European Sites~~ **the SPA and SAC** due to the increase in population, an approach will be adopted that sets out a mechanism for the calculation of ~~planning~~ **financial** contributions.

## Appendix 3 : HRA Natura 2000 site details<sup>1</sup>

Natura 2000 site: South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA (Site Code: UK9007022)			Site Area (ha): 20944.46
<p><b>Site Qualification:</b></p> <p>Article 4.1 qualification (79/409/EEC): During the breeding season the area regularly supports: <i>Asio flammeus</i> 0.3% of the GB breeding population; <i>Falco columbarius</i> 2.2% of the GB breeding population; <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [North-western Europe - breeding] 1.3% of the GB breeding population.</p> <p>Article 4.2 Qualification (79/409/EEC): An internationally important assemblage of birds.</p>	<p><b>Habitat Classification (% cover):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inland water bodies (standing/running water) (2)</li> <li>▪ Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana (21)</li> <li>▪ Humid grassland, Meosphile grassland (31)</li> <li>▪ Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (46)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats and pressures (impact code and impact type e.g -ve/+ve ):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) (F03-ve)</li> <li>▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activates, recreational activates (G01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Fire and fire suppression (J01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (J02-ve)</li> <li>▪ Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression (K05-ve)</li> <li>▪ Modification of cultivation practices (A02+ve)</li> <li>▪ Grazing (A04+ve)</li> <li>▪ Annual and perennial on-timber cops (A06+ve)</li> <li>▪ Forest and Plantation management &amp; use (B02+ve)</li> <li>▪ Grazing in forest/woodlands (B06+ve)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Conservation Objectives:</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 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>

<sup>1</sup> Information taken from the JNCC "Spreadsheet of UK Natura 2000 information as contained within the Natura 2000 standard data forms submitted to the European Union" dataset updated on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016 (Available at : <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1409>) .

Natura 2000 site: South Pennine Moors SAC (Site code: UK0030280)			Site Area (ha): 65024.32
<p><b>Site Qualification:</b></p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. European dry heaths for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Transition mires and quaking bogs for which the area is considered to support a significant presence. Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom. Blanket bogs for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</p>	<p><b>Habitat Classification (% cover):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inland water bodies (standing/running water) (1)</li> <li>▪ Humid grassland, Meosphile grassland (4.8)</li> <li>▪ Mixed woodland (0.1)</li> <li>▪ Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana (45.5)</li> <li>▪ Non-forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including Orchards, Groves, Vineyards, Dehesas) (0.1)</li> <li>▪ Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (42.7)</li> <li>▪ Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (1)</li> <li>▪ Dry glassland, Steppes (4.8)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Threats and pressures (impact code and impact type):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (G01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Agriculture activities not referred to above (A11-ve)</li> <li>▪ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants (H04-ve)</li> <li>▪ Fire and fire suppression (J01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (J02-ve)</li> <li>▪ Modification of cultivation practices (A02+ve)</li> <li>▪ Mowing / cutting of grassland (A03+ve)</li> <li>▪ Grazing (A04+ve)</li> <li>▪ Annual and perennial non-timber crops (A06+ve)</li> <li>▪ Forest and Plantation management &amp; use (B02+ve)</li> <li>▪ Grazing in forests/ woodland (B06+ve)</li> <li>▪ Improved access to site (D05+ve)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Conservation Objectives:</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, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats;</li> <li>▪ The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats, and;</li> <li>▪ The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely.</li> </ul>

Natura 2000 site: Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA (Site Code: UK9007021)			Site Area (ha): 45300.54
<b>Site Qualification:</b>  Article 4.1 qualification (79/409/EEC): During the breeding season the area regularly supports: <i>Asio flammeus</i> at least 2.2% of the GB breeding population; <i>Falco columbarius</i> at least 2.3% of the GB breeding population; <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> [North-western Europe - breeding] at least 1.9% of the GB breeding population.	<b>Habitat Classification (% cover):</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (35)</li> <li>▪ Heath, Scrub, Maquis and Garrigue, Phygrana (40)</li> <li>▪ Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (1)</li> <li>▪ Inland rocks, Scree, Sands, Permanent Snow and ice (1)</li> <li>▪ Dry grassland, Steppes (16)</li> <li>▪ Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland (6)</li> <li>▪ Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (1)</li> </ul>	<b>Threats and pressures (impact code and impact type):</b>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial) (F03-ve)</li> <li>▪ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities (G01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Fire and fire suppression (J01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (J02-ve)</li> <li>▪ Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression (K05-ve)</li> <li>▪ Modification of cultivation practices (A02+ve)</li> <li>▪ Grazing (A04+ve)</li> <li>▪ Forest and Plantation management &amp; use (B02+ve)</li> <li>▪ Improved access to site (D05+ve)</li> </ul>	<b>Conservation Objectives:</b>  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; <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>

Natura 2000 site: Rochdale Canal SAC (Site code: UK0030266)			Site Area (ha): 24.86
<b>Site Qualification:</b>  <i>Luronium natans</i> for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	<b>Habitat Classification (% cover):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (90)</li> <li>Other land (including Towns, Villages, Roads, Waste places, Mines, Industrial sites) (10)</li> </ul>	<b>Threats and pressures (impact code and impact type):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air pollution, air-borne pollutants (H04-ve)</li> <li>Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (J02-ve)</li> </ul>	<b>Conservation Objectives:</b>  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; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species;</li> <li>The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;</li> <li>The supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely;</li> <li>The populations of the qualifying species, and;</li> <li>The distribution of the qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul>



Natura 2000 site: Denby Grange Colliery SAC (Site Code: UK0030036)			Site Area (ha): 18.34
<b>Site Qualification:</b>  <i>Triturus cristatus</i> for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.	<b>Habitat Classification (% cover):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (5)</li> <li>▪ Improved grassland (12)</li> <li>▪ Other land (including Towns, Villages, Roads, Waste places, Mines, Industrial sites) (3)</li> <li>▪ Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (75)</li> <li>▪ Coniferous woodland (5)</li> </ul>	<b>Threats and pressures (impact code and impact type):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Forest and Plantation management &amp; use (B02 -ve)</li> <li>▪ Pollution to groundwater (point source and diffuse sources) (H02-ve)</li> <li>▪ Invasive non-native species (I01-ve)</li> <li>▪ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions (J03-ve)</li> <li>▪ Other ecosystem modification (J03-ve)</li> </ul>	<b>Conservation Objectives:</b>  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; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species;</li> <li>▪ The structure and function of habitats of qualifying species;</li> <li>▪ The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely;</li> <li>▪ The populations of qualifying species, and;</li> <li>▪ The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 4: Identification of other plans and projects which may have ‘in combination’ effects

Plan or Project	
<b>City of Bradford Metropolitan Council Core Strategy - publication versions (February 2014) Submitted to examination ADOPTED 2017</b>	
<i>Following examination the Bradford Core Strategy is being amended via the ‘main proposed modifications document’ which has been reviewed alongside the original publication document.</i>	
<p>Bradford borders the district of Calderdale to the north east and contains a significant amount of the <b>South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)</b> and <b>SAC</b> along with Calderdale making it of key strategic importance in the HRA process<sup>2</sup>.</p> <p><b>Development Aims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 42,100 dwellings - between 2013 and 2030. The majority of this will be in the regional city of Bradford, followed by the principle towns of Ilkley, Keighley and Bingley, the local growth centres of Queensbury, Silsden, Steeton and the Local service centres respectively.</li> <li>• 135 ha of employment land throughout the local plan period with the majority of this to be within the city of Bradford, followed by the Airedale Corridor and the Wharfedale corridor respectively.</li> <li>• As well as the provision for housing and employment the plan aims to provide a wide variety of infrastructure, ancillary and supporting development to achieve regeneration and build sustainable communities.</li> </ul> <p>As this is a core strategy no site allocations have been proposed and therefore the impact of some of the plan cannot be fully understood at this stage in the process. The outcome of further examination of the Bradford Core Strategy also needs to be followed.</p>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> The recently amended <i>Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Bradford District Core Strategy (Proposed Modifications)</i> found that adverse effects resulting from (1) wind turbine development, (2) increased water demand and (3) impacts on water quality are not considered likely for any of their four Natura 2000 sites. Loss of supporting habitats and urbanisation impacts are assessed as likely to affect the South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA. Recreational impacts were assessed as potentially affecting any of the four sites. Presented evidence indicated that, if left unmitigated, impacts are likely to be greater in relation to the South Pennine Moors sites due to their relative proximity to locations for future development. The likelihood of traffic-related atmospheric pollution affecting any of the four sites will be determined through more detailed traffic modelling during the pre-allocations testing stage.</p> <p>In response to the identified likely significant effects and on the recommendation of the HRA a policy was created which was believed to mitigate against any likely significant affects to the Natura 2000 sites. <b>Policy SC8</b> was produced and shown in Appendix 2 as well as being discussed in section 3. The policy compromised zone in which no development is permitted, development shown to have no impacts will be permitted and a wider zone in which measure will be put in place to mitigate recreational pressures on the Natura 2000 sites. This will be demonstrated in a supplementary planning document.</p>

<sup>2</sup> Due to its importance advice has been sought with Bradford Council throughout the HRA process as well as the sharing of data.

	<p>There is potential for similar development within Calderdale in combination with the effects identified from the Bradford Core Strategy to adversely effects on the integrity of the SAC/SPA. Therefore, a similar approach to Bradford may need to be considered within the Calderdale Local Plan, however this is largely dependent on the development pressures and potential adverse effects identified through the HRA.</p>
<p><b>Kirklees Council Local Plan- draft version (November 2015) SUBMITTED 2017</b></p>	
<p>Kirklees borders the district of Calderdale to the south east and is a key strategic link to Calderdale. The <b>South Pennine Moors SAC</b>, the <b>South Pennine Moors SPA (Phase 2)</b> and a small part of the <b>Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA</b> fall within the boundary of Kirklees.</p> <p><b>Development Aims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan sets out a strategic vision and objectives for development of Kirklees up to 2031. In order to do this it presents a series of policies and land allocations.</li> <li>• The plan aims to deliver 32,200 jobs over the plan period from 2013-31. In order to do this a total 265 ha is required. In order to do this the plan will allocate new prime land for employment use, safeguard existing employment sites and promoting town centre regeneration.</li> <li>• In order to meet housing demand the plan seeks to deliver 29,340 dwellings from 2013-31 equating to an annual requirement for 1,630 homes. The homes will be spread throughout Huddersfield, Kirklees rural, Batley and Spean, and Dewsbury and Mirfield respectively.</li> <li>• As well as this the plan sets out policies and allocations to meet waste requirements, environmental protection, infrastructure provisions and sustainable development goals.</li> </ul> <p>The Kirklees Local Plan document allows for a good understanding of the potential 'in combination' effects due to it proposing both policies and site allocations. However due to the fact the plan is still in its draft stage there is potential for these effects to change.</p>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> The HRA for the Draft Kirklees Local Plan concluded that following screening and appropriate assessment, and as long as identified mitigation and recommendations take place adverse effects to the integrity of the identified Natura 2000 sites should not take place in relation to; (1) physical loss or damage to offsite habitat; (2) noise/vibration and light pollution; (3) recreation and (4) changes to water quality and quantity. However adverse effects to the identified Natura 2000 sites couldn't be ruled out in relation to air pollution until detailed traffic modelling is undertaken. This has been identified to be addressed at the later version of the HRA (publication).</p> <p>The outlined mitigation includes the use of a 2km buffer zone around the Natura 2000 sites in which potential impacts to functionally connected land will be listed as a constraint and addressed at the planning permission stage. In relation to mitigation resulting from potential recreational and urban edge impacts the report recommends the consideration of a similar policy as the Bradford Core Strategy.</p> <p>The Kirklees HRA is however still in progress and it's expected the report will change following comments and any changes to the Kirklees Local Plan itself. It's therefore important to follow the process of the Kirklees Local Plan HRA alongside the production of the Calderdale Local Plan HRA.</p> <p><b>There is potential for similar development within Calderdale in combination with the effects identified from the Kirklees Local Plan to adversely effects on the integrity of the SAC/SPA in relation to air</b></p>



	pollution due, to the close proximity and linked road network from Kirklees to Calderdale <sup>3</sup> . Other in combination effects also cannot be ruled out at this stage in the HRA.
<b>Oldham Council LDF Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan (adopted November 2011)</b>	
<p>Oldham borders the southern tip of the district of Calderdale beyond the M62 and joined by the <b>South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)</b> and <b>SAC</b>. The border is the smallest covering only ~ 1.98km over the Natura 2000 site.</p> <p><b>Development aims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan sets out the council's vision for Oldham up to the year 2026 and how this change will be accomplished. This is mainly in the form of policies and land allocations.</li> <li>• The plan will allocate land to accommodate 289 dwellings a year equating to 4,624 throughout the plan period. The majority of dwellings will be in East and West Oldham.</li> <li>• As well as this the plan will designate ~80 ha of employment land business, industry and office developments.</li> <li>• As well as provision for infrastructure the plan will include new transport links including Metrolink extensions.</li> </ul> <p>Oldham is currently preparing a new development plan in line with the NPPF, therefore any new plan document needs to be reviewed as they are published.</p>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> The HRA for the plan and associated land allocations concluded that at the screening stage the Rochdale Canal SAC had the potential to adversely affect the integrity of the site. This resulted in a appropriate assessment of the potential effects. It concluded that <i>"although development is proposed in areas relatively close to the Canal, providing that mitigating plans, policies and strategies are adopted and implemented appropriately through the development management process, in principle development areas planned for in the Joint DPD can be allowed to go forward without harm being caused to the special interest of the Rochdale Canal SAC"</i> it was therefore concluded that the plan would not have an adverse impact on its identified Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p><b>Therefore due to this conclusion, in combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out for this HRA.</b></p>

<sup>3</sup> As part of the detailed traffic modelling to be undertaken for the Calderdale Local Plan, in combination impacts of traffic generation from neighbouring boroughs will be taken in to account. Due to the identified importance of Kirklees in relation to traffic generation, discussions have been ongoing between the two councils throughout the local plan process.

## Rochdale Council Publication Core Strategy (suspended 2013)

*The Rochdale Core Strategy was submitted for publication in May 2013. Consideration of all the evidence submitted the Inspector has requested that the council undertake some additional work to provide the appropriate basis to assess the 'soundness' of the Core Strategy. In order to undertake this work the council has, following approval from Cabinet, sought a suspension of the examination. No main modification document was available at the time of the HRA production.*

Rochdale borders the district of Calderdale to the south west with a large part of this border across the **South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)** and **SAC**. As well as this site Rochdale contains the majority of the **Rochdale Canal SAC**.

### Development aims:

- Core Strategy is the leading document of the LDF and sets a strategic framework for growth and development in the borough up to 2028. It will also set out what the overall scale of development needs to be and broadly where it should be focussed within the borough.
- The core strategy aims to provide sufficient land to provide at least 400 new dwellings per year up to 2028 and focus 80% of this residential development on previously developed land, seven housing-led regeneration areas ('Strategic Housing Locations'), one additional housing site outside the urban area, and three strategic mixed use sites
- The core strategy also provides provision for the supply of up to 210ha of land for employment needs. As well as this the plan has identified five economic growth corridors.
- As well as this the plan sets out policies and allocations facilitate environmental protection, infrastructure provisions and sustainable development goals.

As this is a core strategy document no site allocation have been proposed, therefore the impact of some of the plan cannot be fully understood at this stage in the process meaning the Rochdale Local Plan needs to be monitored.

**HRA conclusions:** The HRA for the Rochdale Core Strategy concluded that following screening the Rochdale Canal SAC and the South Pennine Moors (phase 2) SPA and SAC would be adversely affected as a result of development and growth generated by the plan. Many of the identified impacts resulting from the plan are unique to Rochdale as they are a result of direct effects on the Rochdale Canal SAC. Impacts on the other identified Natura 2000 are a result of recreational pressure and specific developments.

As a result of the screening exercise more detailed appropriate assessment was undertaken. This Assessment has concluded that, providing the recommended mitigation measures, which take the form of amending and controlling development in the strategic locations through the Plan and amending the core policies, are put into place, controlled development within the identified areas can proceed without harm being caused to the special interests of the Natura 2000 sites. Mitigation measures included the need for development close to the site to submit an ecological statement. The HRA concluded that if recommended mitigation was adopted in the plan the integrity of the identified sites would not be impacted.

However during the examination Natural England's expressed concerns with the publication draft of the plan as they felt the Core Strategy did not adequately contain mitigation measures recommended by the HRA. Natural England's stated that provided the changes outlined are incorporated into the Core Strategy and amendments made to the HRA, Natural England would be satisfied with the conclusions made by the Council.

The Core Strategy HRA has assessed as much as possible without having the exact details of land allocations and future proposals. **Therefore, in combination effects of any plans with the Calderdale Local Plan will need to be reviewed. At this stage however combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out for this HRA.**

## Rossendale Council Core Strategy Development Plan Document: *The Way Forward (2011 - 2026)* (adopted November 2011)

*Part 2 of the Rossendale Local Plan "Site Allocations and Development Management DPD" was withdrawn on the 24<sup>th</sup> February 2016 therefore more detailed potential in combination effects resulting from land allocation cannot be established at this stage in the HRA process.*

Rossendale borders the district of Calderdale to the west. None of the border however is connected by the Natura 2000 sites. **The district of Rossendale has no Natura 2000 sites within its boundary.** The closest Natura 2000 site to the district is the South Pennine Moors (phase 2) SPA and SAC.

### Development aims:

- The Core Strategy sets out the policies facilitate the development of Rossendale up to 2026. It also outlines the justification for these policies as well the wider scope.
- The plan seeks to provide 37,000 net additional dwellings from 2011-2026 equating to 247 dwellings annually. Of these 65% is aimed to be built on brownfield land. It will also push for higher density development.
- The plan will seek to provide sufficient employment land for 20.84 ha for B1, B2 and B8 use classes.
- The plan also outline policies to address transport needs, renewable energy development, protecting the environment and achieving wider sustainable development.

As this is a core strategy document and due to the fact that the Local Plan "Site Allocations and Development Management DPD" was withdrawn, it is important to monitor the plan process.

**HRA conclusions:** The HRA has assessed whether the 30 policies within the Plan are likely to lead to significant effects to the identified Natura 2000 sites and what these likely impacts are. The HRA concluded **none** of the 30 screened policies in the plan would lead to likely significant effects on the sites. The plan did acknowledge that site allocation at a later stage may lead to likely significant impacts. The HRA recommended that any planning applications that arise on a case by case basis from the policies within the Core Strategy that may have a likely significant effect on an international site will be subject to further consideration and will need to submit an ecological assessment. The HRA therefore concluded that at this stage the plan would not adversely affect the integrity of the sites.

**Therefore, in-combination effects with the new Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out at this stage. It is however important to state that in combination effect may occur as the result of specific land allocations, however this can't be established at this stage and won't likely be available within the Calderdale Local Plan timescale.**

## Burnley Local Plan: Preferred Options Draft (July 2016)

Burnley borders the district of Calderdale to the north west with ~7.4km of the 11.7 km border connected by the **South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)** and **SAC**.

### Development aims:

- Burnley's Local Plan is a framework that will shape the future of the

**HRA conclusions:** The HRA for the plan was undertaken up to the screening stage. It concluded that although no policies or allocations are likely to have a significant effect on Natura 2000 sites a number of policies and allocations **may** result in likely significant effects. The identified potential effects are; (1) offsite damage/disturbance to habitats and non-physical disturbance affecting the qualifying bird species of South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA and (2) Increased air pollution and increased recreation pressure affecting South



<p>borough up to 2032 and replace the existing 2006 Local Plan. The plan will cover all aspects of the way in which land is used, and it will allocate particular sites for development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Between the plan period the plan will deliver 4,190 net additional dwellings throughout the district.</li> <li>• In terms of employment the plan proposes that a total of 90ha of employment land will be provided throughout the plan period.</li> <li>• The plan will also support sustainable development in the district through supporting infrastructure requirements, biodiversity, flood risk etc.</li> </ul> <p>As this is not the final publication version of the Burnley Local Plan it is that some aspects will change and therefore the possibility of in combination effects may change in the future.</p>	<p>Pennine Moors SAC, South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA and Rochdale Canal SAC.</p> <p>The report however concluded that further assessment (appropriate assessment) will not take place until the next stage of the HRA. It also concluded that more evidence if required to make an assessment including traffic modelling, offsite bird use and recreational surveys.</p> <p><b>Therefore it is not yet possible to reach a conclusion regarding the potential for in combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan, however at present there is a possibility of in-combination effects. The progress of the Burnley Local Plan will continue to be monitored for the HRA process.</b></p>
<b>Pendle Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy 2011-2030 (Adopted December 2015)</b>	
<p>Pendle borders the district of Calderdale to the north west. The boundary is entirely connected by the <b>South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)</b> and <b>SAC</b>. These are the only Natura 2000 sites within Pendle.</p> <p><b>Development aims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan represents addresses how Pendle will develop and grow between 2011 and 2030 through strategic planning policies. It also shows how this growth can take place alongside sustainable development.</li> <li>• Between the plan period the plan will aim to deliver a minimum of 5,662 new dwellings equalling 298 per year.</li> <li>• The plan will also aim to provide 68 ha of additional employment land during the plan period.</li> </ul> <p>It's important to state that at this stage the plan only shows adopted policies, and land allocations are not available to screen, this is however being prepared.</p>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> The HRA for the Pendle Local Plan Core Strategy was published in September 2014 and is the most recent version found to be available. The HRA concluded that the strategic objectives and the policies which facilitate them, either alone or 'in combination', are unlikely to have a significant effect on any of the short-listed sites. Therefore it concluded that any effects of the Pendle Borough Council Core Strategy DPD upon European Sites are not likely to be significant and therefore the sites can be screened out as being unlikely to be affected.</p> <p><b>Therefore in-combination effects with the new Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out at this stage. It is however important to note that the future site allocation document may have in combination affects, but at this stage they are unknown.</b></p>

## Craven Local Plan Draft (September 2014)

Craven is located to the North of Calderdale connected by the districts of Bradford and Pendle. It doesn't share a physical boundary with Calderdale however is connected by the **South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)** and **SAC**.

### Development aims:

- The Craven Local Plan sets out a strategic vision and objectives for development Craven. In order to do this it presents a series of policies and land allocations.
- The plan seeks to provide a minimum of 2,400 new homes during the plan period. The majority of these will take place in Skipton.
- As well as this the plan seeks to provide 25 ha of new employment land during the plan period.

The Craven Local Plan is in the process of being amended for the publication version, which is when a HRA will likely be published.

**HRA conclusions:** No HRA was found for the Craven Local Plan during the search for relevant plans. The progress and area for action document (Feb, 2015) makes reference to the status of the HRA saying "A Screening exercise is currently being undertaken by the Planning Policy team to determine whether an Appropriate Assessment will be required. The Bradford Core Strategy Local Plan is of note, as during the preparation of the Core Strategy, the HRA process in considering the scale of growth for the district together with the proximity to designated sites (including the South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC) has necessitated in modifications to the distribution strategy to limit potential impacts".

**Therefore as this stage of the Calderdale HRA process it is not yet possible to determine the potential for in-combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan.**

## Leeds City Council Core Strategy: Adopted (November 2014)

Leeds is located to the east of the district of Calderdale separated by the districts of Bradford and Kirklees. Leeds is an important strategic link to Calderdale due to its size. Leeds contains a small amount of the **South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)** and **SAC** in the north west of the District.

### Development aims:

- The Leeds Core Strategy addresses how Leeds will develop and grow between 2012 and 2028 through strategic planning policies. Whilst taking into account sustainable development aims.
- The plan aims to provide 70,000 new dwellings throughout the plan period. The majority of this housing will be located in the centre and to the south of the district.
- In terms of employment the plan aims to provide 706,250sqm of office floorspace will be provided within the District, with a minimum of an additional 160,000sqm to be identified in or on the edge of the city centre and town centres. As well as this 493ha of general employment land will be provided in the District.

**HRA conclusions:** The Leeds Core Strategy was screened under the Habitats Regulation and the results published in December 2012 which revised the earlier February 2012 version. The original screening concluded that the Core Strategy policies would not give rise to any likely significant effects on the identified Natura 2000 sites either alone or in-combination with other plans and/or projects and therefore that an Appropriate Assessment was not required. The revised HRA again concluded that, even taking into account the Pre-Submission changes to the Core Strategy, Appropriate Assessment was not required as the new and amended policies did not give rise to any likely significant effects on the Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in-combination with other plans and/or projects. Where needed, avoidance mechanisms had already been built into policies either in the Natural Resources and Waste DPD or the Core Strategy. No further updates to the HRA Report were made during the Examination.

**Therefore, in-combination effects with the new the Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out on the bases of the HRA. However this is only in**

<p>Along with the Core Strategy, Leeds City Council is also in the process of finalising its land allocation document (part 2) of the Local Plan, this has been screened for in combination effects (see below).</p>	<p>relation to policies.</p>
<p><b>Leeds City Council Site Allocations Plan Publication Draft (September 2015)</b></p>	
<p>Leeds is located to the east of the district of Calderdale separated by the districts of Bradford and Kirklees. Leeds is an important strategic link to Calderdale due to its size. Leeds contains a small amount of the <b>South Pennine Moors SPA (phase 2)</b> and <b>SAC</b> in the north west of the District.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan sets out the second part of the Leeds Local Plan 'site allocations' which provides site allocations and requirements that will help to deliver the Core Strategy policies, ensuring that sufficient land is available in appropriate locations to meet the policy objectives in the core strategy.</li> <li>• The plan allocates sites for housing and employment, and retail designations, safeguarded land and designations of Green space sites across Leeds.</li> <li>• The sites are distributed around the district on a mix of brownfield and Greenfield land.</li> </ul> <p>Assuming the plan is adopted, the Leeds local plan has been reviewed as much as possible at this stage.</p>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> During the formation of the Leeds City Council Site Allocations Plan Publication Draft a HRA was undertaken to determine any likely significant effect. The HRA concluded that based on this assessment and, it is considered that an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Regulations is not required. This is because it is considered that after Avoidance Measures have been applied, the sites proposed for allocation do not give rise to any potential Likely significant effects either alone or in-combination with other relevant Development Plan Documents (local plans).</p> <p>The HRA highlighted the avoidance measures such as commitments by the council to enhance Green space and Green Infrastructure provision within Leeds via the positive management of Green space within NW Leeds and delivery of the Chevin Forest Park Action Plan. These interventions serve to help manage the LSE of any recreational impacts upon the South Pennine Moors SPA (Phase 2), North Pennine Moors SPA and South Pennine Moors SAC and North Pennine Moors SAC.</p> <p><b>Therefore in-combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out on the bases of the Leeds Site Allocations HRA report.</b></p>
<p><b>Wakefield Site Specific Local Plan (Adopted September 2012)</b></p>	
<p>Wakefield lies to the east of the district of Calderdale, separated by the districts of Kirklees. Wakefield contains the <b>Grange Colliery Ponds SAC</b>, however no other Natura 2000 sites are located within 10 km of it.</p> <p><b>Development aims:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan lists and identifies on the Policies Map, all the development sites necessary to meet the needs identified in the Core Strategy. It identifies the scale, type and location of new development and transport investment.</li> </ul>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> The HRA of the Wakefield plan only identified the Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC within the HRA screening process. On advice from Natural England a buffer of 2km was established around the site. It states that allocations outside the buffer zone will not have any direct or indirect impacts on the SAC, rather by focusing development away from the SAC the proposals actually have an indirect positive impact towards protecting it. Based on the assessment the HRA report concluded that <i>"policies in the Sites Plan would not result in any harm to Denby Grange Colliery Ponds SAC. By</i></p>



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The plan allocates sites to meet the 20,552 new home target for the plan period</li> <li>• It also allocates an additional 95 ha of employment land for the plan period.</li> <li>• As well as this is plan allocates land for transport, green space and other designations.</li> </ul> <p>The plan has been reviewed as much as possible at this stage.</p>	<p><i>concentrating development in larger settlements and proposing new environmental and habitat protection allocations the Sites Plan will help to protect the integrity of the SAC”.</i></p> <p><b>Therefore in-combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out at this stage.</b></p>
<b>Greater Manchester Combined Authority - Greater Manchester Spatial Framework</b>	
<p>The Greater Manchester Spatial Framework is in the early stages of its development. The GMCA recently produced a series of strategic options background papers which were published in November 2015.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It will manage the supply of land for jobs and new homes across Greater Manchester up to 2035. It will also identify the new infrastructure (such as roads, rail, Metrolink and utility networks).</li> <li>• It will be the overarching development plan within which Greater Manchester’s ten local planning authorities can identify more detailed sites for jobs and homes in their own area.</li> <li>• One of the other main components of the framework will to look at the environmental capacity of Greater Manchester, setting out how we enhance and protect the quality of the natural environment; conserve wildlife and tackle low carbon and flood risk issues, so that we can accommodate growth sustainably.</li> </ul> <p>Due to the early nature of the framework it isn’t possible to review and screen the potential in combination impacts at this stage. However the process of the plan will be monitored throughout the duration of the Local Pan HRA process.</p>	<p><b>HRA conclusions:</b> Due to the fact that the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework is in the early stage of development no HRA work has been undertaken which is available for this HRA. It is however expected a HRA report will be produced for the plan which will be reviewed when available.</p>

## West Yorkshire Integrated Transport Authority- West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan (Adopted)

The plan sets out the statutory plan for transport in West Yorkshire between 2011 and 2026.

The plan local outlines the strategy transport planning and delivery in West Yorkshire, including:

- maintenance;
- operation and management of transport assets;
- delivery and coordination of transport services;
- provision of information under the Bus Information Duty;
- influencing travel behaviour, and
- making enhancements to the transport system.

As well as the strategy the use of 'implementation plans' are highlighted to cover three year periods and be guided by amounts of funding available and local priorities for that period.

**HRA conclusions:** As part of the creation of the West Yorkshire Local Transport Plan and the requirement to undertake a HRA was incorporated into a single Integrated Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) which also incorporated the Strategic Environmental Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, and Equalities Impact Assessment.

With respect to the HRA component the ISA identified Natura 2000 site within and 15km beyond West Yorkshire. The ISA outcomes list biodiversity, flora and fauna as being slightly adversely affected, however it states in relation to the HRA component that its likely as a result of implementation of the scheme there will be no significant increase in the incidence of killings of fauna, there is a small risk of physical loss of or damage to habitats, there is an increase risk to fauna. However as further schemes develop an Appropriate Assessment, under the terms of the Habitats Regulations, should be conducted, to determine local effects in certain buffer zone.

Overall the assessment also concluded that the WYLTP will have no significant adverse environmental impacts, and will provide some benefits. These benefits include a reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from transport by 20% (as a result of mode shift, smoother traffic flows, new processes and support of new technologies). There are also predicted slight improvements in air quality generally.

As the plan takes into account the growth of the district and shows that air quality will not be adversely affected. It also shows that individual transport projects are beyond the scope of the assessment but will be required to assess the project under the Habitats Regulations. **Therefore in-combination effects with the Calderdale Local Plan can be ruled out at this stage.**

